CUDCP

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To: CCTC
From: Timothy A. Cavell

The Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology (CUDCP) represents 170 member programs. CUDCP’s purpose is “to promote the advancement of graduate education in Clinical Psychology that produces psychologists who are educated and trained to generate and integrate scientific and professional knowledge and skills so as to further psychological science, the professional practice of psychology, and human welfare.” Information about CUDCP and its member programs can be obtained from the CUDCP website: www.cudcp.org

The 2016 Midwinter Meeting was held January 23-24 in Miami, Florida. The theme of the meeting was Challenges for Training Future Psychologists. The meeting focused on the changing identity of clinical psychologists in both the academic and health service sector and the implications for our psychology trainees. We learned about innovative efforts to promote dissemination of evidence-based treatments, the impact of the Affordable Care Act on the mental health care marketplace, and the training of clinical scientists in light of emerging NIMH trends. Another key focus of our 2016 meeting was an extended discussion and breakout groups focused on effective ways to revise APPIC’s Standardized Reference Form. Our 2017 meeting is set for January 13-14, in San Diego, CA.

During this past year, CUDCP has focused on the following tasks:

1. We continue our work with the Commission on Accreditation to identify ways to implement new standards surrounding Discipline Specific Knowledge (DKS), in particular the use of standardized assessments to document DSK and ways to ensure the integration of specific areas of foundational knowledge at the graduate level.

2. CUDCP has been in conversations with other training organizations (COGDOP, APPIC) and other clinical science groups (ABCT, SSCP, APS) about the formation of a clinical science coalition. The membership and mission of this emergent group is still be discussed and CUDCP has yet to make a definitive decision on its involvement. Suffice it to say that CUDCP supports the group’s stated intentions (advance and application of clinical science) but is uncertain about its role as a training council in the groups’ efforts going forward.

3. CUDCP has been a vocal participant in discussions surrounding APA’s adoption of PSYCAS, the new centralized application system. At this time, PSYCAS does not appear
to be a good fit for most CUDCP member programs that are usually housed within university-affiliated graduate schools.

On behalf of its 174 constituent programs,

Timothy A. Cavell, PhD
Chair, Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology (CUDCP)