



State of Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners

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REGULAR MEETING

April 25, 2012

OPEN SESSION MINUTES

Members of the Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners met at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday April 25, 2012, at The University of Arizona University Medical Center, Kiewit Auditorium, 1501 N. Campbell Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85724

Board Members Present:

Ross Adelman, Consumer Member, Chairman

Toni Bennalley, L.AC., Secretary

Christopher M. Clair, Consumer Member

Dianne Darcy, L.AC., Professional Member

Robert L. Gear, NMD, DC, Professional Member

Patricia E. Martin, L.AC., Professional Member

Alan H. Scott, DO, Professional Member

Board Members Absent:

Maureen Bronson, Consumer Member

Woohyung Cho, L.AC., Professional Member

Administrative Staff:

Pete Gonzalez, Executive Director

Attorney General Representative:

Montgomery Lee, Assistant Attorney General (available by telephone)

Call to Order

Chairman Adelman called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m.

The following order of business was then considered:

Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Board Member Bernalley declared a conflict of interest on Agenda Item 4 (C) License Application for James M. Degiuli.

Discussion and Approval of Minutes

Board Member Bernalley moved the adoption of the minutes for the March 28, 2012 regular board meeting with Board Member Darcy providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 7-0.

Adelman	Bernalley	Bronson	Cho	Clair	Darcy	Gear	Martin	Scott	Vote
X	X			X	X	X	X	X	Aye
									Nay
									Recused
									Abstained
		X	X						Absent

Applications for Licensure (without self disclosures)

The Board reviewed the license applicant chart and Board Member Bernalley moved for the approval of the applicants for licensure listed below with Board Member Martin providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 7-0.

- Britta L. Van Dun
- Pamela S. Wake
- Susan D. Davis
- Robert C. Hudson
- Jason P. Wechs

Adelman	Bernalley	Bronson	Cho	Clair	Darcy	Gear	Martin	Scott	Vote
X	X			X	X	X	X	X	Aye
									Nay
									Recused
									Abstained
		X	X						Absent

The Board reviewed the license applicant chart and Board Member Darcy moved for the approval of the applicant for licensure listed below with Board Member Scott providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 6-0.

Adelman	Bennalley	Bronson	Cho	Clair	Darcy	Gear	Martin	Scott	Vote
X				X	X	X	X	X	Aye
									Nay
	X								Recused
									Abstained
		X	X						Absent

Applications for Auricular Certificate (with self-disclosures)

The Board reviewed the license applicant chart and Board Member Martin moved for the approval of the applicant for certification listed below with Board Member Clair providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 7-0.

Julia Ann Relford

Adelman	Bennalley	Bronson	Cho	Clair	Darcy	Gear	Martin	Scott	Vote
X	X			X	X	X	X	X	Aye
									Nay
									Recused
									Abstained
		X	X						Absent

Discussion of potential legislative proposals for the 2013 legislative session

Executive Director Gonzalez provided a review of the legislative process and action required to prepare for the 2013 legislative session. The following text from a memorandum prepared by the Executive Director was presented:

In the development of the Acupuncture Board of Examiners Strategic Plan, the following mission and vision statements were adopted.

The mission of the Acupuncture Board of Examiners is to benefit, educate and protect the public through regulation of licensure; provision of consumer information; and enforcement of the rules, regulations and statutes governing the safe practice of acupuncture.

The Board adopted the following vision statement:

The Acupuncture Board of Examiners is committed to the enhancement of the health and safety of the people of Arizona by ensuring:

- Protection for and confidence by the consumer through enforcement of laws governing the practice of acupuncture.*
- Highly qualified practitioners working as health care professionals.*
- Fair and ethical standards of professional conduct.*
- Excellence in practitioner training and education.*

In order to meet the adopted mission and vision statements, the Board established several advisory committees, composed of Board Members, to assist in meeting the stated mission and vision of the Board. These advisory committees provide advice and guidance to the Board on their respective topic of study. These advisory committees include the continuing education committee, the legislative committee, and the ethics committee.

The work of the advisory committees has identified a number of potential changes to state law and rules regarding the practice and licensure of acupuncturists and auricular acupuncture certificate holders. The following are examples of the proposed changes:

- Research the opportunity to institute an in-active license status.
- Establish a fee schedule for the review and approval of continuing education applications.
- Explore the proposal of requiring license and renewal applicants to have Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) certification for initial licensure and continuing education for license renewals.
- Examine the need for finger-printing requirement of acupuncture license and auricular acupuncture certificate applicants.
- Remove statutory language pertaining to preceptorship training.
- Create a fee for verification of licenses as requested by licensees applying for licensure in other states.
- Bring the compensation of Board Members in line with other health care professional boards. At the present time, only three of the nine board members are compensated for their service on the board.

A number of other issues have surfaced in recent times, such as dry needling and herbs, but a great deal of research and study will be required before the Board is ready to address these pressing issues.

The purpose of this agenda item is to start the process of identifying legislative initiatives by gathering information from licensed acupuncturists, auricular acupuncture certificate holders, the public, and others.

