



THE CACREP CONNECTION

Spring 2007

Happy 25th Birthday, NBCC!

by
Carol L. Bobby

The year was 1982. I had just moved to the Washington, DC metropolitan area and I needed a part-time job, while I continued working on my doctoral degree from the University of Florida. The American Personnel and Guidance Association, now known as ACA, wasn't too far from my new home, so I decided to knock on their door and introduce myself. Of course, my ulterior motive was to make a job connection.

Soon thereafter I was reporting to work at APGA to do whatever needed to be done, which usually meant entering membership data on the computer system. But that was OK with me, because things were bustling at the APGA Headquarters... especially in the mail room. Everyday boxes and boxes of mailed applications from counselors interested in taking the first ever National Counselor Examination (NCE) were being carted to a tucked away desk in a corner where a solitary individual was attempting to wade her way through them. [Now this is the part of the story where I got lucky.] Seeing how surprisingly overwhelmed everyone at APGA seemed to be with the sudden onslaught of applicants, I suggested that I might be able to help with the reviews. After all, I had just recently completed my master's degree in counseling and I was familiar with the counseling curricular requirements put forth in the application requirements.

And, that is the story of how I got to go to work for the National Board for Certified Counselors (NBCC). I made many lasting connections helping NBCC prepare for the first administration of the NCE, but the best connection of all is that I earned the right to say that I have supported NBCC from its very beginnings. I am proud of that connection and I am even prouder of the good work that both NBCC and CACREP have been able to achieve together.

So, as CACREP winds down its silver anniversary year, I am happy to continue celebrating as NBCC gears up for its own 25th! Happy birthday, NBCC!

CACREP Office Relocation

CACREP will be moving in May 2007

The new address will be:

CACREP

1001 North Fairfax Street, Suite 510

Alexandria, VA 22314

New phone numbers will be announced when available. E-mail and web site will not change.



From the Chair

Jack Culbreth

I hope everyone is enjoying their transition into spring, late as it may have been. There have been a number of transitions with CACREP over the last several years, and they will continue to be important as the organization proceeds forward. I would like to take just a moment to update you on a few of these issues.

The CORE/CACREP Merger Task Force discussions continue to move forward. The Task Force has met twice this semester. We have developed a merger plan that will require a vote by both the CORE and CACREP Boards at their respective July meetings. The final decision will be made public as soon as possible thereafter. If the decision is positive for merger, then the details on how this will be accomplished will be provided in a number of public forums, including this newsletter, possibly *Counseling Today*, as well as at various national conferences. Please stay tuned.

The Standards Revision Committee continues to move forward with the revision process. Members of the committee have been to conferences and meetings throughout the year receiving feedback from members of the profession about Draft #2. We are looking forward to the next draft and how new initiatives will be integrated. Because of the opportunity to develop national disaster preparedness standards, the CACREP Board voted to extend the standards revision process by one year to allow for public commentary on any new items inserted in the next draft before adoption occurs. Therefore, the next set of standards will not be adopted by the Board until July, 2008, with implementation beginning July, 2009. Please, if you get an opportunity to talk with one of the SRC members, thank them for their hard work on a very difficult task. This committee has put forth a dramatic amount of effort on the standards so far. This is not an easy committee to be a member of, both in level of work and in public scrutiny. I know that I am appreciative of all that they have done and will continue to do for CACREP and the profession.

Another set of transitions occurring are with the staff and office location. As some of you may have already heard, the CACREP office is moving to a new and larger set of offices in Alexandria. New contact information (phone, email, addresses) will be forthcoming. There has also been a new staff position created, with a job announcement posted on various listservs and the CACREP website. Both of these moves underscore the growth that CACREP continues to experience. Of course, these transitions mean that there may be some growing pains through the process. Just bear with us as we make these important transitions.

Our international efforts continue to move forward. The Board has created a new International Committee to develop the plan for how CACREP will be involved with accreditation outside of the United States. Becky Stanard, the out-going Board vice-chair, has agreed to be the chairperson of this committee. This committee will be under the direction of the Board of Directors, reporting to the Executive Committee. We are looking forward to what comes from this committee as the Board develops an international agenda.

In keeping with trying to stay ahead of these changes for the organization, the CACREP Board of Directors held a mini-retreat at the last Board meeting in January. Topics discussed included efforts to strengthen the working relationship with ACA, adjustments to the internal operational structure of the Board, and managing our new Board member selection process. Ideas generated from this mini-retreat will guide the Board in the immediate future, as well as set a stage for future retreats and long-term strategic planning for CACREP. One particular outgrowth of the retreat is the development a scheduled meeting between the chairs/presidents and executive directors of CACREP, ACA, and NBCC. The meeting will be held in late May, with the intent to discuss organizational and mutual projects/initiatives. It is my hope that the leaders of all three organizations will be able to discuss issues and develop ways that we can help each other as we all work to promote the counseling profession.

