



NFI Program Committee – Quality Assurance Advisory Council

Minutes of the Conference ZOOM Call Meeting, 15 November 2017

Council Chair: K. Smith

Members Present: H. Als, J. Browne, K. Smith, K. Vandenberg, M. Johnson, N. Conneman, D. Vittner

Absent: G. Basso, D. Buehler, J. Helm, g. Lawhon

Topic: Minutes from 23 October 2017 Call Meeting Review and Adoption:

Discussion: The Minutes of the 23 October 2017 Meeting were adopted unanimously.

Topic: Welcome of New QAAC Members:

Discussion: Nikk Conneman, Jim Helm in absentia, Melissa Johnson, and Dorothy Vittner were welcomed to the group.

Topic: Date and Time of Future QAAC Calls

Discussion: Members were asked to review their Calendars for potential changes of the date and time of future QAAC Calls, due to some members' standing conflict with Thursday. Preliminarily the first Tuesday of the month, 1500 – 1600 Eastern Time was agreed upon. Review of the feasibility of this time is planned at the next call, Tuesday, 5 December 2018, 1500 - 1600.

Topic: Trainer Support

Discussion: The discussion focused on Trainer Support and on Challenges of Mentoring all Trainers and Trainers in Training at the various levels, in follow-up of the session 'Nurturing the Trainer' at the 28th NIDCAP Trainers Meeting in Edmonton, Alberta, Oct 2017. New Trainer and Trainer-in-Training questions and need for support were discussed. Two fairly consistent themes emerged (responses distributed to the QAAC prior to the meeting) and were summarized by Joy Browne. The first was the need for reflective processing in various ways

was mentioned by all Training groups. The second theme revolved around training material issues including, but not limited to revisions of current materials, translation of materials into various languages, integration of training into Universities for credit and use of electronic (distance) training supports. Joy Browne offered her insights in the use on ZOOM for regular sessions with both Trainees and Trainers-in-Training. Joy shared that she has found ZOOM to be effective and quite helpful in this process. Joy offered to share her experience in more detail with the group at the next call in order to support all Trainers in their development.

Topic: Discussion of Mentoring vs. Consultation

Discussion:

In the course of the conversation several terms were introduced. The primary terms that were used were Mentoring, Reflective Consultation and Peer to Peer support groups. Understandably, there are diverse definitions of these terms, which will be clarified further at an upcoming meeting.

The topic of reflective consultation was discussed, and was emphasized as a need in the responses from the 2016 Trainers Meeting groups. Reflective consultation, conducted with trusted and experienced persons in order to provide a safe, confidential, consistent and collaborative place to reflect on training experiences was determined to be a priority theme of the training work groups. Joy Browne indicated that several Trainers had expressed a desire to enter into such a group and she will be following up with them to determine if this approach will be beneficial.

Nikk also mentioned the successful European Reflective Consultation Master Classes where Trainers and Trainers-in-Training reflect and learn from one another about their training. However, although beneficial, because of the distance among Trainers in Europe they have not been sustained.

The Trainers-in-Training group expressed a desire to have peer group communication meetings at regular intervals. Peer to peer support provides opportunities to share experiences that are unique to their own groups and to provide a platform for communication.

Other requests of the work groups involved a desire to engage in mentoring from more senior Trainers. Mentoring provides guidance, insights from previous experiences and opportunities for problem solving in addition to understanding the work from a more experienced person's perspective. Melissa Johnson shared opportunities for one-to-one mentoring as well as peer support, which might be accomplished. Melissa Johnson offered to be part of the development of this mentoring process. Nikk Conneman also mentioned that he has been approached by

some Trainers, who wish to accompany him in his international work so they may receive mentoring in how to provide NIDCAP work cross-culturally.

There was interest from the group in regards to working on this process. It would be geared towards developing frameworks to be shared at the next Trainers Meeting.

Topic: Training Issues

Ideas for topics at the next Trainers Meeting were shared. Thoughts included: Reflective sessions regarding the QAAC, Training through Story Telling, Reflective Processing and Mentoring.

The next Call will be on Tuesday, 5 December 2017, 1500 – 1600 EST.

Notes by K. Smith/HA, 1 Nov 2017