



THE CACREP CONNECTION

Fall 2007

CACREP/CORE Merger Fails

At their respective July 2007 Board meetings, the voting directors of CACREP and CORE voted on the merger documents created by the Joint Task Force on Merger. The Joint Task Force, which was comprised of five (5) representatives from each of the Boards and both organizations' executive directors as ex officio members, worked diligently over a series of meetings to develop a merger plan that included the following items: 1) the merger resolution, 2) draft bylaws for the merged organization, 3) the transition timeline, 4) a flowchart for the accreditation process, and 5) an outline of the corporate structure. These documents can be found at <http://www.cacrep.org/merger.html>

Following the CORE and CACREP Board meetings, CACREP Chair Jack Culbreth and CORE President Linda Shaw released a joint statement on behalf of both Boards revealing the outcome of the voting process. This statement is provided below and can also be found on the CACREP website.

Joint Statement for Release by the CORE and CACREP Boards

The CORE and CACREP Boards met in their respective summer meetings to vote on the proposed merger agreement that had been developed by the CORE-CACREP Merger Task Force. The CORE Board did not vote on the merger agreement at their meeting. The CACREP Board voted unanimously to accept the merger agreement as negotiated by the Merger Task Force.

In addition to the joint statement, CORE chose to release a resolution passed by its Board of Directors citing their reasons for non-action. This resolution indicated that CORE could not agree to a merger that required a minimum of 3 full-time faculty teaching in the counseling program doctoral degrees in counselor education for full-time faculty. The statement also indicated a willingness to continue merger discussions.

It is fair to say that CACREP was very disappointed that CORE chose not to vote on the merger agreement as proposed. Many points had been negotiated, including the two cited in the CORE resolution. In fact, the merger documents outlined a grandparenting period until July 2019 for rehabilitation programs to meet the minimum faculty numbers and qualifications issues cited by CORE as reasons for not voting. At this point in time, both CORE and CACREP believe that a merger is still best for the profession, but no additional meetings have been planned.



From the Chair

Jack Culbreth

Hopefully you are settling into the fall semester well. It has been a busy time here at Charlotte, with a new group of students coming in and all of the excitement of fall sports, new television shows, new fall clothes, and buying school supplies. I like fall. It is so full of potential.

Speaking of being busy, let me share with you developments that have occurred since the last newsletter in the spring. First is the CORE/CACREP merger process. The merger task force met twice in the spring semester and finalized a merger agreement for the two organizations. All members of the task force (5 from CORE and 5 from CACREP) agreed on the terms and conditions of the merger. The merger resolution was then presented to each board at their respective summer meetings in July. The CACREP Board voted unanimously in favor of the merger resolution. The CORE Board chose not to vote on the resolution. They cited problems with two specific areas, the faculty identity standard and the minimum number of faculty standard. The merger resolution did provide a 10 year grace period for Rehabilitation Counseling programs to meet these standards. Unfortunately, the CORE Board felt that these two standards would be a problem for their accredited programs. At this point, there are no plans for any further merger discussions and both Boards are moving forward with their own respective agendas. I would like to say that our work with Linda Shaw and the other CORE members of the merger task force was an excellent opportunity to get to know a number of great rehabilitation counseling professionals. Each Board has learned a great deal from the other through this process. CORE and CACREP will continue to work together on the joint site visit process for programs that house both rehabilitation counseling and other counseling specialties.

Believe it or not, there is a light at the end of the tunnel for the standards revision process (and I am pretty sure the light is not a train). The 2009 Standards will be adopted by the CACREP Board in July of 2008. Draft 3 is available on the CACREP website for your review (www.cacrep.org). Please take some time to review this latest draft and provide feedback to the Standards Revision Committee. They have done a fantastic job over the past several years developing this document. There is an introduction to this draft that highlights many of the changes that are in draft 3. Of note is the merging of the Community and Mental Health specialty areas into Clinical Mental Health. There is also a new specialty area for addictions counseling. Throughout the 3rd draft you will see new language that incorporates our efforts to train counselors in disaster preparedness counseling skills. This is a direct result of our federal grant initiative.

One important note related to the final adoption of the 2009 Standards is a Board motion that was approved at the summer meeting. Beginning with the 2009 Standards, all self-studies must be submitted in an electronic format using the existing electronic self-study format guidelines. You will find the guidelines for this process on the CACREP website. The Board believes that this will greatly enhance the review process in many ways, as well as reduce postage and paper/printing costs for both programs and the CACREP office. Electronic self-studies have been optional so far, with about half of the programs utilizing this format. Most of these have been formatted well, with few technical problems. We look forward to becoming completely electronic with the adoption of the 2009 Standards.

