

## Commission on Accreditation Update

### December 2012

Elizabeth A. Klonoff, Ph.D.  
*Chair*

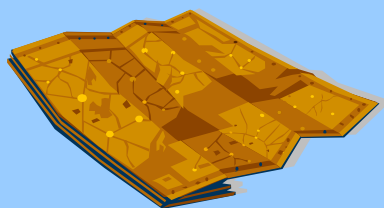
Carl Paternite, Ph.D.  
*Associate Chair, Program Review*

Joyce Illfelder-Kaye, Ph.D.  
*Associate Chair, Quality Assurance*

#### CoA Fall Meeting Actions

The [Commission on Accreditation](#) (CoA) held its final program review meeting of the year on October 18-21 in Washington, DC. The CoA reviewed 69 doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral residency programs for either initial or continued accreditation along with 8 requests for changes to programs' accredited status (e.g., "Accredited, inactive" status for a training year). Decisions made at the meeting are available on the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation (OPCA) [website](#). Also, complete listings of [accredited](#) and [applicant](#) programs have been updated to reflect actions taken at the October meeting.

#### The Roadmap: Revising the G&P



#### The Roadmap, Phase II: Revising the G&P *A letter from the CoA Chair*

At the October 18-21, 2012 meeting we took a first look at the public comment solicited in Phase I of the G&P Roadmap. We were pleased that so many groups and individuals took the time to respond to our questions. We will leave the link to the Phase I comments on the CoA [website](#) (<http://apaoutside.apa.org/AccredSurvey/Public/>), and will leave them there indefinitely so individuals and

groups can continue to refer to them as we move through the next several steps of the process.

As we indicated when we first introduced our plan for the G&P Roadmap, we want this to be an iterative process. To that end we had outlined a tentative timeline; it is important for everyone to understand that this is a timeline, NOT a deadline. Going forward, our decisions about what to do when will be driven primarily by the conversations --- both in person and electronic --- that CoA has with the many groups it represents; CoA will not be driven by completing the process for an arbitrary deadline. We also are in the process of exploring alternative ways to expand our ability to engage individuals in conversations with CoA through various electronic mechanisms.

With that in mind, we want to begin the next phase of our interactions with you. We spent a substantial amount of time during the meeting reviewing the responses we received and deciding what we still might need to know. In so doing, we were guided by a few ideas. First we tried to identify places where there was substantial agreement among those who commented; where there was, we tried to develop questions that would help us identify unintended consequences of thinking about the issue in that way. Second, we tried to identify areas where there was disagreement; when we identified those areas, we tried to develop questions that would help us think more clearly about exactly what the underlying issue might be, and how it could best be addressed.

Now that we have formulated our next set of questions, we need to pose them to everyone. For now, this will happen in two ways. For those of you who will be meeting in the next 6-8 months, we would like to have time on your meeting agenda to discuss these questions in person. Some of you have already made time for us; if your group was one of those, please let us know when we have been scheduled so we can finalize who from CoA will be there. Some of you may not have confirmed

## *The Roadmap, Phase II (Continued from page 1)*

time for us; if your group is one of those, please let me know a) if you'd like us to come and b) when you would like us to be there. If your group does not want a representative from CoA there or is not meeting, that is fine as well; please just let us know. For all of your groups, I would strongly suggest that you involve those CoA members who represent your council in any discussions regarding the revision of the G&P. Every CoA member actively participated in reviewing responses and developing questions, and your CoA member could be an invaluable resource to you as you move through this process. In addition, within the next month or so we will put these follow-up questions out for public comment. We anticipate having those questions remain up through June, 2013. That will allow the CoA to be informed not only from our in-person meetings but also through other activities individuals and groups engage in that may help to address some of the important education and training issues raised. During this time period we will schedule opportunities for individuals to interact electronically with CoA and for those opportunities to be archived so others might be able to view and comment on them. By maintaining the response for each phase online and allowing for interactions with groups and individuals using a variety of formats, our goal is to continue an open and transparent process.