Lastly, the Board will need to solidify its legislative proposals by September 2012 to allow ample time for review and feedback before the proposals are prepared for legislative introduction.

Board Member Martin would like to see the second part of the vision statement expanded to ensure that physical therapists and others don't assume "they are highly qualified practitioners working in the area of acupuncture". Board Member Martin suggested a review and update of this statement is warranted.

Board Member Bernalley shared her thoughts on how the term “Acupuncturist” can be redefined for clarity.

The Board discussed the proposal to require fingerprinting of future license and certificate applicants.

The thought of asking applicants to disclose if they are licensed in other professions when applying for an acupuncture license was discussed.

Board Member Martin expressed an interest on the possibility of requiring specific continuing education courses for license renewal.

Project Reach Spring 2012 Update

Dr. Myra Muramoto from the University of Arizona Department of Family & Community Medicine provided the following report.

Spring 2012 Update
Tailored Training Program for Licensed Acupuncturists
Talking to Patients about Quitting Tobacco

Project Reach began collaborating with acupuncturists in June of 2011 and started inviting practitioners into the study in November. The Project Reach study is led by Dr. Myra Muramoto from the University of Arizona Department of Family & Community Medicine. The early response to Project Reach was extremely positive and acupuncturists from across the Tucson area enrolled. Throughout the late fall and winter, each participating practitioner completed an initial interview with Project Reach and patients from each of their practices were invited to be a part of the study as well. Dr. Muramoto, along with her colleague, Tim Connolly held two in-person trainings at the University of Arizona in February and March. Here are a few more specific details:

Who is participating in Project Reach?

- Over the summer we reached out to every licensed acupuncturist in Tucson to complete an initial practice survey. We were able to speak with **84**. This survey helped us to gain a better understanding of the way acupuncturists in Tucson organize their practices.
- Of those who completed the initial survey, **25** enrolled in the study and **22** have completed the training.
- Patients from each enrolled practice are invited to complete a brief anonymous health survey and raffle entry by their practitioner. Project Reach contacts those patients who indicate they are interested in participating in the study. So far **237** acupuncture patients are enrolled.

What is happening right now in Project Reach?

- Most practitioners have completed the training and are now working on integrating these new skills and materials into their practices. Project Reach staff offers on-going support to help in this process.
- Acupuncturists are interviewed via phone by the Reach staff every three months.
- Participating patients are also interviewed by the Reach staff every three months and we are continuing to recruit new patients as well.

Feedback from the trainings:

- The participating acupuncturists gave very positive feedback about the interactive Reach training - **18 out of 22 practitioners** “totally agreed” that the information in the training would be relevant to their work as acupuncturists and **22 out of 22 practitioners** said they would recommend the training to others.
- "As a former biomedical researcher and faculty member, I have had experience with clinical studies as a designer and participant. Project Reach is one of the best for its organization, effectiveness, clarity and practicality. I not only appreciate your work, but want to congratulate all of you for the quality of the work."
~ Y. Clare Zhang, Ph.D., M.Ac.O.M., L.Ac, participating acupuncturist

New developments:

- We have created a directory of acupuncturists who have completed the Reach training will soon be available via the UofA Family and Community Medicine website: www.fcm.arizona.edu/reach.

Executive Director Report

License and Certificate Status Report:

Active Licensed Acupuncturists: 529
Expired Licenses: 7
Active Certified Auricular Acupuncturists: 46

Board Office Information/Activities:

- Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes §32-3925 (B), license and certificate renewal notices for June 2012 licensees were prepared and sent. In addition, expired license and certificate letters for the month of March 2012 were sent.
- Completed and submitted the Lobbyist 1st Quarter (2012) Expenditure reports to the Arizona Secretary of State's office.
- Attended the Arizona Oriental Medicine Vision 2012 continuing education event on April 14, 2012.
- Participated on the NCCAOM Professional Development Activities (PDA) Advisory Panel meeting on April 10, 2012.

Future Meeting Dates

May 23, 2012
June 27, 2012

Call to the Public

Jessica Jordan, L.AC. addressed the Board about the follow-up to the Arizona Vision 2012 and work being done to have licensees join the strategic planning aspect of this project.

Jonathan Lindsey, representing the Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine and Acupuncture, informed the Board about the Arizona Society of Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture survey on potential legislative areas of interest. Furthermore, Mr. Lindsey spoke to the dry needling complaints to be addressed by the State Physical Therapy board.

Catherine Niemiec, President of the Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine and Acupuncture and Chairman of Arizona Society of Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture, shared information on the development of a legislative platform to include scope of practice, herbs, western testing, and Asian bodywork therapy.

Discussion of Items to be place on a future meeting agenda

Dry Needling complaints
Advisory committee reports

Adjournment

Board Member Bernalley moved for adjournment and Board Member Gear provided a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 7-0. The Board adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Adelman	Bernalley	Bronson	Cho	Clair	Darcy	Gear	Martin	Scott	Vote
X	X			X	X	X	X	X	Aye
									Nay
									Recused
									Abstained
		X	X						Absent

Respectfully Submitted,



Pete Gonzalez
Executive Director

Approved by the Board: June 27, 2012