And finally, if you have not heard, the CACREP staff have successfully completed their move to a new office location in Alexandria. The new offices are located on North Fairfax Street. The new address and contact information is available on the website. On behalf of the Board would like to recognize all of the office staff for their hard work in making such a substantial move. It was a lot of packing, taping, house cleaning, purging, and everything else that goes with a big move. They did a wonderful job and the new office suite is fantastic. If you have the chance to be in Alexandria, give them a call and go by for a visit.

In my last newsletter column I recognized four outgoing Board members for their service to CACREP. Now, I would like to formally recognize the five new Board members that have stepped in to serve the organization. Welcome to Judy Bowers, Martin Ritchie, Judy Nix, Estela Pledge, and Brent Snow. They all jumped in with both feet at the summer Board meeting and we look forward to their continued contribution to CACREP.

That's about it from the home office for now. I hope that the rest of your semester goes well and that you enjoy the upcoming holiday season.

Accreditation Decisions

The CACREP Board of Directors met July 19-21, 2007 in Alexandria, VA and made the accreditation decisions listed below. The next meeting of the Board of Directors is scheduled for January 2008.

The following programs were granted accreditation († indicates initial accreditation and the date in parentheses is the accreditation expiration date).

Bridgewater State College, Bridgewater, MA

† Mental Health Counseling, † School Counseling, and † Student Affairs (October 31, 2009)

Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA

† Mental Health Counseling (October, 2009)

Clemson University, Clemson, SC

College Counseling, Community Counseling, School Counseling and Student Affairs (October 31, 2015)

Edinboro University of Pennsylvania, Edinboro, PA

College Counseling, Community Counseling, School Counseling and Student Affairs (October 31, 2009)

Jackson State University, Jackson, MS

† Community Counseling (October 31, 2009)

Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, VA

Community Counseling and School Counseling (October 31, 2009)

Minnesota State University Moorhead, Moorhead, MN

College Counseling, Community Counseling, and Student Affairs (October 31, 2015)

† School Counseling (October 31, 2009)

Oakland University, Rochester, MI

† Counselor Education and Supervision (Ph.D.) (June 30, 2010) This department also has accredited programs in Community Counseling and School Counseling.

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Community Counseling, School Counseling, and Counselor Education and Supervision (October 31, 2009)

University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT

† School Counseling (October 31, 2009)

University of Nevada Reno, Reno, NV

† Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy (June 30, 2008). This department also has accredited programs in Community Counseling, Student Affairs, School Counseling, and Counselor Education and Supervision.

University of Rochester, Rochester, NY

Community Counseling was retitled to Mental Health Counseling (June 30, 2011)

University of Scranton, Scranton, PA

Community Counseling and School Counseling (October 31, 2009)

University of South Carolina, Columbia, SC

Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy, School Counseling, and Counselor Education and Supervision (October 31, 2009)

University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, Oshkosh, WI

Community Counseling, School Counseling, and Student Affairs (March 31, 2014)

Western Washington University, Bellingham, WA

Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling (October 31, 2015)

(continued)

The following programs submitted Interim Reports and were granted continued accreditation:

California University of Pennsylvania, California, PA

Community Counseling and School Counseling (March 31, 2014)

Emporia State University, Emporia, KS

Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling (October 31, 2012)

Florida Gulf Coast University, Ft. Myers, FL

Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling (October 31, 2013)

George Washington University, Washington, DC

Community Counseling, School Counseling, and Counselor Education and Supervision (October 31, 2009)

Indiana University South Bend, South Bend, IN

Community Counseling and School Counseling (October 31, 2013)

North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC

College Counseling, Community Counseling, School Counseling and Counselor Education and Supervision (October 31, 2012)

North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND

Counselor Education and Supervision (October 31, 2012)

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

Community Counseling, School Counseling, and Counselor Education and Supervision (October 31, 2009)

Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL

Community Counseling and Mental Health Counseling (October 31, 2009)

Slippery Rock University, Slippery Rock, PA

CSchool Counseling (June 30, 2009)

South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC

School Counseling (October 31, 2013)

Southeastern Louisiana University, Hammond, LA

Community Counseling, Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy, and School Counseling (October 31, 2013)

University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, Denver, CO

Community Counseling, Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy, and School Counseling (October 31, 2013)

University of South Florida, Tampa, FL

Career Counseling, Mental Health Counseling, and School Counseling (October 31, 2013)

University of Tennessee Knoxville, Knoxville, TN

Mental Health Counseling, School Counseling, and Counselor Education and Supervision (October 31, 2012)

Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN

Community Counseling and School Counseling (October 31, 2013)

The following institutions received one year extensions of their programs' accredited status:

University of Mississippi (June 30, 2009)

University of North Carolina at Greensboro (December 31, 2010)

University of Phoenix Utah Campus (June 30, 2009)

Just Another Step

by
Carol L. Bobby

CACREP now accredits over 500 programs in over 210 institutions. We estimate that these CACREP programs represent more than 1500 faculty and 23,000 students. Those are pretty staggering numbers when considering the impact that CACREP can have in strengthening the identity of the profession.

