

Diversity Taskforce

Charge

Provide guidance to the ACGC that is grounded in the theory and concepts of intersectionality as applied to genetic counseling regarding: 1) graduate educational initiatives, and 2) the pathway of entry to the profession through graduate school. The taskforce will review what is known about intersectionality in GC and other higher education fields, including a landscape analysis of genetic counseling graduate programs regarding their current efforts/practices and measures of success.

The taskforce will produce the following:

- Revised language for existing Standards and/or suggested language for new Standards related to intersectionality specifically applied to graduate education and the pathway of entry to the profession through graduate school
- Suggested methods for evaluating program compliance with both current and revised/new Standards, including measures to use with the Report of Current Status
- Recommendations for mechanisms to recognize programs/efforts that have succeeded in incorporating intersectionality into their curriculum and their pathway of entry to the profession

Membership Criteria and Restrictions

The President shall appoint the following members to this taskforce, with the consent of the Board of Directors:

- One (1) member of the genetic counseling community to serve as Chair
- One (1) current ACGC Director to serve as Board Liaison
- Two (2) members currently in program leadership (i.e., PD, APD, Fieldwork, Research) of genetic counseling graduate programs: one located in a large, urban setting and one located in a more rural setting
- At least one (1) member external to the genetic counseling community with expertise in diversity efforts in graduate education
- At least two (2) practicing healthcare providers: one from the profession of genetic counseling and one from a related healthcare profession
- Optional: one (1) member with administrative expertise in higher education (i.e., dean, provost, etc)

The taskforce itself shall prioritize diversity in its membership.

There shall be no more than one (1) member on the taskforce with ties to the same genetic counseling graduate program, whether in existence or being planned. Ideally, the taskforce will represent viewpoints from within and outside the profession of genetic counseling.

Term

This taskforce will convene on July 1, 2019 and exist for 12 months. If at the end of this period there is need for continued work, the Board may opt to extend the term of the taskforce and replace any members as needed.

Revised June 16, 2020

During the regular Board meeting on June 16, 2020, the Board voted to extend the timeline until December 31, 2020.

Reporting Structure

The Chair will report to the ACGC President no less than quarterly between July 2019 and December 31, 2020. The due date for written recommendations to the Board is December 31, 2020. The Board Liaison may provide more frequent updates to the Board as requested.

Budget and Required Resources

1. Conference calls
2. One in-person meeting (retreat)
3. Consultant with expertise in intersectionality

Approved by the Board of Directors on April 18, 2019.

Amended by the Board of Directors on June 16, 2020.