



STATE OF ARIZONA  
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Executive Director

## Application Review Committee

### MINUTES OF VIRTUAL MEETING

September 28, 2020 - 7:30 a.m.

Hosted by Zoom

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

The regular session of the Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners Application Review Committee (ARC) was called to order by Dr. Meier, Committee Chair, at 7:35 a.m. No Executive Sessions were held.

#### 2. ROLL CALL

##### Committee Members Participating by Telephone

Ramona Mellott, Ph.D., Chair - Present  
Stephen Gill, Ph.D. – Present

##### Staff Members Participating

Kathy Fowkes, Licensing Specialist  
Heidi Herbst Paakkonen, Executive Director

##### Assistant Attorney General:

Jeanne Galvin, Esq.

A quorum of the Committee was established.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

##### **August 28, 2020 Regular Session Minutes**

**MOTION:** Dr. Gill moved to approve the minutes as drafted. Dr. Mellott seconded the motion

**VOICE VOTE:** The motion was approved 2-0.

**4. DISCUSSION REGARDING APPROVAL OF PSYCHOLOGY APPLICANTS**

**A. Requesting Approval to Sit for EPPP Only**

**1) Sally McGregor, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes and rules. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval to take the EPPP.

**MOTION:** Dr. Mellott moved to forward the application of Sally McGregor, Psy.D. to the full board with a recommendation for approval to sit for the EPPP. Dr. Gill seconded the motion.

**VOICE VOTE:** The motion was approved 2-0.

**B. Requesting Approval to Sit for EPPP & Licensure**

**1) Antonia Marie Garcia, Ph.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes and rules. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval to take the EPPP.

**2) Brian M. Bantel, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. The discussion reflected that the applicant disclosed having had his driver's license temporarily suspended in 2002 for failure to timely pay a fine associated with a moving violation. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes and rules. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval to take the EPPP.

**3) Chun Tao, Ph.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. The members noted the applicant is in the process of obtaining authorization to reside and work in the United States. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes and rules. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval to take the EPPP.

**4) Laura Golden, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. The discussion reflected that the applicant disclosed that in 2012 she was charged with misdemeanor DUI, and that documentation was submitted indicating that in 2013 she completed her sentencing terms. The members also noted that her passport expired in July, but that the document is acceptable for purposes of establishing her U.S. citizenship status.

**5) Michael Volrich, Ph.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes and rules. The Committee further noted that Dr. Volrich is a former student of the closed Argosy University but he is eligible for licensure by virtue of a COVID-19 waiver approved by the Board and by the Arizona Department of Health Services. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval to take the EPPP.

**6) Roger Yoder, Ph.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that his reported professional training hours total only 2,021 and therefore he is deficient with respect to this requirement. The Committee directed staff to advise the applicant of this deficiency.

**7) Susana M. Rigau, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that her transcript indicates her degree has yet to be conferred, her application is missing references, and she has not completed her professional training requirements. Ms. Galvin advised that staff can communicate to Dr. Rigau that she may elect to withdraw her application.

**MOTION:** Dr. Mellott moved to forward the applications of Antonia Marie Garcia, Ph.D., Brian M. Bantel, Psy.D., Chun Tao, Ph.D., Laura Golden, Psy.D., Michael Volrich, Ph.D. and Roger Yoder, Ph.D. to the full Board with a recommendation for approval to sit for the EPPP and for licensure to be granted upon receipt of a passing score. The motion included that Susana M. Rigau, Psy.D. be advised of the option to withdraw her deficient application. Dr. Gill seconded the motion.

**VOICE VOTE:** The motion was approved 2-0.

**C. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Waiver**

**1) Ahmad Sadek, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were now complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes and rules. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval of licensure.

**2) Bahar Dokht Safaie-Far, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee discussed the documentation noting the site where she completed her internship transferred ownership, and her former supervisor is deceased. The members noted that she is unable to meet the qualifications for licensure by waiver, but she may qualify either by supplying her California licensure documents, or by applying through Universal Recognition.

**3) Max Shannon, Ph.D. (Additional Information Request)**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. The members noted that his application was previously reviewed but at that time his file was not complete with respect to his pre-internship verification. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted are now complete and fulfill the requirements of statutes and rules. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval of licensure.

**4) Nancy Truong, Ph.D. (Additional Information Request)**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. The members noted that her application was previously reviewed but at that time her file was not complete with respect to a deficit of documentation submitted by her supervisor. The missing information has since been supplied, and the Committee confirmed that the materials submitted are now complete and fulfill the requirements of statutes and rules. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval of licensure.

**MOTION:** Dr. Gill moved to forward the applications of Ahmad Sadek, Psy.D., Max Shannon, Ph.D., and Nancy Truong, Ph.D. to the full board with a recommendation to approve licensure. The motion included that Bahar Dokht Safaie-Far, Psy.D be notified of alternative methods through which she may apply for licensure. Dr. Mellott seconded the motion.

**VOICE VOTE:** The motion was approved 2-0.

**D. Requesting Approval for Temporary License and EPPP**

**11) Gabrielle Rozio, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that her file is missing her NPDB report and her professional references. It was the consensus of the Committee to table the application until such time the deficiencies are addressed.

**12) Heather DeGrote, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that her file is missing her NPDB report. It was the consensus of the Committee to table the application until such time the deficiency is addressed.

**13) Megan Wiley, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes and rules. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval for temporary licensure and to sit for the EPPP.

**MOTION:** Dr. Gill moved to forward the application of Megan Wiley, Psy.D. to the full board with a recommendation to approve her temporary license and to sit for the EPPP. The motion included that Gabrielle Rozio, Psy.D. and Heather DeGrote, Psy.D. be notified of the application deficiencies discussed and have opportunity to submit the missing materials. Dr. Mellott seconded the motion.

**VOICE VOTE:** The motion was approved 2-0.

**E. Requesting Approval for Licensure by Universal Recognition**

**1) Lynnette K. Suarez, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes and rules. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward the application to the Board for approval of licensure.

**2) Stephanie Nicolai, Psy.D.**

Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of the application. Upon review, the Committee noted that her file is missing her NPDB report. It was the consensus of the Committee to table the application until such time the deficiency is addressed.

**MOTION:** Dr. Gill moved to forward the application of Megan Wiley, Psy.D. to the full board with a recommendation to approve license. The motion included that Stephanie Nicolai, Psy.D. be notified of the application deficiencies discussed and have opportunity to submit the missing materials. Dr. Mellott seconded the motion.

**VOICE VOTE:** The motion was approved 2-0.

**5. NEW AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS**

No items were requested.

**6. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** Dr. Gill moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Mellott seconded the motion.

**VOICE VOTE:** The motion was approved 2-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 a.m.