

Discipline of Psychology

Professor Brin Grenyer Chair Psychology Board of Australia GPO Box 9958 MELBOURNE VIC 3001

25 September 2015

Dear Professor Grenyer

Re: Higher degree exemption from sitting the National Psychology Examination

On behalf of the Discipline of Psychology at the University of Canberra, we wish to express our support of the submission forwarded to the Psychology Board of Australia by the Heads of Department and Schools of Psychology Association (HODSPA) against lifting the exemption from the National Psychology Examination for 6-year trained graduates. Whilst we appreciate the opportunity to participate in the consultative process, we find the Board's arguments for lifting the exemption problematic. In particular, we reject the Board's justification for removal of the exemption on the grounds that accreditation does not assure competence. To the contrary, APAC plays a significant role in establishing and maintaining the national standards for the education and training of psychologists and the Board has not provided any evidence to the contrary.

We therefore submit that the Board reconsiders ending the subject exemption.

Yours sincerely

Dr Peter Chamberlain

Course Convener

Master of Clinical Psychology Program

Professor Peter Hassmen Head of Discipline

> T +61 (0)2 6201 5111 W www.canberra.edu.au

University of Canberra Locked Bag 1 ACT 2601 Australia