

CCTC 2020 JOINT TRAINING WORKING CONFERENCE KICKS OFF!

After nearly three years of planning, leaders from the Health Service Psychology (i.e., clinical, counseling, school psychology) training community came together for a virtual conference on “*SOCIAL RESPONSIVENESS IN HEALTH SERVICE PSYCHOLOGY TRAINING: RECALIBRATING OUR COLLECTIVE MISSION.*” The conference began September 24-25 with four additional meetings planned.

WHAT IS CCTC?

The Council of Chairs of Training Councils (CCTC) was established in the mid-1980s as an umbrella forum through which all of the education and training groups within professional psychology could meet, communicate, and take action on areas of common interest. CCTC consists of 16 members who represent their training council, 10 liaisons with a vested interest in CCTC activities, as well as guests from organizations with a marked interest in training and education in psychology:

<https://www.cctcpsychology.org/>

Training councils have combined efforts and engaged in a joint conference every 10 years for the past 3 decades. The last joint conference was held in 2010 in Orlando, FL with the following theme, “*Assuring Competence in the Next Generation of Psychologists.*” The CCTC 2020 conference, planned originally for Albuquerque, New Mexico, September 24-26, became a virtual conference and mini working groups due to COVID-19 pandemic.

WHAT IS SOCIAL RESPONSIVENESS?

Social responsiveness involves using our professional role to actively address key issues affecting the public while assuming the inherent interdependency of all stakeholders and recognizing the interaction among our professional values, institutional structures, and personal biases. Most recently, as became more evident in the last several months, the racism and COVID-19 pandemics are extraordinary examples of longstanding racial and economic inequities that must be addressed.

The time is now to reflect and take action as leaders in education and training in psychology. We need to re-envision our processes and structures and then focus on transformation and action.

CCTC 2020 CONFERENCE

An important goal of the joint CCTC 2020 meetings is to produce a series of toolkits for educators and trainers that support socially responsive HSP training for doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral programs.

Approximately 160 leaders from 15 training councils and 10 liaison groups, including over 15 students/trainees, are participating, which involves pre-conference preparation, large and small group discussions, and additional tasks between meetings. The work will focus on several related but separate themes, which will serve as the basis for the small group configuration:

1. Diversifying the HSP pipeline
2. Revisiting our program structures with increased shared governance
3. Decolonizing and transforming curriculum across all levels of training
4. Research/scholarship
5. Socially responsive ethics and professionalism
6. Social justice and advocacy
7. Community engagement
8. Socially responsive evaluation processes for students, faculty, and supervisors
9. Lifelong learning

In addition to this initial 2-day conference, participants will meet 4 additional times (in October, December, January & February). Latter sessions will allow for follow-up work and collaboration to further the goal of addressing social responsiveness. We plan to complete all sessions and all toolkits by the CCTC spring meeting in March 2021.

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