



MINUTES
QAAC ZOOM MEETING
NOVEMBER 19, 2019

1500-1600 EST

Participants

Present: Heidelise Als, Deborah Buehler, Dorothy Vittner, Melissa Johnson, James Helm, Nikk Conneman, Joy Browne

Absent: Inga Warren, Karen Smith, Graciela Basso, gretchen Lawhon

Courtesy Copy: Kathleen VandenBerg

Minutes from the October 6, 2019 Quality Assurance Advisory Council (QAAC) meeting were presented electronically. Motion to approve the Minutes carried.

Review of QAAC Session at NTM:

The group found the session to be very well organized and effective. D. Buehler noted that the fishbowl format led to enthusiasm and a sense of fun. H. Als reported that her group had a good discussion of important training issues, including topics such as trainee selection, learning styles and support needs, and that the session showed the value of senior trainers speaking directly to one another.

TOPIC FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION: Do we need to commit to developing formal ZOOM meetings for peer support?

D. Vittner noted that when the fishbowls were planned, several trainer levels were intentionally included. The roles of observer as well as "fish in the bowl" were discussed, and both were found helpful.

The issues of different learning styles among trainees, as well as variability in emotional intelligence, were also emphasized in several groups.

Preliminary/preparatory training such as the FINE may help identify people with strong potential for training to be NIDCAP leaders. H. Als noted that another session, which overlapped in some

of the content, also looked at the FINE for preparing nurseries for ongoing NIDCAP training and potentially enlarging the number of trainees and professionals.

POTENTIAL FUTURE QAAC SESSION TOPIC: Ongoing integration of FINE into the NIDCAP preparation process.

Other issues that have not been considered as much by this group: H. Als reflected on some of the variability other trainers reported in how they structure their training; for example, one European trainer does a large lecture, which helps fund the training process, and extends the training into the evening. It was noted that this can reduce costs, though it may challenge the processing and energy levels of some trainees and trainers. J. Helm pointed out that this brings up the question of varying styles and processes, and that some trainers may not be comfortable sharing variations in their training approaches; yet some of these ideas may be very useful for others to hear about. He suggested we seek ways of allowing people to share ideas anonymously. This led to a discussion about variations across cultures, as leadership roles, hierarchical structures, gender roles, and other issues may vary greatly across countries and even within countries.

POTENTIAL FUTURE QAAC SESSION TOPICS:

What qualities do we seek in trainees and trainers?

Cultural and individual differences in training and implementation

We also considered the value of adding members to the QAAC, which may require reconsideration of how Senior Trainers are designated. Some aspects of the process have possibly reduced participation (i.e. letters from leaders of outside units) in a way that may be partly affected by culture. Other alternatives, such as self-descriptions, may need consideration.

ACTION STEP: The program committee will consider the Senior Trainer selection QAT and look at possible modifications that may facilitate bringing more qualified individuals to this status and thus, it is hoped, to participation in the QAAC.

JANUARY 20, 2020 AT 12 NOON EST was selected as the date and time allowing the most members to participate.

Respectfully submitted,
Melissa R. Johnson

November 19, 2019

NOTE: Should NFI Members wish further detail or have questions related to the Minutes, please feel free to write to any of the Members, who attended this meeting.