It is no secret that CACREP has been working diligently to strengthen the professional identity of our programs. The primary reason for this is that programs with clear counselor education identities graduate students with clear professional counselor identities. And, after all, CACREP accredits counseling programs. With each major standards revision process, starting with the adoption of the 1988 Standards and moving forward to the adoption of the 1994, the 2001, and the proposed 2009 Standards, greater emphasis has been placed on the need for applicant programs to demonstrate a clear counseling identity through program titles, degrees offered, course syllabi, and faculty qualifications.

Although the revisions over the years have not been free from debate, the changes have gone a long way toward defining counseling as a separate and distinct profession worthy of professional pride and continued advocacy efforts. Having a clear identity also goes a long way when the profession lobbies for recognition by the public, government officials, insurance carriers, school administrators, and from other closely-related professions.

During the current revision process, the CACREP Standards Revision Committee (SRC) was given a charge by the CACREP Board to again examine standards related to the professional identity of programs and faculty. This charge was purposeful in its representation of the Board's desire for standards that more clearly defined "Counseling" program preparation requirements, especially with regard to core faculty qualifications. This is because, for years, the Board has struggled with the need to make judgments about the "appropriate quality and sufficiency" of faculty resources using standards that allow for faculty with training from a "closely-related field" or "closely-related profession." The language can be very problematic when the "closely-related professional" teaches counseling students without training in counseling supervision, without active membership in the counseling profession, without knowledge of the counseling profession's ethical standards, and without a real commitment to sending a clear identity to the students in the program.

To muddy the waters even further, the CACREP staff recently visited the website of a new organization offering a new professional counseling certification. To become "board certified in professional counseling" by this organization one needs only a bachelor's degree in counseling, psychology, social work, law, medicine or related area; counseling experience; and a current license, if required in the applicant's jurisdiction. Specialties represented by the organization include all of the above and many other defined counseling specialties, such as occupational counselors, grief counselors, clergy, and so forth.

On first glance at this list, I was taken aback at who was eligible for this certification and who might subsequently call themselves a "Board Certified Professional Counselor." Yet I wonder how much CACREP can argue when some individuals from these "closely related professions" are allowed to refer to themselves as counselor educators and core faculty members in CACREP accredited counselor preparation programs. Perhaps it is time to recognize the importance of the doctoral degree in counselor education for those who are teaching as *core faculty* in our counseling programs. Draft # 3 of the proposed 2009 CACREP Standards attempts to do this, while simultaneously acknowledging the history and commitment of those from other professions who have been teaching in counselor preparation programs. Perhaps this is just another step toward strengthening counselor preparation and the identity of all future counselors.

CACREP Welcomes New Accreditation Director in 2008

I am glad to have this opportunity to introduce myself as the new Director of Accreditation for CACREP. It is with great excitement and anticipation that I look forward to beginning in this role in January. Like many of you, I am in the process of starting up a fall semester of classes and administrative responsibilities. I currently hold an appointment as School Counseling Program Coordinator and Assistant Professor at Clemson University.

While the position at CACREP is a new one for me (and for CACREP), I have been involved with CACREP in numerous capacities over the years. While pursuing my doctoral studies in the CACREP accredited program at the University of Virginia, I served as a member of the CACREP Standards Revision Resource Team for the 2001 school counseling standards and was selected to serve as an initial reviewer for CACREP accreditation self-studies. I performed in the latter capacity for approximately three-and-a-half years

and reviewed over 90 accreditation self-studies. Since that time, I have served as a tenure-track counselor educator and as a CACREP liaison in CACREP accredited programs at two different institutions. As a counselor educator, I have been trained as both a CACREP accreditation site visit chair and team member and have been on several accreditation site visits. Most recently, I was involved in the Clemson counseling unit's re-accreditation effort, serving as primary author of the self-study and coordinator of the site visit. As a result of these experiences, I have gained a great deal of knowledge and experience with the CACREP accreditation and related processes.

On a personal note, I am married and have son who is almost four years old. My wife, Leslie, recently completed her doctorate in religious studies at the University of Virginia. Our son, Beck, has the preschool equivalent of a doctorate and knows everything about everything. We are struggling to keep up. We also have two wonderful dogs, Aslan the Wonder Dog and Gus.

