



**Board of Chiropractic Examiners
TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES
Licensing & Continuing Education Committee
October 10, 2019**

Teleconference Meeting Locations:

Sergio Azzolino, D.C., Chair
Azzolino Chiropractic Neurology &
Integrative Wellness
1545 Broadway Street., Suite 1A
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(415) 563-3800

Heather Dehn, D.C.
Dehn Chiropractic
4343 Marconi Ave., #5
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David Paris, D.C.
VA Health Administration in Redding
760 Cypress Ave.
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(530) 244-8806

Laurie Isenberg
Life Chiropractic College West
Postgraduate & Continuing
Education, Room 136
25001 Industrial Blvd.
Hayward, CA 94545
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Brian Nook, D.C.
Palmer College of
Chiropractic
90 E. Tasman Dr., Room 121
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Ana Facchinato, D.C.
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Committee Members Present

Sergio Azzolino, D.C., Chair
Heather Dehn, D.C.
David Paris, D.C.

Staff Present

Robert Puleo, Executive Officer
Marcus McCarther, Assistant Executive Officer
Michael Kanotz, Senior Attorney
Tammi Pitto, Enforcement Analyst
Andreia McMillan, Policy Analyst

Call to Order

Dr. Azzolino called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Roll Call

Dr. Dehn called roll. All members were present at addresses listed on the agenda. A quorum was established.

Approval of August 22, 2019 Committee Meeting Minutes

MOTION: DR. DEHN MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 22ND, 2019 LICENSING & CONTINUING EDUCATION COMMITTEE MEETING.

SECOND: DR. PARIS SECONDED THE MOTION.

Discussion: There was none.

**VOTE: 3-0, (DR. PARIS – AYE, DR. DEHN– AYE, DR. AZZOLINO – AYE)
MOTION CARRIED.**

Review, Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Language to Continuing Education Regulations: Continuing Education Courses

Dr. Azzolino began the discussion with a question on page one, Section 363 (c) (3), whether Board staff was allowing providers to include vendors or sponsors in continuing education (CE) seminars.

Mr. Puleo responded that the regulations did not prohibit CE providers from having advertising or underwriters for their seminar but that it must be disclosed and not present in the classroom.

Dr. Azzolino agreed that advertising and sponsored products should not be in the classroom.

Dr. Paris asked for clarification on Section 363 (b), a definition of a course, as it related to research conferences. There were often numerous papers and lectures presented during a research conference and providers were worried they would have to identify each lecture as a separate subject area and, therefore, a different course application.

Dr. Paris felt that a research conference as a whole would constitute as one subject area, under research modalities. Versus having each lecture constitute as its own subject area and application.

Dr. Dehn felt that the intention of the regulation was to prevent providers from including multiple subject areas in one application. As an example, a three-day conference would not constitute as one course. Dr. Dehn stated that a research conference would be appropriate under Competency 6 – Information and Technology Literacy.

Dr. Paris agreed with Dr. Dehn's assessment that a research conference would constitute as one subject area, research methods.

Mr. Puleo shared that staff wanted to prevent a weekend long seminar from being submitted as a singular course, especially if it had multiple sessions with completely different subject areas. If the whole seminar truly had the same content theme, it would be appropriate to submit as one course and one application.

Dr. Azzolino agreed with the interpretation of a course as it applied to the example of the research conference.

Dr. Dehn requested that future research conference application submissions be reviewed with the new standards and shared with the Committee as an example of how proposed changes would work in the staff review process.

Dr. Paris agreed with this suggestion to ensure the intent of the regulations create the desired effect.

Mr. Puleo agreed.

Public Comment: Ms. Laurie Isenberg, Director of Postgraduate & Continuing Education at Life Chiropractic College West, questioned why a course description had been removed from Section 363.

Dr. Azzolino pointed out that Section 363 (c) (1) requested a detailed course description, along with objectives and outcomes.

Ms. Isenberg thanked him. She also inquired whether Section 363 (c) (3) would require providers to include a reading lists in course applications.

Mr. Puleo stated that reading lists were optional.

Dr. Azzolino moved through the material, page by page, and solicited questions from Board Members and the public.

Dr. Dehn raised a question on page five, about whether the regulations cover the process of withdrawing approval of a CE course. She was curious where the withdrawal process was located for a CE provider status.

