

#### STATE AND CONSUMER SERVICES AGENCY . ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER, GOVERNOR

#### CALIFORNIA ACUPUNCTURE BOARD

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# Approved March 11, 2008 ACUPUNCTURE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Department of Consumer Affairs Sacramento, CA

# FULL BOARD MEETING FRIDAY, November 2, 2007

#### **Members Present**

Steven Tan, M.D., L.Ac., Chair Kenny Cherng, L.Ac., Vice Chair Adam Burke, L.Ac. Cary Nosler, Public Member Larry Yee, Public Member

#### Members Absent

Robert Brewer, Public Member

#### Staff Present

Janelle Wedge, Executive Officer LaVonne Powell, Legal Counsel Mary Howard, Administrative Coordinator Cathy Hardin, Administrative Technician

#### Guest List on File

#### 1. Call to Order – Dr. Steven Tan, Chair

Board Chair Steven Tan called the Acupuncture Board (board) meeting to order at approximately 8:45 a.m. Roll was taken and all members were present except Robert Brewer and Adam Burke. A quorum was not established at this time. Adam Burke arrived at approximately 9:15 a.m., at which time a quorum was established. All action items were bypassed until after Adam Burke was present.

#### 2. Chair Report – Dr. Steven Tan

Board Chair Dr. Steven Tan had the following announcements: 1) he asked that members of the public wishing to speak do so clearly and into the microphones, and that they adhere to the two minute limit when addressing the board; 2) Peichin Cheng has resigned from the board; 3) he has resigned from the board as well, this was his last meeting. He expressed his gratitude for his fellow board members, the staff, and the public who have participated in protecting consumers.

#### 3. Executive Officer's Report – Janelle Wedge

Executive Officer Janelle Wedge had the following announcements: 1) she presented Steven with a plaque recognizing his leadership to the board, dedication to the consumers of California, and contributions to the field of acupuncture; 2) she introduced Cathy Hardin as the new Secretary for the board.

#### 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

#### a. August 10, 2007

The minutes of August 10, 2007 were reviewed.

### CARY NOSLER MOVED AND LARRY YEE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 10, 2007 MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### b. October 1, 2007

The minutes of the emergency meeting on October 1, 2007, regarding the August exam results, were reviewed.

# KENNY CHERNG MOVED AND ADAM BURKE SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 10, 2007 MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### c. May 18, 2007

The amended minutes of May 18, 2007 were reviewed.

### ADAM BURKE MOVED AND CARY NOSLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE THE MAY 18, 2007 MEETING MINUTES AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 5. Petition Pursuant to B&P code Section 4967(b)

#### a. Tom Fung

Janelle Wedge reported that he has petitioned the board to have a new license issued, without having to retake the exam, based on his past experience. His license was cancelled on May 1, 2005 for failure to renew on or before April 30, 2002. He has maintained an acupuncture practice in Canada since his California license has become inactive. He has kept his Canadian license and professional association memberships up-to-date this entire time.

Steven Tan asked if a background check had been requested from the Canadian acupuncture oversight agency on Mr. Fung. Janelle explained that, at the time of his application for licensure in California, Mr. Fung would be LiveScanned, which is checked by Department of Justice and the FBI.

Kenny Cherng expressed concern that there is no evidence of continuing education in the past few years; the only records provided are proof of updated association memberships. Janelle believes that those memberships indicate completion of continuing education hours required by the professional association. At the request of the board, Janelle will verify that continuing education is a requirement for membership in the professional associations in Canada to which Mr. Fung belongs, and bring that information back to the next board meeting.

#### b. Logan Hong

Janelle Wedge reported that he has petitioned the board to have a new license issued, without having to retake the exam, based on his past experience. His license was cancelled on September 1, 2006 for failure to renew on or before August 31, 2003. Since then, he has completed an EMT training program, and has been employed as an EMT. Based on the information provided, he has not had anything to do with acupuncture since his license expired.

There was discussion of whether Mr. Hong should be asked for further information regarding his practice since 2003. Cary suggested that it is incumbent upon the petitioner to provide complete information with the initial petition to the board. A comment by the public agreed with this position.

