



THE EXAMINER

Spring 2015 Edition

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Welcome, New Executive Director

Charles Hill

Written by: Fran Ferder, Ph.D.



We welcome Charles Hill as our new Executive Director (ED) for the Oregon Board of Psychologist Examiners (OBPE). OBPE will share Charles with the Oregon Board of Licensed Counselors and Therapists (OBLPCT). Charles was enthusiastically selected by a joint interview panel composed of OBPE and OBLPCT Board Chairs and Vice Chairs, a public member and a staff member from each of the boards, and Randy Harnisch, the interim ED for the Boards. The panel was expertly guided through an extensive selection process by the Department of Administrative Services. Both Boards voted unanimously on the final decision.

When Charles was interviewed, he presented as authentic, centered, and eager to serve. The interview committee was impressed with his reflective demeanor and his long time commitment to serving the public in various positions that promote family health and prevent childhood abuse and neglect. Most recently, Charles served as Executive Director of Kittitas County Head Start (2005-2012) (now, "Bright Beginnings") and Program Director for The Next Door, Inc., (2013-present). He has worked closely with State Commissions and local and state policy makers. His experience includes budgeting for large programs and projects, managing staffs, and promoting the goals and values of organizations. Although Charles is humble about his accomplishments, he has transformed and expanded the programs he has directed, and has impressed his co-workers with his quiet skills and sensitivity to people. His references were impeccable.

After beginning his position on March 2, 2015, Charles has made it a priority to get to know the staff of both Boards, to learn the statutes (ORSs) and rules (OARs) for each and to become immersed in the work of both OBPE and OBLPCT.

Charles and his wife are the parents of two grown sons. They look forward to moving from The Dalles to Salem in the coming weeks. A major task Charles looks forward to is continuing to implement the Interagency Agreement between the two Boards. Both Boards have begun to get to know Charles and to feel grateful for his willingness to work with us. **Ψ**

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Recent Rule Changes

Designation of Education and Licensure Status.

The Board adopted a rule that specifies how psychologists and psychologist associates may designate their education and licensure status. Licensed psychologists may only designate their academic degree using appropriate initials including “Ph.D.,” “Psy.D.,” or “Ed.D.” as awarded by the degree-granting institution; licensure status may only be designated as “psychologist.” Licensed psychologist associates may only designate their academic degree using appropriate initials including “M.A.” or “M.S.” as awarded by the degree-granting institution; licensure status may only be designated as “psychologist associate.” Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) 858-010-0062.

Cultural Competency Continuing Education.

This amendment added a requirement that active and semi-active licensees complete four hours of continuing education (CE) dedicated to the topic of cultural competency in each reporting period. This does not change the total credits required for each 24 month period—this remains 40. House Bill 2611 passed during the 2013 legislative session and is currently being implemented by the Oregon Health Authority (OHA). This new law authorizes certain agencies, including the Board, to adopt rules which require licensees to receive cultural competency training. The Board must document licensees’ participation in cultural competency CE and report biennially to OHA. The requirement becomes effective January 1, 2016; it applies to all renewal periods which begin on or after this date. Please visit the Board [website](#) for a helpful chart. Ψ

REMINDER!

To qualify for the one-time renewal fee reduction, **you must renew on time**. This means that you must submit your fully completed renewal notice & affidavit form and the correct fee amount by the due date. If your renewal is post-marked after the due date, you will not receive the fee reduction. You will be required to pay the **full renewal fee** plus the \$200 **delinquent fee!** There are no exceptions for timely payment of the reduced fee. **Don’t let this happen to you!**

The reduction is effective for renewals due 2015 - 2016; everyone will have this opportunity once. Visit the Board [website](#) for more info.



Current Board Members

(Front Row: Dr. Ferder, Dr. Jenkins, Dr. Bjorkquist, Mrs. Mellon, & Dr. Smith. Back Row: Mr. Hendry, Dr. Grover, & Dr. Munoz. Absent: Mr. Salinas)

Changes to EPPP

In February, the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) transitioned exam vendors from ProExam to Pearson VUE. The new vendor, Pearson VUE, now provides Examination Development Services, Test Center Delivery, and a new Candidate Management/Authorization system. The transition required a “blackout period” from December 31, 2014 through January 26, 2015 where the Board was unable to submit candidates’ eligibility to take the exam.

