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**State of Arizona  
Board of Psychologist Examiners**

1400 West Washington, Suite 235  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Phone: (602) 542-8162 Fax: (602) 542-8279  
[www.psychboard.az.gov](http://www.psychboard.az.gov)

**Application Review Committee**

**MINUTES OF TELEPHONIC MEETING  
August 1, 2011  
7:30 a.m.**

1400 West Washington  
Suite #235  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The regular session of the Arizona State Board of Psychologist Examiners Application Review Committee was called to order by Dr. Mellott at 7:30 a.m. on August 1, 2011. No Executive Sessions were held.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Committee Members Participating by Telephone**

Ramona N. Mellott, Ph.D. – Chairperson  
Bob Bohanske, Ph.D.

**Staff Present**

Meghan B. Hinckley – Deputy Director

**Attorney General**

Jeanne Galvin, Esq.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES –**

Dr. Bohanske made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mellott, to approve the April 26, 2011 Regular Session Minutes, May 31, 2011 Regular Session Minutes, and June 23, 2011 Regular Session Minutes of Application Review Committee as drafted. The motion carried unanimously (2-0).

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

**Requesting Approval for Examination**

Barbara Merchant, Ph.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Merchant's 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 Dr. Merchant's application to the full Board for review and approval to take the EPPP.

Christina Vasquez, Ph.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Vasquez's 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 Dr. Vasquez's application to the full Board for review and approval to take the EPPP.

Dr. Mellott made a motion, seconded by Dr. Bohanske, to recommend approval of the applications of Barbara Merchant, Ph.D. and Christina Vasquez, Ph.D. to the full Board to take the national exam. The motion carried (2-0).

### **Requesting Approval for Examination & Licensure**

Tasha Platt, Psy.D. – Dr. Platt was present via telephone to hear the Committee's discussion and answer any questions. Dr. Platt introduced herself for the record. Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Platt's application. Upon review, the Committee noted that Dr. Platt had recent legal issues of which she submitted documentation and an explanation. It was the consensus of the Committee to forward Dr. Platt's application to the full Board for review of her legal issues prior to her being approval to take the EPPP and licensure upon receipt of a passing score and the pro-rated licensure fee.

Nader Babai-Siahdohoni, Ph.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Babai-Siahdohoni's application wherein it was noted on his transcripts that he had not yet conferred his doctoral degree. Ms. Galvin, counsel for the Board, noted that the submission of his application was premature and suggested that the Committee take no action and return Dr. Babai-Siahdohoni's application and fees. In addition, the Committee noted that Dr. Babai-Siahdohoni indicated in his application that he had been involved in legal issues. While the Committee recommended returning his application and fees, they also requested that he submit detailed information, arrest and disposition documents regarding the legal matter should he wish to re-apply in the future.

Debra A. Davis, Ph.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Davis' 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 move Dr. Davis' application forward to the full Board for review and approval to take the EPPP and licensure upon receipt of a passing score and the pro-rated licensure fee.

Pamela Dockstader-Ortiz, Psy.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Dockstader-Ortiz's 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 move Dr. Dockstader-Ortiz's application forward to the full Board for review and approval to take the EPPP and licensure upon receipt of a passing score and the pro-rated licensure fee.

Sarah F. Foxley, Psy.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Foxley's 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 move Dr. Foxley's application forward to the full Board for review and approval to take the EPPP and licensure upon receipt of a passing score and the pro-rated licensure fee.

Christopher Merchant, Psy.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Merchant's 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 move Dr. Merchant's application forward to the full Board for review and approval to take the EPPP and licensure upon receipt of a passing score and the pro-rated licensure fee.

Katherine Pierce, Ph.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Pierce's re-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 move Dr. Pierce's re-application forward to the full Board for review and approval to take the EPPP and licensure upon receipt of a passing score and the pro-rated licensure fee.

Ioan Stroescu, Ph.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Stroescu's 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 move Dr. Stroescu's application forward to the full Board for review and approval to take the EPPP and licensure upon receipt of a passing score and the pro-rated licensure fee.