CARY NOSLER MOVED AND KENNY CHERNG SECONDED THE MOTION THAT LOGAN HONG BE REQUIRED TO PASS THE LICENSING EXAMINATION, AND NOT WAIVE THAT REQUIREMENT, IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A NEW LICENSE. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL: AYE – KENNY CHERNG, CARY NOSLER, STEVEN TAN, ADAM BURKE. ABSTAIN – LARRY YEE.

#### **6.** Administrative Business – (Discussion/Action)

#### a. Budget Report

Mary Howard provided the board with expenditure projections for FY 2007/08; the report showed that projections indicate a 22% surplus at the end of the fiscal year.

Mary also provided the fund condition, which is a projection of how the board's fund will look at the end of this fiscal year and the upcoming fiscal years. In summary, our budget is in good shape. There was discussion as to what happens to the money we don't spend and it was explained that it reverts to our fund at the end of the fiscal year and we need legislative authority to spend that money.

#### b. Legislative Update

Mary reported on the following bills:

**AB 54** – health care coverage - No change since March 29; still in Assembly Committee on Health.

AB 636 – acupuncture - No change since April 10; still in Assembly Committee on B&P.

**AB 865** – live customer service agents - No change since April 24; still in Assembly Committee on B&P.

**AB 1025** – professions and vocations - Vetoed by Governor on October 13.

**AB 1182** – reconstitution of BPPVE – similar to SB823; no information on DCA position on AB1182; there will probably be no further action until Legislature reconvenes in January.

**AB 1525** – interim continuation of BPPVE provisions - bill was approved by the Governor and took effect July 1, 2007.

**SB** 136 – asian massage - No change since April 23; still in Senate Committee on B&P. Cary Nosler asked about the status of this bill, and Mary believes that the bill has died.

**SB823** – reconstitution of BPPVE - amended August 20 and referred to Assembly Committee on Appropriations; DCA took an opposed position on the 7/2 and 8/20 version of the bill.

SB 840 – single payer health care coverage – Amended July 10 and referred to Assembly Committee on Appropriations; this bill was brought up at the last meeting, there was concern that acupuncturists are not considered primary care providers under this bill; there will probably not be further action on this bill until Legislature reconvenes in January. A member of the public voiced concern about acupuncturists not being included on the list of primary care providers in the bill. Legal Counsel, LaVonne Powell explained that because acupuncturists are not on that list, it may restrict acupuncturists' ability to practice as primary care providers. She recommended waiting and watching the progress of the bill, and possibly receiving some analysis from industry members.

**SB** 963 – regulatory boards - amended June 25 and referred to Assembly Committee on B&P. DCA has taken an opposed position on this bill and has indicated it is a two-year bill.

#### c. Legislative Proposals (B&P Code)

Section 4933 – change quorum from five to four – Mary Howard reported that the board initially wanted to change the board quorum from "five members" to "a majority of members". The department responded and asked that a specific number be used, rather than "majority". LaVonne explained that using the term "majority" can create confusion of what, exactly, constitutes a quorum.

KENNY CHERNG MOVED AND CARY NOSLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 4933, STATING THAT FOUR MEMBERS OF THE BOARD SHALL CONSTITUTE A QUORUM. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Section 4935 – make unlicensed practice of acupuncture a public offense instead of misdemeanor – Mary Howard reported that the department will not carry this amendment with its bill, so the board must decide whether to move forward with the change and finding someone else to carry the bill. LaVonne explained that the change makes it possible for the offense to be charged as either a misdemeanor or a felony, and it is easier to gain the interest of a district attorney if it is possible to charge the offense as a felony.

CARY NOSLER MOVED AND ADAM BURKE SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADOPT THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO SECTION 4935, MAKING UNLICENSED PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE A PUBLIC OFFENSE, AND TO DIRECT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SECURE AN AUTHOR. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Adam Burke asked what the law is regarding illegal activity around the licensing exam. LaVonne believes that subversion of the exam is a felony, and other penal codes affect the ability to sentence for such an offense (bribery, theft, etc.). There was discussion of developing language to clarify the repercussions of subverting the exam. The board requested that staff bring language to the next meeting for further discussion.

