

**Minutes of Group Specialty Council Call
Monday, June 29, 2015**

Present: Nina Brown (Chair), Les Greene, Tony Sheppard, Robert Gleave, Joel Frost, Marsha Block, and Eleanor Counselman.

1. The purpose of the call was to convene leaders of different groups who will participate in the petition re-application process.
2. There was discussion of when to re-apply. In a previous call we had decided to apply during 2016, which would mean no decision until 2017. Although the rejection letter said we could re-apply one year from the date of the letter, Nina checked with the CRSPPP administrator and learned that we could re-apply in 2015 for 2016 decision if we wished. It was decided to go ahead and see if we could get a re-application in by the end of December 2015. An advantage of working for the earlier submission is that it takes advantage of the current momentum. A target date of October 1 for a first draft was suggested.
3. There are several big areas to address initially, and it was decided to start forming committees to work on them. CRSPPP is clear that the petition must contain Practice Guidelines, Education and Training Guidelines, and procedures for evaluating competence. All must be specific to psychologists; a multi-discipline approach is not acceptable.
4. We discussed having someone either write the petition or at least integrate various portions into a final product. We have learned that it is important to CRSPPP that the petition have an integrated, "one voice" quality (as well as no typos). Nina will find out who other specialties have used and what that might cost. Marsha also suggested offering a stipend for someone in one of the organizations (perhaps on our committee) to write and/or edit the final version. We need to make sure that the recent critique is addressed point by point.
5. Robert Gleave has been elected President-Elect of Division 49 and said that he will be going to APA in Toronto. Nina will help Robert get Division 49 on board for the re-application and they will work on this before Toronto to see if there is any resistance. Marsha will send them a list of the current Science to Service Task Force and also the list of people who developed the first set of Practice Guidelines. Division 49 will need to take the lead on developing both Practice Guidelines and Education and Training Guidelines. Joe Kobos might be a good person to get involved with the Practice Guidelines, and perhaps Sally Barlow and/or Cheri Marmarosh for the Education and Training standards. Kathy Ulman and Misha Bogomaz want to stay involved in this effort, too.
6. Joel will coordinate developing competency and evaluation guidelines. Minimal competencies need to be spelled out. ABPP, Sally (and her book), Josh Gross, and Richard Billow are all possible sources of assistance in this area.

7. Finances were discussed. If we need to hire someone, it appears that all three organizations (Div. 49, ABPP, AGPA) are willing and able to contribute. Robert will work on this with Div. 49 leadership while in Toronto.

8. Marsha asked for a review of the difference between proficiency and specialty. Nina said that group already is recognized by the Specialty Council and has a seat there, as well as having its own ABPP, and that Div. 49 was behind our petitioning for specialty status. However, it appears that there is some feeling within APA that group should be a proficiency rather than a specialty. Should we go for that instead? Would that be more of a “sure thing?” Eleanor agreed to send the link to the APA page that explains the difference between proficiency and specialty. It was agreed that if we could find one post-licensure program in group therapy for psychologists, our case for specialty designation would be much stronger.

9. The next call will be Monday, July 27th at 10 a.m. Marsha will arrange the call-in number. By then:

Nina will find out the cost of paying someone for writing the petition. She will email us before then with the information if she can get it.

Joel will begin work on the competency and evaluation standards.

Marsha will email the S2S and Practice Guidelines author list to Robert and Nina, and they will begin working with Division 49 (and assessing any resistance there) on Practice Guidelines and Education and Training Standards.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor Counselman, Ed.D., CGP, LFAGPA

Secretary