

**GEORGIA BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS**  
**Conference Call/ZOOM Board Meeting Minutes**  
**February 25, 2022**

The Georgia Board of Examiners of Psychologists met via teleconference/ZOOM Friday, February 25, 2022 The Board's Executive Director hosted the meeting from the Professional Licensing Division, 237 Coliseum Drive, Macon, Georgia 31217.

**Members Present:**

Marsha B. Sauls, Ph.D. – President  
Linda F. Campbell, Ph.D. – Vice-President  
Scott C. Smith, Psy.D.  
William F. Doverspike, Ph.D.  
Emily Burton, Ph.D.

**Visitors Present:** (Open Session)

Anita Brown, Ph.D., GPA DPA

**Members Absent:**

George Bratcher, Consumer Member

**Assistant Attorney General:**

Kirsten Daughdril, Senior AAG  
(sitting in for B. Cohen, AAG)

**Administrative Staff Present:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director  
Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist

**Dr. Marsha Sauls, President, established that a quorum was present and called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.**

**Agenda:** Approve with no additional items

**Georgia Psychological Association - Liaison Report:**

Dr. Anita Brown, Ph.D., sitting in for Dr. Spears, provided updates on upcoming GPA activities that included updates and discussion regarding legislation issues with several house bills.

**Proposed HB 972:** During today's scheduled Board meeting, the Georgia Board of Examiners of Psychologists finalized correspondence in opposition to HB972 as presented below.

February 25, 2022

The Honorable Alan Powell  
Chairman, House Committee on Regulated Industries  
613-B CLOB  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

RE: HB 972

Dear Representative Powell,

The Georgia State Board of Examiners of Psychologists respectfully submits this letter objecting to the passage of HB 972. The bill would allow masters' level providers to practice psychological testing and to make diagnosis from that testing for Georgia citizens that are life altering.

Psychological testing and the diagnosis of mental/neurological illness as a result, currently is only within the scope of practice of psychologists in Georgia as well as in other states. It currently is not in the scope of practice of masters' level practitioners as their education does not provide adequate training in this area.

As you will see in the Appendix that follows, psychological testing and the diagnosis of mental/neurological illness requires extensive preparation in the Ph.D. program as well as post-doctoral specialization. **21 semester hours of coursework and practicum work at the doctoral level is required for a psychologist to be considered competent to provide assessment and diagnosis for the public. Then, in addition to the doctoral degree requirement, a one-year post-doctoral experience is required for a Psychology License to be granted.** Neuropsychologists complete a 2-year post-doctoral experience under a neuro psychologist.

**The coursework for a master's degree, the requirement for an LPC license, only requires one 3 semester hour survey testing course.**

The Licensed Professional Counselor Guild advocates for learning on the job after receiving their license. Psychological testing is not a learn on the job competence with no stipulated requirements. It requires much didactic learning in the classroom even before attempting a supervised concentrated practicum. The practicum and course work not only teach how diagnosis are accurately made from assessment and interview results, but also which tests to administer, how to administer them appropriately and ethically, and how to write accurate reports that can be used by medical personnel for treatment with medication or behavioral interventions.

A few of the decisions that are made because of psychological assessment and the resulting diagnosis are:

Autism, Learning Disabilities, Attention Deficit-Hyperactivity, Traumatic Brain Injury, Loss of Memory, Readiness for Surgery, Child Custody Evaluation, Fire and Police Selection, Pilot Selection, damage from a stroke, dementia.

The mission of the legislature, as well as the licensing boards, is to ensure that services provided to the public are provided by trained, ethical providers. We do not feel that the citizens of Georgia would appreciate having serious life altering diagnosis made by providers who have only had one survey course regarding assessment.

