

**PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR EXAMINERS COMMITTEE
PUBLIC SESSION MINUTES
JANUARY 4, 2007**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Professional Counselor Examiners Committee was called to order with an announcement of quorum at 9:52 a.m., by Chair J. Barry Mascari.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Committee Chair, J. Barry Mascari
Committee Vice-Chair, Abbey F. Bradway
Committee Member, Barbara Maurer
Committee Member, Mark O'Sullivan

Excused:

Committee Member, Susan Devlin

Staff Present:

Executive Director, Elaine L. DeMars
Deputy Attorney General, Jodi C. Krugman
Administrative Staff, Celeste Paige
Administrative Staff, Agnes Almeida

III. APPROVAL OF PUBLIC MINUTES

On a motion by Barbara Maurer, seconded by Abbey Bradway the Committee approved the December 7, 2006 minutes as corrected.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Seton Hall University- Dr. Jane Webber, Director of Mental Health Counseling Program previously submitted a request to address the Committee regarding Seton Hall's graduate counseling program. The Committee continues to review applications based on the requirements of N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.2(a)3i, "a graduate degree with the word counseling or counselor in the title and documentation that the purpose of the degree is to prepare students for the professional practice of counseling."

Dr. Jane Webber and Dean Joseph DiPeirro attended the meeting to provide a presentation to highlight the University's effort to revise the current course work and program structure to meet CACREP requirements and align the program with the statutory and regulatory licensure requirements. Dr. Webber ended her presentation by providing a list of questions which seek the Committee's advice. The Committee will continue to review the questions and prepare a response

Committee Chair J. Barry Mascari, turned this portion of the meeting over to Vice-Chair Abbey Bradway based on his marital relationship with Dr. Webber.

V. LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY

Notice of conversion to electronic distribution of rule proposals under N.J.A.C.1:30-5.2 Effective January 1,

2007, the Division of Consumer Affairs will cease to distribute notice of proposed rules to interested parties by regular mail and will convert to electronic distribution of the full text of rules proposed by the Division and each of the boards, committees, and commissions, in the Division.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Elaine L. DeMars reported that as of January 1, 2007 the renewal reinstatement period began. Notifications will be sent to licensees who have not completed the renewal requirements.

VII. CORRESPONDENCE

A. Willard Gingerich, Ph.D., Fairleigh Dickinson University Dr. Gingerich wrote to inform the Committee that the FDU program in counseling has been approved by Academic Issues Committee of the Independent Colleges and Universities of New Jersey President's Council to be called a Master of Arts in Counseling. It was previously called a Master of Arts in Addiction Counseling. He further states that the change is in title only. The Committee will respond by referring to the requirements of the statute and regulation and ask that Dr. Gingerich complete the course work distribution grid to demonstrate compliance with the course work requirements. In a subsequent letter, Dr. Gingerich states that the curricula and program requirements of the addiction counseling graduate program have not changed and asks that graduates with the addiction counseling degree be accepted for licensure as professional counselors. The Committee will respond by referring to the statutory and regulatory requirements and ask that Dr. Gingerich plot the courses included in the program on the course work distribution sheet to demonstrate compliance with the requirements.

B. N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.2(a)3i - Counseling Degree Programs

Dr. Lona Whitmarsh, Fairleigh Dickinson University (FDU) Director Clinical/Counseling Psychology Program wrote on behalf of the five FDU graduate students and questioned the denial of licensure based on N.J.A.C. 13:34-11.2(a)3i. The Committee discussion on this matter is tabled for February 1, 2006.

C. Mark Italiano

Mr. Italiano writes to the Committee seeking advice, guidelines and restrictions on practicing sexology. The Committee will inform Mr. Italiano that sexology is not regulated, and request that he provide the details of his educational background and training in a curriculum vitae, in order to further consider the matter.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

CACREP STANDARDS REVISION

The Committee completed discussion of the 2008 CACREP Standards draft revision. On a motion made by Barbara Maurer, and seconded by Mark O'Sullivan, the Committee voted to express support for revising the standards to require a 60-credit graduate degree with 12 credits in the student's chosen specialty area. The Committee also agreed that the supervision requirement should be revised so that the supervisor would be required to be licensed for independent mental health counseling practice.

IX. NEXT MEETING

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee is February 1, 2007 at 9:30 a.m. at 124 Halsey Street, 6th floor, Newark, New Jersey.

2007 Meeting Dates:

March 1, 2007 August 2, 2007

April 5, 2007 September 6, 2007

May 3, 2007 October 4, 2007

June 7, 2007 November 1, 2007
July 12, 2007 December 6, 2007

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:55 a.m., on a motion by Barbara Maurer, seconded by Abbey Bradway, the Committee voted to move to Executive Session to discuss pending disciplinary matters.

XI. CREDENTIAL REVIEW

On a motion by Abbey Bradway, seconded by Barbara Maurer, the Committee voted to approve the following applications as noted:

Professional Counselors

Albiez, Martin Johnson, Jennifer A.
Barbi, Melissa-Ann Merton, Valerie
Ciancitto, Dina M. Siegel, Glenn
Durst Robyn B.

Associate Counselors

Pace, Kristi Takacs-Catania, Lauren
Purtell, Ellen

Rehabilitation Counselor

Bachman, Frederick

XII. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Abbey Bradway, seconded by Mark O'Sullivan, the meeting adjourned at 5:12 p.m.