I look forward to working with the staff at CACREP, the CACREP board, and the faculty and staff at CACREP accredited institutions and those seeking CACREP accreditation. See you in January!



Dr. Robert Urofsky

Board Notes

We said goodbye to four Board Members who completed their terms on June 30, 2006. Carla Adkison-Bradley, Gary Grand, Suzan Nolan and Becky Stanard. Beginning July 1, we welcomed five new members to the Board of Directors. Judy Bowers is a school counseling consultant in Tucson. Judith Nix is a public member who previously worked in accreditation at the American Dental Association. Estela Pledge joins us as a practitioner from Illinois specializing in substance abuse and mental health issues. Our two new counselor educators, Martin Ritchie teaches at the University of Toledo, and Brent Snow teaches at the University of West Georgia.

Sad News

CACREP was sad to hear of the death of Team Chair and member of the 2001 Standards Revision Committee member Reese House. Dr. House had left his faculty position at Portland State University to come to Washington as a staff member with The Education Trust.

Emergency Preparedness Included in Draft #3 of the 2009 Standards

When there is a local, regional or national emergency, a failure to communicate is not an option. Each responder must enter the disaster situation fully aware of the chain of command, incident command system, communication tools and reporting relationships. This is as true for mental health counselors as it is for firefighters. A counselor serves as a first and/or intermediate responder to the mental health needs arising from crises, disasters and other trauma causing events. As a member of a crisis response team, counselors must possess knowledge and skills that are different from those used in normal practice settings. They must be knowledgeable of mental health's role under the jurisdiction of the agency leading the response, be that FEMA, the Red Cross, local government, etc. They also must be familiar with emergency management plans such as the National Incident management System (NIMS).

This need for additional knowledge and skills combined with counselors' significant participation in the disaster mental health responses to recent emergencies has prompted the inclusion of outcomes-based emergency preparedness competencies in Draft #3 of the 2009 CACREP standards. Draft emergency preparedness knowledge and skills are included in both the Professional Identity section of the general standards and in each of the specific program area standards. Constituents are encouraged to read the emergency preparedness language and provide feedback to the Standards Revision Committee through November 30th 2007. Copies of the draft and feedback forms can be downloaded on the CACREP website at www.cacrep.org/StandardsRevisionText.html

Electronic Self-study Submission After 2009

CACREP currently allows for programs to submit on a CD Rom, but programs must also submit a hard copy. Current submission guidelines are available on our website. The CACREP Board of Directors approved a policy at its July meeting regarding self-study submissions under the 2009 Standards. Starting July 1, 2009, all self-studies must address the 2009 Standards and must be submitted electronically (on CD Rom). The requirement for a hard copy will be dropped at that time.

Restricted Test List Repealed in Indiana

Legislation providing the Indiana State Psychology Board's authority to create a restricted test list (RTL) has been repealed. Members of a coalition including multiple state and national organizations and organized by the Fair Access Coalition on Testing (FACT) worked successfully as a group to advocate for the repeal of the RTL language. CACREP is a member of FACT.

CACREP Issues RFP

CACREP announces a new request for proposal for research in the area of Professional Identity. The funding available is up to \$2000.00 and the deadline for submission is December 1, 2007. Details can be found under "What's New" on CACREP's website at www.cacrep.org.

CACREP Seeking Board Applicants

Published biannually by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs, a specialized accrediting body recognized by CHEA.
Publishing address:
5999 Stevenson Ave.,
Alexandria, VA 22304.
Telephone: (703) 823-9800, ext. 301,
Fax: (703) 823-1581,
TDD: (703) 370-1943
E-mail: cacrep@cacrep.org
Web: www.cacrep.org

Carol L. Bobby, *Executive Director*
Jenny Gunderman, *Editor*

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The Nominations Committee of the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) is seeking nominations and applications for positions on the Board of Directors. Elections to fill the positions will be held by the CACREP Board at its January 2008 meeting. Successful applicants will begin their terms on July 1, 2008.

The Board openings are for two (1-2) counselor educator positions, and one to two (1-2) counseling practitioner positions. Board members are elected to one 5-year term and are expected to attend the semiannual meetings in entirety. The meetings generally run three full days, not including travel time, and are held in January and July.

Prospective candidates are requested to read the full text of the CACREP Board Member Position Announcement and Application document posted at www.cacrep.org under Site News. Completed application packets must be postmarked no later than October 15, 2007 and mailed to the CACREP office c/o ERC – Nominations Committee, 1001 North Fairfax Street, Suite 520, Alexandria, VA 22314.



1001 N. Fairfax Street, Suite 510
Alexandria, VA 22314
703/535-5990