Commission on Accreditation (CoA)
2012 Annual Report

Staff Liaison: Susan Zlotlow, PhD (Director, Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation and Associate Executive Director, Education Directorate)

Membership Composition and Diversity

Appendix A to this report presents a brief profile of the 32 members of the 2012 Commission on Accreditation (CoA).

In terms of individual diversity, 50% were women; 19% were of racial or ethnic minority background; and 6% represented other forms of individual diversity. In terms of discipline diversity, psychologists serving on CoA represented 23 (43%) of the 54 APA divisions, and 43% of those 23 divisions represented included one or more APA Fellows. Among the psychologists on the Commission, 28% were board-certified by ABPP. Twenty-one states from various regions of the country were geographically represented.

The Chair of the 2012 CoA was Elizabeth A. Klonoff, PhD. The Associate Chair for Quality Assurance was Joyce Illfelder-Kaye, PhD, and the Associate Chair for Program Review was Carl E. Paternite, PhD.

CoA Meeting Structure

During calendar year 2012, CoA met on the following dates: February 1 (new member orientation); February 2-5 (policy only); March 22-25 (program review and policy); July 19-22 (program review and policy); and October 18-21 (program review and policy). In addition to conducting program reviews, each CoA member participated in both a “policy panel” and a “work group.” These groups serve as task forces for particular types of issues throughout the year. In 2012, the three policy panels were: doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral; the four work groups were: communications, complaints, research, and training.

Program Review Summary

At each of its program review meetings, CoA completed the full reviews and made final decisions on 159 programs: 65 doctoral programs; 74 internship programs; and 17 postdoctoral residency programs. Of this total, 156 (98%) were granted initial or continued accreditation, while three accredited doctoral programs were placed on “accredited, on probation” status and one doctoral program’s accreditation was revoked following an appeal in July 2012.
In addition to these full reviews, CoA completed numerous preliminary reviews of applicant and accredited programs, granted new requests for “accredited, inactive” status from 11 programs, and accepted the voluntary withdrawal of accreditation from 15 accredited programs. The Commission also reviewed 10 complaints filed against accredited programs as well as numerous interim reports submitted by accredited programs.

Appendix B to this report presents the growth in the number of accredited programs by decade. As of the conclusion of 2012, there were a total of 929 accredited programs. A detailed breakdown of the numbers and types of accredited programs is provided below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Accredited Programs</th>
<th>Accredited Programs</th>
<th>Applicant Programs Under Review</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>PhD</td>
<td>PsyD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Doctoral Programs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counseling</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Doctoral</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Internship Programs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Internship</td>
<td>475</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Postdoctoral Residency Programs</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traditional – Clinical</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty – Clinical Neuropsychology</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty – Clinical Health Psychology</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Specialty – Clinical Child Psychology</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty – Rehabilitation Psychology</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Specialty – Forensic Psychology</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Postdoctoral</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>929</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Throughout the year, the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation staff provided consultative guidance to programs and constituent groups.
Policy Changes and Public Comment

During 2012, CoA adopted changes to several of its policies, including major changes to the Accreditation Operating Procedures (AOP) to allow for the statuses of “eligibility” and “accredited, on contingency” and new and revised Implementing Regulations (IRs). The Implementing Regulations are policy statements that clarify portions of the Guidelines and Principles for Accreditation (G&P) and the AOP; the most up-to-date version of the IRs may be viewed at the following location:


In accordance with its policies, public comment is always sought on changes to the G&P or AOP; it is sometimes sought on IRs that may be controversial or where input from the public may be helpful. Listed below are the major policy changes that were approved by the CoA.

➢ At its March meeting, the CoA adopted the following Implementing Regulation:

  o C-20 (revised): IR C-20 was revised to clarify the expectations of accredited doctoral programs to provide accurate public information related to the following: time to degree completion; program costs, fellowships and other funding; internship acceptance rates; student attrition rates; and licensure outcomes. Although the data expected of programs to make available to the public did not change, the revised IR added a required template for use by programs to ensure accurate and comparable information across all accredited doctoral programs.