Mr. McCarther replied that the CE provider discipline process was in another section of the regulations, discussed at a previous Committee meeting.

Ms. Isenberg had a question on page three, Section 363.1 (d) regarding timekeeping mechanisms for online courses. She was curious what could be done in that area for providers who did not have accesses to such technology.

Mr. Puleo responded that the section required further research and potential input from providers and technology experts to determine what is viable.

Ms. Isenberg shared her concern as to the expense of such technology, as many of the providers she worked with did not have timekeeping mechanisms built into their online classroom systems.

Mr. Puleo shared that economic concerns would be reviewed and weighed against the overall need to ensure quality online CE courses. The Board needed to determine how they would

like to proceed, but there had been an impetus for adding this provision as some online courses did not match the hours the provider had originally requested in the application.

Dr. Azzolino directed the discussion to the Continuing Education Competencies document in the materials packet.

Dr. Azzolino began with a suggestion on page one, Competency 1, under Curricular Objectives - item C, to replace “body regions” with “nervous system, organ system and musculoskeletal system.

Mr. McCarther agreed.

Dr. Azzolino went on to make further suggestions to page four, Competency 6, under the Curricular Objectives - item A. The statement should read, “Locate and critically appraise and the use of relevant scientific literature and other evidence.”

The Committee agreed.

Dr. Paris suggested adding an objective to better define “scientific research”.

Mr. McCarther agreed with Dr. Paris but was curious how further defining the term would assist chiropractors in maintaining minimum competency for their licensure.

Dr. Dehn felt that students in chiropractic colleges were exposed to the latest trends in scientific research and that area of study was difficult to maintain once entering into practice. She felt the exposure would assist chiropractors in maintaining minimum competency of their college curriculum.

Dr. Paris stated that he felt CE had two potential objectives: (1) providing the minimum competency for the chiropractic profession and (2) providing elevated curriculum expectations for both licensees and CE providers.

Dr. Azzolino suggested “peer reviewed scientific literature”.

Mr. McCarther asked for the chiropractic colleges to share their suggestions.

Ms. Isenberg agreed that it was a positive addition.

Public Comment: Dr. Brian Nook, representative from Palmer College of Chiropractic, agreed with the suggestions to the competency.

Dr. Azzolino felt that Competency 7, Curricular Objective – item A, needed editing for clarity.

The Committee agreed to the following change to item A: “Assess normal and abnormal structural and functional articular relationships, including neurological aspects.”

Public Comment: Dr. Ana Facchinato, Dean of Southern California University of Health Sciences, agreed with the proposed language changes.

Dr. Dehn proposed changing the word 'comportment' to 'behavior' or 'interaction' on page four, Competency 5, under Curricular Objective – item D.

Mr. Kanotz preferred the term 'interaction'.

The Committee agreed.

Mr. McCarther directed the Committee's discussion to the Continuing Education Event Application.

Dr. Dehn requested adding a question to the Instructor Attestation about whether the instructor has been eliminated from participating with insurance networks or Medicaid.

Dr. Azzolino was also interested in seeing a similar question added.

Mr. McCarther stated that staff would need to work on the language for such a question and ensure it was approved by the Board's legal counsel.

Dr. Azzolino inquired if the attestation could include a statement of "under penalty of perjury".

Mr. Puleo advised that a statement "under penalty of perjury" is not enforceable.

Ms. Isenberg inquired what criteria was being used for denying an instructor.

Mr. McCarther responded that staff had not covered that portion of the regulations yet.

Mr. Puleo added that would be an area for future review.

Dr. Azzolino went on to the final document in the materials packet, the Post Course Evaluation Form. He suggested the form needed an area where course participants could include statements if the course did not meet their expectations.

Dr. Dehn and Dr. Paris agreed that a comment section needed to be added to the form.

Dr. Azzolino went on to state that it should include instructions for participants to include feedback for improvement.

Dr. Dehn also asked for the following statement to be added, "Do you believe this course should continue to be offered as CE?" In addition to the Board's general email address for raising any concerns.

Dr. Dehn also encouraged including a statement that would assure participants that their CE credits would not be negatively impacted if they reported an unsatisfactory course.

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda

There was none.

Future Agenda Items

Dr. Paris wished to agendize how the Board could offer CE credit to PACE accredited courses.

Adjournment

Dr. Azzolino adjourned the meeting at 4:59 p.m.