

ABGERO Conference Call Minutes

12/20/18
4:00 PM Eastern

PRESENT: Shane Bush (President), Victor Molinari (Immediate Past-President), Andrew Heck (President-Elect, Exam Chair), Susan Whitbourne (Treasurer), Gregory Hinrichsen, Michelle Mlinac (Inclusion Committee Chair, Oral Exam Co-Chair), Elizabeth Shumaker (ECP), Heather Smith (Outreach Committee Chair)

ABSENT: Rebecca Allen (Secretary), Peter Lichtenberg (Practice Sample Review Chair), June Blum, Dolores Gallagher-Thompson, Richard Zweig (MOC Chair)

Welcome/intro – (Bush)

1. President's report (Bush)

- Activities since August meeting
 - Significant updates to the bylaws were made per approval of the Board in August (see August minutes for specifics)
 - Board membership
 - 12 members
 - Drs. Lane, MacMillan, & Thompson rotated off the board. Their contributions are much appreciated.
 - Elections were held for secretary and president-elect. Congratulations to Rebecca Allen and Andrew Heck for their election to those positions, respectively.
 - 2 new committees (Inclusion & Outreach, chaired by Michelle Mlinac and Heather Smith, respectively). Thanks to both of them for agreeing to chair these important committees.
 - Excel spreadsheet of 11/13/18 listing all board and committee members was previously circulated via email.
 - Staggering of terms will occur when current members' terms end and new members are appointed.
 - Representing ABGERO on various calls (Aging Leadership, ABPP Presidents)
- Status: Noted. Action items: None
- Information from ABPP
 - Changes in administrative process for specialty boards (SharePoint, at a cost of more than \$500,000)
 - everyone involved in any phase of the exam process should have access (contact Diane Butcher at ABPP)
 - ABPP is considering changing the name of the senior option to another term (e.g., advanced experience, advanced career)
 - Seeking input from the specialty boards – Based on email exchange, we seem to be supportive of such a change overall

➤ Status: Noted. Action items: None

2. Secretary report – (Bush reporting for Allen)

- Action items from prior minutes (8/9/18)
 - Mentors will be reminded once a quarter to check on the status of their mentees and move them along the process (Mlinac)
 - **Action item:** Dr. Mlinac will follow up with mentors. Dr. Molinari to provide an updated list of mentors and mentees.
 - Preapproval of CoPGTP member program graduates to facilitate ABGERO credentialing requirements (Bush). There is some question about whether all CoPGTP postdoc programs meet the ABGERO seminar requirement. If they do, the graduates of those programs will automatically meet the education and training requirements for ABGERO credentialing, thereby facilitating the application process for both the candidates and the reviewers.
 - **Action item:** Dr. Bush will survey the CoPGTP postdoc programs to determine whether they meet the ABGERO seminar requirement.
- Newly credentialed (number examined, passed, failed), total, pipeline:
 - 3 examined in August, all passed
 - 67 total diplomates
 - 26 in various stages of the pipeline
 - No exams since August.

➤ Status: Noted. Action items: None

3. Treasurer's report/budget – (Whitbourne)

- ABPP CO provides updated reports periodically (twice a year?). No new report since the August meeting. Overall, we are in good shape financially. An end of the year report is expected in the coming weeks.

➤ Status: Noted. Action items: None

4. Exams – (Heck)

- Anticipated:
 - Approximately 5 candidates are expected to be ready for oral exams in the coming couple/few months. Location to be determined.
 - Use of Regis office space has been successful.
 - The regional exam process continues to be developed. Possible need to train examiners in different geographical locations.
- Credentials (Molinari):

- For the senior option, it would be helpful to better define what is meant by “significant contribution”.
 - Given the overlap between geropsychology and neuropsychology and the interest of some geriatric neuropsychologists in ABGERO, it would be helpful to better clarify the distinction between the two.
 - Practice Sample (Molinari for Lichtenberg): It will be helpful for mentors to reinforce the importance of having work samples that cover different competencies/types of cases. For example, if one case involves assessment, the other could focus on treatment.
 - Liability coverage – no examiners are covered by ABPP. Examiners should check with their own insurance carriers.
 - Note that no examiners have been sued since ABPP was established in 1948 & no examiners have refused to do exams due to fear of being sued.
 - **Action items:**
 - Credentials Committee to clarify “significant contribution” and differences between geropsychology and geriatric neuropsychology.
 - Dr. Molinari to provide the list of examiners and their geographic locations to help determine whether additional examiners need to be trained to meet regional exam needs.
5. Inclusion/Diversity Committee report – (Mlinac)
- ABPP is asking each specialty board to translate the 2017 APA Diversity Guidelines into specialty board competencies and asks that each board designate a “diversity champion”.
 - Dr. Mlinac will serve as our diversity champion, and the committee will begin working to meet this ABPP requirement.
 - Diversity issues and considerations will be infused into all ABGERO matters.
 - Status: Noted. Action items: None
6. Outreach Committee – (Smith)
- Dr. Smith will work with the Board regarding outreach initiatives.
 - Status: Noted. Action items: None
7. Awards – (Molinari)
- Board members & officers will receive a certificate of appreciation upon completion of their terms.
 - President will receive a plaque at completion of the term.
 - Will use the vendor that ABPP uses for such awards.
 - Confirmed that the immediate past-president chairs the Awards Committee.
 - **Action item:** Dr. Bush to follow up with ABPP CO regarding the award vendor.
8. ECP report – (Shumaker)

- Yearly talk to VA in the context of their ECP webinar occurs in July.
- Additional opportunities may exist to reach VA psychologists. For example, Dr. Karel has a call (formerly for CLC/HBPC psychologists) that may be a good venue.
- **Action Item:** Dr. Shumaker will reach out to Dr. Karel about participating on one of the VA conference calls to promote ABGERO.

9. Other new business – (Molinari)

- It would be nice to have a workshop or webinar to promote ABGERO. This idea will continue to be explored.
- A small geropsychology conference would be ideal but would be much more labor intensive.
- Dr. Shumaker noted that Dr. Karel provides a telephone-based consultation service on Friday mornings for geropsychologists considering ABGERO who do not yet meet the credentialing/supervision requirements and currently has an opening. This info should be shared with any relevant potential candidates/applicants.
- Status: Noted. Action items: None

10. Upcoming board meetings/calls – (Bush)

- Calls
 - Monday, March 4, 2019, 3:00 PM Eastern
 - Monday, June 10, 2019, 3:00 PM Eastern
- Face to face
 - APA, Chicago, 8/8/19, 9-12 AM
- Status: Noted. Action items: None

Adjourned 5:00 PM (Bush)

Minutes completed by Dr. Bush for Dr. Allen