Respectfully,

## **THE GEORGIA STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS**

Marsha B. Sauls, Ph.D., President  
Linda F. Campbell, Ph.D., Vice President  
Scott C. Smith, Psy.D  
Emily W. Burton, Ph.D.  
Bill Doverspike, Jr., Ph.D.  
George D. Bratcher, Consumer Member



## APPENDIX A

### **Course requirements of the American Psychological Association's Commission on Accreditation Doctoral Degree Training, which is required for licensure as a psychologist in Georgia.**

**The assessment/testing courses are bolded and in red.** Students conduct assessments for **six semesters** through practicum. The program reflects experience over four semesters of practicum in addition to the initial courses. Again, the masters in Mental Health Counseling requires one course in assessment and does not include practicums in assessment to insure competency.

Red: Required

Green: Electives

#### **Year 1, Fall**

ECHD 9610<sup>1</sup> Theories of Counseling Psychology (3)

ECHD 9920<sup>1</sup> Research Methods (3)

ECHD 8010<sup>1</sup> History and Systems (3)

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

ECHD 9000 Research Hours (3)

Graduate Seminar: Foundations of Counseling Psychology

#### **Year 1, Spring**

ECHD 9630<sup>1</sup> Advanced Psychodiagnosis (3)

ECHD 9060<sup>1</sup> Advanced Multicultural Counseling (3)

**ECHD 9620<sup>1</sup> Assessment in Counseling Psychology (3)**

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

ECHD 9000<sup>1</sup> Research Hours (3-6)

ECHD 8125<sup>2</sup> Health Psychology (3)

#### **Year 1, Summer**

ECHD 9110<sup>1</sup> Approaches in Cognitive Behavioral Therapies (3)

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

**ECHD 9770<sup>1</sup> Advanced Assessment (3)**

ECHD 9000<sup>1</sup> Research Hours (3-6)

#### **Year 2, Fall**

ECHD 9710<sup>1</sup> Ethics and Professional Issues (3) (part 1 of 2-course sequence)

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

**ECHD 9770<sup>1</sup> Assessment Practicum (3)**

ECHD 9000 Research Hours (3)

#### **Year 2, Spring**

ECHD 9710<sup>1</sup> Ethics and Professional Issues (3) (part 2 of 2-course sequence)

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

**ECHD 9770<sup>1</sup> Assessment Practicum (3)**

ECHD 8900 Psychopharmacology (3)

ECHD 9000 Research Hours (3)

#### **Year 2, Summer**

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

**ECHD 9770<sup>1</sup> Assessment Practicum (3)**

ECHD 9000 Research Hours (9-12)

#### **Year 3, Fall**

ECHD 8610<sup>1</sup> Neuroscience (3)

ECHD 9680<sup>1</sup> Process of Counseling Psychology Supervision (3) (didactic)

ECHD 9300<sup>1</sup> Dissertation Hours (3-6)

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

**ECHD 9770<sup>1</sup> Assessment Practicum (3)**

**Year 3, Spring**

ECHD 8000<sup>1</sup> Affective and Cognitive Basis of Behavior (3)

ECHD 9690S<sup>1</sup> Counseling Supervision Practicum (3) (experiential)

**ECHD 9770<sup>1</sup> Assessment Practicum (3)**

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

ECHD 9300<sup>1</sup> Dissertation Hours (3-6)

**Year 3, Summer**

ECHD 8080<sup>1</sup> Development Across the Lifespan for School/Counseling Psychologists and Educators (3) (Maymester)

ECHD 9050<sup>1</sup> Career Development and Research (3)

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3) – this practicum would serve not only for clients but also for supervision of supervision

**ECHD 9770<sup>1</sup> Assessment Practicum (3)**

ECHD 9300 Dissertation Hours (3-6)

**Year 4, Fall**

ECHD<sup>1</sup> Internship in Counseling Psychology (on campus) (3) (for students preparing and submitting internship applications)

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

ECHD 9300 Dissertation Hours (3-9)

**ECHD 9770 Assessment Practicum (3)**

**Year 4, Spring**

ECHD 9650<sup>1</sup> Consultation in Human Systems (3)

ECHD 9002<sup>1</sup> Social Psychology and Counseling (3)

ECHD 9760<sup>1</sup> Clinical Practicum (3)

ECHD 9300 Dissertation Hours (3-9)

**Course requirements for a Masters in Mental Health Counseling Degree required for a Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC) license. Courses required per review of major accreditation organizations.**

