



ACCTA Liaison Report to CCTC Spring 2024 Submitted by Bethany Riddle, Ph.D., President

The mission of the Association of Counseling Center Training Agencies (ACCTA) is to promote excellence in doctoral psychology internship training within university and college counseling centers. Fundamental to our values is appreciation of and support for diversity, multiculturalism, and social justice initiatives. ACCTA represents one of the largest training organizations for APA-Accredited internships in the United States with 181 members who administrate sites offering more than 500 doctoral internship positions.

ACCTA aims to:

1. Help internship programs succeed in providing interns with professional competencies in health service psychology in college mental health settings and beyond;
2. Enhance interns' learning experiences through innovative methodologies and technologies
3. Strive for fair and ethically sound training and supervision;
4. Seek best practices in training and supervision;
5. Provide technical, professional, and moral support to Training Directors and Coordinators.

Activities and Observations to share with CCTC

The ACCTA Board continues to be mindful of trends in counseling centers which impact training. We are continuing to see a higher turnover among Training Directors and Coordinators (TDs/TCs) than in previous years. Our members are reporting ongoing concerns about recruiting and retaining psychologists to direct their programs and supervise interns. Members also report concerns about recruiting and retaining diverse staff across the board. This in turn has led to programs reporting difficulty sustaining training programs or reducing the number of interns in their cohorts. In line with this, membership approved a Bylaws change in October, 2023 to shorten the total commitment to the President role in ACCTA from four (4) years to three (3), with one year each in the roles of President-Elect, President, and Past President (previously the role of President was two years in length). We are planning for a phased transition over the next two years as Dr. Bethany Riddle exited her role at a UCC in December, 2023. Dr. Mark Sampson, the current President-Elect, will assume the position of President in April, 2024, and we will move toward electing a President-Elect each year (rather than biannually). We hope that this change is keeping with the times of faster transitions for TDs/TCs and will give more opportunities for members to serve in Executive leadership.

The ACCTA Board continues to be mindful of sociocultural factors that contribute to pressures among TDs/TCs and psychology interns with the challenges to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion curriculum in some states. As a community we are aware that in some states, requirements regarding cultural and individual diversity sit in tension with accreditation standards regarding cultural competency. We have had numerous discussions on the Board and with general membership (at our annual conference and on our listserv) about this complex issue, and we will work to continue to identify options to support TDs/TCs in navigating this within their roles.



Conference

We are beginning to plan for our 47th annual conference which will be held in Philadelphia, PA from September 14-17, 2024. Our last two conferences (2022 and 2023) were held in-person with a virtual option for selective CE programming following two years of fully virtual conferences (2020 and 2021). In the spirit of inclusivity which ACCTA holds as a strong value, the Board is actively working to identify options for those who are unable to attend the conference to be able to participate in activities throughout the year.

Future Activities

ACCTA anticipates continuing to focus on: supporting members to attain and maintain APA accreditation; addressing the ways in which sociopolitical issues impact psychological practice as well as training in psychology; supporting members in doubt of their potential longevity in their Training Director/Coordinator roles; and, reviewing membership criteria to provide the most support for the greatest number of trainers while retaining our mission to support Training Directors and Coordinators of internship programs.

The 2023-2024 ACCTA Board:

President:	Bethany Riddle, Ph.D.	Sagamore Children's Psychiatric Center
President-Elect:	Mark Sampson, Ph.D.	The Ohio State University
Secretary:	Laura Wright, Ph.D.	Florida Gulf Coast University
Treasurer:	Keith Magnus, Ph.D., HSPP	Butler University
General Board:	Debra Crisp, Ph.D.	Clemson University
	GiGi Giordano, Ph.D.	University of St. Thomas
	Megan Guinn, Ph.D.	Virginia Commonwealth University
	Belinda Hinojos, Ph.D.	Nebraska Indian Community College
	Jennifer Hung, Psy.D.	University of California, Riverside
	Sung Kim-Kubiak, Ph.D.	University of Buffalo
	Jay Manalo, Ph.D.	Western Carolina University
	Diane Stoebner-May, Ph.D., ABPP	Sam Houston State University
	Mark Taracuk, Ph.D.	Georgia Southern University
	Charisse Williams, Ph.D.	University of Washington

Respectfully Submitted by Dr. Bethany Riddle

03/04/2024