

**CALIFORNIA
BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
LICENSING / EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

February 3, 2000
(Approved August 25, 2000)

**HYATT REGENCY LONG BEACH
200 SOUTH PINE AVENUE
LONG BEACH, CA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Karen Pines, MFT, Committee Chair
Marsena Buck, LCSW Member
Christina Chen, Public Member
Virginia Laurence, LCSW Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Sherry Mehl, Executive Officer
Denise Johnson, Assistant Executive Officer
Don Chang, Legal Counsel
Kari Frank, Licensing Analyst

GUEST LIST ON FILE

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MARSENA BUCK MOVED, ALL OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSTAINED, AND THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO RECOMMEND APPROVING THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 28, 1999.

2. STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

The current Strategic Plan was included in the meeting binder. Ms. Buck requested that the words “implement and expand” replace “research the efficiency” and the word “efficient” be added to objective number 3. Ms. Buck requested that the words “for ongoing applicants” be removed from objective number 4. The Committee further requested that the words “and approval” and a comma be added to objective number 4. Ms. Buck requested that objective number 5 end after the word “supervisors”. Change objective number 6 to read, “To define and set standards for settings in which clinical experience may be gained”. Change objective number 6 to 7.

THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO RECOMMEND ADOPTING THE STRATEGIC PLAN AS AMENDED.

3. PROPOSED CHANGES TO BOARD POLICY ON CORRESPONDENCE PROGRAMS

The current Board policy regarding correspondence programs was included in the meeting binder.

MARSENA BUCK MOVED, CHRISTINA CHEN SECONDED, AND THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO RESCIND THIS POLICY.

4. DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAMS

Included in the meeting binder were articles on distance learning programs and Business and Professions Code section 4980.40. Ms. Mehl reported that from her research she has found that a majority of the schools are actually offering distance learning in some form or another. Ms. Mehl stated that it ranged any wheres from one course to 100% of their degrees are obtained on-line. Ms. Mehl further stated that there is no way to tell if a degree or course was obtained from a distance learning program and that this issue is much larger than we had originally thought. Jan Lee Wong, NASW, stated that the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) is a very specific accrediting body for social work schools and it conducts thorough evaluations on all social work degree programs. Ms. Mehl requested a copy of CSWE's process for accrediting programs. Ms. Buck stated her concerns in regards to this issue. Students taking courses on-line could have someone else take the course for them. Ms. Fields suggested that we require any coursework taken on-line to have a connection with a California school. Ms. Buck requested information on what other boards are doing with distance learning. Ms. Pines requested that this be brought back to the committee for further discussion. Ms. Pines would like a survey created and sent to schools on what their policies are on distance learning.

5. EMPLOYMENT SETTINGS FOR LICENSEES AND REGISTRANTS

Included in the meeting binder was Business and Professions Code section 4980.43. Ms. Pines did not wish to discuss this at this time and asked that it be brought back at a later date.

6. OUT OF STATE DEGREES

Included in the meeting binder was Business and Professions Code section 4980.90. Ms. Mehl reported the problem staff is having in determining which degree titles are considered "substantially equivalent" to degrees gained in California. Mary Riemersma, Executive Officer of the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, suggested that the Board not focus so closely on the degree titles and that perhaps a little closer analysis on the part of the Board's staff would solve part of the problem. Ms. Riemersma suggested the Board add language to the out of state section of law to define criteria. Ms. Mehl stated that she would work on language to clarify this section and bring it back to the Board. Ms. Riemersma stated she would assist Ms. Mehl.

The meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.