

Western Maryland Area Health Education Center

PSYCHOLOGY AND PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING CAUCUS MINUTES

August 26, 2013

Allegany College of Maryland, CE Room #6– Cumberland, Maryland

CALL TO ORDER: Paul McCusker called the meeting to order at 12:05pm and asked everyone to review the minutes from the May 20, 2013 meeting. After review, the minutes were approved as written. The following individuals were present:

Anne Sheetz

Christa Snyder

Mike Motter

Antoinette Wiseman

Paul McCusker

Jason Edwards

Joy Taylor

REPORTS

Continuing Education

Christa Snyder gave the report and announced that the two training days on “Problem Gambling” are both full. She is working on the spring 2014 courses, which will be finalized soon, and she is offering a diversity course that will be co-sponsored with the Psych and Professional Counseling Caucus.

She also informed the group that Dr. Ackerman will be doing an Adolescence and Substance Abuse program in March 2014. She distributed several brochures, including “Compulsive Hoarding Behaviors”, “Sex and Drugs – Dual Companions”, “ADHD and the Processing Disorders”, and “Ethics in Self Disclosure in Cyber Space”.

She reminded members if they have any requests or suggestions for continuing education programming, to let her know.

WMAHEC Board of Directors

Mike Motter gave the WMAHEC Board of Director’s report and announced that the last meeting, which was the Annual Awards Dinner, Judyth Altemus was named the “Mental Health Professional of the Year.” He also announced that Anne Sheetz received the “Distinguished Service Award”.

Treasurer's Report

Antoinette Wiseman gave the Treasurer's Report and announced that as of July 31, 2013 the caucus has \$1,611.00 in the account. She also clarified that the caucus is no longer getting the \$200 a year AHEC support. Joy explained that WMAHEC does not have the funds to do this anymore, especially in light of having to move twice in a 2 ½ year period.

OLD BUSINESS:

Update to Caucus Member list & Mailing List

Joy distributed the listserv for updates and Paul McCusker signed the PTF for today's lunch.

CE Presentations

There was discussion about ideas for CE presentations based on the Survey Monkey results. Violence and the Mentally Ill, Personality Disorders, Narcissism, Motivation, Psychopharmacology Update, and the DSM 5 were all high interest topics from the survey responders. After a lot of discussion, it was agreed that we would do a 6-hour all day CE program. The morning will be designated for training on "Understanding and Treatment of Personality Disorders" and the afternoon training will be "Psychopharmacology Update." We talked about having this training next fall, targeting September 19, 2014 as the training date. Paul asked who can work on this training plan, and Toni and Joy agreed, so they will try to get some more information together before the next meeting.

Brochure

Joy distributed the Psych & Professional Counseling Caucus brochures to members and made some available to Christa to lay out at events that would be appropriate.

NEW BUSINESS:

2013 Mental Health Professional of the Year Update

Discussion included the nomination criteria and that we would need to broaden the requirements a bit in order to include non-active caucus members as potential Mental Health Professional of the Year nominees. Preference will still be given to those who are active caucus members. So, the Psychology and Professional Counseling Caucus 'Mental Health Professional of the Year' award nomination application will be changed to two required criteria, which is:

- #1 - be recognized by peers for their service to the community as an excellent practitioner, educator or researcher in the psychology or counseling field and
- #2 - Be fully accredited within their respective field with appropriate and active professional affiliation.

Preference will be given to:

- #1 - those who are an active participant in the caucus and
- #2 - who have served on a caucus committee or held an office for at least one term

Additional considerations will be made for the remaining criteria:

- #1 - provides pro bono services, shares expertise
- 2# - shares expertise in order to meet mental health and wellness needs of the community
- 3# - collaborates with other health providers
- 4# - participates in professional networking
- 5# - willingness to facilitate other individuals in the pursuit of mental health careers

It was also decided that the person who wants to give the award at the time of the award is the best presenter. So, if the person who received the award the prior year would like to give it that would be fine, if the person who wrote the nomination would like to give the award that would be fine, if the Chair of the caucus or any other executive committee member would like to give the award that would be fine. We will be flexible in making that decision year-to-year.

Joy is also developing a matrix to help with the nomination evaluation process.

National Mental Health Awareness Month

National Mental Health Awareness Month will be in May 2014. There was discussion about activities we could participate in including: meeting with the County Commissioners and having a Proclamation for the County, as well as set up an interview with a newspaper reporter. Paul asked that we revisit this topic as an old business agenda item next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mike informed the group that he would be getting married on October 19th. Everyone congratulated him.

Paul adjourned the meeting at 1:00 pm and announced that our next meeting will be on November 25, 2013, 12:00 noon, and Christa will see if we can get CE room #6.

Respectfully Submitted by Joy Taylor/Jackie Booth