Table Talk ACA 2024

Announcements

- 1. New Board Members who began on July 1, 2024 are: Counselor educators: Dr. Matthew Bonner and Dr. Susan Foster, and Public Member: Amy King.
- 2. The CACREP accreditation review process is primarily a peer review process, with counselor educators and practitioners serving as reviewers at all levels of review: as academic review specialists, site visitors, and board members.

CACREP is actively recruiting counselor educators and practitioners with expertise in any of the counseling specialty areas and/or in doctoral counselor education and supervision doctoral programs to <u>apply</u> to serve as site visitors. Our highest need areas are School Counseling and Addictions Counseling but applications from individuals with expertise in any of the specialty areas and/or doctoral programs are welcomed.

Benefits of serving as a site visitor include providing national service to the profession, contributing to quality assurance in counselor preparation, gaining exposure to innovative ideas, and engaging in individual professional development. For more information on the site visitor approval and training process and on what serving as a site visitor entails, please contact CACREP's Site Visit Coordinator, Shantae Watkins (<u>swatkins@cacrep.org</u>).

CACREP conducts a growing number of site visits every year. We hope you will consider applying and would greatly appreciate it if you could encourage new faculty and your colleagues to apply as well.

- 3. The <u>CACREP 2024 Standards</u> will go into effect July 1of this year. Your one-stop shop for all things on the new standards is the <u>CACREP 2024 Standards Resource</u> page.
- 4. Effective January 1, 2024 CACREP will no longer provide a hardcopy of the Certificate of Accreditation. We will provide a letter of verification upon request.

Updates

- 1. *Accreditation Management System*. An on-going CACREP goal is to provide expanded services and support to our accredited programs.
 - You have heard for 3 years now that CACREP is developing an accreditation management system. CACREP is rolling out implementation in a stage-wise manner.
 - We entered the implementation stage early last Fall with the staff and mid-fall last year it was implemented with Site Teams for their team reports.
 - We are doing a multi-stage rollout to programs this Spring, so stay tuned especially if you are the Program Liaison.
 - The AMS is form and template driven. We are now testing internally the self-study template ie entering program information and testing functionality through the stages. This will not yet be ready for programs submitting reports this summer. Our target is to make this available for use in the Fall of this year.
 - On the Resource page you will see SSR Template which shows you what the layout will look like in the AMS for you to write and submit your SSR and forms have been created for the supporting documentation that is required to ensure that we get standard and complete information from programs.

- The AMS will also be CACREP's program record system and Programs Liaisons will be granted access to their program's dashboard.
- Programs will see their program specific dashboard of what's publicly available on the CACREP Directory, reports due, and institution's characteristics.
- So, it is extremely important that CACREP knows at all times who is your Program Liaison. This is the person to whom all communications is sent for dissemination to faculty and administrators.

2. <u>2024 CACREP Standards Guidance Document</u>. To assist programs, understand the letter and spirit of the standards, a Guidance Document has been developed. The purpose of this Guidance Document is to assist programs when writing their Self-Study Report and any other reports or communication relative to the 2024 Standards during the accreditation cycle. For each standard, there is a brief explanation of what the standard is about, things to consider when responding, what documents are required (if any), examples of appropriate supporting documents, and relevant policies. This document will serve as a resource for programs and reviewers at all levels - students, liaisons, desk reviewers, site reviewers, and Board to provide a common resource and understanding and to facilitate communication between programs and reviewers.

3. *Policy Revisions* can be found in the <u>Policy Document</u>.

Use of New Standards -

When CACREP implements new or revised standards, programs submitting applications for accreditation or reaffirmation of accreditation on or after the effective date of the new standards must demonstrate compliance with the new standards. So starting July 1, 2024 all SSR submissions must be under 2024 Standards

All programs currently accredited must come into compliance with the new standards within two years of the effective date of the new standards. All reports submitted on or after the twoyear transition period must be based on the new standards. CACREP will conduct all reviews and make all accreditation and monitoring decisions based on the new standards following completion of the two-year transition period. So, all accredited programs must be in compliance with the 2024 Standards by July 1, 2026. There will not be any new reporting to demonstrate compliance but all reviews from that point on will be based on the 2024 Standards.

Programs submitting reports in the interim during the two-year transition period may elect to submit reports under either set of standards, unless otherwise directed. All reviews and decisions following the two-year transition period will be based on the new standards. Program that had SSRs due in Fall 2023 or Spring 2024 that requested to come under the 2024 Standards were granted an extension.

- 4. *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. Please be sure you are getting yours.
- 5. *CACREP Connection Newsletter*. We have brought back CACREP's newsletter, which is sent to the larger community. If you have suggestions for topics or articles or are interested in contributing a newsletter article on a topic related to CACREP, please contact us through cacrep@cacrep.org.