



Board Members

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Director's Update

Greetings everyone! As I write this summer newsletter message, I hope that you and yours are well and surviving COVID and the summer heat. Our COVID-19 Workgroup continues to function and to keep up with current updates as rolled out by the Governor's office and the Oregon Health Authority. We have received a lot of questions around the face mask requirement and for now, face masks for behavioral health professionals is still required in clinical settings. We will endeavor to keep our COVID webpage updated and post updates as soon as we can when made available. I mentioned the COVID workgroup in my spring newsletter, but I will again mention and thank the workgroup team: The workgroup team consists of a non-psychologist public Board member (**Janice Schermer**), two member psychologists (**Deborah Wise, Ph.D.**, and **Michael Fulop, Psy.D.**) and three OBOP Board members (**Elizabeth Goy, Ph.D.**, **Patricia Bjorkquist, Ph.D.**, and **Linda Nishi-Strattner, Ph.D.**). Although Dr. Bjorkquist has termed off of the Board, she continues to volunteer her time to this much needed work, so, thank you Pat!

The State is in the planning stages of re-opening State government. And, while things can still change, we need to plan for re-opening our Board offices. The goal that we are working towards is September 1 for re-opening our Salem office. I do not anticipate that we will be back to the old days of allowing the public to walk into the offices at any time. I envision that our offices will be open to the public by appointment only. Why? With COVID came changes to how we conduct business. COVID required that private entities and government organizations adopt telework options almost overnight. In order to compete with the private sector for a state workforce, the State is moving towards more of a telework workforce. I envision our Board workforce, post-COVID, to be a blend of a telework and in-office staff, with more flexible schedules. We have not worked out all of the details yet, but I do envision that office visits will need to be by appointment, so that the person that you need to see is actually in the office.

The new online licensing system is now operational, and hopefully new applicants and licensees needing to renew are finding the new system easy to navigate. The days of paper applications are now behind us. I know that change is sometimes hard, but I also know that change is inevitable, and I appreciate everyone's patience with us during this season of change.

Speaking of change, we have had a changing of the guard here at BOP. **Dr. Clifford Johannsen** has termed off of the Board after fulfilling two terms. Dr. Johannsen served for nearly 5 years as the Board Chair and has led the BOP through some times of significant change. Cliff's calm and steady hand at the helm has been invaluable to me and I appreciate his dedication and professionalism. He has been a constant and I want

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Director's Update, Cont.

to express my gratitude. Cliff has been a mentor to all of us in so many ways and we will miss him. **Dr. Celeste Jones** has assumed the reigns of Chair and the awesome responsibilities of this position.

Before closing, I want to welcome our newest member to the BOP. **Dr. Catherine A. Miller** was appointed by Governor Brown and confirmed by the Senate into her position as BOP Board member starting 7-1-21. Please take a moment to read Dr. Miller's Biography and join me in welcoming Dr. Miller to the Board of Psychology.

-Charles Hill, Executive Director, Mental Health Regulatory Agency
"Plans are nothing, but planning is everything" – Dwight D. Eisenhower Ψ

COVID-19 Workgroup

Your Oregon Board of Psychology COVID-19 Workgroup has been hard at work, striving to keep abreast of the ever-changing demands, recommendations, and governmental mandates related to conducting a psychological practice during the pandemic. The Oregon Board of Psychology would like to thank the members who have graciously volunteered their time and expertise to this project. Our team consists of a non-psychologist Board member (Janice Schermer), three licensed psychologists (Deborah Wise, Ph.D., Michael Fulop, Psy.D., and Patricia Bjorkquist, Ph.D.), and two OBOP Board members (Elisabeth Goy, Ph.D. and Linda Nishi-Strattner, Ph.D., chair). This "Dream Team" has been a fortunate combination of motivated and effective participants, who have met ten times in the past 6 months, all via Zoom, to tackle questions on a variety of professional scenarios that you may want to check out.

In December of 2020, we conducted an email survey of licensees regarding their concerns and questions regarding psychological practice during the pandemic. From this survey, a list of FAQs was developed and posted to our Board website. These FAQs are under continual revision as the landscape of COVID-

19 has evolved, so be sure to check them regularly to see if the changes apply to you and your practice. The survey remains available via a link on the FAQ page, should new questions arise.

