



## CACREP Connection

Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs

### ✓ How Can CACREP Help You?



CACREP believes it provides a valuable service to students, programs, and the counseling profession through the development and implementation of its accreditation standards and processes. The [CACREP Standards](#) represent the most up-to-date criteria to measure excellence in counselor education. Their primary purpose is to prepare qualified counseling practitioners to serve the clients

who seek out their services.

Providing a valuable and relevant service, however, requires CACREP to stay abreast of issues in higher education, trends and shifts in societal needs and concerns, current research on best practices in the counseling field, recognition of graduates for employment in appropriate settings, reimbursement for the services they provide, and the politics of the profession itself. It is a big job.

To renew CACREP's commitment to providing high quality services, the Board has begun examining ways to better serve its various publics. Three activities have been undertaken.

1. On the annual data form sent to accredited programs, the [CACREP Board](#) solicited suggestions from programs on what services CACREP could provide.
2. In June 2011, the CACREP Board held a retreat to examine its roles and responsibilities in better serving programs and the profession.
3. The Board appointed the 2016 Standards Revision Committee (SRC) and charged the SRC with conducting a thorough review of the accreditation standards using research and a public feedback process.

Although only 14% of the annual data forms have been received to date, the overlap of suggestion from programs with ideas generated at the CACREP Board's retreat is remarkable. The following major categories were identified with ideas for each listed below:

**SPECIAL EDITION**  
**September 2011**

#### **IN THIS ISSUE...**

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Become a fan of CACREP on [Facebook!](#) We can reach a wide audience quickly with important updates on CACREP and other counselor education matters. Recent facebook posts have focused on the TriCare recommendation and notice of training sessions.



### **Development of Training Resources**

- offer more training on implementing the 2009 Standards
- provide training on assessment
- provide access to learning resources on assessment in counseling programs
- continue offering the "how to write a CACREP self-study" workshop
- offer online renewal training for team members and chairs

### **Development of Research and Advocacy Resources**

- make data available on graduation rates at CACREP programs, statistics on student and faculty diversity, and other general demographics
- develop information geared to students on the benefits of graduating from a CACREP program
- work closely with state licensure and certification boards to encourage the use of CACREP Standards
- continue to stress the importance of professional identity of counselors in the political realm
- provide assistance to programs on how to market themselves to students nationally
- assist in the unification of state licensure requirements across the US to create portability

### **Increased and Diversified Communication Strategies**

- offer a safe discussion site where faculty and liaisons ask questions and access information on how other programs meet CACREP Standards
- provide online access and links to successful self-studies
- foster dialog among CACREP liaisons; perhaps set up a system for student liaisons
- sponsor a blog on assessment or other difficult areas of the 2009 Standards

### **Growing programs and jobs for graduates**

- assist institutions located in underserved states to develop doctoral programs
- offer a national jobs list
- provide information on employment possibilities
- offer an annual job fair
- continue to help programs offer solid counselor preparation
- work with students looking for doctoral programs
- continue conferences/meetings related to international programs and other trends in the field

This list does not contain every idea generated, but is a comprehensive

list of the ideas received, which overlap with the strategic initiatives developed by the Board. These ideas will be acted upon. If you have not submitted your 2011 CACREP Data Form, please send it in! We will continue to review the new comments and suggestions for action.

CACREP hears you! Although work has already begun on these ideas, they will take time to develop. The CACREP staff is presently strategizing ways to create new staff positions to attend to the call to action. We hope, however, that while we are "under construction" in implementing these valuable ideas that our public will continue to express the kind of support that keeps us going.

Here is how one program responded to CACREP's request:

*"CACREP has been wonderful throughout this process. I know we are a stronger program because of the leadership CACREP has provided. I cannot think of anything you could offer to assist more than you already do!"*

Kind Regards,

**Carol L. Bobby**  
**CACREP President and CEO**

## ✓ NBCC Foundation to Offer Scholarships

The NBCC Foundation is once again offering scholarships to students in CACREP programs whose focus is military or rural counseling. If you have students who fit into this category, please pass this along to them. More information can be found on the CACREP website. [Read more](#)

## ✓ Board Adopts Two New Policies in July 2011

The Board adopted two new policies at its July 2011 meeting. The first is the [Multiple Sites Policy](#), which provides a structure for creating and reviewing programs offered at different campus sites. This policy will be applied to programs from this point forward. The second policy is a replacement for the policy on [Equivalent Program Requirement](#). The new policy can be found on the CACREP website. [Read more](#)

## ✓ Board Member Application

This Fall, the CACREP is seeking applicants for two Counselor Education and one Practitioner position on the Board beginning July 1, 2012. We really need your help in identifying practitioners who would be interested on serving on the CACREP Board. Think about site supervisors affiliated with your program or graduates of your program who might have an interest and aptitude for this level of involvement. If you or someone on your faculty is interested in the Counselor Education positions or you have a practitioner candidate in mind, the application can be found on the CACREP website. The deadline is October 15, 2011 and any questions can be directed to 703-535-5990 or [cacrep@cacrep](mailto:cacrep@cacrep). [Read more](#)