

## **BEA Master's Accreditation Task Force**

### **Conference Call Minutes (FINAL)**

**July 27, 2018**

Present on the call: Jim Lichtenberg, PhD, ABPP (Chair); William Hathaway, PhD; Tammy Hughes, PhD, ABPP; Elizabeth Louis, MA; David Lutz, PhD; Jason Washburn, PhD, ABPP; Valene Whittaker, PhD; Celeste Malone, PhD.

Not present: Nadya Fouad, PhD, ABPP

APA Staff: Jim Diaz-Granados, PhD; Cathi Grus, PhD; Jessica Andrade; Lynn Bufka, PhD; Jackie Tyson.

Jim Lichtenberg provided an introduction and overview of the meeting agenda. Each member gave 3-minute introductions of themselves, their thoughts and concerns about the work of the task force, and why they volunteered for the task force.

Cathi reviewed the charge of the task force. The task force will define what the scope of accreditation is, come up with recommendations on where this accreditation system may live within APA and would we consider adding this to our current accreditation system. The task force will also identify the necessary expertise that will comprise the accreditation decision making body. She noted that the group's responsibility is to provide a report on how APA can develop an accreditation system. The group will also present best recommendations on the best way to set-up this system.

Cathi provided an overview of the timeline for the work of the task force. The goal is to give Council the recommendations to review in February 2019. To meet this timeframe, we will have to a draft report by early December and submit the final report to the Governance office by January 15, 2019.

Cathi mentioned that the task force would not be discussing title or scope of master's level providers or developing the standards for accreditation, and that they would only be focusing on the mechanics of the accreditation system.

During our August 24<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will have guests from the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) and the Masters in Psychology and Counseling Accreditation Council (MPCAC). They will provide a better understanding of the accreditation/approval landscape.

For our September 28<sup>th</sup> meeting, we will have a guest from the APA Commission on Accreditation.

#### **Action Steps**

Jim L. will send out a survey to the task force members requesting they rank their preference on the area of the charge they are interested in working on, which is below:

- Developing a statement that broadly delineates the scope of accreditation for training at the master's level as contrasted with the current scope at the doctoral level
- Prioritizing possible pathways for APA to establish accreditation of master's programs in psychology. For example, what are the advantages and disadvantages of creating an entirely new accreditation system vs. expanding the scope of APA's current accrediting body. Included would be a review of how the accreditation body would (or would not) overlap with existing accreditation systems for individuals trained at the master's level in health service areas of psychology.

- Identifying the necessary expertise to comprise the accreditation decision making body.

It is expected that the groups will begin working together before the face to face meeting.

Jim L. also asked that the task force review the materials in the Dropbox folder on NASP and MPCAC in preparation for our next meeting.

Lynn will provide status updates to BPA and the BPA work group on the work of the task force. She will also provide the task force updates on the work group that is addressing key considerations relevant to practice competencies that would inform potential title and scope of practice for individuals with master's degrees from accredited health service psychology programs.

### **Next Meeting**

Friday, August 24<sup>th</sup> at noon (eastern)