Exam candidates now take their exam at a more extensive network of Pearson test centers throughout the U.S. and Canada. Exam results are reported to the Board every week rather than twice monthly. Also, examinees are now provided with an “unofficial score” immediately after they finish the computerized exam. Note that except for unusual cases, this will be the actual exam score. It becomes “official” when the Board receives and releases it to the candidate. Ψ

2014 Statistics

Investigator's Report

Complaints

Sixty-five complaints were investigated in 2014. Seventeen of these alleged the unlicensed practice of psychology. Of those, three involved individuals with doctorates in psychology working at exempt settings beyond the 24 month limitation. See ORS 675.090(2)(a). Several were filed against individuals who were not practicing psychology and these were dismissed. Two concerned an individual who had his license revoked in 2001 but had continued practicing. Others concerned unlicensed individuals doing psychological evaluations and therapy for complex trauma and other mental health conditions.

Fourteen complaints were filed concerning evaluations. Six were custody or parenting time evaluations or psychological evaluations for custody purposes. Three were parole evaluations. Two were evaluations for child welfare purposes. One was filed when a licensee, who had been the therapist of an individual, prepared an evaluation of her parenting abilities in a custody matter. Another multiple relationship matter concerned a Licensee who terminated a short course of therapy and began a friendship with a client.

Two cases concerned sexual activity. One concerned sexual contact with a client. The other concerned a Licensee with multiple contacts with prostitutes who regularly worked with minors. One case concerned substance abuse. Two cases were opened when the Board learned that an applicant for licensure had a history of arrests after their criminal background reports were obtained.

Several complainants alleged the open-ended category of unprofessional conduct. Claims under this category included failure to act as the designated Qualified Person following the death of a Licensee, initiating an allegedly unfounded em-

ployment action against another Licensee, and publication of a Licensee's work without proper attribution. None of these cases resulted in discipline.

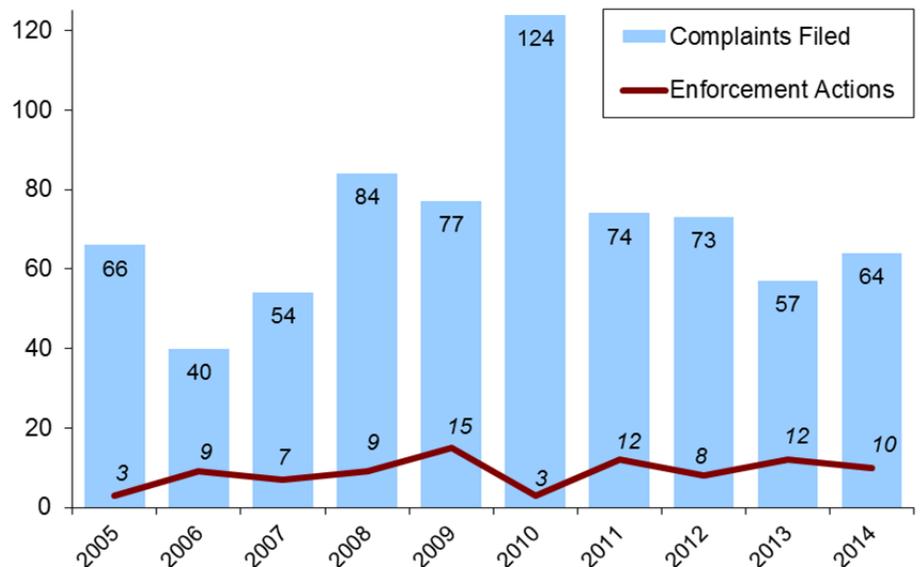
Two cases concerned a Licensee's failure to share the records of a teen-aged client with a parent. In one case Licensee was waiting for the court to provide guidance. In the other case the guardian ad litem of a child asked that records not be shared with either of the teen's parents. These cases were dismissed.

A complaint was filed alleging that a Licensee failed to respond to another Licensee's need for a psychological evaluation of a minor in time for an upcoming court hearing. One complaint alleged that a Licensee evaluated an individual without the specialized training or knowledge required for working with an individual charged with domestic violence.

