

## Table Talk Session Summary

### Announcements

1. New Board Members who began on July 1, 2022 are: Counselor educators: Kyla Kurian & Sonja Sutherland and Practitioner Jay Tift
2. CACREP Board openings for a five-year term beginning July 1, 2023 are for one Counselor Educator, one Practitioner, and one Public member positions to be filled. The deadline for application is October 30, 2022. Details can be found on the [website](#).
3. CACREP is always looking for Site Visitors as the site visit is an essential component of the accreditation review process. While faculty from all specialty areas are welcomed, our greatest need right now is for those with expertise in Rehabilitation Counseling, School Counseling and Marriage, Couple, Family Counseling.  
The first step is to complete an [application](#) and upon approval you will be provided a link to the online training module. All site visits are currently being conducted in the virtual format. Currently approved site visitors must complete the [virtual site visit training](#).  
Being a site visitor is: national service to the profession, a contribution to quality assurance in counselor preparation, exposure to innovative ideas, and individual professional development.
4. The Standards Revision Committee is a Board-appointed committee that works independent of the Board and has been working since September 2019. They have released their 4<sup>th</sup> and final draft for [public comment](#) which is due by Monday November 21. Their plan is to submit final draft to the Board for adoption in February 2023.

### Updates

1. *Workshops*. All [How to Write a Self-Study Workshop](#) continue to be conducted online. See [website](#) for the next workshop or contact person [Heidi Campbell](#).
2. *Virtual Site Visits*. We started doing Virtual Site Visits in Summer 2020 and will continue to do so until institutional policies and conditions across the country change.  
Programs preparing for a virtual site visit can find information on the website in the [Supplement to Manual 4](#) for guidance.
3. *Accreditation Management System*. A CACREP goal is to provide expanded service and support to our accredited programs, as such, has made a significant investment in an Accreditation Management System which has been in development since November 2020. We are populating program data into the system and testing functionality.
4. *Strategic Priorities*. At its May 2019 Strategic Planning meeting the CACREP Board identified four Strategic Priorities and subsequently operationalized and have begun implementation in a staggered fashion. The Strategic Priorities are:
  - a. Accreditation Review and Monitoring Process - The Board approved a structure for these two processes in July 2021 and detailing out the process in currently underway.
  - b. Accreditation Decisions Options - The Board has [adopted options](#) which will be used beginning with the Board's January 2023 meeting.
  - c. Board Structure - In response to the increasing workload, growth in the number of programs seeking accreditation, and the need to balance its policy and working Board roles, the Board has reorganized its internal standing committees and created new external Council which will now provide professional service opportunities for counselor educators and practitioners to be involved in the work of CACREP.
  - d. Leadership and Scope - CACREP continues collaborations with counseling organizational partners on professional issues and projects to open up new professional service opportunities for CACREP students and faculty, and practitioners.

5. *Policy Revisions.* The Appeal and Complaint policies have been revised to provide more structure and distinguishing the policy from procedure and can be found in the [Policy Document](#). A new Teach-out Policy addresses the reporting requirements, unique for each circumstance, specific to maintaining the integrity of the program until it closes and/or the last student graduates. Please contact the [CACREP office](#) for specific guidance.
6. *Guiding Statement on Variation in Accredited Programs.* Counselor education programs sometimes incorporate focused, curricular options referred to as concentrations or emphasis areas, that can be completed as part of the program of study in a CACREP-accredited specialty area. Care must be exercised in accurately [conveying this distinction](#) in relation to CACREP accreditation.
7. *Counseling Compact.* CACREP supports the Compact as a route for already licensed counselors the privilege to practice in another state. Of concern are the co-occurring changes to initial counselor licensure. For example this past legislative session, in:
  - a. Florida the [initial licensure statute](#) was changed:
    - **491.003 Definitions**
      - 5) *“Licensed professional counselor” means a clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist, or mental health counselor authorized to provide services under s. 491.017.*
    - **491.005 Licensure by examination**
      - (b)2. *... Beginning July 1, 2025, an applicant must have a master’s degree from a program that is accredited by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs, the Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation Council, or an equivalent accrediting body which consists of at least 60 semester hours or 80 quarter hours to apply for licensure under this paragraph....*
    - **491.017 Professional Counselors Licensure Compact**

Article II: Definitions

      - (15) *“Licensed professional counselor” means a counselor licensed by a member state, regardless of the title used by that state, to independently assess, diagnose, and treat behavioral health conditions.*
  - b. Georgia the [requirements for license](#) as associate professional counselor or professional counselor changed to include counseling psychology:
    - (A) *A minimum of an earned master’s degree or higher from a regionally accredited program in clinical counseling or counseling psychology that consists of at least 60 semester hours or 80 quarter hours with an approved supervised internship or practicum that is primarily counseling in content as a part of the degree program;*
8. *CACREP Fellow and Intern Program.* This Program is designed to create opportunities for current doctoral counseling students and early-career (<5 years) faculty employed in CACREP-accredited programs to develop leadership skills and engage in focused training, research, and advocacy opportunities for the benefit of the counseling profession. Last year we partnered with ACES in conjunction with their Emerging Leaders Program; and this year we are partnered with CSI in conjunction with their Leadership Fellows & Interns Program.
9. *Reminder on move to 60 deadline.* Effective July 1, 2023, all entry-level degree programs must require a minimum of 60 semester credit hours or 90 quarter credit hours. Any student starting a program on or after this date must graduate from a 60-semester or 90-quarter credit program.
10. *CACREP Bulletin.* Since November 2021 CACREP Liaisons have been receiving a monthly CACREP Bulletin that identifies new content to the website and reminders of upcoming deadlines. Liaisons have been asked to forward the Bulletin to all faculty.

## Digital Delivery Updates

1. Recap of digital delivery actions since March 2020, CACREP:
  - respected all programs' move to digital/virtual program delivery and waived the requirement to submit a substantive change report on a time-limited basis.
  - identified [Standards impacted](#) by digital delivery of programs.
  - created a [Glossary of Digital Learning Terms](#) to ensure a common and shared understanding of digital delivery to be used with the identified standards and for review of the required Board-prescribed reports.
2. Board-prescribed Digital Delivery Reports
  - CACREP created a reporting template for each of the two Board-prescribed reports: A [Substantive Change](#) report for on-ground accredited programs and a [Standards Update](#) report for accredited online programs.
  - Every accredited program was notified in May 2022 of which report to complete with the due date for submission, and a [Standards Crosswalk](#) to facilitate the report writing.
  - Please do not submit early because review priority will be given to those programs submitting on their due dates. The Board-prescribed reports will be reviewed and developmental feedback will be provided.
3. Digital delivery is integrated in the draft 2024 CACREP Standards.
4. CACREP is exploring a residency requirement for online programs and is seeking input from programs regarding this requirement and what form it takes if required. There are questions at the end of the Vital Statistics Survey on this.
5. There are three Board Task Forces focused on:
  - Development and delivery of educational materials for programs regarding program digital delivery expectations,
  - Development of Trainings for the CACREP Board, Staff, Site Teams, and other stakeholders involved in the accreditation review process, and
  - Review and revision of CACREP policies relevant to or impacted by program digital delivery.