I continue to be amazed at how well all of these transitions keep moving forward in a positive direction. These are not small items of business. Many of these transition items will change the face of CACREP in the future. I would like to express my appreciation of all the forward thinking that the CACREP Board has shown in addressing these challenges. Also, the CACREP staff has taken on a huge amount of additional responsibilities in order to keep these initiatives moving forward. Their dedication to this growth process is greatly appreciated. And finally, I would like to thank our outgoing Board members, Becky Stanard, Carla Adkison-Bradley, Suzan Nolan, and Gary Grand, for their dedicated service to the Board, to CACREP, and to the counseling profession.

Accreditation Decisions

The CACREP Board of Directors met January 10-12, 2007 in Sarasota, FL and made the accreditation decisions listed below. The next meeting of the board is scheduled for July 2007.

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

Argosy University, Schaumburg, Schaumburg, IL

[†]Community Counseling (March 31, 2009)

California State University Fullerton, Fullerton, CA

[†]Community Counseling (March 31, 2009)

East Tennessee State University, Johnson City, TN

Community Counseling, School Counseling and [†]Student Affairs (March 31, 2009)

Governors State University, University Park, IL

Community Counseling, Marital, Couple and Family Counseling/Therapy and School Counseling (March 31, 2014)

Indiana Wesleyan University, Marion, IN

Community Counseling, Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy and [†]School Counseling (March 31, 2009)

Montana State University, Bozeman, MT

Marital, Couple, and Family Counseling/Therapy, Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling (March 31, 2015)

New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM

Mental Health Counseling (March 31, 2013)

Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH

[†]Mental Health Counseling and [†]School Counseling (March 31, 2009)

Regis University, Denver, CO

[†]Community Counseling (March 31, 2009)

St. Cloud State University, St. Cloud, MN

[†]Student Affairs (December 31, 2008). This department also has an accredited program in School Counseling.

Troy University Phenix City, Phenix City, AL

Community Counseling, Mental Health Counseling, and School Counseling (March 31, 2015)

University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC

School Counseling (March 31, 2009)

University of North Florida, Jacksonville, FL

Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling (March 31, 2009)

University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls, IA

Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling (March 31, 2009)

Walsh University, North Canton, OH

[†]Mental Health Counseling and [†]School Counseling (March 31, 2009)

(continued)

Youngstown State University, Youngstown, OH
Community Counseling and School Counseling
(March 31, 2015)

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

Appalachian State University, Boone, NC
College Counseling, Community Counseling and School Counseling (October 31, 2013)

Argosy University Sarasota, Sarasota, FL
Mental Health Counseling (October 31, 2013)

Colorado State University, Ft. Collins, CO
Career Counseling, Community Counseling and School Counseling (March 31, 2012)

Concordia University, River Forest, IL
Community Counseling and School Counseling
(June 30, 2011)

Eastern Washington University, Spokane, WA
Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling
(December 31, 2009)

Fairfield University, Fairfield, CT
Community Counseling and School Counseling
(December 31, 2008)

Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA
Mental Health Counseling (March 31, 2013)

University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH
Counselor Education and Supervision (June 30, 2009)

University of Illinois at Springfield, Springfield, IL
Community Counseling and School Counseling
(December 31, 2008)

University of Memphis, Memphis, TN
Counselor Education and Supervision (June 30, 2009)

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

Mississippi College (June 30, 2009)
State University of New York at Brockport
(June 30, 2009)
University of Southern Mississippi (August 30, 2008)
University of Wisconsin Superior (December 31, 2007)

Congratulations...

...to former CACREP Board member

Richard Watts who received the ACES Robert O. Stripling Excellence in Standards Award. The award was presented at the ACA conference in Detroit last month.

...to New Team Members

The following counselors and counselor educators attended the Team Member Orientation conducted in Detroit by Dr. Courtland Lee:

Wanda Briggs
Kelly Burch-Ragan
Maura Krushinski
Tina Livingston
Virginia Magnus
Francis Martin
Kenneth McCurdy
Brigid Noonan-Klima
Quinn Pearson

Shannon Ray
Laura Schmuldt
Kerry Sebera
Joseph Stewart-Sicking
Mercedes ter Maat
Ruth Thomas
Raymond Ting
Yvonne Quintanilla

Counselors Respond

The services of professional counselors are now being called upon to assist students, parents, educators, as well as stunned members of the world community, grapple with the horrendous deaths of 33 Virginia Tech students and faculty. The excerpts below are taken from web pages during the hours and days following the incident.

Virginia Tech's Cook Counseling Center deeply appreciates the support we are receiving from mental health professionals all over the world. If you are interested in helping, please email your contact information instead of calling. This will help us to keep our phone lines open for students and families.

