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SPECIALTY CERTIFICATION
IN PSYCHOLOGY SINCE 1947

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ABPP Liaison Report to Council of Chairs of Training Councils (CCTC)

Submitted by David R. Cox, PhD, ABPP

ABPP Executive Officer

March 31, 2016

The following are highlights of ABPP's 2015 and current activities:

Applications - ABPP continues to receive applications at a significantly increased rate over past years, again at roughly 1000 applications in 2015. Roughly 50% of the applications are now through the ABPP Early Entry Program; this suggests that the proverbial "ship is turning" and the profession is increasingly integrating board certification into the expected professional pathway! I suspect that in coming years, the number of Early Entry applications will exceed those applying through the "regular" method.

2016 ABPP Conference – The 2015 ABPP Conference and Workshops in San Diego set yet another record for attendance as well as revenue. The 2016 conference will be held May 11-14 at The Gwen Hotel (formerly the Conrad Hilton) on Michigan Avenue. We will have our usual offering of 4 days of workshops, with 4-5 workshops (half day or full day) each day. Another very special aspect of the conference is the "pre-Conference" APA CoA Site Visitor Training. Offered free of charge, this is always a well-attended portion of the conference and is scheduled to be in place again in conjunction with the ABPP Conference and Workshops in Chicago in 2016. The APA CoA Site Visitors Training will be on May 10th). Specifics can be found on the web at <https://www.abpp.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3522>

Interorganizational Specialty Summit –The Council of Specialties in Professional Psychology (CoS) will be holding an Interorganizational Specialty Summit immediately following the 2016 ABPP Conference and Workshops. From the Summit description provided by CoS: "The Summit will identify issues/problems faced, and to be faced in the future, regarding the place of specialties, specialization, and specialty credentialing in professional psychology. It is likely that the Summit will identify key policy considerations that can solve, or lead to the resolution of some or all of the problems that the Summit identifies. Those policy considerations may take the form of conceptual refinement steps, or recommendations for policy action. These considerations will likely generate additional work for the Summit organizations individually, and in the future collectively in a Summit 2.0." CoS, as the lead organization, has asked for (non-financial) sponsorship from ABPP (as the only credentialing organization recognized by CoS) and ASPPB (as representative of jurisdictional licensing) in the form of having me co-facilitate the Summit along with ASPPB Executive Director Dr. Stephen Demers and CoS President Dr. Kevin Arnold. Among the entities expected to participate in the Summit along with Cos, ABPP, and ASPPB are APPIC, CRSPPP, CoA, APAGS, CCTC, APAPO, APA Board of Professional Affairs, APA Board of Educational Affairs, and more.

American Board of Professional Psychology

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Maintenance of Certification/Database/Web – Perhaps the biggest recent change with ABPP, of course, is that ABPP specialists that are board certified in 2015 or later will need to document maintenance of certification once every 10 years. The updated process for administering this is in the works with a technology company that is working with us on developing easy-to-use web-based forms for submission of materials. ABPP Central Office will also be working with the IT company to enhance the SharePoint utilization, migrate our database and develop a new public-facing web presence.

Liaison Activities - ABPP continues to participate as liaison to a number of entities in the profession. This includes the ASPPB board meeting, the APA Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice (CAPP) the APA Consolidated Meetings, CCTC, CUDCUP, APPIC, NCSPP, and others.

ABPP/ASPPB Collaborative Project - In recognition of the redundancy within the profession, as well as in an effort to move the profession forward toward a singular pathway for applications and credentials review, ABPP and ASPPB have agreed to initiate a collaboration wherein many applicants (starting with the Early Entry Applicants) to ABPP will submit credentials directly to ASPPB for primary source verification and credentials banking. This project provides the ABPP Early Entry Applicant one “doorway” through which to enter the pathway for licensure and board certification. The program is anticipated to commence in the coming months.