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BOARD OF REGISTRATION OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

Public Meeting Minutes of May 12, 2023

Board Members Present: Robert Carey, Jr., Ph.D., Chair
Vicky Anderson, Psy.D., Vice Chair
William Hudgins, Ph.D. (left meeting briefly and returned at approximately 12:15 p.m.)
Jessica Edwards George, Ph.D.
Jeffrey Brown, Psy.D. (left the meeting at 12:15 p.m.)
Michael O'Halloran (left the meeting at 10:47 a.m., returned at 10:52 a.m.)

Staff Present: Brian Bialas, Executive Director
Sheila York, Board Counsel
Doris Lugo, Investigator

All Board members and staff appeared by videoconference.

At 9:03 a.m., the meeting was called to order by Dr. Carey.

Board Business

- **Roll Call for Attendance:** Mr. Bialas called the roll of Board members. Robert Carey, Vicky Anderson, Jessica Edwards George, Jeffrey Brown, William Hudgins, and Michael O'Halloran were in attendance.
- **Public Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2023:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. O'Halloran, seconded by Dr. Brown, to approve the Public Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2023. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Executive Session Minutes of April 14, 2023:** After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. O'Halloran, to approve the Executive Session Minutes of April 14, 2023. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Discussion

- **Policy Regarding Doctorates Not Accredited by the American Psychological Association:** The Board considered a revision to the existing policy to allow applicants without an accredited doctorate to complete required coursework through other “Board-approved, graduate level programs” in addition to APA- or CPA-accredited doctoral programs. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Mr. O’Halloran, seconded by Dr. Anderson, to approve the revised policy. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Application reviews – education

- **Rika Alper:** The Board reviewed Dr. Alper’s proposal to complete PSY5110 - Ethics and Multicultural Issues in Applied Psychology or PSY5420 - Multicultural Perspectives in Human Behavior through Capella University in lieu of a course in Racial and Ethnic Bases of Behavior through an APA-accredited program. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Edwards George, seconded by Dr. Brown, to accept Dr. Alper’s proposal to complete PSY5420 - Multicultural Perspectives in Human Behavior. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.
- **Ashley Woodman:** The Board reviewed Dr. Woodman’s request for the Board to determine what coursework she must complete as an applicant without an APA-accredited doctorate. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Hudgins, seconded by Dr. Anderson, to inform Dr. Woodman that she must complete the following courses to satisfy the Board’s educational requirements for licensure: a course in Scientific and Professional Ethics and Standards, a course in the History of Psychology, two courses in Biological Bases of Behavior, one course in Personality Theory, one course in Abnormal Psychology, and one course in Racial/Ethnic Bases of Behavior. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Application Review – Experience

- **Judith Thorne:** The Board re-reviewed Dr. Thorne’s application, including experience documentation from her application to North Carolina. After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Hudgins, to accept Dr. Thorne’s experience for licensure and to allow her to continue with the licensing process. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

Correspondence

- **4.26.23 Email from M. Ellam re: Post-Doctoral Fellow Employment:** The Board reviewed Mr. Ellam’s question regarding whether post-doctoral trainees must be employees of entities the Board considers not to be private practices. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to respond as follows: Entities that are not private practices assume liability for trainees. For that reason, the Board’s regulations are not explicit that post-doctoral trainees must be employees of those entities. The Board is

explicit in its regulations that post-doctoral trainees in private practices must be employees to ensure private practices assume liability.

- **3.17.23 Email from K. Cuthbert re: EPPP Scheduling and Board Approval:** The Board reviewed Dr. Cuthbert's request to allow her to sit for the EPPP before she has completed all required post-doctoral experience. After a brief discussion, the Board directed Mr. Bialas to respond that, because the Board's regulations require applicants to "meet current licensing requirements," 251 CMR 3.08(3)(a), and the Board to "den[y] or defer[]" any application to take the examination "if in the Board's judgment the applicant lacks the required education and/or experience," 251 CMR 3.08(6)(a), the Board cannot allow her request.

Open Session for Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair 48 Hours in Advance of Meeting

Dr. Andrea Barnes from the Massachusetts Psychological Association asked about the Board's plans for implementing Part 2 of the EPPP when it is required by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB). Mr. Bialas discussed possible changes to the licensure application process, and the Board directed Mr. Bialas to include on the next meeting agenda proposed revisions to the Board's examination regulations to allow for those process changes.

Executive Session (closed under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, ¶ 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B – adhering to the public records law and to preserve the confidentiality of medical record information)

At 10:14 a.m., a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Mr. O'Halloran, to (1) exit the public meeting; (2) enter into executive session under G.L. c. 30A, § 21(a)(7) to comply with G.L. c. 4, § 7, ¶ 26(c) and G.L. c. 214, § 1B – adhering to the public records law and to preserve the confidentiality of medical record information, to review a request for reinstatement and an examination accommodation request; then (3) enter into investigative conference under G.L. c. 112, § 65C to review a settlement offer, conduct a case interview, and review new cases; and (4) at the conclusion of the investigative conference, not return to the public meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The Board entered executive session at 10:14 a.m.

Mr. O'Halloran left the meeting at 10:47 a.m.

See separate executive session minutes.

Investigative Conference (closed to conduct investigatory conferences, pursuant to G.L. c. 112, § 65C)

The Board entered investigative conference at 10:49 a.m.

Mr. O'Halloran returned to the meeting at 10:52 a.m.

During the investigative conference, the Board took the following actions:

Settlement

2021-000179-IT-ENF (KH): Gave direction to prosecutor

Case interview

2022-000925-IT-ENF (SE): Interviewed respondent; refer to the office of prosecutions

Cases

CASE-2023-0122 (JP): Dismiss; Mr. Hudgins recused himself from the discussion of, and vote on, the case and left the meeting.

Dr. Hudgins returned to the meeting at approximately 12:15 p.m.

Dr. Brown left the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

CASE-2023-0132 (MR): Refer to the office of investigations

Adjournment

At 12:34 p.m., a motion was made by Dr. Anderson, seconded by Dr. Edwards George, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously by a roll call vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:34 p.m.

The above minutes were approved at the public meeting held on June 9, 2023.



Brian Bialas, Executive Director

List of Documents Used During the Public Meeting

- Agenda of May 12, 2023 Meeting
- Public Meeting Minutes of April 14, 2023
- Executive Session Minutes of April 14, 2023

- Draft revised Policy Regarding Doctorates Not Accredited by the American Psychological Association
- Course Syllabi for Capella University PSY5110 - Ethics and Multicultural Issues in Applied Psychology and PSY5420 - Multicultural Perspectives in Human Behavior
- 5.2.23 Email from A. Woodman to B. Bialas re: Required Coursework, Ashley Woodman statement regarding same, transcript, and resume
- Documents from Application of Judith Thorne
- 4.26.23 Email from M. Ellam re: Post-Doctoral Fellow Employment
- 3.17.23 Email from K. Cuthbert re: EPPP Scheduling and Board Approval