

(approved July 25, 2002)

**BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

**APRIL 25, 2002
HAWTHORN SUITES
321 BERECUT DRIVE
SACRAMENTO, CA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mark Burdick, LEP Member, Committee Chair
Glynis Morrow, Public Member
Karen Pines, MFT Member
Roberto Quiroz, Public Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Sherry Mehl, Executive Officer
Mary-Alice Coleman, Legal Counsel
Julie McAuliffe, Administrative Analyst

GUEST LIST ON FILE

The meeting was called to order at approximately 1:30 p.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

KAREN PINES MOVED, ROBERTO QUIROZ SECONDED, AND THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 24, 2002.

**2. PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS
SECTIONS 1887 AND 1887.3**

Ms. Mehl stated that Mary Riemersma, Executive Director of the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists (CAMFT), had submitted a letter to the Board at the January meeting requesting that the definition of “a continuing education course” be modified to allow licensees to apply more continuing education courses taken by various mechanisms such as videotape, interactive video instructions, and activities electronically transmitted from another location. Currently, licensees can only apply twelve hours of such training toward their continuing education since these types of courses fall under the “self study” category. The Board had directed staff to draft language to address Ms. Riemersma’s request. Within the drafting process staff realized that once Section 1887.3 was amended,

there was no need to amend Section 1887. Therefore, only amendments to Section 1887.3 were included in the meeting materials.

Ms. Pines stated that in her personal experiences with continuing education, she has found that some courses are difficult to find and she is in favor of broadening the continuing education course definitions in order to allow licensees to acquire courses that are appropriate for their practice and are more easily obtainable.

Dr. Burdick stated that broadening the definitions would also assist those licensees who may have physical limitations or live in rural areas.

Ms. Riemersma stated that the critical part of the amendments include the verification mechanism. This is important because this determines that the licensees has truly participated and finished all that is required for completion of the course.

Geraldine Esposito, Executive Director of the California Society for Clinical Social Work, questioned the meaning of the term "videotape". She was concerned that some continuing education providers give credit for watching popular movies and she did not think that a licensee should not be able to obtain all of their continuing education through this method.

Ms. Pines asked if the Board approves the actual courses. Ms. Mehl explained that the Board only approves the provider, not the courses, but part of the approval process includes a review of the types of courses the providers will be offering and the determination that they are relevant to professional practice. She then indicated that viewing of movies may be appropriate when licensees are required to answer questions and are tested on issues that relate to clinical practice.

Jan Lee Wong, Executive Director of the National Association of Social Workers, stated that he thought that there is always the potential for abuse of continuing education. He offered to include articles in his newsletter on what appropriate continuing education should be and offered to provide more in-depth materials about appropriate continuing education to the Committee.

GLYNIS MORROW MOVED, ROBERTO QUIROZ SECONDED, AND THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO ADOPT THE DRAFT LANGUAGE.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVE 2002 STRATEGIC PLAN AND IDENTIFY PERFORMANCE MEASURES

Dr. Burdick stated that this newly formed Committee would need to identify the appropriate goal and objectives.

Ms. Mehl stated that when the committees were separated, there was one objective that remained. She stated that the education component for marriage and family therapy has not been reviewed in some time and it should be determined if the curriculum and requirements still apply to the profession. She suggested that the review might take place through public hearings and meetings with school consortiums.

Ms. Pines suggested that the Committee might want to use the examination statistics when reviewing the educational process. Ms. Mehl stated that there are a few schools she is interested in reviewing as to their goals and objectives, and determining if the students are notified of these goals. She then mentioned that the Board of Psychology was successful in obtaining legislation that mandates approved

schools to provide specific information on their educational programs and preparation for licensure and requires that they publish their examination pass rates.

Ms. Mehl stated that our Board was successful in obtaining legislation that gives them the authority to make the final determination as to whether a degree meets all requirements, including, but not limited to, course requirements regardless of accreditation or approval.

Ms. Mehl then stated that the Committee may want to simultaneously look at the schools who have lower pass rates and determine if they are offering the current curriculum as identified in law and, as the Committee reviews the requirements identified in law to determine if they are still appropriate for the profession, they can work with the schools to improve in the same manner that the Committee will be determining.

Mr. Quiroz suggested that one objective should be identifying a protocol to review those schools that appear questionable. The performance measures to obtain that objective might include the pass rate of the school, non-responsiveness to the Board, and the number of students. Another question for schools might be their process for identifying a student who isn't right for the profession. He suggested that the Board adopt an objective that identifies the need for a protocol and then direct staff to identify the appropriate steps involved in obtaining that objective and the performance measures needed.

Ms. Mehl stated that she would work closely with Dr. Burdick to ensure that staff is on the right track when drafting performance measures for Committee review at the July meeting.

Jan Lee Wong asked that the Board keep in mind the differences in the professions. The Council on Social Work Education collectively accredits schools for the social work degree and the accreditation may not always necessarily include the clinical aspect, so if the Board were to determine that the degrees must all be clinical based, this in turn could hurt the profession of social work.

Ms. Mehl clarified that the Committee would be focusing on schools that offer acceptable marriage and family therapist degrees.

KAREN PINES MOVED, ROBERTO QUIROZ SECONDED, AND THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO DIRECT STAFF TO DEVELOP PROTOCOLS, IDENTIFY THE PROCESS OF BOTH LOOKING AT TRIGGERS FOR WHAT CONSTITUTES THE REVIEW OF A SCHOOL AND IDENTIFY A PROCESS OF GATHERING AND EVALUATING OBTAINABLE INFORMATION, AND DETERMINE WHAT TO DO WITH THE INFORMATION ONCE OBTAINED.

Ms. Ulevitch asked that it be clearly identified in the Committee strategic plan that the in-depth review of degree programs will only be performed on marriage and family therapist schools.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:10 p.m.