

TEXAS STATE BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE EXAMINERS
AD HOC COMMITTEE TO REVIEW CONTINUING
ACUPUNCTURE EDUCATION HOURS
MINUTES
FEBRUARY 2, 2007

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. by Chair, Raymond J. Graham. Committee members present were Chung-Hwei Chernly, L.Ac. and Meng-Sheng Linda Lin, L.Ac.

Agenda item #2, regarding committee goals and strategy for this meeting was discussed. A resource group will be organized with representatives from the three Texas Acupuncture schools, and other interested parties. The resource group will be asked to provide input on Continuing Acupuncture Education (CAE). This input will be presented to the Ad Hoc Committee and the Committee will use that as a basis to draft rule changes that will be recommended to the Education Committee.

Agenda item #3, regarding an overview of general requirements for CAE as established by statute and TMB rules was discussed. Mr. Simpson clarified the definition of acupuncture expressed in statute to state that it is more narrowly defined than Oriental Medicine. Ms. Lin urged the Committee to develop guidelines that would approve CAE only for courses that fall within acupuncture as defined by statute. Mr. Graham expressed the desire to advocate for change in statute that would expand acupuncturists scope of practice in Texas to come in line with other states.

Agenda item #4, regarding a review of most recent statutory changes affecting CAE as set out in 205.255, was discussed, including establishment of written guidelines for granting continuing education credit that specify: procedural requirements; the qualifications needed to be considered a preferred provider of continuing education; and course content requirements; as well as, the delegation to medical board employees of the authority to approve course applications for courses that clearly meet the guidelines. Ms. Garanflo presented information on the approval process for preferred providers of CAE, currently in rule, but not implemented.

Agenda item #5, regarding discussion of goals of CAE, and identification of rules or issues requiring clarification. Mr. Graham stated that CAE must be education to enhance a licensee's practice and ensure continuing competence.

Agenda item #6, regarding discussion and direction to staff regarding subsequent steps for committee, stakeholder groups, resource groups, and staff. Ms. Shackelford stated that the next step is to convene the resource group to seek help in developing guidelines for approved CAE courses and course content. Results of that meeting will be presented to this Committee. Mr. Graham directed staff to provide the Committee with a written list of items in process.

There being no further business, **Ms. Lin moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 a.m. Mr. Chernly seconded. All voted in favor and the motion passed.**