



NOTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE BOARD EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Approved Meeting Minutes
A webcast of this meeting can be found at:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5IBDdhMbjQ>

Tuesday, July 21, 2015, 10 a.m.

**Department of Consumer Affairs
1625 North Market Blvd
First Floor Hearing Room
Sacramento, CA 95834**

**Los Angeles Teleconference Location
Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP
633 West Fifth Street, Suite 4000
Los Angeles, CA 90071**

**San Diego Teleconference Location
Pacific College of Oriental Medicine (PICOM)
7445 Mission Valley Road, Suite 105
Conference Room # Anex 2
San Diego, CA 92108**

Committee Members Present

**Kitman Chan, Chair, Public Member
Michael Shi, L.Ac, Licensed Member
Jeannie Kang, L.Ac, Licensed Member
Francisco Hsieh, Public Member
Dr. Michael Corradino, DAOM, Licensed Member
Jamie Zamora - Public Member**

Staff Present

**Terri Thorfinnson - Executive Officer
Tammy Graver - Board Liaison**

EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING - 10:00 a.m.

1. Call to Order and Quorum established

2. Opening Remarks

Kitman noted that the meeting today is to discuss SB 1246

3. Public Comment for Items not on the Agenda

No public comments

4. Implementation of SB 1246 (Discuss/ Action)

This meeting was to discuss how the board is going to establish the foreign standards for foreign students taking the CALE. Terri explained that section 4939 effective January 1, 2017 was where the board's new authority for setting foreign equivalency curriculum standards. The purpose of the committee meeting was to discuss the next steps as to how to create the standards and timeline because these standards need to be in regulation and established in the regulations by 01/01/2017. There needs to be a final regulation package or recommendations as to what the standards would be by August 31st. The committee will meet again in September to review the final proposed standards and then a board meeting mid October to approve the standards and give Terri the authority to promulgate those regulations. There was concern from some board members as well as the public as to why the board wouldn't have the same curriculum standards for foreign schools as it does for the domestic schools. There was a recommendation and discussion about selecting a panel of experts to give input for the curriculum standards for foreign schools for students wishing to apply for a California Acupuncture license. There are already licensed acupuncturist in California who has extensive clinical experience in California as well as some foreign training background that could provide the Board advice on foreign training. Legal Council made clear that the new statute going into effect January 1, 2017 requires the board to establish standards for educational training and clinical experience received outside the U.S. and Canada. Michael remarked that approximately 20% of licensees in California are foreign trained.

There was public comment that was concerned about having separate standards for domestic and foreign. There was also a comment about foreign standards are evaluated currently through the transfer credit rule. There was discussion among Board members about whether we need to create foreign standard if we already have standards that are used now and applied to foreign applicants. Discussion focused on whether there was anything wrong with our current standards, which there is not.

Le Ondra Clark-Harvey from the Assembly Committee of Business & Professions commented that it sounds like there is a lot on concerns about the panel recruitment formation, etc. and if that's an issue that can't be resolved quickly because of the limited timeframe then maybe you all should just move forward with doing what Terri announced at the beginning of the meeting which was the goal, which was to have the same standards for foreign and domestic. If that is truly the case and that's the goal then there are mechanisms and ways to do that that are pretty simple. I understand that the regulations have to be promulgated again but that could be as simple as cutting and pasting the domestic standards that you all have created, which are the highest standards in the country and also indicating that these are also applicable for foreign applicants as well. That's a process that can happen and your legal counsel of course could advise you on that. The authority for the CAB to create curriculum standards for foreign applicants is something that you already have so this isn't a new thing. You already have standards in place. You all could simply choose to continue the process you already have in statute and do the new pulmigation of the new regulations without changing them substantively. The other thing that I just wanted to mention is process in terms of meeting. The agenda was not sent out via your list serve and the subject of this meeting was not included in your agenda.

In addition there was no background information included and those are the types of things that need to be provided to members of the public so you're able to have a full and robust discussion. I think the subject was 1246 but it sounds very clear from the beginning of the announcement at the beginning of this meeting that this is really about the foreign equivalency requirements for curriculum so just wanted to note that that would be helpful for members of the public to have going forward .

Jamie made a motion for the Executive Officer to draft foreign curriculum standards using the same exact language used for domestic standards and present those at our next committee meeting. Dr. Corradino seconded the motion. Vote: Kidman-yes; Michael-no; Jeannie-yes, Jamie-yes; Francisco-no; Dr. Corradino-yes. The motion passed.

Legal Counsel clarified that when talking about deleting regulations that are no longer valid because the statutes have changed, you would wait until the bill went into effect and then do a section 100 package saying “these regulations are no longer valid because the statute that allowed us to do this does not exist”. If you’re talking about making changes to the regulation actual substantive changes, then that is a whole other matter, which would require the typical regulation process.

Terri noted that there is no approval needed for the ACCOM changes to go into effect. Once the statute goes into effect they become the approver of schools. Terri has been working with ACCOM and sharing the results of whatever the board has approved in terms of the school visits and they have been sharing the results of their accreditation decisions. Jamie requested that Terri keep giving the board updates and let the public know as well. Jeannie requested that Terri give an update at the next board meeting as to the correspondence she has with ACCOM.

5. Future Agenda Items

Dr. Corradino requested that the minutes reflect in future agenda items that Pacific College of Oriental Medicine requested student names and scores for exams to be provided to schools.

6. Adjournment

Public Comment on items of discussion will be taken during each item. Time limitations will be determined by the Chairperson. Times are approximate and subject to change. Action may be taken on any item listed on the Agenda.

**THE AGENDA, AS WELL AS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, CAN BE FOUND ON THE
ACUPUNCTURE BOARD’S WEBSITE AT**

www.acupuncture.ca.gov

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