

**DRAFT
BOARD OF COUNSELING
REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 9, 2007**

TIME & PLACE: The meeting was called to order at 1:17 P.M. on August 9, 2007 in Board Room 1 at the Department of Health Professions, 6603 West Broad Street, 5th Floor, Richmond, Virginia 23230.

PRESIDING: Kevin S. Doyle, Ed.D., Chair

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Doyle, Ed.D.
Linda Seeman, Ph.D.
Natale Ward

STAFF PRESENT: Evelyn B. Brown, Executive Director
Diana Pollick, Administrative Assistant

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Lou Argow, Board Member
Vivian Sanchez-Jones, Board Member
Anne Allen, VCU
Becky Bowers-Lanier, VCA
Eleanor Fukushima, Intracorp
Shannon Hamm, VCU Graduate
Allen Lewis, VCU
Jim Rothrock, Commissioner, Dept. of Rehabilitation Services
Sherrina Sewell

**PUBLIC HEARING/
PUBLIC COMMENT** Dr. Doyle stated that the Board had received a large amount of public comment and invited those to present comment. Those who addressed the Committee are as follows:
Anne Allen, Clinical Coordinator of VCU Department of Rehabilitation Counseling and Allen Lewis, Associate Professor and Vice Chair of VCU Department of Rehabilitation Counseling. Ms. Allen and Mr. Lewis shared their concerns about removing “CORE” from the regulations stating that CORE was the first credentialing program to give credibility to academic programs.

They stated that they had received several letters and emails expressing the concerns of the American Counseling Association which opposed the deletion of "CORE" from the regulations. They respectfully requested that the Regulatory Committee consider keeping "CORE" a part of 18VAC115-20-49-A, as well as, 18VAC-115-20-52-B-5.

Becky Bowers-Lanier, representing the Virginia Counselors Association (VCA). Ms. Bowers-Lanier stated the VCA supported the proposed regulatory changes regarding portability, supervision and residency and the changes in standards for supervisory requirements. She also stated support for the proposed equalization of the LPC and MFT regulations requiring 100 hours of individual face-to-face supervision with a supervisor holding that license.

Shannon Hamm, VCU graduate of the Rehabilitation Counseling Program. Ms. Hamm stated that she felt graduating from VCU's "CORE" approved rehabilitation program gave her credibility in the professional realm. Ms. Hamm encouraged the Board to keep "CORE" in the regulations as they now read.

Jim Rothrock, Commissioner of the Department of Rehabilitation Services. Mr. Rothrock stated that DRS is the largest rehabilitation provider in Virginia and has established criteria for counselors. Mr. Rothrock also stated his concern regarding the deletion of "CORE" since VCU graduates are a large part of the present and future workforce. He requested that the current regulations regarding "CORE" stay in tact.

At the conclusion of Public Comment Dr. Doyle stated that it was never the intention of the Committee or Board to exclude "CORE" programs, but only to eliminate automatic approval. Dr. Doyle thanked the public for their presence and comments and invited them to remain for the rest of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Dr. Seeman moved to approve the agenda. Natale Ward seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Linda Seeman moved to accept the minutes of the May 10, 2006 meeting. Natale Ward seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

- O UPDATE ON PROPOSED REGULATIONS ON PORTABILITY, RESIDENCY AND SUPERVISION: Evelyn Brown reported that Public Comment will close on August 10, 2007 at 5:00 PM. No action is necessary at this meeting.

- O VOTE ON PROPOSED REGULATIONS FOR MFT SUPERVISION AND LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT: Dr. Doyle reported that the Committee had received a letter from the American Counseling Association that was of significant importance, encouraging the Committee not to remove "CORE" from the Regulations that Govern the Practice of Counseling. Dr. Doyle also stated that originally there was information that "CACREP" and "CORE" were proposing a merger which was part of the reason for eliminating the word "CORE". The current status of that merger is that they are now at an impasse which presents the need to keep "CORE" in the regulations. Dr. Seeman moved to keep "CORE" in the regulations under 18VAC-115-20-49 and 18VAC-115-20-52. The motion was seconded by Natale Ward and passed unanimously. Dr. Doyle stated that he would present the recommendation of the Committee to the full Board on Friday, August 10, 2007.

- O VOTE ON PETITION FOR RULEMAKING: RESIDENTS' BILLING FOR SERVICES: Dr. Doyle presented the "Petition for Rulemaking" in which the Northern Virginia Licensed Professional Counselors, represented by Tracy Bushkoff, requested that the regulations be amended to allow a resident practicing under supervision to bill directly for services rendered. Dr. Doyle stated that there had been no other public comment beyond the petition itself. Discussion followed. Natale Ward moved that the Committee deny the request stated in Petition for Rulemaking

submitted by Dr. Bushkoff. Dr. Seeman seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Dr. Doyle stated he would present the Committee's recommendation to the full Board on Friday, August 10, 2007.

- O DISCUSSION OF "CARRY OVER" OF CONTINUED COMPETENCY HOURS: Dr. Doyle stated that the full Board requested the Committee to discuss the option of allowing carry over of accrued CE hours into then next renewal period. Discussion followed. The Committee determined that there is no need to change the current Continued Competency requirements. Dr. Doyle stated he would report the Committee's decision to the full Board on Friday, August 10, 2007.

- O DISCUSSION OF ELECTRONIC CYBER COUNSELING: Dr. Doyle presented the report prepared by Dr. McAdams and his graduate students. Review of the materials and discussion took place. Evelyn Brown pointed out that some Associations regulations are more "best practice" issues as opposed to minimal standards. It was determined that in the interest of public safety this issue should be fully addressed and that more information is needed in order to proceed. Dr. Doyle will request Dr. McAdams to have his graduate students follow up on the report submitted for review at the next meeting, with Dr. Scott being asked to assist in this process. The Committee will access other information available on this subject and review it at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: **None**

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 2:55 PM.

NEXT MEETING: May 10, 2007 at 1:00 PM

ADJOURN: Natale Ward moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:47 PM. Linda Seeman seconded the motion which passed unanimously.