**Section 800** – add Acupuncture Board to Central Files of Licensees – Mary Howard explained that the department asked if the board wished to be included in this amendment which would add the board to B&P Code Section 800. Mary and LaVonne explained that this would be another way for the board to be notified of unprofessional conduct of acupuncturists.

ADAM BURKE MOVED AND CARY NOSLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO AMEND B&P SECTION CODE 800, AND ANY OTHER APPLICABLE SECTIONS UNDER THE 800S, AND TO DIRECT STAFF TO WORK WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### 7. Education Business – (Discussion/Action)

#### a. Proposed Elimination of Tutorial Program - Survey Results

Janelle Wedge presented a summary of responses to the Tutorial Program survey that was sent out on October 9, 2007 to former and current tutorial students. All respondents were in favor of continuing the program. Following is a summation of other written and oral testimony received regarding the possible elimination of the tutorial program, as well as a summation of board member comments. Copies of written testimony will be retained in the board's official meeting record and are available upon request.

#### Testimony in favor of continuing the program

- Two letters were received from legislators in support of the program.
- Several members of the California Association of Acupuncture Tutorials testified, and presented letters from acupuncturists, acupuncture instructors, current, former, and potential tutorial students, and consumers, in favor of the tutorial program.
- Tutorial students feel adequately prepared for the exam.
- The program is a less expensive, and more flexible option for those wishing to become acupuncturists.
- Tutorial program adds diversity to the field of learning.
- The program provides more clinical training and more access to patients.
- Trainees and supervisors work one on one, learning is more personalized.
- Weaknesses can be strengthened by implementing proposed changes to the program.
- Discontinuation of the program is beyond the board's scope, and would require a change in state law.
- The program presents no additional cost to the board.
- Tutorial-trained acupuncturists cause no more harm to the public than other acupuncturists.
- It is unclear who will benefit from discontinuing the tutorial program.
- Tutorial programs can be an asset to small, rural communities.

#### Concerns with keeping the program

- After December 31, 2008, the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NCCAOM) will no longer accept tutorial programs as qualification for the national exam.
- In all other states, except California, the NCCAOM exam is required for licensure; tutorial students would be restricted to practicing only in California.
- Many of the recommendations for changes to the tutorial program (e.g.: allowing tutorial students to attend classes at acupuncture schools without having met prerequisites) are in violation of school accreditation standards.
- One (or even two) supervising individuals cannot cover the depth and breadth of information that is presented to students in an academic program.

• Licensed acupuncturists are recognized as primary care providers, and one-third of the hours in an educational program are designed to prepare students for this responsibility. This preparation may be significantly less in a tutorial program.

#### **Board member comments**

- The role of the board is not to promote, but to regulate the training of acupuncturists. The first responsibility of the board is to protect consumers by regulating the education of acupuncturists.
- It sounds as if tutorial advocates (like CAAT) could work with acupuncture schools to develop apprenticeship-type programs, or alternate methods of meeting the requirements for graduation from the schools.
- A surprisingly small number of students responded to the tutorial survey.
- An academic program can provide a valuable foundation from which to begin study with a mentor.
- Standardization of education, in order to encourage constant quality, has been a continuing trend in all fields of medicine, including acupuncture.
- The burden of responsibility and oversight on the part of the board staff may be too great to justify maintaining a program that serves only about 1% of students.
- The possibility of tutorial students being unable to practice in other states is a very real concern.
- In order for acupuncture to grow in credibility in the medical field, it is essential that the health care education for acupuncturists be of the highest recognized standard.
- The tutorial program does serve some students, and should not be discontinued at this time.
- Tutorial programs cannot present the scope of knowledge and experience that educational programs can.

Lavonne Powell explained that if the board votes to eliminate the tutorial program, legislation would be drafted that would repeal current language. The legislation would then be carried through the department or by finding an author, at which point there would be committee meetings in the Legislature and opportunities for further public comment. Once legislation passed, existing regulations would be repealed through a Section 100 regulatory change request.

