The Standard for Spiritual Care & Education

Board of Directors Meeting Highlights
Nov. 13-15, 2022

The ACPE Board of Directors convened November 13-15, 2022, and conducted the following business:

- The Board of Directors received the resignation of the Executive Director, Trace Haythorn, effective December 31, 2022. The Board also recruited ACPE Certified Educator Robin Brown-Haithco to serve as Interim Executive Director. Robin served in a similar capacity before Trace joined ACPE in 2013.

- The Board received a presentation from Onuka Ibe of La Piana consulting regarding the current progress with strategic planning. The Board has identified several screening questions to help assess priorities and has begun to bring programmatic considerations to those questions. The Board hopes to complete this work by the end of March 2023.

- The Board discussed the survey results from the Curious Orienteers Community of Practice and used the data as one lens through which to look at the strategic planning.

- Jonathan Ball, Secretary/Treasurer, presented the Finance Committee report including the 2023 budget. ACPE is healthy financially, though we are paying attention to several difficult economic changes, including rising inflation and the rising costs of travel. The Board will explore the way ACPE convenes and make recommendations to make gatherings more affordable and to foster more meaningful relational time for members.

- The Board received a report from the Accreditation Commission, who outlined the steps to address the items in the compliance report from the US Department of Education. Several items have already been completed. The Commission is spending significant time developing concepts for feedback from the membership related to student outcomes, assessment of learning, and the definition and time expectations of ACPE programs.

- The Board celebrated three staffing changes. As noted before, Tiffany Kindred has been promoted to Director of Communications, and a search has begun to fill the position she vacated. Jasmine Okafor has been promoted to Director of the ACPE Foundation and Chief Diversity Officer for the Association, effective January 1. And Jennifer Rochner has been promoted to Director of Finance, effective January 1.

- The Anti-Bias Work Group was represented by chair Danielle Buhuro. They are beginning to move from exploration and education to implementing many of the recommendations they have developed over the last year. They will work with the Board and Jasmine Okafor in her new capacity to oversee this.

- The Leadership Development Committee presented election results for the Board's ratification. Additional appointments to committees will be made in December.

- The Professional Ethics Commission (PEC) reported on their work, highlighting their efforts to integrate Anti-Bias efforts into the ethics process and the monthly ethics educational articles, including in "This Week @ ACPE." The PEC has turned a corner in its role in the association by fulfilling its primary purpose and function of providing ethics education for our membership. This trend started two years ago. The commission received Board approval to add three new members at the November 2021 board meeting, and the change was implemented in 2022; however, the manuals were not updated to reflect this change. The main reason for the increase was to expand the diversity on the PEC to better respond to cases with sensitivity to diversity dynamics. The Board approved the change in the manual at the November 2022 meeting.

- The Board received a report from the Psychotherapy Commission. For many reasons, integration and support of Psychotherapy members have been ineffective, so the Board has approved the development of a Work Group to review efforts to date and make proposals as to how the Association should proceed.

- The Certification Commission requested additional members as they have so many CECs – an exciting dilemma – that each commission member is carrying 9-10 aspirants. The Board approved adding three additional members and will make those appointments in December.

- The Professional Wellbeing Committee has asked the Certification Commission to explore taking responsibility for the welcoming of new National Faculty. A subcommittee is working on this issue. They are also looking with the Board at more sustainable models for convening CoPs. The Committee is concerned about CoP leadership and training for those roles. They had one member resign, and the Board will work to appoint a replacement at the December meeting.

- The ACPE Foundation has launched an expanded grants program to support initiatives that advance justice, diversity, equity, and inclusion within ACPE. Until now, available awards were between $10,000 and $20,000 through the Innovative Program Awards.

Five grant programs are available, in addition to the Mission Advancement Program (MAP) Fund Award to support spiritually-integrated psychotherapy projects.

- The Hemenway Scholars grant offers up to $60,000 of summer stipend support annually for students. The CEC Ignite Grant (up to $120,000) supports the development of CEC programs and facilitates the certification of more ACPE educators from underrepresented backgrounds and contexts. The grant also helps new CEC programs move towards sustainability. The Foundation has also revised the Innovation Grants Program, now the Innovation in Spiritual Care & Research Grants Program, to include research proposals and will award up to $100,000 annually. The Foundation will continue the Boisen Scholars program and will now award up to $10,000 annually to support international students with visas and travel. The Foundation will recognize service awards winners from 2020, 2021, and 2022 at the 2023 Annual Meeting.