

Group Specialty Council
Minutes of October 14, 2014 Call

Present on call: Nina Brown, Josh Gross, Kathy Ulman, Misha Bogamov, Sally Barlow, and Eleanor Counselman

1. Nina had previously sent members a sheet showing assignments (so far) of sections of the petition. People said it was helpful. This led to discussion of how to keep each other informed of ongoing work. Misha volunteered to serve as collator, keeping a draft of the petition as various parts are written by our different members. Members are to send him their current drafts, marked by date, and he will copy and paste them into the petition draft. About once a week he will send all members the current version.

Nina urged members to use the language of the petition and not to worry about redundancy – more seems better! Just put the information in wherever we think it belongs.

2. Several additional assignments were agreed on:

Josh will do Criterion VII.

Josh has also already begun work on Criterion II.

Sally will get literature references for Criterion V (various training components)

Eleanor said she had seen some recent SAMHSA statistics that she will send to Nina to help support the public need.

3. We discussed the importance of writing this a petition about psychologists, to APA, and thus the CE offerings should be by psychologists. Nina is getting a list of recent Division 49 offerings from Lee Gillis.

4. There was discussion of meeting during AGPA in San Francisco, and Thursday breakfast time was tentatively agreed on (despite likely conflicts for some members with faculty breakfast meetings that day). Sally said she will have a suite because of ABPP exams, and offered its use. Eleanor will convey this information to Marsha so that we can be listed on the committee meetings. Eleanor also said that Marsha had suggested that if she had a list of likely attendees, she could find a time that worked for everyone's schedule, and Eleanor will let her know who will be there.

5. Josh said that the petition needs to show strong advocacy for group as a distinct specialty. He said that there is a need to protect the public from inadequately trained group therapists. We need to challenge any presumption that group is a generalist skill and argue strongly for a set of competencies specific to group psychotherapy.

6. Josh offered to set up a listserv for us and this offer was enthusiastically accepted.

7. The group expressed strong appreciation to Nina for her leadership in this complex project, as well as to Sally for her previous efforts and her very helpful book.

8. The next conference call will be Monday, November 17th at 1 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eleanor F. Counselman, Ed.D., ABPP, CGP, LFAGPA