CARY NOSLER MOVED AND ADAM BURKE SECONDED THE MOTION TO ELIMINATE THE ACUPUNCTURE BOARD'S TUTORIAL PROGRAM, WHICH IS FOUND IN SECTIONS 4940 AND 4941 OF THE B&P CODE, AND ANY OTHER RELATED STATUTES THAT INVOLVE THE TUTORIAL PROGRAM. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL: AYE – ADAM BURKE, STEVEN TAN, CARY NOSLER. NO – LARRY YEE, KENNY CHERNG. ABSTAIN – NONE.

LaVonne suggested that a motion be passed to phase out the program, enabling current tutorial students to complete their program, as well as allowing those that have previously completed the program to compete in the examination process.

CARY NOSLER MOVED AND ADAM BURKE SECONDED THE MOTION THAT CURRENTLY APPROVED TUTORIAL STUDENTS HAVE FIVE (5) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF ELIMINATION OF THE PROGRAM, TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE PROGRAM. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL: AYE – ADAM BURKE, STEVEN TAN, CARY NOSLER, KENNY CHERNG. NO – LARRY YEE. ABSTAIN – NONE.

ADAM BURKE MOVED AND CARY NOSLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO DIRECT THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO DEVELOP LEGISLATION AND SECURE AN AUTHOR TO CARRY THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL: AYE – ADAM BURKE, STEVEN TAN, CARY NOSLER, KENNY CHERNG. NO – LARRY YEE. ABSTAIN – NONE.

#### b. School Review Report – The Atlantic Institute of Oriental Medicine

Johanna Chu Yen, the president of Atlantic Institute of Oriental Medicine (ATOM), was present at the meeting.

Janelle Wedge presented the board with the report on the facility review that was conducted by staff on October 22, 2007 of ATOM in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The school is nationally accredited, and received its license under the laws of the State of Florida, on October 1, 1994. ATOM offers two required courses that are not within the scope of practice for California licensed acupuncturists: homeopathy and injection therapy. ATOM has removed these two courses from the requirements for California track students, and has instead added two alternative courses. The school meets all other California requirements.

# CARY NOSLER MOVED AND KENNY CHERNG SECONDED A MOTION THAT THE BOARD ACCEPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION TO APPROVE THE ATLANTIC INSTITUTE OF ORIENTAL MEDICINE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNAMIMOUSLY.

#### c. Status of School Site Visits

Janelle Wedge presented the board with an updated status report on pending school applications and site visits. She noted that because the Education Coordinator, Nancy Molinar, will be leaving the board within the next two weeks, Janelle will be assuming these duties for the time being.

Adam Burke asked that there be some kind of recognition presented to Nancy for her service to the board.

## d. Proposed Language from Jack Miller, Pacific College of Oriental Medicine Regarding Amendments to CCR section 1399.434(h) – Clinical Training

Tom Haines presented proposed language developed by Jack Miller, revising 1399.434 to allow 100% clinical training in acupuncture programs not owned and operated by an approved school and only up to 25% under specified conditions. Steven Tan expressed his belief that Mr. Miller's language is very close that which is needed to update the regulations.

Mr. Haines also brought up a question regarding the board's description of externship and internship. LaVonne Powell believes that there is no conflict between the schools' and the board's definitions, and will bring back a clearer answer to the next board meeting.

Adam Burke requested that a minimum number of hours of supervised needling be specified in this proposed language. He also requested that the term "East Asian medicine" be used rather than "Asian medicine", which can include other Asian medicines (ayurveda, Persian, etc.). Language should also specify the qualifications of anyone acting as a "supervisor".

LARRY YEE MOVED AND CARY NOSLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO HAVE STAFF WORK WITH JACK MILLER TO REVISE THE PROPOSED LANGUAGE AS SUGGESTED AND DEVELOP REGULATORY LANGUAGE TO BRING TO THE NEXT BOARD MEETING. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### e. Proposed Language from Elizabeth Goldblatt (ACTCM), Regarding

1. Out of state students – At the last meeting, the board agreed to this change in principal, and requested some new wording for the requirements. Elizabeth Goldblatt presented proposed language developed by ACTCM, to change the requirements for CALE applicants.

