

BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE  
Professional & Vocational Licensing Division  
Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs  
State of Hawaii

MINUTES OF MEETING

The agenda for this meeting was filed with the Office of the Lt. Governor, as required by § 92-7(b), Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS").

Date: Thursday October 12, 2017

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Place: Princess Likelike Conference Room  
King Kalakaua Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
335 Merchant Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Members Present: Jayne Tsuchiyama, D.A.O.M, D.Ac., Chairperson  
Joni Kroll, Member, D.Ac., Vice-Chairperson  
Mike Hashimoto, D.Ac., Member

Staff Present: Carol Kramer, Executive Officer  
Ronni-Ann Bumgarner, Secretary  
Krishna Jayaram, Esq., Deputy Attorney General ("DAG")

Excused: Ellen Roos-Marr, Member  
James Corcoran, Ph.D., Member

Guests: Jesse Cohen, Applicant  
Jonah Chin, Applicant  
Jung Hyun Kim, Applicant  
Tyler Stattin, Guest

Call to Order: There being a quorum established, Dr. Tsuchiyama called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Approval of the Minutes: It was moved by Dr. Kroll, seconded by Dr. Tsuchiyama, and unanimously carried to approve the Board meeting minutes of August 17, 2017.

Executive Officers Report: a. World Education Services Correspondence

Executive Officer Kramer shared the correspondence with World Education Services ("WES") seeking clarification on their reports. Two students attending the same school received reports with one stating that the school attended was accredited and the other stated that the school was non-accredited. WES was unable to explain this discrepancy.

The applicant asked for further clarification regarding accreditation status. WES responded by saying that it does not comment on comparability of special programmatic recognition/accreditation for specific fields of study.

Asked WES what the U.S. equivalency of three years of post-secondary study and training in Oriental medicine meant. WES instructed Executive Officer Kramer to look at the admission requirements, which stated high school certificate, so logically it must be equivalent to a U.S. bachelor's degree program. Also, WES' advice was to look at the course fulfillment and the credentials.

Dr. Tsuchiyama stated that the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine ("NCCOAM") will no longer be accepting evaluations from WES as of December 31, 2017.

Executive Officer Kramer researched other evaluation services, which will be reviewed later in the meeting.

Applications:

a. Ratifications

It was moved by Dr. Kroll, seconded by Dr. Hashimoto, and unanimously carried to ratify the following lists of licensees that have been issued:

**Acupuncturists**

ACU 1211 KARLI N POAGE  
ACU 1212 JILL R DEVEAU

**Interns**

409 KIDD, HARLEIGH A  
412 COX, EMILY C  
411 REED, LEAH K  
406 SONG, CLARA K  
404 FRITZ, GREGORY S  
410 LOTT, JULIE M  
403 BASILIO, ERICA M L  
407 IKI, DARCIÉ C  
405 XIE, DI  
408 FUKUMURO, KAZUMI

Executive Session: At 1:16 p.m., it was moved by Dr. Tsuchiyama, seconded by Dr. Kroll, and unanimously carried to move into executive session pursuant to HRS § 92-5 to consider and evaluate personal information relating to individuals applying for licensure, and to consult with the Board's attorney on questions and issues pertaining to the board's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities, as provided in Chapter 92-5(a)(1) and (4), HRS.

Executive Session: At 2:31 p.m., it was moved by Dr. Kroll, seconded by Dr. Hashimoto, and unanimously carried to move out of executive session.

b. Application for Exam and License

1. Acupuncturists

Eri Kimura

The evaluation she received from World Education Services ("WES") did not fully analyze or explain how her coursework is at least equivalent to that of a U.S. accredited acupuncture program.

Once Ms. Kimura is approved by the Board, she will be issued a conditional license in which she will need to contact the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services to obtain an authorization to work in the U.S. Also, Ms. Kimura will need to supply her Social Security number to the Board, and will need to take the exam.

The Board recommends that Ms. Kimura obtain another credential evaluation report from one of the following companies: International Consultants of Delaware, Inc. ("ICD"), Academic Credentials Evaluation Institute, Inc. ("ACEI"), or Foundation for International Services ("FIS").