**Assessment course work in red bolded**

CPS 7340 - Social/Cultural Issues in Counseling and Psychological Services 2 to 3 Credit Hours

CPS 7500 - Individual and Family Over the Life Span 3 Credit Hours

EPRS 7900 - Methods of Research in Education 3 Credit Hours

CPS 6010 - Introduction to Professional Counselor Identity, Practice and Ethics 3 Credit Hours

CPS 6410 - Basic Counseling Skills 3 Credit Hours

CPS 6450 - Group Counseling Systems 3 Credit Hours

CPS 7260 - Counseling Systems and Interventions 3 Credit Hours

CPS 7300 - Career Theory, Assessment, and Intervention 3 Credit Hours

**CPS 7450 - Educational and Psychological Appraisal 3 Credit Hours**

CPS 8100 - Psychobehavioral Diagnosis 3 Credit Hours

CPS 8380 - Family Systems and Interventions 3 Credit Hours

CPS 8430 - Advanced Counseling Skills 3 Credit Hours

CPS 8460 - Biopsychosocial Aspects of Addiction 3 Credit Hours

CPS 8470 - Crisis Intervention 3 Credit Hours

CPS 7660 - Applied Practice I: Mental Health Counseling 3 to 6 Credit Hours

CPS 7680 - Internship: Mental Health Counseling 3 to 9 Credit Hours

**Dr. Doverspike motioned, Dr. Burton seconded, and the Board voted to approve the above letter of opposition of HB972 and to send to House Committee on Regulated Industries as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Meeting Minutes:**

- January 21, 2022 C.C./Zoom Board Meeting

**Recommendation:**

Approve as Presented

**Dr. Burton motioned, Dr. Doverspike seconded, and the Board voted to approve the January 21, 2021 Conference Call/Zoom Board meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Correspondence:**

- M. Vazquez – RE Supervised Clinical Hours Through Teletherapy – *Tabled for review during executive session*
- Proposed Legislation – *For Board Information/Reference Only*

**Application Ratify List: Issued Date: 1/22/2022 - 2/22/2022**

License No.	Licensee
PSY004574	Katherine Crosby Gross
PSY004575	Patricia Ann Foels
PSY004576	Emily Claire Stefano
PSY004577	Karin Maria Nylocks
PSY004578	Michael James Caponi
PSY004579	Andrew Petrich Teer
PSY004580	Alexandra Perez

**Dr. Smith motioned, Dr. Burton seconded, and the Board voted to approve the ratification list as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Dr. Doverspike motioned, Dr. Smith seconded, and the Board voted to enter into Executive Session in accordance with O.C.G.A. §43-1-2(k) (1) (2), §43-1-2-(k) (3) (4), §50-14-2(1) and §43-1-2 (k) (4) to review the Cognizant (complaint) and AG reports, review the prior meetings executive session minutes, review/deliberate on applications and oral exams. Voting in favor were Board members Sauls, Campbell Doverspike, Smith, Bratcher and Burton.**

**At the conclusion of the Executive Session on February 25, 2022, Dr. Sauls declared the meeting “open” pursuant to the Open and Public Meeting Act O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 et seq. No Board votes obtained during Executive Session.**

**Applicant Interview Conducted: 10:15 A.M.**

- G.M.

**Recommendation:**

Refer to AG’s office

**Dr. Burton motioned, Dr. Smith seconded, and the Board voted to refer G.M. to the AG’s office for private consent order as presented. None opposed, motion carried**

**Cognizant – Complaint Report/Recommendations:**

**Recommend Closure:** PSYC210039, PSYC220009, PSYC220011, PSYC220018, PSYC220019

**Refer to Investigations/Pending Investigative Report:** PSYC210045, PSYC220007, PSYC220012, PSY220021

**Pending Receipt of Additional Information:** PSYC210007, PSYC210037, PSYC220017, PSY220020, PSYC220022, PSYC220023, PSYC220024

**Dr. Doverspike motioned, Dr. Smith seconded, and the Board voted to approve the recommendations of the Cognizant as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Board Administered Oral Exams:**

