

Council of Chairs of Training Councils (CCTC) Spring 2024

March 21, 2024

Hybrid Meeting

10am – 4:40pm ET

Highlights

GENERAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING ISSUES/FOLLOW-UP ON FALL MEETING DISCUSSIONS

Virtual Interviews

- Dr. Vas inquired whether CCTC would be interested in writing a statement supporting Virtual Interviews
 - Consensus document and the reasons why this format would be best.
- Before the pandemic, there was discussion on the benefits of virtual interviews. The APPIC Board and APPIC Scientific Review Committee just published a paper with very strong preference for virtual interviews for internship.
- A potential negative for applicants was not being able to get a feel for the campus.
- Next Steps:
 - The group recommended putting together a document that discusses best practices for interviews
 - CCTC members will be asked to request from their training councils a volunteer who would be interested in being a part of this workgroup

Postdoc Issues (Amy Silberbogen)

- Dr. Amy Silberbogen presented APPIC data regarding postdoctoral training
- Purpose of postdoctoral training is to develop advanced skills within a focus or specialty area.
- The landscape of post doc training options is vast.
- Interns can be hired into psychologist staff positions.
- 47% of postdoc training directors responded that their respondents applied directly to jobs
- Imbalance in post doc selection. 35-40% of positions are unfilled.
- Jurisdictions are not changing the requirement for post docs
- Issues of access to mobility were raised.
- Short-term and long-term considerations: What responsibilities do the leaders have for those who are planning to come into the profession?
- Post doc prolonging the period of lower wage. They get lured into private practice.
- Need to re-examine the value in the post doc training
 - Puts a back-end responsibility on staff to provide supervision.
 - What skills are trainees gaining and what is being taught at the post doc level
 - How are we evaluating the post doc?
- APPCN indicated that in neuropsychology post docs are filling at a higher rate because the expectations for a post doc is embedded into that training.
- APPIC is hosting a Postdoctoral training summit after the conference on June 1st.

Equitable and Inclusive Student Admissions (Cathi Grus)

- Implications of the Supreme Court decision
- Next Steps:
 - Dr. Grus will send out useful documents and resources to CCTC

Political Statements

- CCTC was asked whether any of them have been called on to create political statements and disseminate
- Next steps:
 - CCTC will be provided resources from APA regarding this topic.

UPDATE TO THE PSYCHOLOGY INTERNSHIP DEVELOPMENT TOOLKIT (DWAIN FEHON & BETHANY RIDDLE)

- Toolkit is a great document that will help those interested in developing a program.
- Next Steps
 - Consensus that CCTC does need to work on this to update/condense the information

ADVOCACY UPDATE (GUESTS KENNETH POLISHCHUK AND ALIX GINSBERG)

Kenneth Polishchuk

- Discussed his work with Congressman Jamal Bowman on legislation for a new grant program through the Department of Education for graduate programs in mental health at minority-serving institutions. The grant would be used to grow or establish such programs and provide students with \$10,000 per year towards the cost of attendance. The bill is set to be introduced on April 10th.
- Mentioned the endorsement of bipartisan bills that would permanently authorize the Department of Education's school-based mental health workforce grants. These grants have been around for several years but have never been permanently authorized. The grants are used for workforce development and recruitment/retention of school-based mental health professionals.
- Discussed the administration's pursuit of a formalized rulemaking process for student loan forgiveness after the Supreme Court stopped President Biden's initial plan. The proposed rule would provide certain categories of borrowers with loan forgiveness.
- Provided an update on the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program, which has seen many people receive forgiveness recently. The department announced a new tranche of borrowers that received PSLF, totaling \$144 billion worth of cancellation for 4 million borrowers.
- Discussed the recent completion of a set of negotiated rulemaking by the Department of Education related to various programs, including accreditation, state authorization, and distance education. Plans to provide appropriate comment once a proposed rule is released.
- CIP Codes update
 - Mentioned the submission of petitions to the Department of Homeland Security for counseling and clinical psychology to be added to the DHS STEM designation list. The list has not been updated this year, but they are monitoring the situation and looking for opportunities to strengthen their submission if the request is denied.