Elizabeth A. Klonoff, PhD, ABPP  
Chair, APA Commission on Accreditation

*The public comment period continues through at least **June 30, 2013** and is available at the following URL:*  
<http://apaoutside.apa.org/AccredSurvey/Public/>

## CoA NEWS

### AOP Changes

The CoA approved revisions to the *Accreditation Operating Procedures* (AOP) allowing for an accreditation "eligibility" status and a new accredited status of "accredited, on contingency" for internships and postdoctoral residencies. This would provide an alternative developmentally sequenced path to full accreditation for programs choosing not to follow the existing application process toward full accreditation. As required, the revised AOP were forwarded to the APA Board of Educational Affairs (BEA). BEA reviewed the changes and has sent them to the APA Board of Directors for their approval. If approved by the Board of Directors, the revised AOP are expected to become effective early in 2013.

## 2013 CoA Leadership

During the fall meeting, the CoA elected three members to lead the Commission for 2013:

Elizabeth Klonoff, PhD—Chair  
Carl Paternite, PhD—Associate Chair Program Review  
Linda Knauss, PhD—Associate Chair Quality Assurance

## Departing Commissioners

The CoA said goodbye to 9 members whose terms of service will end at the close of 2012 and thanked these members for their dedicated service to quality assurance in psychology education.

*Six Years:* Patricia Alexander, PhD; Charne Davidson, PhD; Joyce Illfelder-Kaye, PhD.

*Five Years:* Roger Peterson, PhD; Brad Roper, PhD; Richard Seime, PhD.

*Three Years:* Changming Duan, PhD; David McIntosh, PhD.

*Two Years:* Michael Boroughs, PhD; Ana Faraci, PhD; Nancy Ruddy, PhD; Luis Vazquez, PhD

## Upcoming Important Dates

December 31, 2012	Annual fees due for all accredited programs
February 1, 2013	Deadline for public comment on revised IR C-22 and IR C-23
February 27, 2013	CoA New Member Orientation
February 28-March 3, 2013	CoA Annual Policy Meeting
April 4-7, 2013	Spring CoA Program Review Meeting
June 1, 2013	Deadline for public comment on the G&P Roadmap: Phase II

## Outcome Data for Doctoral Programs: IR C-32

Also at the October meeting, the CoA approved a new implementing regulation to define and clarify the data required by the CoA for accreditation of doctoral programs. Similar to IR C-30 for internship and postdoctoral residency programs, the IR addresses the following: Proximal data; Distal data; Aggregate data; Specificity of data; and presentation of data. View the full set of current [implementing regulations](#) on the CoA webpage.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

The following two proposed CoA actions are currently out for [public comment](#). All comments will be reviewed at the upcoming CoA meetings.

Policy	Purpose
Roadmap: Phase II Questions	At the fall meeting, the 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 Guidelines and Principles for Accreditation (G&P). Each of the CoA's policy groups (doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral) analyzed the comments and drafted follow-up questions that are now available for public comment. Early in 2013, CoA members will also meet with a number of its communities of interest at scheduled meetings during the second phase of review ( <b>scheduled to continue through June 2013</b> ) and will provide additional opportunities for public comment. (See <i>lead story, pages 1-2</i> )
Proposed revisions to IR C-22 and IR C-23	Combined, these revisions attempt to clarify how programs demonstrate the importance of cultural and individual differences in education and training as required in Domains D.1 and D.2 of the G&P. Public review and comment on these revised IRs are available through <b>February 1, 2013</b> .

*To download the proposed actions and policies, view comments received, or register to post comments, visit the Accreditation Public Comment website at <http://apaoutside.apa.org/AccredSurvey/public/>. Comments may be submitted as an individual or as part of a group, but must be submitted electronically for consideration.*

## REMINDERS FOR ACCREDITED PROGRAMS

### Notify the CoA of Program Director Changes

Please remember to notify the OPCA in writing (by [e-mail](#) is fine) if there is a change in the program's training director, and provide the contact information (including the e-mail address) for that individual. If the new training director was not previously involved with the program, his/her CV should also be provided for Office records. This is consistent with [IR C-19](#), which requires programs to notify CoA in advance of any substantive changes. This will also ensure that the correct individual(s) receive all of CoA's correspondence.

### Accreditation Fees

Annual fee invoices were mailed out to all accredited programs during the summer. Annual fees are due by **December 31, 2012**. Please [email](#) the office if you have not received your program's invoice or if you have any questions.