Dina Shacknai, Psy.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Shacknai's 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 move Dr. Shacknai's application forward to the full Board for review and approval to take the EPPP and licensure upon receipt of a passing score and the pro-rated licensure fee.

Dr. Bohanske made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mellott, to forward the applications of Debra Davis, Ph.D., Pamela Dockstader-Ortiz, Psy.D., Sarah F. Foxley, Psy.D., Christopher Merchant, Psy.D., Katherine Pierce, Ph.D., Ioan Stroescu, and Dina Shacknai, Psy.D. to the full Board for review and approval to sit for the EPPP and licensure upon the receipt of a passing score on the exam. The motion carried (2-0).

Dr. Bohanske then made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mellott, to forward the application of Tasha Platt, Psy.D. to the full Board for review of her specific legal matters prior to approval for her to sit for the EPPP and license upon the receipt of a passing score on the exam. The motion carried (2-0).

Lastly, Dr. Bohanske made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mellott, to return the application and associated fees to Mr. Nader Babai-Siahdohoni due to the fact that the application was premature and should not have been accept prior to the conferral of his doctorate degree. The motion carried (2-0).

### **Requesting Approval of Licensure by Waiver**

Philip A. Kerne, Ph.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Kerne's application and subsequent submissions. 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 move Dr. Kerne's application forward to the full Board for review and approval to of licensure upon receipt of the pro-rated licensure fee.

Nancy Swedlund, Psy.D. – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Swedlund's 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 move Dr. Swedlund's application forward to the full Board for review and approval to of licensure upon receipt of the pro-rated licensure fee.

Dr. Bohanske then made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mellott, to forward the applications of Dr. Philip Kerne and Dr. Nancy Swedlund to the full Board for review and approval for licensure upon payment of the pro-rated fee. The motion carried (2-0).

#### **Requesting Approval of Postdoctoral Experience**

Erin South, Psy.D. – Dr. Bohanske recused himself from this item, and therefore the matter was moved to the full Board for review and approval due to lack of a quorum at this meeting.

### **5. DISCUSSION/DECISION REGARDING APPROVAL OF BEHAVIOR ANALYST APPLICANTS**

#### **Requesting Approval of Licensure by Certification:**

Shannon Cernich, Ph.D., BCBA – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Cernich's application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes. It was the consensus of the Committee to move Dr. Cernich's application forward to the full Board for review and approval of licensure upon receipt of the pro-rated licensure fee.

Erica Severtson, M.S., BCBA – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Dr. Severtson's application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes. It was the consensus of the Committee to move Dr. Severtson's application forward to the full Board for review and approval of licensure upon receipt of the pro-rated licensure fee.

#### **Requesting Approval of Licensure by Experience:**

Jessica Belokas, M.A., BCBA – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Ms. Belokas' application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes. It was the consensus of the Committee to move Ms. Belokas' application forward to the full Board for review and approval of licensure upon receipt of the pro-rated licensure fee.

Tracy Davis, M.Ed., BCBA – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Ms. Davis' application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes. It was the consensus of the Committee to move Ms. Davis' application forward to the full Board for review and approval of licensure upon receipt of the pro-rated licensure fee.

Julie Neenan, M.Ed., BCBA – Committee members proceeded with a substantive review of Ms. Neenan's application. Upon review, the Committee noted that the materials submitted were complete and fulfilled the requirements of statutes. It was the consensus of the Committee to move Ms. Neenan's application forward to the full Board for review and approval of licensure upon receipt of the pro-rated licensure fee.

Dr. Bohanske made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mellott, to forward the applications of Dr. Shannon Cernich, Ms. Erica Severtson, Ms. Jessica Belokas, Ms. Tracy Davis, and Ms. Julie Neenan to the full Board for review and approval of licensure upon receipt of the pro-rated licensure fee. The motion carried (2-0).

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

The Committee members had no future agenda items.

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Committee, Dr. Bohanske made a motion, seconded by Dr. Mellott, to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 a.m.

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**Ramona N. Mellott, Ph.D. - Chairperson**  
**Application Review Committee**