We have also provided examples of forms that you might use in your psychological practice regarding informed consent regarding COVID-19, waiver of liability, and notices regarding protective measures. Last month, we added FAQs to address questions that you have posed regarding the new CDC and OHA guidelines, and how these apply to reopening of psychological practices. For example, are you aware that psychologists are among the group of health care providers who must continue to ask their clients to wear masks or to provide proof of vaccination (i.e., Ask or Mask)?

All of our work is posted to the OBOP website via the [Coronavirus Information](#) link, so please let us know if there are additional issues or questions that you would like us to address.

-Dr. Linda Nishi-Strattner Ψ

Legislation 2021

The following is a list of selected legislation from the 2021 Legislative Session that may be of interest to our stakeholders. It does not constitute a complete list of all legislation affecting the Agency.

HB 2078- Pain Management Continuing Education

- Introduced by: Oregon Health Authority- Health Policy & Analytics Division.
- Operative date: January 1, 2022.
- Impact: Requires psychologists to complete the one-hour pain management training as an ongoing- rather than just a one-time- continuing education requirement for each two-year reporting period.

Legislation 2021, cont.

- Removes the requirement for six other hours of pain management education during first full renewal period, but adds a requirement for licensure applicants to complete the training before license issuance.

HB 2117- New Psychologist Associate Licensure Sunset

- Introduced by: Board of Psychology (BOP).
- Operative date: January 1, 2022.
- Impact: Repeals the Board's authority to issue initial psychologist associate licenses, but does not disturb current licensees.

HB 2315- Suicide Risk Continuing Education

- Introduced by: Representative Salinas & Senator Taylor.
- Operative date: July 1, 2022.
- Impact: Requires the licensees of various health boards, including BOP and Board of Licensed Professional Counselors and Therapists (BLPCT) licensees, to complete and report at least two hours of continuing education related to suicide risk assessment, treatment, and management. This is an ongoing requirement for each two-year CE reporting period.

HB 2949- Mental Health Workforce Incentives & Registered Intern Name Change *

- Introduced by: Representatives Bynum, Alonso Leon, & Schouten.
- Operative date: July 1, 2021.
- Impact: Creates programs administered by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) that provide incentives for Oregon behavioral health care workers and students who are people of color, tribal members or residents of rural areas. These include undergraduate and graduate scholarships and tuition assistance, loan forgiveness and repayment incentives, housing assistance, and tax and childcare subsidies (\$60M). Also creates a program under OHA to provide grants to psychologists, LPCs, LMFTs, and LCSWs who provide post-degree supervision (\$20M). Requires employers of mental health care providers to pay for pre-licensure supervision costs of employees if the supervisor is a psychologist, LPC, LMFT, LCSW, or LMSW. Changes title of individuals registered by BLPCT to complete their post-degree supervised clinical experience in Oregon from "intern" to "associate."

HB 3057- COVID-19 Disclosures

- Introduced by: Representatives Salinas, Noble & Reynolds; Senator Patterson.
- Operative date: May 24, 2021. Sunsets on June 30, 2022.
- Impact: Allows OHA, under specified circumstances, to disclose individually identifiable information related to COVID-19 to health care providers licensed or certified by named health care agencies, including BOP and BLPCT.

HB 3139- Youth Suicide Disclosures

- Introduced by: Representative Noble.
- Operative date: January 1, 2022.
- Impact: Requires specified mental health care providers, including BOP and BLPCT licensees who assesses minors to be at imminent and serious threat of attempting suicide, to disclose relevant information to a parent, guardian or other individuals to engage in safety planning. Permits providers to disclose relevant information regarding minors' treatment and diagnosis to organizations providing minor's treatment support. Permits providers to disclose minors' treatment and diagnosis information to individuals and organizations involved in minors' treatment if minor does not object to disclosure. Permits provider to decline to disclose minors' treatment and diagnosis information if disclosure could endanger minor, is not in minors' best interest, or would disclose information to individual

Legislation 2021, cont.

who abused or neglected minor. Grants civil immunity to providers for making disclosures in good faith without minors' consent.

