



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

April 26, 2011

Daniel Bradley, Ph.D.
President
Indiana State University
Office of the President
Condit House
Terre Haute, IN 47809

Dear President Bradley,

At its meeting on March 31 – April 3, 2011, the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) conducted a review of the doctoral Ph.D. program in Counseling Psychology at Indiana State University. This review included consideration of the program's most recent self-study report, the preliminary review of June 9, 2010 and the program's response to the preliminary review on July 26, 2010, the report of the team that conducted a special site visit to the program on October 21-22, 2010, and the program's response to the site visit report on January 3, 2011. The review was conducted in light of the program's closure and request for continued "accredited, inactive" status while the remaining students complete the program.

Drs. Nancy Elman, Mary Anne Hanner, and David McIntosh recused and therefore did not participate in the discussion and vote on your program.

I am pleased to inform you that, on the basis of this review, the CoA voted to continue the program on "accredited, inactive" status in good standing for academic year 2011-2012. The program will continue to be listed as "accredited, inactive" in the December 2011 American Psychologist and on the Accreditation web pages. The CoA encourages you to share information about your programs' accredited status with agencies and others of the public as appropriate.

According to the *Accreditation Operating Procedures*, inactive status can only be granted for one year at a time. Thus, if the program wishes to maintain inactive status for an additional year, the program must request continuation of this status for the 2012-2013 academic year, including an update on students remaining in the program and the faculty resources available to them. This requirement will be discussed further in the context of Domain C of this letter.

A summary of the Commission's review of this program is provided below according to each of the accreditation domains. At the end of the letter, the program will be provided with an itemized list of any actions that the program needs to take prior to the next accreditation review.

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Web: www.apa.org

Domain A: Eligibility

As a prerequisite for accreditation, the program's purpose must be within the scope of the accrediting body and must be pursued in an institutional setting appropriate for the doctoral education and training of professional psychologists.

The Counseling Psychology Ph.D. program is housed in the Bayh College of Education of Indiana State University, which is accredited by North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. The program has played an integral role in the missions of the department, college and university, and is reflected in the overall operational budget. Although the program was administratively closed in 2008 (with the 2008 cohort as the last entering class), it has received continuous support to offer quality training to the remaining students. Both students and faculty report that the decision to close the program was made in collaboration with them and they have been well-informed throughout the process.

The program is consistent with the provisions of Domain A.

Domain B: Program Philosophy, Objectives and Curriculum Plan

The program has a clearly specified philosophy of education and training, compatible with the mission of its sponsor institution and appropriate to the science and practice of psychology. The program's education and training model and its curriculum plan are consistent with this philosophy.

The program clearly articulates its training philosophy, training model, and goals and objectives. The program developed and implemented a training curriculum plan based on a generalist, scientist-practitioner model. After this summer, all remaining students in the program will have completed the required coursework and practicum experiences, and will be in various stages of internship and dissertation completion.

The program is consistent with the provisions of Domain B.

Domain C: Program Resources

The program demonstrates that it has resources of appropriate quality and sufficiency to achieve its education and training goals.

The attrition of faculty in recent years was a major reason contributing to the decision to close the Counseling Psychology program. At the time of the site visit, only two core faculty remained, with one (Dr. Boyer) retiring at the end of the 2010-2011 academic year; while 15 students remained in the program (7 on campus and 8 on internship). Although this ratio seemed inadequate, site visitors were assured that associated faculty members in other areas would be available to provide mentoring and dissertation advisement to the remaining students. In addition, department and institutional leadership have demonstrated a commitment to support these students with financial and faculty resources through graduation.

If the program requests continued inactive status for the 2012-2013 academic year, the program is asked to report on the progress of all students remaining in the program, as well as the

adequacy of faculty resources for mentoring and dissertation supervision for these students. The request for inactive status and this progress report should be provided no later than **July 1, 2012** so that the CoA can review the program's status at its summer 2012 meeting.

Domain D: Cultural and Individual Differences and Diversity

The program recognizes the importance of cultural and individual differences and diversity in the training of psychologists.

The program had made systematic and long-term efforts to attract and retain faculty and students from diverse backgrounds before it was set for closing. The program shows commitment to diversity in training, and this has been seen as a clear strength of the program.

The program is consistent with the provisions of Domain D.

Domain E: Student-Faculty Relations

The program demonstrates that its education, training, and socialization experiences are characterized by mutual respect and courtesy between students and faculty and that it operates in a manner that facilitates students' educational experiences.

The program recognizes the rights of students and faculty to be treated with courtesy, respect, collegiality, and ethical sensitivity. Students expressed "unusual levels of appreciation" for the Association Faculty's accessibility and guidance during this period of transition (site visit report, pg. 15). Students receive ongoing written feedback on their performance and completion of requirements.

The program is consistent with the provisions of Domain E.

Domain F: Program Self-Assessment and Quality Enhancement

The program demonstrates a commitment to excellence through self-study, which assures that its goals and objectives are met, enhances the quality of professional education and training obtained by its students, and contributes to the fulfillment of its sponsor institution's mission.

The program conducts ongoing assessment and monitoring of student performance through coursework grades, practicum evaluation, and annual student evaluation. Students have also been given various opportunities to provide feedback to the program.

