

**CALIFORNIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

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State of California  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Arnold Schwarzenegger, Governor



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**CALIFORNIA BOARD OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGULATORY COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
May 18, 2006  
Sacramento, California**

**Committee Members Present**

Christine Wietlisbach, Chair

Margaret Cunningham

**Staff Present**

Heather Martin, Executive Officer

**A. Call to Order, Roll Call, Establishment of a Quorum**

Chair Christine Wietlisbach called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. and called the roll. A quorum was present.

**B. Approval of the November 2, 2005, Committee meeting minutes**

The Committee reviewed the draft minutes of the November 2, 2005 Committee meeting. Ms. Wietlisbach made the following changes to Section D. Delete the sentence that reads, "The standards set by the Accreditation Council for Occupational Therapy Education (ACOTE) are so general and does not specify whether the number of units earned are part of the requirements to graduate." Add the following sentences: "The current standards sets by ACOTE speak to two types of criteria that must be met to graduate: units of academic coursework and curriculum content. The language in the ACOTE standards curriculum content requirement is broad and is non-specific to practice areas. When a course specific to an advanced practice area, i.e. hands or dysphagia, is offered as part of a curriculum that just meets the overall minimum units requirement, it is not clear whether or not that individual course is beyond ACOTE standards."

A correction was also made to the following paragraph in which the word "contact" in the first sentence should have been "content."

- ◆ **Margaret Cunningham moved to approve the November 2, 2005 Committee meeting minutes as amended.**
- ◆ **Christine Wietlisbach seconded the motion**
- ◆ **Motion carried unanimously.**

**C. Discussion of the definition of Post-Professional Education for Advanced Practice Certification.**

Heather Martin explained that the Committee was at an impasse concerning the definition of Post-Professions Education at the November 4, 2005, meeting at which Luella Grangaard was named a temporary committee member and Margaret Cunningham was absent. A motion was made during that meeting directing staff how to interpret the language and provide additional information.

Ms. Weitlisbach stated that the intent of the law was that as long as an individual received that appropriate education, it didn't matter where they received it. She also stated that the consensus of the Board would be to count coursework for courses that were entirely dedicated to the content area. She stated that the Board requested that staff develop a plan of implementation. She mentioned that during the Board's recent audit, it was not clear to the auditor that all of the individuals were receiving education in all of the different areas of content areas. The Board wanted to research the possibility of requiring that all courses be pre-approved so that the Board would know that the courses meet the requirements outlined in statute.

Ms. Martin advised the Committee that the Practice Committee would be reviewing a revised Application to Provide Post-Professional Education in which the provider will be required to check off all of the requirements listed in the statute that are included in their course. The application reviewer would confirm that the course meets the requirements indicated on the application. Ms. Wietlisbach requested that the list of approved courses include which content areas are included in the course.

Ms. Martin clarified that effective immediately, it does not matter whether an applicant for advanced practice approval took a course as part of the degree program or over and above the degree requirements. All courses that are specific related to an advanced practice subject can be used towards advanced practice approval.

The Committee recommended that a "model" Application for Advanced Practice Certification illustrating how to present a non-preapproved course be posted on the Board's website.

#### **D. Discussion regarding continuing Committee**

Ms. Martin asked if they wished to continue this Committee. She explained that this Committee was originally established to prepare regulations for the advanced practice area. She stated the Board also has a Regulatory Committee that is not being utilized and a Practice Committee, which has started to discuss areas of advanced practice. The Committee agreed not to continue to the Committee.

- ◆ **Margaret Cunningham moved to congratulate the Committee for their wonderful work over the past five years and disband as they no longer need to exist.**
- ◆ **Christine Wietlisbach seconded the motion**
- ◆ **Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **E. Public Comment**

No public comments.

#### **F. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.