

WELCOME TO THE BOARD ROOM

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ACLP Board of Directors, Immediate-Past President



Service on the Association of Child Life Professionals (ACLP) Board of Directors can be one of the most rewarding career experiences. It provides an opportunity to see first-hand how the association operates at the highest level and to collaborate with colleagues in accomplishing various fiduciary duties.

The spring 2024 board meeting was held in May, just prior to the annual conference. Each year, incoming board members are invited to observe the spring board meeting to gain insight into their role, understand the meeting structure, and become acquainted with their mentor prior to assuming their official duties. A board manual and orientation are also provided to ensure

new members have ample information to begin engaging in strategic discussions and future decision making.

It is also a pivotal time for ACLP committees, task forces and work groups as they submit board reports and prepare to transition to new leadership and members. Prior to the May board meeting, board reports that included a summary of each group's progress and applicable action items were submitted to the board to consider. Motions and requests for direction or clarity in addition to critical discussion topics are what informs the board meeting agenda. An overview of the board discussions and motions from the May 2024 board meeting are provided below.

STRATEGIC DISCUSSIONS

LICENSURE

A key point of interest that emerged in the ACLP Member Solution Sessions and accompanying survey data from U.S.-based child life professionals is the pursuit of licensure for the child life profession in the United States. Although strategic discussions on licensure have taken place at the board level in previous years, no formal decisions or actions have been initiated. Licensure is a multi-year endeavor that occurs on a state-by-state basis and requires action from child life professionals within their respective states. While the ACLP is unable to lead this charge under their purview, the board discussed ways to engage with interested groups and provide non-financial support to those

seeking information associated with licensure.

A motion was brought to the floor to approve ACLP executive leadership to engage in fact-finding to understand how other associations manage and/or engage with licensure.

ENGAGEMENT WITH HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES (HBCU's), HISPANIC SERVING INSTITUTIONS (HSI's), AND TRIBAL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

The board engaged in discussion that focused on the desired outcomes for engaging with HBCUs, Hispanic-Serving Institutions, and Tribal Colleges and Universities.

- For action: The Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee will be tasked with creating talking points introducing child life to institutions. This information will also be relevant to other healthcare-related majors by increasing their awareness of the child life profession. Information will be intentionally created from a racially conscious perspective, with careful consideration of the intended audience.

HEADQUARTERS REPORT

The board eagerly anticipates the Headquarters Report, a standing agenda item, during each meeting. ACLP CEO, Alison Heron, with contributions from the staff, provided a comprehensive look into operations and execution of board decisions and initiatives that are important to our organization. Of note, staff completed a re-evaluation of the platforms in use by the ACLP, exploring cost-effectiveness. Given the high cost associated with the platform housing the Internship Readiness Common Application, the application will be offered in a fillable PDF form, effective August 1st.

MOTIONS

When a board report includes a request or the group needs clarity about fulfilling tasks within their charge and charter, the assigned board liaison will provide a brief verbal summary of the action items for the board to consider and reference any supplemental documents. The floor is subsequently opened for discussion before a motion is made and a vote is taken.

GOVERNANCE

The Governance committee submitted their charter and four (4) policies for the board to review and vote on. The following motions were passed:

- A motion was brought to the floor to approve the revised Governance Charter.
- A motion was brought to the floor to approve the revised Conflict of Interest Policy.
- A motion was brought to the floor to approve the revised Intellectual Property Policy.
- A motion was brought to the floor to approve the revised Non-Discrimination Policy.
- A motion was brought to the floor to approve the revised Nominating and Election Process Policy. It was approved with edits.
- The board requested that specific language from the ACLP Bylaws, "The appointment of committee members will be identified through an application process and review conducted by the Governance Committee", be included in the policy.
- The Governance Committee was also tasked with adding further clarity and expanded details for the application, review, and selection process for incoming Nominating Committee members and chair-elect selection.

MENTORSHIP

- A motion was brought to the floor to pause the Mentorship Program until the November board Meeting so the committee can re-imagine a program that will maximize the benefits of using Qooper, a mentoring software which provides an online platform. The motion carried.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- A motion was brought to the floor to approve the updated Charter for the Nominating Committee with edits.
 - ◇ The board requested that the charter include language that states an Immediate-Past President or immediate past board member will move into the nominating committee as a member annually. This will help add supportive context to committee discussions.
- A motion was brought to the floor to approve funding and support for continued anti-bias training for the nominating committee.
- Committee members will attend a two-part anti-bias training course prior to reviewing applications and conducting board candidate interviews. There is an opportunity to expand this training opportunity to other ACLP committees that have selection processes within their charge and charter.

PUBLICATIONS

- A motion was brought to the floor and passed to approve with edits, the revised Guidelines and Procedures for Publications of the Association of Child Life Professionals, with the trial year beginning in June 2024.

The next board meeting is scheduled for the end of August. This meeting will be virtual, followed by an in-person meeting in early November. More board updates will be shared in the ACLP Bulletin Fall issue.

This year, the board welcomed the 2024-2025 incoming members: President-Elect, Elana Brewer, MS, CCLS, Secretary, Rebecca Meyers, MS, CCLS Directors Katherine Bennett, MS, CCLS, and Nicole Gandolfo, MA, CCLS, Canadian Liaison, Emily Synott, RECE, CCLS, and the Child Life Certification Commission (CLCC) liaison, Toni Crowell-Petrungaro, MS, CCLS. Additionally, the board expressed sincere appreciation for outgoing 2023-2024 board members Immediate Past-President, Lindsay Heering, MS, CCLS, Secretary, Cristie Suzukawa Clancy, MS, CCLS, Directors Vicky Isaacson, MA, CCLS and Cassandra James, MS, CCLS, CPXP, Canadian Liaison, Sandy Baggott, CCLS and CLCC liaison, Tracey Craddock, MS, CCLS. Their volunteer commitment, hard work, and dedication were instrumental in guiding ACLP through a momentous time.

