

**VIRGINIA BOARD OF SOCIAL WORK
MINUTES OF AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR
EDUCATIONAL SUMMIT**

March 22, 2013
Second Floor
Conference Center

Perimeter Center
9960 Mayland Drive, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23233-1463

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 9:37 a.m.

PRESIDING: Bernadette Winters, Chair

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Yvonne Haynes
Susan Horne-Quatannens
Nettie Simon-Owens (by telephone)

MEMBER ABSENT: Joseph Walsh

OTHER MEMBERS PRESENT: Jennifer Blosser, Credentials Committee Chair (by telephone)

STAFF PRESENT: Catherine Chappell, Executive Director
Sarah Georgen, Administrative Assistant
Elaine Yeatts, Senior Policy Analyst

WELCOME AND GOALS: Dr. Winters welcomed the committee members and members of the public in attendance, and stated that the task of the meeting was to develop an agenda for a future meeting with the MSW granting universities in Virginia and neighboring states.

She stated that the purpose of the summit was to reach a mutual understanding as to the academic curriculum offered by the universities which they deemed appropriate preparation for ultimate licensing at the LCSW level. She added that in the process, the Board would examine stakeholder roles with respect to academic preparation and licensing.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Sue Roland, representing the Virginia Society for Clinical Social Work, Inc. ("VSCSW") provided comment (Attachment 1) regarding the proposed educational summit.

Aimee Perron Siebert, NASW-VA, expressed her appreciation for Ms. Chappell's attendance at the NASW student conference and asked that the Committee consider including professional organizations in the educational summit.

UPDATE ON OUTREACH EFFORTS: Ms. Chappell stated that she polled the MSW schools in Virginia, the District of Columbia and West Virginia regarding their interest of attending the educational summit. She noted that there was considerable interest in participating in the event.

Ms. Chappell also stated that many schools were interested in participating in video teleconferencing opportunities in order for board staff to review licensure requirements with faculty and students. Ms. Chappell and Ms. Horne-Quatannens had both recently provided presentations to the Catholic University of America.

Ms. Chappell advised that she presented licensure information at the NASW student conference earlier in the week. She spoke to approximately 100 students who had many questions about the licensure process, workforce issues, criminal background queries, syllabi and practicum concerns.

DISCUSSION:

The ad hoc committee members discussed possible dates to hold the educational summit and determined that staff would poll the schools to determine if May 24, 2013 or June 14, 2013 could be possible dates to hold the meeting.

The ad hoc committee members agreed that the proposed agenda would include a presentation by Ms. Chappell on the role of the Board, a presentation by a representative of CSWE on academic accreditation, a presentation by educators on their respective curriculum as it prepares students to seek licensure, a roundtable discussion on the roles that the board, educators and the professional associations play in the licensure process, and public comment.

The goals for the summit would include providing clarity of educational curriculum to meet the requirements for licensure, understanding the roles of the schools in the licensing process, and development of a system to keep the Board updated regarding curriculum changes.

Representatives from the professional associations expressed their desire to actively participate in discussion with the educators and the Board at the Education Summit. The committee commented that the summit was intended to provide interaction between the educational programs and the Board but certainly would provide an opportunity for input by the associations during public comment. The committee agreed that the summit forum offered an opportunity for future discussions relating to mutual concerns such as workforce issues, which impact the Board, educators, and associations.

ADJOURN:

There being no further discussion, the ad hoc committee adjourned at 11:06 a.m.

Catherine Chappell, Executive Director

Bernadette Winters, Ad Hoc Committee Chair

VSCSW PUBLIC COMMENT TO AD HOC COMMITTEE
MARCH 22, 2013

The VSCSW appreciates the opportunity to make public comment to the Ad Hoc Committee. We see the VBSW initiative for the Educational Summit as an opportunity for the Social Work stakeholders to work in an inclusive and collaborative way to ensure that the Educational standards set by the VBSW for LCSW licensure are clearly known and easily understood by all applicants and are at a sufficient level to ensure that the public is protected.

LCSWs play a critical role in the fabric of mental health treatment services available in Virginia. The VBSW assures the competent and safe practice of clinical social work and the protection of the public health, safety and welfare.

It is important that all three foundations of the profession of social work collaborate with the Educational Summit effort in order to provide a strong Social Work workforce to meet the needs of the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The three foundations of the Social Work profession are:

- Social Work Regulation-The Virginia Board of Social Work
- The Professional Associations- VSCSW, GWSCSW and NASW VA and
- The Schools of Social Work: VCU, NSU, GMU and RU

The Education Summit provides an opportunity to reignite an important dialogue among the VBSW, the Schools of Social Work, and the Professional Associations. The members of the VSCSW, the GWSCSW and NASW VA have critical awareness of the knowledge, skills and abilities that a clinical social worker who is providing services to Virginia mental health consumers must process. Our input from the practice arena will help assure that the VBSW's Educational Summit seeks to establish educational standards that are directly related to current clinical social work practice

The VSCSW request that part of the Educational Summit include a discussion of any regulatory language that the VBSW is considering to implement SB1011. In some respects the passage of SB1011 represents a breakdown of the communication and problem solving efforts of the three foundations of the social work profession.

In order to not have disruptions in communication in the future the VSCSW recommends that the VBSW create a structure of ongoing dialogue among the three foundations of the profession to meet regularly and provide for communications as the field advances with new research and new issues arises that are yet unforeseen. We suggest that the meetings occur at least semi-annually.

The VSCSW includes in today's public comment a compiling of some data for the years 2011-2012 concerning:

- the number of applicants for the LCSW license
- the number of denials to sit for the LCSW exam
- the pass/fail rates for the Virginia CSWE accredited schools

VSCSW feels it is important for the Educational Summit to have as much data as possible to consider when evaluating issues so that the decisions are made with consideration for a clear view of the scope and size of various aspects of the educational issues.