➢ At its July meeting, the CoA adopted the following Implementing Regulations:

  o C-31(a-d) (new): This series of five new implementing regulations clarify the process used by the CoA for full review of doctoral programs (i.e., periodic review) as well as reviewing programs’ continuing assurance of quality (i.e., annual review). Four specific issues reflected in decision letters from the CoA are addressed by this IR series: student selection and admission; student attrition; internship placement; and licensure.

  o D.4-7(b) (revised): Following approximately 90 days of public comment, the CoA set at 50% the threshold for the “percent of students accepted into an accredited internship” for accredited doctoral Clinical and Counseling programs. The threshold is used by the CoA to monitor and ensure quality between periodic reviews. A program’s accreditation status may not be revised solely on the basis of this threshold and the majority of accreditation decisions will continue to be comprised of a full review of a self-study, site visit, and any third party comments received from the public.
In 2012, the CoA commenced the process for revising its *Guidelines and Principles for Accreditation* (G&P). At the July meeting, the CoA approved a tentative timeline and designed an iterative process of four phases to involve input from all of the CoA’s communities of interest. The CoA Public Comment System will be the primary platform for receiving feedback throughout the process and comments received during all phases will remain available for viewing by the public.

- The first set of general questions, along with level-specific questions (doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral residency), were posted for 90 days of public review and comment from mid-August through mid-October of 2012.

- At the fall meeting, CoA reviewed more than 400 pages of comments received from the public on the first phase of questions for the review and revision of the G&P. Each of the CoA’s policy groups (doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral) analyzed the comments and drafted follow-up questions that were opened for public comment on November 30, 2013. Phase two comments will remain available for public review and comment until June 1, 2013.

**USDE Recognition**

As an accrediting body recognized by the U.S. Department of Education, CoA was originally scheduled for its 5-year review in 2009. However, given the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act into the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA), reviews of accrediting bodies were put on hold until the formation of the new National Advisory Committee for Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) in 2010. The CoA appeared before NACIQI for review in June 2011 and was asked to submit a compliance report on seven issues raised by NACIQI. Staff submitted this compliance report in August 2012 and will receive a draft analysis from the Department of Education Office of Postsecondary Education, Accreditation Division in early 2013. The CoA will appear before NACIQI for a final review at its June 2013 meeting.

**CHEA Recognition**

The CoA is an accrediting body also recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). As part of its periodic review process review process, staff submitted a recognition petition in May 2012 and the CoA was visited by an observer from CHEA at its July, 2012 meeting. The CoA appeared before the CHEA Committee on Recognition (CoR) in November 2012. The recommendation of the CoR to continue the CoA’s recognition was accepted by the CHEA Board of Directors at its January, 2013 meeting.
Appendix A

2012 CoA MEMBERSHIP PROFILE

Representing the Breadth of the Scientific Discipline of Psychology

Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology (COGDOP)

- Mark H. Ashcraft, Ph.D., University of Nevada, Las Vegas. APA Member. Ph.D., Experimental Psychology, 1975, University of Kansas.


- Victoria M. Follette, Ph.D., University of Nevada, Reno. APA Member. Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 1989, Memphis State University.

- Carl E. Paternite, Ph.D., Miami University (Ohio). APA Member. Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 1977, University of Iowa.

APA Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA)

- Jaime L. Diaz-Granados, Ph.D., Baylor University. Ph.D., Psychology, 1994, University of Texas, Austin.

Representing Professional Education and Training in Psychology

Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC)


- Henry A. Buchtel, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Neuropsychology Section. APA Member (Divs. 6, 40). Ph.D., Physiological Psychology, 1969, McGill University. Accepted position in May, 2012.

**Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs (CCPTP)**


**Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs (CDSPP)**

- **David E. McIntosh, Ph.D.**, Ball State University. APA Member (Div. 16). ABPP (School). Ph.D., School Psychology, 1990, Ball State University.

