CSU Caucus Meeting Notes
OCCDHE October 25, 2006


Action Items:

1. Mimi from Chico will share link/info for online training re: subpoenas/release of records, as well as info re: using CPA as approver of CE units.
2. Brian from Hayward will share copy of his “contract” for non-student partners being seen as part of a couple.
3. Mary Ann from Long Beach will share info/notice sent out on her campus re: applying for lottery funds.
4. A task force group was formed to begin compiling a system-wide report on the state of mental health services in the CSUs (similar to the UC report). Members include: E. Axelroth, G. Pakalns, B. Reinhardt, M. Takemoto, and M. Willingham.

Announcements:

 Spring Director's Meeting will be at La Casa in Montecito April 25 – 27, 2007
 Full Fall Conference will be at The Cliffs in Shell Beach, October 10 – 12, 2007
 CSU Caucus needs to put forward someone who will serve as Chair Elect starting right after the Fall Conference (will replace Brian Reinhardt, who is serving this year as Past Chair)

Discussion:

Policies/Procedures and Specific Clinical Questions:
Mandatory leave policies, and/or “fitness evaluations” for return of suicidal student to campus housing
 Leaves are being handled on a case by case basis, rather than by policy
 No CSU CAPS are currently conducting fitness evals as noted
 Some do mandated evaluations as part of behavioral contracts from Res. Life or Judicial Affairs
 All expect there will be increased pressure to create/use policies given current trends, especially at schools in the East

Records Subpoenas
 All CSU CAPS release a summary instead of entire contents of chart
 None report any challenges or difficulties in response to doing so
 Some contact student to discuss what could be included
 Mimi from Chico will share link/info for online training re: subpoenas/release of records

Group session notes
 Titanium allows counselor to write a single group note and distribute it to each student’s case file, additional individual note(s) can also be added
 Most CAPS do the same, whether on Titanium or not

Do interns participate in case conference meetings w/staff?
 Many CSU CAPS include trainees in case conference meetings, some do not (depends on staff comfort level with sharing case material)

Compensation/Benefits Issues w/Faculty Counselors:
Compensation for after hours coverage (comp time, etc)
 Contract says faculty must work 40 hours w/in 7 days, but as exempt employees those hours do not have to be confined to 8 am to 5 pm Monday thru Friday
 Most CSU CAPS informally trade time off for time spent on outreach activities outside normal business hours or staying late to finish up a crisis
 Most CSU CAPS rely on campus police to respond to after hours and weekend crisis calls
 A couple centers have director on call or rotate among their staff, but without additional compensation
 These campuses report averaging 6 calls per academic year, many not requiring in-person response
Support, time and money, for professional development activities
- All CSU CAPS allow counselors to use work hours to attend prof. dev. activities, some require sharing of content with other staff upon return
- Most CSU CAPS have $200 - $300 per counselor in operating budget to support prof. dev.
- A couple have more ($600 up to all 36 required units every 2 years plus additional conferences)
- Many find holding CE in-house is cost effective and ensures completion of required CEs to maintain licensure
- Mimi from Chico will share info re: using CPA as approver of CE units

Sabbaticals – who has granted them and topics counselors have put forward
- Four campuses represented have granted Sabbaticals, one other has done Difference In Pay Leave
- Topics include: Bounce-Back program at CSUSD, international study in Japan, etc.
- One campus handles requests internally in CAPS/SA Division, most compete with instructional faculty applying to a university-wide committee

Malpractice Insurance – do you encourage staff to carry their own, and with what carrier?
- Most rely on coverage provided as employees of CSU
- If purchasing additional coverage, be sure policy indicates it is secondary to institution’s coverage
- Question was recently raised at Fullerton regarding whether institution’s coverage allows for seeing non-student partners in couples therapy

AUCCCD Director’s Survey
- Intended to replace/consolidate two previous surveys (Gallagher and other)
- Will allow participating directors to access comparative data from like schools

Meeting Demand w/Limited Resources:
- Additional funding
  - Each director should check on their campus re: lottery funds, how applied for/allocated/used?
  - Mary Ann from Long Beach will share info/notice sent out on her campus re: applying for lottery funds
  - Also check your faculty development center or with President’s office for research support or other faculty grants
  - Check to see if CAPS is listed as a possible place to designate donations via your campus development website
  - CSU San Bernadino has grant application pending with Kaiser, and was awarded $75,000 outside grant
  - Only CSU Hayward is routinely charging fees for services, which raise only $5000 to $6000 per year (non-student partners in couples $25/session, language program students $45/session, no-show fee $5, continuing care for students not enrolled over summer $25/session, etc.)

Use of funding acquired through the Mental Health Services Act
- Endorsed Emil representing CSUs in discussions, but have questions/need more info
- Many mentioned training as an area to focus on for possible funding

System report on UC Student Mental Health:
- UC Report was result of pressure on Regents from parents of Berkeley student who committed suicide
- Rumor is that these parents intend to expand their campaign to the CSU Trustees
- A task force group was formed to begin compiling a report on the state of mental health services in the CSUs (similar to the UC report). Members include: E. Axelroth, G. Pakalns, B. Reinhardt, M. Takemoto, and M. Willingham.

OCCDHE Awards:
- Caucus group endorsed recommendation to institute Awards (plaques) to be given every 2 years at the Fall Conference
- Three possible areas: “Lifetime Achievement” or some other title for a Director member who has served with distinction; Staff Excellence; and Program Innovation (which might include small monetary award to further that program)
- Caroline Haskell volunteered to serve as CSU rep to Awards Committee