(Virginia Tech Cook Counseling Homepage 4/17/07)

Short-term trauma counseling will be available through the Counseling Department of Family Services of Roanoke Valley from now through April 27. Family Services will staff additional counselors specially trained in critical-incident counseling.

The Roanoke Times, 4/19/07

We are reaching out and responding to families and students experiencing great loss from the tragedy this week at Virginia Tech, extending counseling services and comfort to the community.

The American Red Cross. 4/20/07

At CACREP we offer our deepest sympathy to the families who have lost their loved ones. To the counselors who are bringing psychological first aid to those most affected by this crisis, we send our greatest respect and appreciation of your efforts.

Can Significant Program Changes Affect Your CACREP Accreditation?

by
Carol L. Bobby

The answer to this question is, of course, “yes” and CACREP reserves the right whenever changes occur to initiate a review of the program to determine if the standards are still being met. But this response ignores the important fact that counseling programs are continually changing and evolving. And, even more important, it ignores the fact that CACREP encourages programs to change. After all, CACREP continually revises its standards to keep up with changes in the profession and society. Programs must change, too.

So one might ask, “What’s the fuss?” CACREP changes its standards; programs change, too. Generally speaking, there is no fuss. Yet there are times when program changes significantly alter the nature of the counselor preparation being offered to students. These changes, in turn, may impact a program’s ability to maintain compliance with CACREP Standards. When such changes occur, CACREP needs to take another look at the program and to make decisions about the continued ability of the program to retain its accredited status. Such changes are considered to be “substantive.”

Over the years, CACREP has had reporting mechanisms in place to assist us in observing the changes occurring in programs during an accreditation cycle. In addition to the self-study report, there are requirements for submission of the Annual Vital Statistics forms, Interim Reports, and Mid-cycle Reports. We also periodically receive complaints from students and/or faculty regarding a program’s failure to comply with standards. All of these reporting mechanisms give CACREP an opportunity to look at how programs change either improve or hinder a program’s ability to continue to meet CACREP Standards. Over the years, most changes have not been “substantive” in nature.

However, these periodic reporting mechanisms have not been sufficient to alert CACREP to the many kinds of substantive changes that are now occurring in our programs. Recently, CACREP has noticed an increasing number of discrepancies between what our records indicate was accredited and what is being published on programs’ websites. Plus, more and more often, we are getting phone calls from students or credentialing organizations (NBCC or state licensing boards) indicating that titles of degrees or location of the program do not match the CACREP directory of accredited programs. Then there is the rapidly changing face of the delivery of higher education ranging from the creation of online courses to completely online programs or the decision of some institutions to offer degree programs to time-limited cohort groups of students at varying locations. Sometimes it is hard for CACREP to keep track of what our accredited programs are doing.

As a result, the CACREP Board passed a Substantive Change Policy at its January 2007 to better inform our accredited programs on what constitutes a substantive change in the program’s operations and when and how to notify CACREP. The policy outlines the following seven items as constituting a substantive change:

1. changes in management, oversight, and/or ownership of the program, including merging with another program;
2. changes in geographical setting, including moving a program to a new location, or establishment of a branch campus or an off-campus cohort program;
3. establishing electronically offered degree programs after on-campus programs have been accredited;
4. dropping or modifying programs to an extent that the program’s mission is not being accomplished;
5. adding or modifying courses that represent a significant departure in terms of either the content or method of delivery from those that were offered when the institution was most recently evaluated, such as distance learning or correspondence courses (here a substantive change is operationally defined as 25% or more of the credit hours of the accredited curriculum);
6. significantly departing from the stated mission, population served, objectives, or educational programs operative at the time of the most recent evaluation;
7. substantial turnover of core faculty, operationally defined as 51% or more within an academic year.

(continued)

Continued from page 5

The policy also outlines the timeline and procedures for notifying the CACREP office about the changes. In essence, the policy emphasizes the need for programs to notify CACREP when they are considering or planning for such changes. It is always better to be forewarned about the potential impact that change may have on the program's accreditation. The CACREP staff has been empowered to work with programs in thinking through these types of considerations.

The CACREP Board does not intend for this to be an onerous process for its programs. The main purpose of the new policy is to keep everyone well informed. After all, CACREP accreditation stands for program quality in the minds of our consumers. It is imperative that CACREP have accurate information about how our programs are continuing to meet our standards.

To download a copy of this policy, visit www.cacrep.org and click on Substantive Change Policy under "What's New" on the right hand side of the home page.

Standards Revision Process Update

Tom Davis, Chair SRC Committee

I would like to offer an update of the 2008 CACREP Standards revision process as we move into the third draft. The process of reflection, solicitation of ideas from the field, and re-writing of the standards is one of fluidity. The committee members have found the work to be both challenging and rewarding as we work to create the best professional counselor preparation standards possible.

