

Southern California Association of Psychology Training Programs (SCAPTP)
Agenda

March 4, 2019

10:00 – 12:00

*Azusa Pacific University Community Counseling Center
918 E. Alostia Ave, Azusa, CA 91702*

- I. Introductions- In person attendance: Scott Bledsoe (Azusa Pacific), Robert Pate (Cal Baptist), Kendra Bailey (The Guidance Center), Michele Shepherd (San Fernando Vall. CMHC), Giselle Collins (Didi Hirsch), Mimi Curtis (Tarzana Tx Ctrs), Jennifer Porter (Heritage Clinic), Marjorie Graham-Howard (Azusa Pacific), Sean Love (Fuller), Humberto Hernandez (Cerritos College), Amy Warren (Child and Family Center), Elaine Eaton (LAC USC Med Ctr), Joe Dadourian (BHC Alhambra), Lidia Michel (The Help Group), Kenny Boyd (Loma Linda); Phone attendance: Aida Saldivar (Rancho Los Amigos), Val Romero (Pacific Clinics), Olga Belik (St. John's Hospital), Rebecca Romberger (Whittier College Student CC), Tonya Wood (Pepperdine), Paula Strauss (Alliant), (Gateways Hospital), Janira Jacoubs-Beye (Brea Olinda USD)

- II. Approval of Minutes from 12-3-18 meeting pending change in description of clients for Child and Family Center in Santa Clarita. Change from “mostly DV victims,” to “full client range via DMH contract.” Minutes approved unanimously with the above change.

- III. Old Business
 - a. \$25 annual dues- Tonya noted nearly \$2000 in SCAPTP account. At June 2019 meeting the group will discuss what to do with these funds. Please come with ideas!
 - b. SCAPTP-CAPIC Proposal - Potential MATCH System. Rebecca- CAPIC is working toward sustainability and welcomes further discussion from SCAPTP regarding partnering. Scott reminded group that Jerry Kerns and Rene from CAPIC have been in discussion in the past and partnership has been tabled for now. Scott reminded group of the history of this discussion. Elaine Eaton noted LACUSC has no budget for a match system, but that the new head psychologist at LA DMH might be able to contribute to the discussion and perhaps help secure a funding source. Joe Dadourian motioned that we have a subcommittee to gather information regarding an online match, chaired by Rebecca Romberger. Rebecca Romberger volunteered to be on this subcommittee to gather information along with Jerry Kerns and Joe Dadourian. Motion seconded by Robert Pate. Motion approved unanimously.
 - c. Scott will add this subcommittee meeting agenda item for upcoming June meeting.

IV. New Business

- a. Focus on SCAPTP and UND procedures for 2019
 - i. Mimi noted student dislike for UND phone calls. Joe stated BHC Alhambra would like to have an online match and would like to eliminate letters as they tend to be inflated, unhelpful, and take up a lot of time. Joe also stated that the 15 minutes did not allow for enough time to call all of their desired applicants and they missed out on some desired students because they had not heard from BHC. Sean Love- noted that he has not seen a difference from sites yet in terms of when they require applications. Kenny Boyd asked whether texting would be a better method for UND procedures. Joe suggested email as a possibility. Giselle Collins clarified that multiple people can be called at once (perhaps by multiple clinic personnel) if there are multiple positions available. Mimi and Giselle found it helpful for applicants to be able to pull their applications before wasting clinic time interviewing them. Group discussion of pros and cons of texting. No consensus reached at his meeting. Need to have one system (call vs. text vs. email) so that students are not juggling multiple systems. Need to work out details by the end of the upcoming June meeting to allow time for sites/programs/students to know and understand the changes made to the process in time to implement them for the fall/winter 2019 practicum application season.
- b. Strengthening our Partnerships with LACDMH- Tonya reported on breakfast meeting between Jorge Partida, PhD at DMH and program DCTs. DMH hired discipline chiefs for social work, psychiatry, psychology, MFT, with Dr. Partida representing psychologists. Breakfast held to strengthen relationships between DMH and training programs. Next step to start regular meetings between programs and DMH to problem solve barriers, such as waivers, to students working at DMH sites. Paula Strauss and Nancy Romero were also present at that initial meeting. Elaine brought up issue of trainees being billed for as psychometricians, and asked whether Dr. Partida might be able to address the issue of whether Medi-Cal can be billed for students as psychometricians.
- c. Argosy University issue- Mimi Curtis noted that Argosy has moved into receivership, their WASC accreditation has been pulled, financial aid has been withheld from students and used for other purposes, and students have been told they will be grandfathered into other programs. Question as to whether SCAPTP sites should consider taking students from Argosy, as well as whether exceptions will be made to allow students to transfer more than the standard maximum of one year of doctoral credits. Marjorie noted that APU's masters program has accepted some MFT students under special circumstances. Kenny noted that LLU received a call from a student in Georgia regarding transferring from Argosy, and told student that their situation would be considered after application was turned in and complete. Marjorie noted that an exception like this would likely need to

be considered under advisement from APA. Keep Argosy student transfer/application as an agenda issue for future meetings.