	<b><u>Recommendation:</u></b>
• S.S.	Pass; Issue License
• C.C.	Pass; Issue License
• M.T.	Pass; Issue License
• J.S.	Pass; Issue License
• L.T.	Pass; Issue License
• H.K.	Pass; Issue License
• O.G.	Pass; Issue License
• H.P.	Tabled; Pending Additional Interview

**Dr. Doverspike motioned, Dr. Burton seconded, and the Board voted to approve the recommendations on all oral examination candidates. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Attorney General's Report:**

Kirsten Daughdri Esq., Senior AAG, sitting in for B. Cohen, AAG provided a status report for Board review and discussion of the current cases open in the AG's office.

**Dr. Campbell motioned, Dr. Doverspike seconded, and the Board voted to approve the Assistant Attorney General's reports as presented None opposed, motion carried.**

**Applications:**

	<b><u>Recommendation:</u></b>
• Z.T.	Approve to sit for exam
• M.K.	Approve to sit for exam
• L.S.	Approve to sit for exam
• C.S.	Approve to sit for exam
• M.K.	Approve to sit for exam
• A.K.	Approve to sit for exam
• J.C.	Approve to sit for exam
• R.M.	Approve to sit for exam
• K.G.	Approve to sit for exam
• S.P.	Approve to sit for exam
• K.V.	Approve to sit for exam
• A.H.	Approve to sit for exam
• L.R.	Approve to sit for exam
• S.J.	Approve to sit for exam
• J.P.	Approve to sit for exam
• M.S.	Approve to sit for exam
• J.A H.	Approve to sit for exam
• R.M.	Schedule for Applicant Interview

**Dr. Campbell motioned, Dr. Smith seconded, and the Board voted to approve the recommendations on all applications as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Exec. Session Correspondence:**

- M.W.

**Recommendation:**

Respond as directed

**Dr. Campbell motioned, Dr. Burton seconded, and the Board voted to approve for Board Staff to respond as directed to the executive session correspondence listed above. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Executive Session Meeting Minutes:**

- January 21, 2022 C.C./ZOOM Board Meeting

**Recommendation:**

Approve as Presented

**Dr. Burton motioned, Dr. Campbell seconded, and the Board voted to approve the January 21, 2022 Conference Call/ZOOM Board executive session meeting minutes as presented. None opposed, motion carried.**

**Board Rules Discussion:** *All rules were tabled for review/discussion during the March 25, 2022 Board meeting*

- 510-2-.01 Application for Licensure
- 510-2-.04 Education
- 510-2-.05 Internship & PDSWE
- 510-3-.01 Application Process Forms, Fees & Deadlines
- 510-3-.02 Qualifications of Applicants
- 510-5-.02 Definitions
- 510-7-.01 Renewal
- 510-7-.02 Reinstatement
- 510-7-.03 Inactive Status
- 510-8-.01 CE Requirements
- 510-8-.02 Types of CE
- 510-9-.01 Temporary License
- 510-9-.03 Permission for Limited Practice
- 510-10-.01 Individuals

**Correspondence:**

- M. Vazquez – RE Supervised Clinical Hours Through Teletherapy – *The Georgia requirements provide that the person providing services within the state of Georgia must be a Georgia licensed psychologist. The Georgia Board cannot provide opinions on Louisiana law, rules, or regulations. Services may be provided via telehealth if they are a W-2 employee, under the supervision of a Georgia Psychologist.*

**Dr. Smith motioned, Dr. Doverspike seconded, and the Board voted to approve for Board Staff to respond as directed to the correspondence listed above. None opposed, motion carried.**

**There being no further business for discussion, Dr. Smith motioned, Dr. Burton seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 3:26 p.m.**

**Minutes recorded by:**

Linsey Joiner, Board Support Specialist

**Minutes reviewed and edited by:**

Brig Zimmerman, Executive Director

**MARSHA SAULS, Ph.D.**

President

**BRIG ZIMMERMAN**

Executive Director Healthcare 1

Minutes approved on **March 25, 2022**