Alix Ginsberg

- Discussed the appropriations process for psychology training funding. The FY24 Labor H. Bill, which includes the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Labor, and Department of

Education, was recently released. Both the Graduate Psychology Education Program and the Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program were level funded.

- Mentioned that the President's FY25 budget request is also seeking level funding for both programs. However, they are still asking for an increase for the Graduate Psychology Education Program, which is currently funded at \$25 million, to \$30 million.
- Discussed the Adapt Act, which would establish coverage in Medicare for supervised services provided by interns and postdocs. The legislation is being championed by Senator Barrasso and Senator Bennett. Senator Barrasso will be running for Whip, the second-highest-ranking position in the Republican conference.
- Next Steps:
 - CCTC was asked to share any stories with them that they can communicate with Congress members

ACCREDITATION AND REGULATORY UPDATES

CoA (Myron Hays and Jacquie Wall)

- Getting through site visit backlog, requested the need more site visitors.
- Commission has put forward several implementing regulations and requesting public comments (e.g., how programs disclose information, telesupervision)
- There will be a call for public comment in terms of the Standards of Accreditation (SoA)

ASPPB (Ramona Mellott)

- As we are getting closer to 2026 when the Part II exam will be implemented, jurisdictions will have to look at their timeline and address any changes.
- Another change is that individuals can take Part I after coursework.
 - ASPPB is looking into the process of allowing students to take the exam and they are working with jurisdictions and training programs to have that vetted. Plan to work in partnerships.

CPA (Stewart Madon)

- Working on the new accreditation standards and implementing them during the 2025-2026 academic year
- There has also been a return to in-person site visits

CLINICAL HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY SUMMIT UPDATE (DWAIN FEHON)

- Dr. Fehon provided a general summary of the Clinical Health Psychology Education and Training Summit that was held in January.
- He highlighted the co-chairs of the meeting, the structure of the meeting, and the key objectives and topics discussed.
- He mentioned the challenges faced by the field, such as fewer people pursuing postdoc and board certification in clinical health psychology. He emphasized the need for clear competencies and pathways to becoming clinical health psychologists.

STANDARDIZED REFERENCE FORM (KRISTIN RODZINKA)

- Standardize forms for DCTs
 - Includes benchmarks and competency measures
- CAAPS is also working on developing a uniform practicum evaluation that aligns with the SoA
- Next Steps:
 - Seeking new members for the workgroup and requesting CCTC to go back to training councils to ask for volunteers (2-3 year commitment)
 - Also, looking for an I/O psychologist

AI AND EDUCATION (CATHI GRUS)

- Presentation on generative AI and educational training
- Conversations surrounding ethics of AI
- Positive applications:
 - Personal tutor
 - Learn more about a topic
 - Understand real world applications
 - Talking points on new material; preparation for exams
 - Writing tutor, proofreader
- Confidentiality and privacy are a huge issue
- Implications for the practice of psychology; policy development
- Helping review data as a large data set – improves diagnostic accuracy
- Increased accessibility to mental health services
HIPAA violation concerns Chat GPT is not HIPAA compliant

MODEL ACT FOR STATE LICENSURE OF PSYCHOLOGIST UPDATE (Grus)

- Accreditation process for master’s programs in psychology in place
- APA Model act did not address master’s level in psychology
- Been working close with ASPPB; who hopefully will be sending out recommendations in June

MASTER’S/DOCTORAL COMPETENCIES UPDATE

- Updating master’s and doctoral competencies

DISSEMINATION OF THE TAXONOMY GRID

- Taxonomy – challenging to tie it to multiple tracks and promoting
- Next Steps:
 - Request to help disseminate information

SOCIAL RESPONSIVENESS TOOLKIT

- Used as a foundation for APPIC’s conferences
- Have been used by ACCTA, NCSPP, and CCPPP members/programs
- Next Steps:
 - Reminders will be sent out to CCTC about disseminating the document

PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

- CCTC is still interested in addressing the issue of assessment training and creating a new workgroup.
- Next Steps:
 - CCTC identified volunteers for new workgroup

WRAP-UP/NEXT STEPS

- Next CCTC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 26.
- APA staff and Dr. Vas will follow up with CCTC regarding next steps discussed