After reviewing Ms. Kimura's application and supporting documentation, it was moved by Dr. Tsuchiyama, seconded by Dr. Kroll, and unanimously carried to defer the application to give the applicant an opportunity to provide additional information and documentation.

Jesse Michael Cohen

Jung Hyun Kim (Request for Reconsideration)

Jonah Chin (Request for Reconsideration)

Mr. Chin and Ms. Kim submitted additional information for reconsideration of their applications and agreed this additional information be added to Mr. Cohen's application also. This documentation was to support the requirement that Oshio College of Acupuncture and Herbology ("Oshio") was approved or accredited by an agency recognized by a governmental authority in the respective foreign jurisdiction.

An AACRAO report from a colleague acknowledges Oshio as a registered and accredited institution by PCTIA. This report also details that Oshio is listed in the bylaws of the Health Professions Act of British Columbia as a recognized Traditional Chinese Medicine Training/Education Program.

Although WES does not acknowledge accreditation by PCTIA as equivalent to regional accreditation in the U.S., the Board with the added documentation and the failure of WES to explain

its discrepancy does find that Oshio is approved by an agency recognized by a governmental authority.

It was moved by Dr. Kroll, seconded by Dr. Hashimoto, and unanimously carried to approve the applications for exam and license for Jesse Michael Cohen, Jung Hyun Kim, and Jonah Chin.

**2. Request for Reconsideration**

Meisel, Laura

Ms. Meisel submitted additional information for reconsideration documents included were, a letter submitted in April of 2017, and transcripts from Tri State College of Acupuncture.

It was moved by Dr. Kroll, seconded by Dr. Tsuchiyama, and unanimously carried that the Board reaffirmed its decision to deny her application under HRS section 436E-5(d) and Hawaii Administrative Rules section 16-72-14(c) on the basis that she did not submit satisfactory proof of graduation from an approved school where she completed a course of study of formal education and clinical training of at least 2,175 hours.

New Business:

1. Regulated Industries Complaints Office ("RICO") – Acupuncture Advisory Committee

The Board reviewed an updated list of RICO's Acupuncture Advisory Committee.

It was moved by Dr. Tsuchiyama, seconded by Dr. Kroll, and unanimously carried to approve the licensees on RICO's Acupuncture Advisory Committee.

2. Reissuance of Intern Permit

Executive Officer Kramer received an inquiry regarding extending an Acupuncture Intern Permit. This request was received years after the permit expired.

The Board's law states that an Acupuncture Intern Permit is issued for a four-year period. It can be reissued once for a period not to exceed one year, with a written request and payment of the required fee.

Since the law doesn't specify when the request for a reissuance is to be made, should this request be granted?

DAG Jayaram asked if the timing of the reissuance of the intern permit causes a health and safety issue. The Board views that the intent of the reissuance of the acupuncture intern permit is to

immediately follow the expiration of the original permit. So, the request should be made prior to the expiration date of the intern permit.

This is an informal interpretation for information and explanatory purposes only and is not an official opinion or decision and therefore is not to be viewed as binding on the Board.

3. Credential Evaluation Services

As a result of the WES reports and its services, the Board requested a review of other agencies to provide credential reports. Executive Officer Kramer presented a list with supporting documents on various credential evaluation services. Two organizations are published with the U.S. Department of Education: National Association of Credential Evaluation Services ("NACES") and Association of International Credentials Evaluators ("AICE"). Each association contains a listing of various services. The Board reviewed all the services for its specialties, fees, types of services, etc. The list was narrowed down to ICD, ACEI, and FIS.

Old Business: a. Proposed Rule Revisions, HAR Title 16, Chap. 72 Subchapters 1-11

The Board will be adding another meeting date to go over the rule revisions.

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 2, 2017  
1:00 p.m.  
Princess Likelike Conference Room  
King Kalakaua Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Adjournment: Dr. Tsuchiyama adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Taken and recorded by:

/s/Ronni-Ann Bumgarner

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Ronni-Ann Bumgarner, Secretary

Reviewed and approved by:

/s/Carol Kramer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Kramer, Executive Officer

CK:rb  
11/12/17

[ X ] Minutes approved as is.  
[ ] Minutes approved with changes. See Minutes of \_\_\_\_\_.