

THE UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
THE STATE EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
State Board for Psychology
February 7, 2025

Public Locations: Albany, Hauppauge, New York City, Syracuse

Present: Eloise M. Archibald, Chair (New York City)
Kerry L. Brand (Albany)
Caroline Clauss-Ehlers (New York City)
Lauren De Caporale Ryan (nonpublic location)
Barbara Fontana (Hauppauge)
Matthew David Johnson (Syracuse)
Anu Raj (nonpublic location)

Absent: Angela Marie Adger-Antonikowski
Julia Saur

Department Staff:	Erika Bondatti	Board Staff
	Karen Shier	Board Staff
	Paul Thompson	Board Executive Secretary (Acting)

Meeting Convened

Mr. Thompson called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. Board members and staff introduced themselves. Mr. Thompson noted that comments and discussion are restricted to State Board members and Department staff.

Review of Draft Meeting Minutes

- March 8, 2024
- June 28, 2024

Approved unanimously without revision (Motion: Johnson; second: Archibald).

Executive Secretary's Report

- Board office updates:
 - Diane Martin retired from the supervisor position—and she will be missed. The Department has received approval to fill that vacancy. Board members inquired about the nature of the position.
 - In December, a burst water pipe in the Education Building flooded the Board office, among other locations. This resulted in considerable damage, and the team spent the better part of a week packing, cleaning out, and moving to temporary space in the building.
 - The office recently hired an Administrative Assistant, who will take primary responsibility for handling and managing phone and email inquiries.
 - Board members inquired about the Board Executive Secretary position, offered advice about potential recruitment possibilities, and expressed their willingness to assist with candidate reviews. There are no immediate plans to re-post the position.

PCSAS accreditation

- PCSAS “accredits clinical psychology Ph.D. programs that offer a clinical science training model.”

- If a psychology licensure candidate has not completed a New York licensure-qualifying program, the Department must assess whether the candidate's education is equivalent to such a program. Program accreditation by a recognized entity offers one path for the Department to determine if a candidate's program meets that "substantial equivalent" standard.
- The Department has determined that doctoral programs in psychology accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA) meet that equivalency standard. PCSAS is asking the Department to recognize PCSAS accreditation in the same way.
- Board member Johnson was one of the signers of the original request from PCSAS (prior to Board service), so he will recuse himself as appropriate and in consultation with the Board.
- Board members revisited a prior suggestion to establish an informal workgroup to advise the Board office in evaluating the equivalency of Department and PCSAS standards. Chair Archibald and Member De Caporale Ryan volunteered to assist the office team.
- Once the workgroup has collected and analyzed the information on PCSAS processes and standards, the Department may invite a PCSAS representative to address the Board.
- Office of the Professions' leadership and professional education staff would consider the Board's assessment.
- Member Raj inquired about the ability of PCSAS program students to secure internship positions. Member Johnson noted there is no settled data on that yet, given the relatively small number of PCSAS-only institutions. He stated that some institutions are choosing to maintain both APA and PCSAS accreditations.
- Board members suggested that it may be useful to look at the curricula of U.C. Berkeley (a PCSAS institution)—along with California's program registration standards.
- The Board discussed the role of section 52.10 of Commissioner's Regulations in determining the equivalency of an out-of-state psychology program.
- Member De Caporale Ryan emphasized the importance of becoming familiar with accreditors' standards and the workings of their evaluation processes.
- The Board discussed how APA and PCSAS standards and approaches may differ. Member Johnson shared his understanding that the APA tends to focus on inputs (e.g., faculty, curricula, student body) while PCSAS tends to be more focused on output data (e.g., percentage of graduates engaged in research). The latter approach may provide programs more flexibility.
- Mr. Thompson clarified that graduates of PCSAS-only programs would continue to be reviewed through the Department's transcript evaluation process.
- The Board office will inquire about whether it is possible to capture data on how candidates from PCSAS-only institutions have fared when applying for licensure in New York. There may not yet be a sufficient base on which to draw conclusions.

Other Topics/Good of the Order

- Member Johnson expressed concern that candidates may be challenged to find internship positions due to Federal funding cuts.
- Mr. Thompson clarified that post-program experience is calculated from the date of the candidate's degree award.

Adjournment

Motion: Member Brand

Second: Member Clauss-Ehlers

Resolved: That the meeting be adjourned at 3:55 p.m., by unanimous vote.