CSU Caucus Meeting Notes  
OCCDHE April 25, 2007


Action Items:

- Mark to coordinate devising a protocol for re-entry evaluations with specified info that should be provided or addressed by a student and whatever MD or therapist they choose (outside provider).
- Jen to refer the following question to the OCCDHE Ethics Committee: Does seeing students when they are not registered present a liability concern; would insurance cover us in such cases (i.e. evaluating for re-entry after medical leave, etc.)?
- Bert to investigate OCCDHE website for agreement details regarding Emergency/Crisis Support among CSU counseling centers.
- Elie and Janet to investigate and report back on parameters and salary for new trainee level in SSP-AR included in the just ratified CFA agreement.
- All members are to give the By-Laws a thorough reading, especially the membership criteria, and propose changes at the Fall business meeting.
- Michele is to follow up with Ray Murillo at Chancellor’s Office to express a strong word from the CSU Caucus regarding our being central to any discussions regarding drafting system wide counseling center guidelines.
- Michele Willingham was nominated to serve as Chair Elect starting right after the Fall Conference, replacing Brian Reinhardt who will continue as member-at-large in place of Wiggsy Sivertsen. If Michele is not made permanent, Mary Ann Takemoto will step in as Chair Elect.

Announcements:

- Fall Conference is set for Shell Beach, October 10 – 12, 2007
- Proposed Spring Director’s Meeting at La Casa in Montecito April 16 – 18, 2008

Discussion:

Policies/Procedures and Specific Clinical Questions:

- Terry Schmitt at San Beradino asked about IACS accreditation. All present agreed that their staffing ratio of 1 counselor for every 1000 to 1500 students is a target none of us currently meets, but having that accreditation standard supports us pushing for more staff.

Students in Crisis/Safety Assessments and Cross-Campus Communication/Follow-up:

- San Jose’s consent at CAPS/SHS/DRC includes blanket release for all 3 to coordinate care and support. All other schools require separate signed releases, works fairly easily for some, others have resistance from SHS doctors.
- Mark at Northridge is being asked to conduct re-entry evaluations on students dismissed for misconduct or those granted medical leaves. No one except Mary Ann at Long Beach does them, but everyone is asked, by housing mostly, but others also. Some schools (back east) have a third party mental health provider do evaluations, but who pays for it?
- Jen asks if our seeing them when they are not registered students presents a liability concern; would insurance cover us in such cases? Question will be forwarded to the Ethics Committee for consideration.
- Mark suggests we devise/provide Deans/others with a protocol/specified list of info/items that should be provided or addressed by the student and whatever MD or therapist they choose (outside provider), then offer to evaluate the material submitted and consult on it/consult with decision maker, but stay out of any direct evaluative role.

Authorizations to Release Info in Mandated Counseling Cases (AOD sanctions, etc.)

- Use signed releases. On most campuses, Housing or Judicial Affairs send student with letter or contract requiring 3 sessions.
ADD/ADHD and Growing Demands for Testing/Verification of Disabilities & Prescribing Medication:

- San Diego’s SHS currently evaluates and medicates but feels overrun and wants to stop, but since their DRC and CAPS are not doing it, fear it will leave students hanging without access to this service.
- This has been the case at Cal Poly Pomona. In 05-06, no testing was available on campus, and of 40 students referred off-campus, only 1 came back with documentation. This year in CAPS 3 pre-doc trainees did 11 out of 15 referrals winter quarter. Some schools tell students to enroll at Community College for 1 class and get evaluated there for the low cost of one course at $20 or so per unit.
- Northridge is considering instituting a medication maintenance group for students who are done with therapy but continuing on meds. Chico has a bipolar support group that fills up every quarter.

Meeting Demand w/Limited Resources:

- Sacramento is implementing charges for no shows, especially for Psychiatrist appointments.

Wait List Times and Procedures:

- Average at CSU’s is 2-3 weeks with Sacramento the worst at 7 weeks. San Jose tried using a group for those on wait list which failed miserably, now they have the counselor, who did the intake, call that student each week to check-in and move them up in priority, if needed.

Ethical & Practical Utilization of Interns/Post-Docs:

- CFA’s new agreement allows for a new trainee level in SSP-AR, but it is unclear what the salary or parameters will be and who will set those. Elie and Janet to investigate and report back.

Anyone Using “Student Voice” Assessment Vendor?

- Northridge and Sacramento. Finding it very easy/helpful to have data “crunched” by them. Challenge is that the number of PDA’s limits settings where you can use it. Ok, in waiting room, and for walk about “person on the street” feedback at health fair or table events, but not workable for outreach presentation to 40 students.
- Several expressed interest in sharing our identified learning outcomes and means of measuring them – possible focus for future directors meeting?

MOUs with Nearby Counseling Centers for Emergency/Crisis Support:

- Bert to investigate OCCDHE website for our agreement details.
- Also, check with your campus Emergency Coordinator regarding city/country mutual aid and Red Cross resources.

Update from Task Force on CSU report to mirror UC report on Student Mental Health:

- Task group met before conference for lunch. In reviewing proposed data points from our meeting in January, realized likely to ambitious, so discussed cutting back to most critical/timely elements.

Update from Jamie and Alan, who were at the SHS Directors meeting last week:

- Doctors continue to express frustration with CAPS for not sharing info with SHS (w/out signed releases).
- It was also mentioned that some primary care doctors are trained/qualified to do therapy?
- Question was raised regarding whether there were system wide guidelines for CAPS, and it was shared that those we drafted were never approved/adopted by the VPSAs.
- Question was raised as to where the Chancellors office is in terms of making a position statement on the importance of Mental Health Services? Ray Murillo shared that Michelle Schlap, an auditor at the Chancellors office, is initiating/forming a group to draft counseling center guidelines. Ray assured them CAPS Directors would be included/asked for input. Michele is to follow up to ensure we are expressing a strong word from the CSU Caucus regarding our being central to any such discussions.

Other Topics:

- Briefly reviewed OCCDHE By-laws regarding membership criteria. #1 should be revised to read “function as Director” or “leads Counseling Center.” It was suggested that all members give the By-Laws a more thorough reading and propose changes at the next business meeting in the Fall.
- Commitment to Diversity Statements – did not discuss