- **Gary Stoner, Ph.D.**, University of Rhode Island. APA Fellow (Div. 16)/Member (Div. 25). Ph.D., School Psychology, 1986, University of Rhode Island.

**Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology (CUDCP)**

- **Debora J. Bell, Ph.D.**, University of Missouri-Columbia. APA Member (Divs. 12, 53). Ph.D., Child Clinical Psychology, 1989, West Virginia University.


**National Council of Schools and Programs of Professional Psychology (NCSPP)**


**APA Board of Educational Affairs (BEA) and National Council of Schools and Programs of Professional Psychology (NCSPP)**

- **Mary Beth Kenkel, Ph.D.**, Florida Institute of Technology. APA Fellow (Divs. 12, 27, 42)/Member (Divs. 2, 35, 38, 52). Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 1978, Miami University of Ohio.

**Academy of Psychological Clinical Science (APCS)**

- **L. Stephen Miller, Ph.D.**, University of Georgia. APA Fellow (Divs. 12, 27, 42)/Member (Divs. 2, 35, 38, 52). Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 1990, University of Mississippi.
APPIC-Training Communities CoA Nominations Committee (ATCCNC)

Other Internship Groups
- Richard J. Seime, Ph.D., Mayo Clinic. APA Member (Divs. 31, 38)/Fellow (Div. 12). Ph.D., Counseling Psychology, 1974, University of Minnesota.

- Loretta E. Braxton, Ph.D., VA medical Center—Durham. APA Member (Div. 18). Ph.D., Counseling Psychology, 1989, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Postdoctoral Training Groups
- Brad Lee Roper, Ph.D., Memphis Veterans Affairs Medical Center. APA Member (Divs. 12, 40). ABPP (Clinical Neuropsychology). Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 1992, University of Minnesota.

Representing Practitioners of the Profession

APA Board of Professional Affairs (BPA) and APA Committee for Advancement of Professional Practice (CAPP)

Institutional Practice
- Patricia P. Alexander, Ph.D., Mississippi State Hospital (Whitfield). APA Member (Div. 18). Ph.D., Clinical Psychology, 1992, University of Mississippi.


Independent Practice

- Nancy B. Ruddy, Ph.D., Mountainside Family Practice Residency. APA Member (Div. 43). Ph.D., Clinical Child Psychology, 1991, Bowling Green State University.

Council of Specialties (CoS)

Specialized Practice
Representing the Public Interest

General Public

- Mary Anne Hanner, Ph.D., Eastern Illinois University. Ph.D., Educational Administration, 1994, Indiana State University.
- H. Garland Hershey, Jr., DDS., University of North Carolina. DDS., Dental Surgery, 1965, University of Iowa.

Individual and Cultural Diversity – APA Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI)

- Luis A. Vazquez, Ph.D., New Mexico State University. APA Member (Divs. 17, 45). Ph.D., Counseling Psychology, 1990, University of Iowa.

Representing Graduate Student Consumers of Education and Training

American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (APAGS)

- Michael S. Boroughs, Ph.D., Doctoral student in Clinical Psychology program at the University of South Florida., Tampa, FL. Degree conferred in 2012.

Open Seats

APA Commission on Accreditation (CoA)

- Changming Duan, Ph.D., University of Missouri-Kansas City. APA Member (Div. 17). Ph.D., Counseling Psychology and Social Psychology, 1992, University of Maryland, College Park.
- Kurt Freeman, Ph.D., Oregon Health & Science University. ABPP (Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology). Ph.D., Child Clinical Psychology, 1999, West Virginia University.
Appendix B

GROWTH OF ACCREDITED PROGRAMS BY DECADE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Doctoral</th>
<th>Internship</th>
<th>Postdoctoral</th>
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<td>1948</td>
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<td>36</td>
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<tr>
<td>1958</td>
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<td>1988</td>
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<td>593</td>
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<td>1998</td>
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<td>764</td>
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<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>374</td>
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<td>48</td>
<td>891</td>
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<td>2012</td>
<td>375</td>
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