There was discussion of the appropriate wording for "acupuncture/Asian medicine", so that it is possible to accept degrees that might contain alternate wordings. LaVonne Powell recommended using the language that the U.S. Department of Education uses, which is "acupuncture and oriental medicine".

Public concern was voiced that there will not be sufficient educational oversight for out of state schools under the new wording.

CARY NOSLER MOVED AND KENNY CHERNG SECONDED THE MOTION TO SEEK LEGISLATION TO ALLOW THE BOARD TO ACCEPT FOR LICENSURE CANDIDATES WHO MEET CAB REQUIRMENTS AND WHO HAVE GRADUATED FROM AN INSTITUTION OR PROGRAM IN THE USA THAT HAS ACHIEVED ACCREDITATION OR CANDIDACY BY A SPEICALIZED ACCREDITING AGENCY RECOGNIZED BY THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AS AN AUTHORITY FOR THE QUALITY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN ACUPUNCTURE AND ORIENTAL MEDICINE. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

ADAM BURKE MOVED AND CARY NOSLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO CONFORM OTHER SECTIONS OF THE CURRENT CODE TO THE NEW REQUIREMENTS. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Public concern was voiced that board staff are not qualified to review medical education transcripts. LaVonne explained that there are subject matter experts to whom the board can address questions regarding applicants' transcripts.

KENNY CHERNG MOVED AND ADAM BURKE SECONDED TO CONTINUE TO HONOR APPROVAL OF OUT OF STATE SCHOOLS THAT ARE CURRENTLY APPROVED BY CAB, AND TO ELIMINATE CAB APPROVAL OF ANY FURTHER OUT OF STATE SCHOOLS. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL: AYE – STEVEN TAN, KENNY CHERNG, ADAM BURKE, CARY NOSLER. NO – NONE. ABSTAIN – LARRY YEE.

2. Foreign trained applicants – Elizabeth Goldblatt presented proposed language submitted by ACTCM, which creates equivalent language for out of state and foreign trained applicants' education requirements.

The board agreed with the concept of the language, but felt that the wording is not quite right.

LaVonne suggested that foreign trained requirements be separated from out of state requirements in the code, and that further research be done regarding the education program approval requirements of other countries.

ADAM BURKE MOVED AND CARY NOSLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO SEPARATE REGULATIONS REGARDING FOREIGN TRAINED APPLICANTS FROM THOSE REGARDING OUT OF STATE APPLICANTS, AND TO KEEP THE CURRENT FOREIGN TRAINED APPLICANT REGULATIONS THE SAME AT THIS TIME. THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING ROLL CALL: AYE – STEVEN TAN, KENNY CHERNG, ADAM BURKE, CARY NOSLER. NO – NONE. ABSTAIN – LARRY YEE.

f. Limitation of Transfer Credit or Challenge Exam for Tai Qi/Qi Gong Courses

Tom Haines explained that only 50% of Tai Qi/Qi Gong transfer credits can be accepted at acupuncture schools, and since those two areas fall into the same subcategory of requirements, transfer students frequently have to repeat training. Because many transfer students have extensive experience in these subjects, it was requested that an exception be made to allow 100% of transfer credit or challenge exam credit for these courses.

The board was concerned that such an exception would set a precedent to request further exceptions for courses in other subcategories. The board suggested placing Tai Qi/Qi Gong in a broader category where 100% of transfer credit could be accepted.

ADAM BURKE MOVED AND LARRY YEE SECONDED THE MOTION TO MOVE SECTION 1399.434(b)(2)(D), EXERCISE THERAPY, INTO SECTION 1399.434(b)(1)(A), ORIENTAL MEDICINE PRINCIPLES AND THEORY. THE MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

#### g. Review of Five Year License Requirement for Clinical Directors and Supervisors

There was a request from the public to create a process that would allow persons with a specified number of years' experience outside of acupuncture (e.g., registered nurses) to serve as clinic supervisors for training programs.

