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From: Adam McKay [<mailto:Adam.McKay@monash.edu>]

Sent: Wednesday, 16 June 2010 9:38 AM

To: NationalBoards

Subject: Consultation paper - Psychology Supervision

Dear Professor Grenyer,

My apologies for sending this after the closing date. I sent an earlier email to your enquiries contact asking for clarification of some issues in this paper but hadn't heard back.

As the Placement Coordinator for the Doctor of Psychology, neuropsychology stream, at Monash University, I support the development of supervisor skills and competencies to help better train Provisional Psychologists, however, I have concerns about some aspects of these guidelines.

Assuming that these guidelines apply to Psychologists who supervise student placements as part of Masters/DPsych level psychology courses, I am concerned that the training requirements will lead to fewer supervisors able to provide placements. It is already extremely difficult to ensure sufficient placements for students - My fear is that some supervisors may not want to take on the extra commitments associated with the new training requirements of being a supervisor (i.e., 30 hours of training) which will have significant implications for the numbers of students we can accept in our courses. These guidelines would be particularly problematic if they apply from July 1, 2010, as outlined in the consultation paper - Essentially, I do not believe we would have sufficient numbers of trained supervisors to run our placement program in 2nd semester 2010 and beyond. I do not believe this would be unique to our university, but would affect all other Masters and DPsych professional psychology degrees.

In order to maintain student placement programs, I think it is vital that there is a grace period of at least one year to allow time for supervisors to complete relevant training to develop their supervision skills. I also think the amount of training (ie., 30 hours) should be reviewed as I think many supervisors would see this as excessive and be unable or unwilling to meet this requirement. As stated earlier, we cannot afford to lose existing supervisors if we want to continue to take students in our professional degrees.

I would be happy to discuss this further if helpful.

Your sincerely, Adam McKay

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