HB 3159- Health Care Data Collection *

- Introduced by: Representative Nosse.
- Operative date: September 26, 2021.
- Impact: Requires specified mental health care providers, including those licensed, certified, registered, or otherwise authorized to practice by BOP and BLPCT, to collect data from patients/clients on their race, ethnicity, preferred spoken and written languages, disability status, sexual orientation and gender identity at least once each calendar year. Requires OHA to establish standards and a data system for collection and storage of data, and to impose civil penalties on providers who do not comply with reporting mandates.

HB 5006- State Financial Administration *

- Introduced by: Representatives Bynum, Alonso Leon, & Schouten.
- Operative date: July 1, 2021.
- Impact: Appropriates \$300,000 to the Mental Health Regulatory Agency for a demographic study of licensees and a diversity plan.

* HB 2949, 3159, and 5006 are awaiting signature by the Governor as of the date of this publication.

- LaRee Felton, Policy Advisor to Mental Health Regulatory Agency Ψ

Welcome New Board Member!

The Board is pleased to announce its newest psychologist Board Member.

Dr. Catherine Miller attended graduate school at West Virginia University, completing her PhD in child clinical psychology in 1993. She completed her internship at the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Ft. Logan, one of the two state mental hospitals in Colorado. She completed her supervised post-doctoral hours at Larimer County Mental Health Center in Fort Collins, and obtained her psychology license in Colorado in 1994. She moved to Massachusetts in 1995, in order for her husband to complete his veterinary internship in Boston. She was employed by Lawrence Community Mental Health Center; as part of this job, she worked in a court clinic and ran a juvenile diversion program in the Lowell area. She participated in the Designated Forensic Professional Training and Certification Program developed by Dr. Tom Grisso at the University of Massachusetts and obtained her psychology license in Massachusetts in 1996. She moved back to West Virginia in 1996 in order to work in a forensic private practice with her mentor from graduate school, Dr. Bill Fremouw. She was licensed as a psychologist in WV in 1996 and became certified as an expert witness in 10 counties. She completed multiple types of forensic evaluations, including custody, parental fitness, competence to stand trial, and criminal responsibility evaluations. Finally, she moved to Oregon in 1999 to take a job as an assistant professor at the School of Graduate Psychology (SGP) at Pacific University. She obtained her psychology license in Oregon in 1999 and is now a full professor at SGP, where she teaches classes in Ethics & Professional Issues, Child Interventions, Juvenile Forensic Psychology, and Single-Subject Design. She also supervises a team of graduate students at SGP's internal training clinic in downtown Portland. She is board certified in clinical child and adolescent psychology, and she is a member of the American Psychological Association (APA), Oregon Psychological Association (OPA), and American Psychology-Law Society (APLS). She is currently the psychologist



New Member Bios, cont.

member of the Juvenile panel of the Psychiatric Security Review Board and is former Chair of the OPA Ethics Committee. She is also the editor of the OPA newsletter. Her research interests include child externalizing disorders, ethical issues, training of psychology students, and many animal-related topics (e.g., childhood animal cruelty, animal hoarding, and animal-assisted therapy). When she is not working, she enjoys spending time with her family and her pets, camping and enjoying all the wonderful outdoor activities Oregon has to offer. She has long aspired to be a member of the Oregon Board of Psychologists. The mission of the Board is to protect the public, and she believes that she can help serve that mission by providing the best training to her students who will go on to work with a large number of Oregon citizens.

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Administrative Rulemaking

On July 15, 2021, the Board filed a Permanent Administrative Order for the following rule amendment:

Continued Temporary Suspension of Limitation on Home Study Continuing Education.

Amend OAR 858-040-0055: This amendment extends the temporary suspension on the limitation of 20 hours of continuing education credit awarded for home study and study group during a reporting period by one year. It applies only to renewals that are due between March 31, 2020 and July 31, 2022.

On May 17, 2021, the Board filed a Permanent Administrative Order for the following rule adoption:

Compliance with the Governor's Executive Orders during a Governor Declared Emergency.

Adopt OAR 858-020-0115: This new rule sets forth that failure to comply with any applicable provision of a Governor's Executive Order, including failure to comply with Oregon Health Authority guidance, constitutes unprofessional conduct. Violations are subject to Board sanction.

On March 23, 2021, the Board filed a Permanent Administrative Order for the following rule amendment (effective on April 1, 2021):

Board Member Compensation.

