

# State Board of Psychological Examiners

## Minutes

March 4, 2002

The general public meeting of the New Jersey State Board of Psychological Examiners was held at the Board office, 124 Halsey Street, Newark, NJ. The meeting was called to order at 9:35 A.M. by Kenneth Roy, Ed.D., Chair.

### **PRESENT:**

Kenneth G. Roy, Ed.D., Chair  
Victoria W. Jeffers, PhD., Vice Chair  
Kenneth A. Leight, Ph.D., Secretary  
T. Stephen Patterson, Ph.D., Government Member  
Jeffrey H. Tindall, Ph.D.  
Keith D. Cicerone, Ph.D.  
Debra Eckert-Casha, Esq., Public Member  
Carole Harper, MA, RN, Public Member  
Mark Glat, Psy.D.

### **ABSENT:**

Margery B. Manheim, Ph.D.

### **ALSO ATTENDING:**

Paul C. Brush, Executive Director  
Kathy Rohr, S.D.A.G., Counsel to Board  
Wanda Y. Ginn, Secretarial Assistant  
Carmella Volz, Assistant to the Executive Director

### **MINUTES:**

Upon motion made by Dr. Jeffers and seconded by Dr. Cicerone, the Board voted to approve the open session minutes of December 3, 2001, with corrections. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

### **CLOSED SESSION AND RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

Upon motion made and seconded, the Board voted to go into closed session for discussion of the oral examinations. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

The Board returned to open session.

### **CREDENTIAL COMMITTEE REPORT:**

### **LICENSED BY EXAMINATION**

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board determined that the following candidates qualified for licensure. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

Emily Sommerman, Psy.D.  
John McGovern, Ph.D.  
Pamela Foley, Ph.D.  
Joseph Buonadonna, Ph.D.  
Amy Brams, Ph.D.  
Caryn Kennelly, Ph.D.  
Melissa Warman, Ph.D.  
John Fiorello, Psy.D.  
Michelle Kohn, Psy.D.  
Steven Kennelly, Ph.D.  
Anselm Nwaorgu, Ph.D.  
John H. White, Jr., Ph.D.

### **FAILED ORAL EXAMINATION**

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board determined that the following candidates did not qualify for licensure. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

Jenny Starosta, Ph.D.  
Ellen Zeitchik, Psy.D.

### **TEMPORARY PERMIT-NOT TO EXCEED THREE YEARS**

The following candidates were issued a three-year temporary permit for the supervised practice of psychology:

Loren Firstenberg, Psy.D.  
Elena Jeffries, Ph.D.  
Deborah Lanfranchi, Ph.D.  
Aimee E. Todd, Psy.D.  
Vincenza Piscitelli, Psy.D.  
Karen Sheridan, Ph.D.  
Patricia Munday, Ed.D.  
Craig Davis, Psy.D.  
Carla D'Aiello, Psy.D.  
Audra Yacka, Psy.D.

### **TEMPORARY PERMIT-NOT TO EXCEED ONE YEAR**

The following candidates were issued a one-year temporary permit for the unsupervised practice of psychology:

David Harlem, Ph.D.  
Carol Freund, Ph.D.  
Richard Heid, Ph.D.  
Constance Brown, Psy.D.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

**Lorraine Wiegand, Ph.D.**

Dr. Wiegand wrote requesting an extension of her three-year temporary permit, supervised, which expired on January

25, 2002.

Dr. Wiegand stated that she had submitted her work sample to the Board office and subsequently learned that it was never received. Dr. Wiegand re-submitted her work sample and is currently waiting to be scheduled.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board voted to extend Dr. Wiegand's three-year temporary permit, supervised, until she receives the results of her oral examination. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

**Vincent D'Elia, Ph.D.**

Dr. D'Elia wrote requesting an extension of his three-year temporary permit, supervised, which expires on March 2, 2002.

Dr. D'Elia stated that he is currently preparing to take the next administration of the EPPP written examination. Additionally, Dr. D'Elia stated that the termination of his permit would cause a disruption to the progress of his patients.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board voted to extend Dr. D'Elia's three-year temporary permit, supervised, until June 30, 2002. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

**Mona Birk, Ph.D.**

Dr. Birk wrote requesting an extension of her three-year temporary permit, supervised, which expires on April 30, 2002.