Discipline

Ten enforcement actions were completed in 2014. Four Final Orders were issued for unlicensed individuals who were practicing psychology. Three Licensees voluntarily surrendered their Licenses due to: 1) Substance Abuse, 2) Unprofessional Conduct, and 3) Failure to Comply with a Board Order. One Applicant was denied a license due unprofessional conduct including failure to show up for work and failure to

Board Investigations & Actions



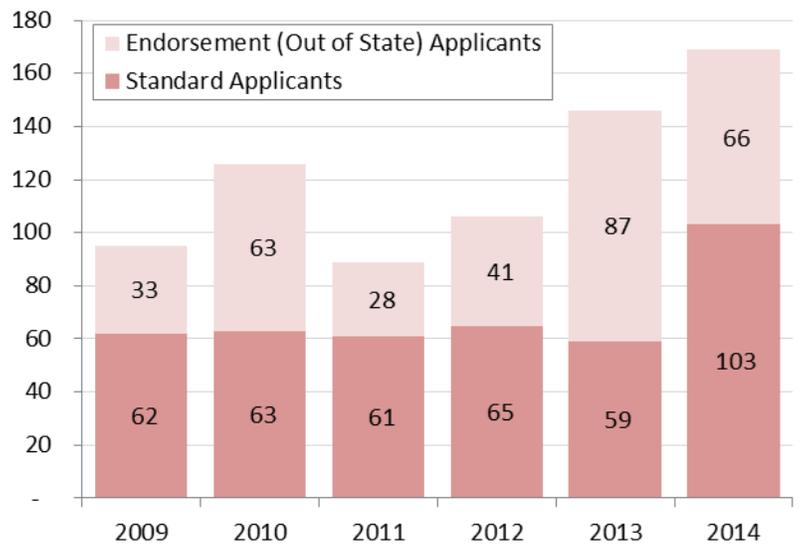
2014 Statistics, Cont.

keep records of client therapy sessions. Another individual withdrew his application after it was learned that he failed to report a history of professional discipline in other states. Finally, one Licensee was emergently suspended for using unrecognized and harmful therapy methods on children.

Licensing Coordinator's Report

Applications

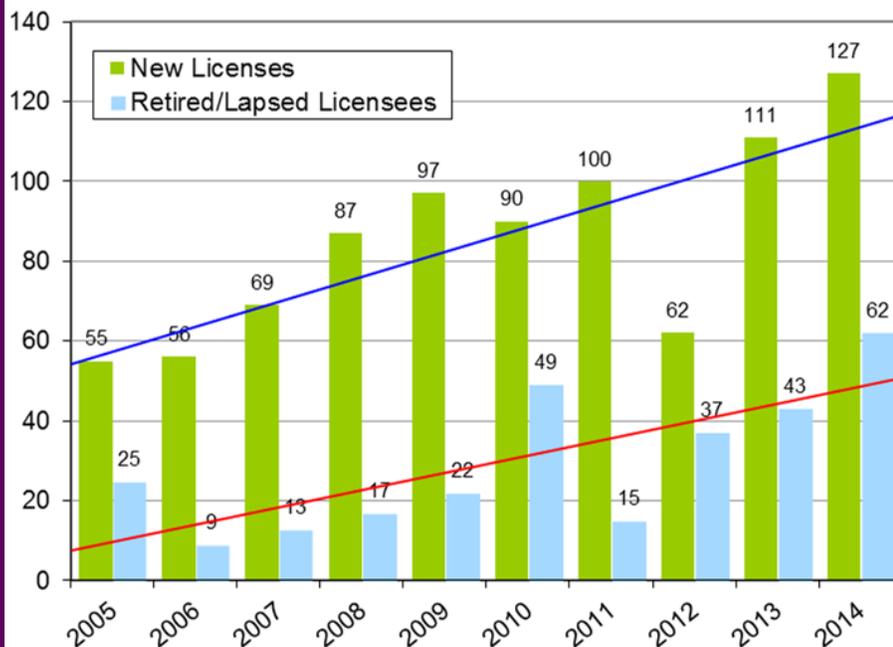
The Board received 169 new applications for licensure in 2014, a record high. There were 146 applications in 2013, 106 in 2012, and 89 in 2011. 60.9% of the 2014 applicants were endorsement applicants (licensed as a psychologist in another state), compared to only 40.4% in 2013. The number of standard applicants nearly doubled. The ten-year average annual growth rate of applicants is 6.8%.