Amend OAR 858-010-0005: This amendment increases the daily per diem that Board members receive.

Please visit our [Administrative Rulemaking Webpage](#) for more information.

Coming soon: The Board will need to file notices of proposed rulemakings to implement the requirements of HB 2078, HB 2117, and HB 2315. Ψ

Enforcement Actions

During the period of time from March 27, 2021, to July 15, 2021, the Board took the following actions:

Brad Larsen-Sanchez, Psy.D. (Licensee), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective July 9, 2021. Licensee is a co-owner, along with his business partner, of Larsen-Sanchez Psychology, LLC, dba Portland Mental Health & Wellness (PMHWC), for which Licensee is the registered agent. Licensee and his business partner are married. On July 1, 2015, Supervisee A began to work under the supervision of Licensee at PMHWC for his required training as a psychologist for "clinical fieldwork placement" during his fourth year of training. Licensee acknowledges that during the supervisory period, "a strong and unnamed ten-

Enforcement Actions, cont.

sion emerged in the supervisory dynamic.” During the supervisory relationship, Licensee sought out consultation to address transference and counter transference in the supervisory relationship. On October 10, 2015, Licensee hired Supervisee A’s partner, Employee B, to work entirely remotely in the capacity of record keeping. On December 19, 2015, Licensee and his partner entertained Supervisee A and Employee B at the Larsen-Sanchez residence. It was a holiday dinner. Licensee states this was done with the intent of saying thank you to Supervisee A for his work in the group and to Employee B for his work in the business. During the course of this dinner, Supervisee A and Employee B consumed considerable alcohol and spent the night at Licensee’s home, sleeping in the guest bedroom. The next morning, they all went to brunch and then Supervisee A and Employee B went home. In March 2016, Licensee and his partner arranged a weekend trip to Mount Hood with Supervisee A and Employee B, which was taken May 27-30, 2016. Licensee violated ES 3.05 Multiple Relationship. The investigation was closed with a Stipulated Order. Licensee was reprimanded, ordered to pay a \$1,000 civil penalty, and ordered to write a self-reflective essay of 1,500 words.

Laura E. Sisson, Psy.D. (Licensee), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective July 9, 2021. Licensee provided psychotherapy to Patient A, an adult male from March 21, 2018 until May 29, 2019. Between October 24 and 28, 2018, Licensee engaged in a series of personal Facebook messages with Patient A, indicative of a dual relationship. Patient A was experiencing marital discord throughout this time, to include a marital separation. Due to the ongoing marital discord, Licensee suggested that Patient A’s wife attend an appointment to work on their communication. She attended one session. On July 6, 2019, Licensee and Patient A made an appointment together for a blood test at Quest Diagnostics, paid for with the same credit card. On July 22, 2019, Licensee and Patient A underwent the blood tests together at Quest Diagnostics. On that same day, Licensee and Patient A exchanged 55 very personal text messages. On or about July 6, 2019 and thereafter, Licensee and Patient A engaged in a sexual relationship, which included at least five separate sexual encounters. The Board notified Licensee of the investigation and asked her to respond to allegations that she had violated the ethics code. Licensee’s responses were not truthful. Licensee denied any sort of non-professional relationship with one of her patients. Licensee denied meeting Patient A outside of the office. During an interview with the Board’s investigator, Licensee initially denied any inappropriate contact with Patient A. After being confronted with the records of the phone logs and text messages, Licensee acknowledged that she had engaged in a sexual relationship with Patient A. Licensee violated ORS 675.070(2)(d)(A), ES, 2.06 Personal Problems and Conflicts, ES. 3.04 Avoiding Harm, ES. 3.05 Multiple Relationships, and ES 10.08 Sexual Intimacies with a Former Therapy Client. Licensee’s license was revoked, she was ordered to pay a \$30,000 civil penalty and agreed not to reapply for licensure for a period of 10 years.