From the time of the launch of Draft II, committee members have presented, and solicited feedback at the five ACES Regional meetings. In addition, committee members presented at the ASCA, AMHCA, and American Association of State Counseling Boards annual conference to receive reactions to Draft II, and to allow for thoughts and recommendations on our next Draft. It is important to add that the committee received 572 responses from individuals and groups including AMHCA, ASCA, AASCB, the Commission of Rehabilitation Counselor Certification, as well as numerous counselor education programs, state licensure boards, and state branches, divisions and affiliates.

Along with the feedback that the SRC has received, two significant things have transpired which will influence and impact the timing and content of the standards. First is the awarding of a grant to CACREP through the Department of Health Resources and Services Administration to explore how education requirements related to counselor involvement in disasters should be implemented. As many of you know, the SRC members who attended the ACES regional meetings discussed the potential inclusion of language related to emergency response to the CACREP Standards. I can say that the response to both discussion and written feedback to this initiative has been positive. The CACREP Board has determined that due to the need for public response to the new emergency response infusion, that the deadline for completion of the standards review process will now be June, 2009.

The second significant inclusion that can be expected is the inclusion of a new program area in addictions. This is a result of a direct request from the CACREP Board to develop standards for this new program area. A great deal of consideration went into the decision to include a new program area by both the CACREP Board and the SRC. After serious thought and discussion on the part of the Board and the SRC, it was decided that it would be best to move on the Board's request at this time. The committee has completed a draft of the Addictions Counseling Standards which will be available for public reaction with the release of Draft III.

The Standard Revisions Committee members wish to express our appreciation to those who have, and will continue to offer feedback and suggestions during the revision process. It is important to know that each response received is given careful consideration by the members of the SRC. As a result of the feedback process, significant improvements are being made to our already sound CACREP standards.

CACREP JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Director of Accreditation

Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP)
Alexandria, VA

Reports to the Executive Director

Position Summary:

The Director of Accreditation will oversee the CACREP accreditation application and review process, which include insuring that all accreditation applications are processed in a timely manner from initial receipt in the CACREP office to the final Board review when accreditation decisions are rendered. The Director of Accreditation will also manage the site team selection and visit scheduling process, synthesize information gathered throughout the review process into letter or report form that can be shared with higher education administrators and faculty, and represent CACREP's purpose to the our constituents and to the public-at-large.

Major Responsibilities

1. Serves as the principal accreditation program officer to insure that CACREP's accreditation process is conducted in accordance with CACREP's policies and procedures. Manages all aspects of the accreditation process with an appropriate balance of diplomacy, collegiality, and discipline.
2. Manages a recruitment and training process to insure an adequate supply of appropriately trained and qualified team visitors and serves as the staff liaison to CACREP's Training Committee.
3. Interacts with programs interested in seeking CACREP accreditation to insure that they have adequate information regarding the process, the standards, and the review process and timeline.
4. Communicates and interacts with other specialized accrediting agencies to continually enhance his or her understanding of best practices in accreditation, knowledge of current accreditation issues, and methods of cooperation that may reduce redundancies in accreditation processes.
5. Assumes a leadership role for CACREP by attending conferences and seminars that provide visibility of the accreditation process to the counseling community.
6. Insures that the information and functions of the database and website are regularly reviewed and updated as needed.

Qualifications

- Doctoral degree in counselor education (graduates of or doctoral students in CACREP programs preferred)
- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Ability to work collaboratively with a volunteer leadership, related professional organizations, stakeholder groups, and other staff
- Ability to manage diverse and complex processes to completion
- Confidence to make decisions and take responsibility
- Ability to work under deadlines and schedules
- Travel required

For Consideration

Send a cover letter describing the candidate's qualifications, interest in the position, and salary requirements, along with a resume or curriculum vitae and brief essay addressing the applicant's hopes for the future directions of CACREP nationally and/or internationally (limit to 2 pages, double-spaced) to:

cacrep@cacrep.org

Please note Director Position in the subject line of your email.

Excellent benefits. Salary commensurate with experience.

Application Submission Deadline

Complete application packets should be received by close of business on May 25, 2007.

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*

CACREP Board of Directors:

Jack Culbreth, Chair
Rebecca Stanard, Vice Chair
Eli Zambrano, Treasurer
Carla Adkison-Bradley
Louis Busacca
Craig Cashwell
Joseph Dear
Gary Grand
Bryce Hagedorn
Suzan Nolan
Donna Gooden Payne
Sue Strong
Jim Wigtil

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 1, 2007 and mailed to the CACREP office c/o ERC – Nominations Committee, 1001 North Fairfax Street, Suite 520, Alexandria, VA 22314.



5999 Stevenson Avenue
Alexandria, VA 22304
703/823-9800, ext. 301