

College of Counselling Psychologists

Elaine Hosie - National Chair
81 Evans Street
Port Melbourne, VIC
edhosie@gmail.com
0417 367 621



15 December 2010

To: **Professor Brin Grenyer,**
Chair - Psychology Board of Australia
GPO Box 9958 Melbourne VIC 3001

Dear Brin,

RE: EXPOSURE DRAFT – GUIDELINES ON AREA OF PRACTICE ENDORSEMENTS

The College of Counselling Psychologists would like to thank the Psychology Board of Australia in responding to the expressed concerns of the college and many individual members regarding the PBA definition of counselling psychologists. We are pleased that the definition of counselling psychology, as stated on page 25 of the exposure draft, acknowledges the specialist skills of counselling psychologists and is now congruent with all national and international published definitions of counselling psychology. We note that the definition now reads, "counselling psychologists specialise in the provision of psychological therapy, and provide psychological assessment and psychotherapy for individuals, couples, families and groups, and treat a wide range of psychological problems and mental health disorders." In addition, the competencies attached for counseling psychology appear to cover most areas of expertise. These should be refined over the next 3 years to ensure that they accurately represent all areas of specialist expertise in counseling psychology, in consultation with the College and other stakeholders.

Furthermore, the college would also like to voice their support for the PBA decision to allow doctoral and combined Masters/PhD students to apply for general registration and commencement of their registrar program subsequent to completion of coursework, placements and sufficient progress made on their thesis.

However, with regard to the fees required for students to be 'provisionally registered', the College of Counselling Psychology expresses concern about the high level of these fees for students and requests that the PBA reconsider this fee structure. We understand that all other health professions will be registering students without charging registration fees. We suggest a category of 'provisionally registered psychologist (student)' category.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elaine Hosie". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Elaine Hosie - National Chair