Dr. Birk stated that she had not received her Feedback by Role report from the Professional Examination Service; therefore, she could not begin studying for the written examination.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board voted to extend Dr. Birk's three-year temporary permit, until she received the results of the EPPP written examination which must be taken by June 30, 2002. Additionally, the Board stated that all other conditions remain the same. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

**Jessica G. Pesantez, Psy.D.**

Dr. Pesantez wrote to inform the Board of an error that occurred in the Bayonne-Hudson County Yellow Pages.

Dr. Pesantez stated that when she was requesting telephone and fax services from Verizon for her office space, it was brought to her attention that her name appeared in the Yellow Pages under the "psychologists" listing. Dr. Pesantez stated that she did not request that this be done, but it automatically happens unless you specifically request that your name not appear in the Yellow Pages.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board directed the office staff to acknowledge receipt of Dr. Pesantez's letter and informing her that no action is required. However, the Board cautioned Dr. Pesantez about being more certain in the future regarding telephone service. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

**Ofelia Rodriguez-Srednicki, Ph.D.**

Dr. Rodriguez-Srednicki wrote requesting another extension of her three-year temporary permit, supervised.

Dr. Rodriguez-Srednicki was granted an extension until April 30, 2002 at which time she was to complete the EPPP written examination process. Dr. Rodriguez-Srednicki stated that because of personal health problems, she has been unable to prepare for the examination since her father was diagnosed with colon cancer.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board voted to extend Dr. Rodriguez-Srednicki's three-year temporary permit until she receives the results of the EPPP written examination which must be taken by October 31, 2002. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

**Ernest A. Villa, Jr., Esq.**

Mr. Villa wrote requesting clarification concerning the scope of activities for unlicensed persons.

Specially, Mr. Villa wanted to know whether or not the use of unlicensed psychologists to do collateral information gathering would violate or in any way be in conflict with N.J.A.C. 13:42-3.6(k) which indicates that a three-year temporary permit holder is prohibited from performing evaluations in custody cases.

The gathering of collateral information would mean that the unlicensed candidate would be calling individuals to obtain verification and information regarding individuals that are being evaluated in child custody matters and providing this information to the licensed psychologist who is conducting the evaluation and writing the report.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board voted to advise Mr. Villa that his question was unclear; therefore, more specific facts regarding this question is needed. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

**Richard W. Blankenberg, Ph.D., #3540**

Dr. Blankenberg wrote providing the Board with information on the use of restraints by psychologists.

Dr. Blankenberg stated that Hunterdon has mandated the training that a QMRP must get before authorizing restraints. All courses are taught in house through a staff development department.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board directed Board staff to forward a letter of thanks to Dr. Blankenberg for the information provided, and advise him that the information will be passed along to Ms. Fleming who requested it of the Board. Voting in favor of the motion: all .

**Eric D. Haas, Psy.D.**

Dr. Haas wrote requesting the issuance of a one-year temporary permit, unsupervised, since he has taken and passed the EPPP written examination and is now licensed in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Haas stated that he currently has 18 months of post-doctoral experience and therefore meets all of the requirements for the one-year temporary permit, unsupervised.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board voted to deny Dr. Haas' request pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:42-3.1(a)5 and recommended that he reapply in June 2002 when he has two years of post-doctoral experience. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

**Jennifer A. Bowe, Psy.D.**

Dr. Bowe wrote requesting approval of Marcia Baruch, Ph.D. as a supervisor on her three-year temporary permit, supervised.

Dr. Bowe stated that Dr. Baruch is not licensed as a psychologist in the State of New Jersey; however, she holds a license to practice psychology in the State of New York. Dr. Bowe further stated that Dr. Baruch is employed by the Federal Correctional Institution located in Fort Dix, New Jersey.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board voted to inform Dr. Bowe that pursuant to N.J.A.C. 13:42-3.2, she needs a three-year temporary permit, supervised, to support her application for licensure. Additionally, the Board voted to approve Dr. Baruch as permit supervisor on Dr. Bowe's three-year temporary permit. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

**Amber T. Samaroo, Ph.D.**

Dr. Samaroo wrote requesting an extension of his three-year temporary permit, supervised, which expires on March 24,

2002.

Dr. Samaroo stated that he has completed his supervised hours and has registered for the Academic Review course in preparation for taking the EPPP computerized written examination.

Upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. Leight, the Board voted to extend Dr. Samaroo's three-year temporary permit, supervised, for three additional months, expiring on June 30, 2002. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

## **REPORT ON TEMPORARY PERMIT CONFERENCES HELD ON 2/11/02- JEFFERS/TINDALL**

### **Joseph Davidow, Ed.D./Vincent Stranges, Ph.D., supervisor (present)**

Dr. Davidow failed the October 17, 2001 EPPP written examination and is currently working under supervision on a three-year temporary permit issued on June 3, 1999.

Upon motion made and seconded, the Board voted to extend Dr. Davidow's temporary permit for an additional six months, expiring December 31, 2002. Voting in favor of the motion; all.

### **Lorrie Demarest, Ph.D./Elizabeth Goldberg, Ph.D., supervisor (present)**

Dr. Demarest failed the October 17, 2001 EPPP written examination and is currently working under supervision on a three-year temporary permit issued on February 23, 1998.

Upon motion made and seconded, the Board voted to extend Dr. Demarest's temporary permit for an additional six months, with no change, expiring on September 30, 2002, at which time she must have completed the EPPP written examination process. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

### **Paola Conte, Ph.D./Gary Walco, Ph.D., supervisor (present)**

Dr. Conte took and failed her oral examination administered on November 12, 2001 and is currently working under supervision on a three-year temporary issued on February 23, 2001.

Upon motion made and seconded, the Board voted to continue Dr. Conte's temporary permit, with on change, expiring on February 23, 2004. Voting in favor of the motion; all.

## **OPEN DISCIPLINARY MATTERS**

### **I/M/O Marie A. Mastria, Ph.D., #1410 (suspended)**

The Board received notification from the American Psychological Association stating that they have expelled Dr. Mastria from its membership.

### **I/M/O Fred M. Gross, Psy.D., #3020**

The Board of Psychological Examiners filed an Administrative Action Consent Order on January 29, 2002.

### **I/M/O Neil Lavender, Ph.D., #2976**

Upon motion made by Dr. Patterson and seconded by Dr. Jeffers, the Board voted to schedule this matter to be heard before the full Board. The dates are to be sent by Counseling Deputy, Kathy Rohr to the parties. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

### **I/M/O Michael Abrams, Ph.D., #2564**

Upon motion made by Dr. Jeffers and seconded by Dr. Glat, the Board voted to reinstate Dr. Abrams's license to practice psychology in the State of New Jersey effective, April 26, 2002, with the following recommendations:

- 1) Contingent upon payment of all license renewal and reinstatement fees and submission of proof of successfully completion of the ethics course approved by the Board.
- 2) Submission to the Board of prior notice of any employment he wishes to accept with a complete job description, and he shall not engage in any employment until he has received written approval from the Board.
- 3) Submission of monthly reports due no later than the fifth business day of every month providing a summary of his professional activities for the prior month.

Voting in favor of the motion: all.

## **REVIEW OF EXEMPTION NOTICE FORMS**

### **Morristown Memorial Hospita/Atlantic Health System1**

The Board reviewed an exemption notice form submitted by Rudy Grodowski.

Pursuant to the provision of N.J.S.A. 45:14B-6(a)3, after review of the additional information provided in the exemption notice form, upon motion made by Dr. Tindall and seconded by Dr. cicerone, the Board determined that Morristown Memorial Hospital is considered an exempt facility. Ms. Grodowski was so advised that, in order to continue exempt status, the agency is required to confirm to the Board annually in January of its continuing exempt status.

Additionally, the Board inform Ms. Grodowski that the Center for Human Development must submit their own paperwork for consideration by the Board. Voting in favor of the motion: all.

## **REVIEW OF LEGISLATION**

### **Chapter 404, An Act concerning public access to government records**

DAG Rohr summarized the prior Right to Know law and the new law for the Board stating that more information will be available to the public upon request. The new law becomes effective on July 7, 2002. The Agency should respect the public's need for privacy.

DAG Rohr stated that exemptions are very few. A division representative will be designated the custodian. DAG Rohr stated that the law does provide that the Attorney General may promulgate a regulation that states that some records/documents should not be released and should be designated as not government records.

Respectfully submitted,

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Kenneth A. Leight, Ph.D.  
Secretary

APPROVED BY:

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Date: Kenneth G. Roy, Ed.D.  
Chair