The systematic implementation of the revised accreditation fee schedule began on **July 1, 2012**. According to the APA governance documents, the CoA is a self-supporting entity within APA. Due to higher operating costs, combined with the costs involved with transitioning to an online infrastructure, the CoA increased its [fees](#). In order to minimize the increases for internships and postdoctoral programs, the fees for doctoral programs were increased based on a two-tier approach, contingent on program size. A minimal increase went into effect for internship and postdoctoral residency programs. Application fees (for programs submitting self-studies on or after September 1, 2012) and appeal fees are now in effect and the increased annual fees will be billed in the **2013** invoice.

### Implementing Regulation (IR) C-20

The CoA updated [Implementing Regulation C-20](#) at its March meeting. By **October 1, 2012** all accredited doctoral programs are to report data on education/training outcomes using the [required table templates](#). Although the tables are not to be altered, programs are encouraged to include clarifying information below the corresponding table that will assist potential students and the public in making informed decisions. These tables must be updated by October 1 of each year. The CoA is in the process of reviewing the information for all [accredited doctoral programs](#).

### Site Visitor Corp Nominations

Nominate members of your faculty to serve as a CoA site visitor. One strength of specialized accreditation is that it is indeed a [peer review](#) process requiring the professional knowledge of experts in the profession and discipline. Given the diversity of training models and program goals, it is vital that CoA has a robust cadre of site visitors to provide effective and appropriate observations. Recruitment is ongoing for new site visitors and several training workshops will be offered early in 2013 at the midwinter training council meetings. Also, Current site visitors that have not attended a workshop within the past 3 years are urged to attend a workshop to learn about recent policy and procedural changes to the review process. Please review the [FAQ on Becoming an APA Site Visitor](#) on the OPCA website or [email](#) OPCA for more information.

## Final Notes

### 2012 Annual Report Online (ARO)

The 2012 Annual Report Online (ARO) closed on September 15, 2012 with 99% of programs submitting their annual data on time. This is the highest completion rate in recent memory. The CoA applauds your attention to this important matter. The CoA also appreciates your openness to using the new CoA Portal. We are eager to hear about your experiences with the new software platform so we can identify development priorities for 2013. All registered users of the new site will receive an email soon with a link to an online evaluation survey. In the meantime, the CoA Portal (<https://coaportal.apa.org>) is still open for you to view (and download) your 2012 ARO data. Contact the Research Office ([ARO@apa.org](mailto:ARO@apa.org)) if you have any questions. Finally, the CoA wants to remind you that descriptive statistics from 2004-2011 AROs are available on the Accreditation website (<http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation/about/research/index.aspx>).

Accredited Programs (as of November 21, 2012)		<u>Accredited Programs</u>		<u>Applicant Programs Under Review</u>	
		PhD	PsyD	PhD	PsyD
<b>Doctoral Programs</b>	<i>Clinical</i>	174	62	3	3
	<i>Counseling</i>	66	5	0	1
	<i>School</i>	57	6	1	0
	<i>Combined</i>	5	3	1	0
	<b>Total Doctoral</b>	<b>378</b>		<b>9</b>	
<b>Internship Programs</b>	<b>Total Internship</b>	<b>476</b>		<b>19</b>	
<b>Postdoctoral Residency Programs</b>	<i>Traditional – Clinical</i>	42		13	
	<i>Specialty – Clinical Neuropsychology</i>	19		1	
	<i>Specialty – Clinical Health Psychology</i>	7		0	
	<i>Specialty – Clinical Child Psychology</i>	7		3	
	<i>Specialty – Rehabilitation Psychology</i>	3		1	
	<i>Specialty – Forensic Psychology</i>	1		0	
	<b>Total Postdoctoral</b>	<b>79</b>		<b>18</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>933</b>		<b>46</b>	

#### Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation (OPCA)

American Psychological Association  
750 First Street NE  
Washington, DC 20002  
<http://www.apa.org/ed/accreditation>

Phone: (202) 336-5979 Fax: (202) 336-5978  
E-mail (General): [APAAccred@apa.org](mailto:APAAccred@apa.org) E-mail (ARO): [ARO@apa.org](mailto:ARO@apa.org)