Heather Mackay-Promitas, Psy.D. (Applicant), **FINAL ORDER**, effective July 9, 2021. Following a contested case hearing before an Administrative Law Judge (ALJ), the Board issued a Final Order on July 9, 2021 that adopted the ALJ’s proposed order in the case. From September 3, 2018, through August 30, 2019, Applicant performed supervised post-doctoral work to complete the 1,500 hours required for her application for licensure, which resulted in 1,496 hours of qualifying supervised post-doctoral work experience. On February 18, 2020, Applicant began employment at a different clinic. Applicant completed and signed a Records Form (First Form), in which she recorded her total hours of direct psychological services performed as 40 hours per week for the four-week period of March 23 through April 13, 2020. She also noted that she received one hour of supervision for each of those weeks. On April 14, 2020, Applicant’s supervisor submitted the First Form to the Board and acknowledged that she approved its contents. Board staff contacted Applicant to let her know that her reported hours on the First Form did not qualify as reportable hours because she received insufficient supervision. Applicant responded, stating that she thought she was supposed to write 40 hours since she was hired to work 40 hours. Applicant stated that in reality she had been working 20 hours due to COVID-19. Applicant resubmitted the First Form to her supervisor, but changed the 40 hour entries to 20 hour entries (Second Form). Applicant’s supervisor submitted the Second Form to the Board. Applicant was notified that of a Board investigation and was asked to respond. With her response, Applicant submitted a corrected Records Form (Third Form), she noted nine hours of psychologi-

Enforcement Actions, cont.

cal services performed for the week of March 23, 2020; six for the week of March 30, 2020; six for the week of April 6, 2020; and nine for the week of April 13, 2020. For those same weeks, she noted one hour of individual supervision per week. Her supervisor did not sign the form. Applicant violated ORS 675.070 (2)(f) and OAR 858-010-0020(6). Applicant's application for license to practice psychology, filed on July 11, 2016 is denied.

Karen Dimalanta, Ph.D. (Licensee), **STIPULATED ORDER**, effective July 9, 2021. Licensee supervised Resident, who needed to complete one year of post-doctoral supervised work experience, which is required for licensure per OAR 858-010-0036. Licensee emailed the Board a "Record of Supervised Hours" for Resident. The form covered the weeks beginning on 3/23/20 and ending on 4/13/20. The "Total Hours of Psychological Service Performed in a Week" column documented forty hours for each of the four weeks. The "Hours of Individual Supervision Received" documented one hour for each of the four weeks. Licensee indicated her email was to verify the supervision hours Resident had with Licensee. After Resident was advised that because the work reflected an excess of twenty hours in each of the weeks, she was required to have a minimum of two hours of supervision. Licensee then submitted a "revised" second "Record of Supervised Hours" form for Resident for the same time period, 3/23/20 to 4/13/20. The "revised" form shows that all the number "40's" in the "Total Hours of Psychological Service Performed in Week" column were whitened-out and replaced with the number "20". Licensee, as Resident's supervisor, approved the information reported on the "revised" form, indicating that her email was her approval and signature of Resident's hours. Licensee failed in her duty to properly supervise Resident and failed to keep track of the hours Resident worked. Licensee violated ORS 675.070(2)(d)(A), OAR 858-010-0036(5) and Ethical Standards 7.06(a) & (b). Licensee was reprimanded and ordered to pay a \$1,000 civil penalty. **Ψ**

Upcoming Events

July 2021

7/5: Office Closed for Independence Day
7/9: Board Meeting
7/16: Education Committee Meeting

August 2021

8/19: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting
8/20: Education Committee Meeting
9/10: Board Meeting
9/17: Education Committee Meeting

September 2021

9/6: Office Closed for Labor Day

October 2021

10/15: Education Committee Meeting

10/21: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting

November 2021

11/11: Office Closed for Veterans Day
11/12 Board Meeting
11/13: Board's Strategic Planning Session
11/19: Education Committee Meeting
11/25-11/26: Office Closed for Thanksgiving

December 2021

12/16: Consumer Protection Committee Meeting
12/17: Education Committee Meeting
12/24: Office Closed for Christmas Day

**Committee meetings are tentatively scheduled each month.*

Reminder! Contact information changes are now made in the [Licensee Portal](#). Please make sure to update your email address if it changes so that you continue to receive correspondence. You can view and download your license card and receipts, update your qualified person designation, and complete your biennial renewal via the Portal.

OBOP News is the official newsletter of the Oregon Board of Psychology and is edited by board staff. Please visit our website at Oregon.gov/psychology, email, or contact us with any comments or suggestions.

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