At year end 2014 there were 1785 licensees, including 1746 psychologists and 39 psychologist associates. During the year, 43 psychologists retired or let their licenses lapse.

Licensees

The Board issued 127 new psychologist licenses in 2014. 32.1% (42) graduated from Oregon programs, compared to 38.7% (43) in 2013. Of these, there were 27 (64.3%) from Pacific University, 11 (26.2%) from George Fox University, and 4 (9.5%) from the University of Oregon. 95.3% (121) held degrees from APA-approved programs.



Continuing Education (CE) Audit

139 licensees were randomly chosen for the 2014 CE audit. Board staff followed up with 34 (24.5%) licensees due to documentation issues with their audit submissions. For these individuals, there were 62 issues noted: the qualified instructor was not listed on the audit report for one or more programs (12.9%); missing documentation of attendance (10.1%); missing audit report (4.3%); insufficient documentation of attendance (3.6%); individual programs were not listed on the audit report (2.9%); programs were not correctly identified as home study courses (2.2%); and various other types of clarification requested. There were 19 (13.7%) with compliance issues resulting in letters of concern (8), orders issuing a \$200 civil penalty (9), and some cases are still pending resolution (2). Issues included: CE credit claimed for non-qualifying activities (6); failure to complete at least 50 credits (5); failure to comply with the pain management (4) or ethics (3) requirements; and late response to the audit (3). **Ψ**

Enforcement Actions

Mark Evey, Ph.D. (Unlicensed), DEFAULT ORDER, effective January 16, 2015. Respondent is a former applicant for psychologist licensure in Oregon who worked under a resident contract for several years, but never completed the requirements for licensure, to include taking the necessary examinations to qualify for licensure. He engaged in the unlicensed practice of psychology by treating children for mental health disorders in Oregon, and violated ORS 676.110(2) by allowing himself to be referred to as “Doctor” in a health care setting. Respondent appeared in a number of internet websites, which represented him to be a psychologist with a Ph.D. in psychology, and offered services to the public that are included in the practice of psychology. These websites also provided the address and phone number of his clinic in Bend, Oregon. Respondent was ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$3,000.

Brad W. Levitt, Psy.D. (Applicant), DEFAULT ORDER, effective January 16, 2015. Applicant previously applied for psychologist licensure in Oregon on June 23, 2003. The Board issued a Final Order by Default on October 15, 2004, assessing Applicant a \$500 civil penalty for having practiced as a psychology resident in Oregon without a Board approved resident contract. On August 26, 2005, Applicant received a license to practice psychology in the State of Idaho. On October 2, 2006, the Board denied Applicant’s application as a result of his failing the oral examination for the third time. On November 14, 2012, the Idaho Board issued a Stipulation and Consent Order in which Applicant was found to have improperly terminated the service extender agreement he had with an unlicensed person (who had a Master’s degree in counseling), leaving multiple clients without continuing care, and failing to comply with the supervision rules related to service extenders. Applicant was placed on probation for one year and was not to apply for or use service extenders for one year. Applicant was also required to complete 6 continuing education credits in ethics and to pay investigative costs and attorney fees in the amount of \$1,759.47.

On September 1, 2014, Applicant submitted an application to the Board for licensure as a psychologist in Oregon. Applicant answered “no” to the questions “Has any licensing board or professional organization ever rejected your application or revoked your license/certificate /membership?” and “Have you ever been arrested or convicted for any misdemeanor or felony?” In fact, Applicant was arrested on November 1, 1992 for the possession of drug paraphernalia and the possession of a controlled substance. Applicant also failed to disclose that the Board had denied his application for licensure in 2006. Applicant answered “yes” to the question “Have you ever been investigated by a regulatory board, professional organization, educational institution, or employer?” Applicant accurately disclosed that he had been investigated by the Idaho Board of Psychologist Examiners and received disciplinary action. Applicant, however, failed to disclose that he was the subject of a Board investigation in 2003 and had been assessed a civil penalty pursuant to a Final Order by Default. The Board found that Applicant engaged in immoral or unprofessional conduct and lacked good moral character by failing to truthfully respond to the Board’s application for licensure, revealing conduct that reflects moral turpitude, as well as constituting a basis for a reasonable person to have substantial doubts about his honesty, fairness and respect for the rights of others and for the laws of the state and the nation. His application for licensure was denied.

