MPA MASTER’S COMMITTEE

SPRING REPORT 2020

MAY 4, 2020

WELCOME!

This is the first communication from the Master’s Committee of Michigan Psychological Association. We hope to send a communication once/2 months to keep you up to date on what is of interest to LLPs in Michigan.

**FORMATION OF THE MPA MASTER’S COMMITTEE**

**2019:** MAPP learned (through MPA) that APA was setting up a committee to begin proposing Master degree uniform guidelines (graduate curriculum, scope of practice, title) to be implemented nationally. **LLPs would have no voice in this process if we don’t have our feet under the table of the people who are in charge of the process—APA.**

**THEREFORE: MAPP voted to dissolve and MPA chartered a Master’s COMMITTEE. BEING PART OF MPA GIVES US ACCESS TO APA AND ALL THE DECISIONS THAT WILL BE MADE ABOUT MASTER’S PRACTICE NATIONALLY.**

**Some of the issues that need to be solved are:**

1. Master’s degree graduate curriculums across the nation are a hodge-podge of course work, with no standardized curriculum. Our programs cannot be accredited without standardization.
2. State licensing standards for master’s degree practitioners are also a wide mix of titles, scopes of practice, supervision requirements, etc. Some states don’t even license master’s degree people at all.
3. The EPPP is the only current test available for obtaining state licensing. Currently, there is no other test available. There are many complaints about the EPPP. However, there cannot be a separate licensing test for master-degree practitioners until there is a standardized curriculum from which a test can be compiled.

There has already been a meeting earlier this year between MPA leadership, the Master’s Committee, and APA. At that meeting, APA leadership assured Michigan LLPs (because we have more Master’s practitioners than any other state) that we will have a seat at the table as national accreditation standards, a model licensing law, and uniform nomenclature for Master’- prepared psychology professionals, are developed. We received the *Master’s Degree Proposed Curriculum Guidelines* from APA, reviewed them, and sent back our ideas about what we felt were important changes.

 **If MAPP had stayed as an independent organization, there would be no input with APA.**

 **If MAPP had stayed as an “outside” organization, LLPs would have no voice at the APA table.**

**So, in sum, this is the rationale for joining forces with MPA.**

LLPs need to deal with the reality of APA moving in the direction of nationalizing our curriculum, title, scope of practice, and licensing recommendations. We needed to bring our voice to this movement.

AND IT IS ALREADY HAPPENING.

The Master’s Committee welcomes any input from LLPs in Michigan about what are important issues and ideas that you would like the committee to incorporate.

The Master’s Committee is made up of people from several different Master’s groups and interested individuals (NOT just MAPP members). This is done purposely to help spread the information about APA and what they are proposing so that we can all be made aware of the process as it moves along.

We encourage LLPs in Michigan to consider joining MPA in order to keep updated and to share your ideas with us. This is where your voice will make a difference.

Any questions or ideas can be directed to:

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Next communication: The Newsletter on the Master’s Committee link will highlight MPA actions that have benefited LLPs. Stay tuned.