Domain F.1(a): Outcome Data

The program, with appropriate involvement from its students, engages in regular, ongoing self-studies that address its effectiveness in achieving program goals and objectives in terms of outcome data (i.e., while students are in the program and after completion).

The program provided student achievement data on both current students and alumni.

The program is consistent with the provisions of Domain F.

Domain G: Public Disclosure

The program demonstrates its commitment to public disclosure by providing written materials and other communications that appropriately represent it to the relevant publics.

In its response to the site visit report, the program indicated its efforts to maintain currency of program information on the Web, including updating the electronic Graduate Catalog to indicate the program is no longer accepting applications.

Information on the program's accredited status was found in two locations on its Web site. Although the document containing C-20 information indicated the program was inactive, the Program Information page (<http://coe.indstate.edu/cdcsep/counseling/counselingpsychologyphd.htm>) should be updated to clearly indicate the program's "accredited, inactive" status in accordance with Implementing Regulation C-6(b), attached. The program is asked to provide documentation that its status of "accredited, inactive" and CoA contact information is included in all public documents that cite its accredited status by **September 1, 2011**.

Domain II: Relationship with Accrediting Body

The program demonstrates its commitment to the accreditation process by fulfilling its responsibilities to the accrediting body from which its accredited status is granted.

The program has abided by the CoA's published policies and procedures and maintained communication with CoA throughout its closure process. As a program on "accredited, inactive" status, the program will need to continue paying the annual accreditation fee until its official withdrawal from accreditation.

In summary, the program is asked to address the following issue in a narrative response by **September 1, 2011**:

- Provide documentation that its status of "accredited, inactive" and CoA contact information is included in all public documents that cite its accredited status

Please note that while this item is considered an addendum to the data provided in the Annual Report Online (ARO), it is not to be submitted online. The narrative response to the item listed above should be identified as 'Narrative Response – Program Review' and mailed or faxed to the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation by the designated due date.

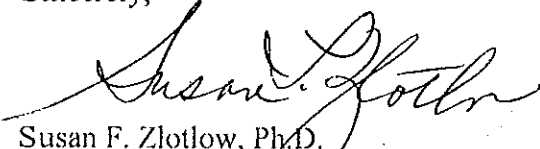
In addition, the program is reminded to provide the following by **July 1, 2012**:

- Request continued inactive status for the 2012-2013 academic year or provide notification of the program's official withdrawal, if it has graduated all of its students. If requesting inactive status, provide a report on the progress of all students in the program and the adequacy of faculty resources for mentoring and dissertation supervision.

The above request should be identified as 'Request for Continued Inactive Status' and mailed to the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation by the designated due date.

The Commission wishes to express its appreciation for the institutional and faculty commitment to this program as it continues with its scheduled closure and graduates its remaining students. If the Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation may be of service at any time on administrative matters of accreditation, please call upon us.

Sincerely,



Susan F. Zlotlow, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation

cc: Bradley Balch, Ph.D., Dean College of Education
Michele Boyer, Ph.D., Chair
Bridget Roberts-Pittman, Ph.D., Director of Training
John Dagley, Ph.D., Chair of Site Visit Team
Rodney Goodyear, Ph.D., Member of Site Visit Team
Donna Desforges, Ph.D., Member of Site Visit Team

C-6(b). Accreditation Status and CoA Contact Information
(Commission on Accreditation; November 2010)

Domain G.1b of the *Guidelines and Principles for Accreditation of Programs in Professional Psychology* (G&P) for doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral residency programs states that the program must include in its public materials:

"(b) Its status with regard to accreditation, including the specific program covered by that status and the name, address and telephone number of the Commission on Accreditation [CoA]. The program should make available, as appropriate through its sponsor institution, such reports or other materials as pertain to the program's accreditation status."

Programs that are accredited by agencies recognized by the U.S. Department of Education (e.g., CoA) are required to provide the contact information for the accrediting body when the accreditation status is cited. The intent of this Implementing Regulation is to clarify how this information should be presented in order to ensure consistency across programs as well as provide useful information to the public.

Accreditation status:

- Programs may state their accreditation status as "APA-accredited" or "accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of the American Psychological Association."
- Programs should not use the term "APA-Approved," since at APA this term is used to denote approved sponsors of continuing education rather than academic/training programs.
- The only official accredited statuses are: "Accredited," "Accredited, on probation," and "Accredited, inactive." Programs should not indicate that a program is "fully" accredited.
- If there are multiple programs in the same department, institution, or agency, it should be clearly indicated in public materials which programs are APA-accredited. Multiple accredited programs should refer to their accredited status individually and in accordance with IR C-6(a).

CoA contact information:

- In ALL public documents, including the program's website (if applicable), where the program's accreditation status is cited as above, the name and contact information for the CoA must be provided.
- Information must include the address and direct telephone number for the APA Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation. Other information (i.e., website, e-mail address) may also be included.
- Programs should clarify that this contact information should be used for questions related to the program's accreditation status. In doing so, the program should also ensure that its own contact information is clearly indicated in its materials so that the public knows how to contact the program directly with any other questions.
- Programs are encouraged to use the following format to provide this information:

**Questions related to the program's accredited status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation:*

*Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation
American Psychological Association
750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002
Phone: (202) 336-5979 / E-mail: apaaccred@apu.org
Web: www.apu.org/ed/accreditation*