- d. Effectiveness of Letters of Recommendation- Kendra noted The Guidance Center LB only requires listing of references, but not actual letters. It has not impacted the quality of applicants received. TGCLB does not require that they are clinical references, but sites could require this. Marjorie noted that letters were not required several years ago, and made a “strong plea” that they be eliminated. Joe noted that students are still in training and that letters may not accurately reflect their potential at a site. Marjorie suggested that DCTs be contacted by sites by phone in lieu of official recommendations. Kenny noted possibility of DCTs be considered as having given a stamp of approval by approving students to apply to the site in the first place. Mimi noted need for more accurate cover letters. Joe noted that BHC has a template that lists desired qualities/experience in applicants and is willing to share that template with the group. Lidia noted disadvantage for students coming from programs where letter writers responded honestly vs. with inaccurate glowing letters. Humberto seconded this opinion. Robert asked whether anyone wants to keep letters the way they are; no one responded, seeming to indicate a group desire to make some sort of change from the current common letter-writing system. Kendra reiterated benefit of dropping letters at TGCLB for both students, letter writers, and letter readers. Humberto likes the idea of just listing the references. Mimi noted that some sites will likely still require letters. Mimi and Kendra suggested that decisions around letters be a matter decided by sites rather than being SCAPTP policy, with SCAPTP having an official suggestion that they be eliminated or minimized. Giselle asked whether there is a way to update applicants regarding position availability in the middle of the UND application process. Scott suggested using the SCAPTP website as one way of updating applicants about position availability. Lidia offered to send a template to the group that can be used to fine tune the types of students applying to the site.

- e. Internship Issue – APPIC

- i. Given APPIC's commitment to maintaining high quality standards in psychology training and APPIC's interest in maintaining the opportunity for new, high-quality internship programs to develop, the APPIC Board of Directors is considering these potential policy changes:

- 1) Instituting a provisional membership category for internship programs

- 2) In the future (i.e., multiple years), requiring accreditation for internship programs to participate in the APPIC Match.

Sean noted that Fuller is now requiring that all students complete APA accredited internships unless there is a very rare situation (i.e.

wanting to stay in southern California is not considered a valid reason by Fuller). Kenny noted LLU similarly requires APA accredited site applications until Phase II of the Match. At that point the student is responsible for gathering the information that verifies the site meets APA standards for internship. Scott noted that APU students who have not completed APA accredited sites have still gone on to have successful careers and do not seem to have been substantially negatively impacted by their internship experience. Sean noted that Fuller has students who will need part time internships due to disability, and they are wondering how the students might be able to obtain an accredited internship despite their disability. Mimi asked about types of accommodations that a blind student might be able to receive. Michelle Shepherd shared an example of a wheelchair-bound applicant who was asked questions about how she would complete field work, home visits, travel between clinics, etc. Group discussed need for APA to address accommodations for students who are unable to work a full day and must complete part time internships, but also desire to complete APA accredited internships. Possible future agenda item- SCAPTP letter to APA to address the disability/accredited internship question?

V. Additional Items

- a. Olga- CPA Div II supervision training announcement. Dr. Craig Gonsalvez to present on Saturday, 3/16/2019. \$100 for Div II members, \$130 otherwise.
- b. Site Announcements- BHC Alhambra expanding practicum to include DelAmo hospital in Torrance. Michelle had an experience of the Board of Psychology asking for a copy of the practicum DMH waiver for a student applying for licensure. Other sites had not heard of students being asked for the practicum waiver for licensure. Students should keep a copy of their signed DMH waiver for licensure application in case this becomes common BoP practice.
- c. Agency Reminder: Please send Scott Bledsoe your updated site info for the SCAPTP web page: <https://www.scaptp.org/directory>
- d. Breakout groups did not meet as main meeting adjourned close to noon end time.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 3rd, 2019 from 10-12pm at Alliant in Alhambra