

(Approved November 18, 2004)

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

August 19, 2004

**EMBASSY SUITES
1440 IMPERIAL AVENUE
EL SEGUNDO, CA**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Glynis Morrow, Public Member, Acting Chair
Victor Law, Public Member
Peter Manoleas, LCSW Member
Susan Ulevitch, LCSW Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

STAFF PRESENT

Denise Johnson, Interim Executive Officer
Kristy Schieldge, Legal Counsel
Julie McAuliffe, Administrative Analyst

GUEST LIST ON FILE

The meeting was called to order at approximately 9:20 a.m.

Ms. McAuliffe called the roll and a Committee was established.

1. APPROVAL OF MAY 20, 2004 MINUTES

VICTOR LAW MOVED, PETER MANOLEAS SECONDED AND THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF MAY 20, 2004. Ms. Ulevitch abstained.

Mr. Manoleas asked about the scheduling of meetings with schools that was discussed at the May meeting. Ms. Johnson indicated that Board staff is currently concentrating on the Sunset Review Report and once that has been completed, including any questions addressed back to the Board and the hearings that follow, she will begin to work on scheduling the meetings. Ms. McAuliffe stated that the University of California Berkeley had offered to host a meeting.

2. DISCUSSION AND CREATION OF SURVEY TO SCHOOLS REGARDING SINGLE INTEGRATED DEGREES

At the May meeting California State University Sacramento (CSUS) had asked the Board to consider amending the law to allow an applicant to come back to their school within seven years and take additional marriage and family therapist coursework to obtain a marriage and family therapist degree. This would allow applicants to obtain a non-single integrated degree. The conclusion of the May meeting included an interest in surveying schools to determine if this currently is occurring and a Committee determination that they did not wish to amend the law.

Geraldine Esposito, Executive Director of the California Society for Clinical Social Work, stated that she had attended the many hearings in the late 1980's when the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists had pursued this amendment in law to require the single integrated degree and she indicated that this phrase should be of utmost meaning to the degree granting institutions.

After further discussion at this meeting, the Committee decided not to survey schools and asked staff to highlight Business and Professions Code Section 4980.40(a) regarding the requirement of students obtaining single integrated degrees on the Program Identification Update Form as well as the actual statutory language that is provided with the Program Certification Form.

GLYNIS MORROW MOVED, PETER MANOLEAS SECONDED, AND THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO DIRECT STAFF TO HIGHLIGHT THE SINGLE INTEGRATED DEGREE REQUIREMENT ON THE SPECIFIED FORMS AND ACTUAL STATUTORY LANGUAGE PROVIDED WITH THE FORMS.

3. REVIEW OF FORMS USED TO VERIFY SCHOOL MONITORING OF PRACTICUM EXPERIENCE AND HOURS OF EXPERIENCE GAINED IN PRACTICUM

Mr. Manoleas had asked that the Committee review the forms used to verify experience within practicum. Board staff had provided the forms as well as clarification on the school's responsibility of trainees within their degree programs, including practicum.

Mr. Manoleas indicated that the Board accepts degrees from several approved and accredited schools. Ms. Johnson stated that each year the Program Identification Update Form is sent to all approved and accredited schools to verify the courses taught within their degree programs that are used to qualify for licensure. Mr. Manoleas indicated that he was curious to know the institution's selection and monitoring of traineeships and placement settings.

Heather Halperin from the University of Southern California School of Social Work offered the Committee a copy of their Student Education Handbook. This Handbook is provided to students entering practicum and provides a thorough overview of the process including forms used for verification of the experience.

Mr. Manoleas thanked Ms. Halperin for the information and indicated that he provides similar materials to the Council on Social Work Education as part of his duties at the University of California Berkeley.

Kathy Wexler from Phillips Graduate Institute indicated that that the Institute has a clinical placement office and has a similar handbook that is provided to all students entering practicum. Schools take the

responsibility of placement and training very seriously. She then asked Mr. Manoleas the purpose of his inquiry.

Mr. Manoleas indicated that he was interested in obtaining detailed information on the Board's monitoring of this process within each institution.

Mary Riemersma, Executive Director of the California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists, indicated that trainees are allowed to apply pre-degree experience toward the licensure requirements and a four-way agreement between the school, the trainee, the placement setting, and the supervisor is required for all experience. She indicated that each legitimate program had elaborate instructions and verification methods in place to ensure that trainees are in compliance with the law. She then stated that this experience is an important component of one's education.

Ms. Schieldge indicated that all schools offering a marriage and family therapist degree that qualifies for licensure are either approved or accredited, and part of the approval or accreditation process includes verification that the practicum meets specific standards as required for approval or accreditation.

After further discussion, the Committee determined that this was not something they wished to discuss further.

VICTOR LAW MOVED, SUSAN ULEVITCH SECONDED, AND THE COMMITTEE CONCURRED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:50 a.m.