Carmen M. MacMillan, Psy.D. (Applicant), DEFAULT ORDER, effective January 16, 2015. Applicant was employed and practiced psychology at community mental health programs in Oregon without a license to practice psychology in excess of 24 months, in violation of ORS 675.090(2)(a), which prohibits a person with a doctoral degree in psychology but lacking a license from working in an exempt setting for more than 24 months. Throughout the course of her employment, Applicant was not a resident and did not obtain a board approved supervisor under the terms of a board approved residency contract. The Board found that Applicant engaged in the unlicensed practice of psychology, lacked good moral character, and engaged in immoral or unprofessional conduct or gross negligence in the practice of psychology. Applicant’s license application was denied; she was reprimanded and ordered to pay a civil penalty of \$500. **Ψ**

In Memory of...

Robert W Butler, Ph.D., ABPP



Dr. Robert Walker Butler, beloved husband and stepfather, died in his home on Wednesday, January 14, 2014 after a courageous and difficult battle with cancer. Robert is survived by his wife, Sarah Barnett, and stepdaughters Katherine, Christina, and Rebecca. Robert was born in Chicago on August, 6, 1953, and later lived in Florida where he earned a BA at the University of West Florida. He went to graduate school at UAB, and from there Robert earned his doctoral degree in clinical psychology at The Ohio State University in 1985. He completed a post-doctoral fellowship/residency in clinical neuropsychology at UCLA in 1987. Dr. Butler became one of the premier clinicians and researchers in the field of neuropsychologically-based cognitive rehabilitation with pediatric cancer survivors. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Robert's name to one of his favorite charities, The Humane Society of the United States.

Susan Patchin, Psy.D.

Dr. Susan Patchin died unexpectedly at the age of 55 on September 22, 2014, in Elko, Nevada of suspected cardiac complications. She is survived by her mother, Patricia, step-dad Gordon, sister Sherry and husband Dennis. She was born in Astoria, Oregon, on April 11, 1959 and lived most of her life in the Portland, Oregon area. She graduated from Pacific University in Forest Grove with her degree in psychology in 1993. Dr. Patchin had recently accepted a position in Elko, Nevada as a psychologist for IHS, Southern Bands Health Center. She had worked hard with both the Oregon Psychological Association and the American Psychological Association to secure prescriptive privileges for psychologists. Her hard work, deep concern for her clients, caring nature, sense of humor, and feisty disposition will be missed by friends and colleagues.

If you know of an Oregon Licensed Psychologist/Psychologist Associate who has recently passed, please inform the Board. We appreciate the feedback and the opportunity to honor our licensees in The Examiner. Ψ

Upcoming Events 2015

March, 2015

3/2: Consumer Protection Committee Meets
3/6: Oregon Jurisprudence Examination *
3/20: **Board Meeting**
3/27: Education Committee Meeting

April, 2015

4/3: Oregon Jurisprudence Examination *
4/6: Consumer Protection Committee Meets

May, 2015

5/1: Oregon Jurisprudence Examination *
5/4: Consumer Protection Committee Meets
5/22: **Board Meeting**
5/25: Office Closed for Memorial Day Holiday

June, 2015

6/1: Consumer Protection Committee Meets
6/5: Oregon Jurisprudence Examination *

Reminders

BE GREEN! Please make sure to update your email address if it changes so that you continue to receive correspondence. If you have not provided one, please do so. Notify us right away- but not more than 30 days- of any change in your public or mailing address, phone, or name using the form available on the Board website.



The Examiner is the official newsletter of the Oregon Board of Psychologist Examiners and is edited by board staff. Please visit our website at www.Oregon.gov/obpe, email, or call 503-378-4154

with any comments or suggestions. Ψ

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