Public comment expressed support for the current five year requirement, as it promotes stronger acupuncture teaching ability on the part of the supervisor.

The board agreed that the five year requirement is not excessive or limiting, and creating exceptions only causes potential for more problems in regulation.

#### h. Continuing Education Credit for CME Courses

Janelle Wedge presented a letter from a member of the public, requesting that the board allow CME courses to be applied toward continuing education credits.

Public comment expressed concern that CE courses do not have the same level of content and educational value as CME courses.

LaVonne Powell explained that the current regulations only allow board approved providers to offer continuing education courses, and that the trend among healing arts boards is to change that requirement so that non-approved providers would have the potential to offer courses that would apply to acupuncture continuing education.

The board agreed with the spirit of such change and the need for improvement in the acupuncture CE courses, but believes that this issue requires more discussion and research before any legislative change is proposed

#### 8. Examination Business

#### a. August 7, 2007 Licensing Examination

Janelle Wedge provided the results statistics from the examination. The public requested that statistics for first-time takers be broken out, and Janelle explained that the database cannot provide those statistics, but she has done them by hand for some schools.

LaVonne Powell reported that the investigation of the August 2007 examination found some anomalies relating to the pass rate, but no evidence was found that there was subversion of the examination.

The public expressed concern over examination security, and the board reminded the public that it is their responsibility to report to the staff or board members any information they might have regarding possible subversion of the exam.

There was a discussion regarding the relative merits of ways to improve the security of the exam, including increasing the size of the question bank, computerizing the exam, retiring old questions, working with the national exam to share questions, etc.

The board requested that an educational committee meeting be scheduled to continue discussing this issue.

#### 9. Enforcement Business

#### a. Use of the Title Doctor

Based on the discussion at the last meeting, the board had decided that the most practical solution to this problem was to educate the public about what the various designations mean.

Steven Tan expressed concern that the wording regarding OMDs in the webpage material is inaccurate and misleading. The board requested that staff change the paragraph regarding OMDs to reflect the historical context of the degree, and the fact that it was solely a "California authorized" degree.

Elizabeth Goldblatt provided copies of the Oregon laws regarding the use of the title "Doctor", for the board's information.

LaVonne Powell recommended that the board develop language to change the acupuncture board law to reflect the requirements they deem necessary for use of this title, so that BPPVE will have a reference to use when developing their own regulations.

#### b. Enforcement Case Report

Janelle Wedge presented the board with an enforcement update and breakdown of complaints by category, indicating that between July 1, 2007 and October 24, 2007, there were 42 complaints received.

#### 10. Set 2008 Acupuncture Board Meeting Dates and Locations

The board selected the following dates for 2008:

January 31, 2008 – Examination and Education Meeting, San Francisco

March 11, 2008

May 29, 2008

September 9, 2008

December 9, 2008

#### 11. Election of Officers for 2008

Larry Yee nominated and Cary Nosler seconded the nomination of Adam Burke as Chairperson for 2008. The nomination carried unanimously.

Larry Yee nominated and Adam Burke seconded the nomination of Kenny Cherng as Vice Chairperson for 2008. The nomination carried unanimously.

#### 12. Public Comment Period

Public Comments were received from the following individuals as items for the board to consider at a future meeting.

Ron Zaidman requested that the board not move Tai Qi/Qi Gong into the Oriental Medicine Principles and Theory category, because it disrupts the logic of the categories set forth in the regulations.

Hugh Morison requested that two board meetings be held in Southern California in 2008.

Benjamin Dierauf requested the statistics regarding first-time exam takers be made available to help applicants prepare. Janelle Wedge explained that the database is unable to generate that information, and the only current information has been calculated by hand. Benjamin also directed the board's attention to ACAOM's first draft of standards for the first professional doctoral program in Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. He recommended that the board review the standards and address weaknesses in the requirements.

#### 13. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:15 p.m.