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Cc:
Bcc:
Subject: Fw: Psychology Board of Psychology discussion paper

Attention: Chair, Psychology Board of Australia.

Having read both the PBS meeting minutes, consult. paper, and attended a seminar with Prof. Allan last week on the upcoming registration proposals, as well as having read the Clinical College's response - clarity is still required on one issue from my perspective.

My course is the Clinical Psychology PhD by Research and Coursework, a doctoral degree that entails clinical coursework, three internships, and a full-size PhD over 4-years (i.e., essentially a Clinical Masters and a clinically focused PhD in one program). The 4-year Clinical PhD is not to be confused with the research only, non-clinicianship focused, standard 3-year PhD.

It seems from the aforementioned papers that there may be some doubt as to my course allowing for specialist title, even though it is the ideal as far as the Scientist Practitioner Model of psychological training - over that of the 3-year D.Psych. Clinical, and in-line with the strictest training standards for clinical psychologists globally, that of the United States.

Also, as it currently stands in WA, I would be required to have 21-months of supervision for specialist title, and the D.Psych. graduates to have 18-months. This I'm informed will change to 24-months for my course (14% more) and only 12-months for the D.Psych. (44% less).

The D.Psych. clearly has received favoritism; its term for supervision has reduced substantially, whilst the Clinical PhD has risen. But, of far greater gravity, is the talk that only the D.Psych. Clinical will afford recognition as a specialist Clinical Psychologist. Is this true?

If so, is the PBA aware of the Clinical PhD's crucial differences vs. the research only PhD and the validity of the Scientist Practitioner Model which justified my selection of the 4-year course above all others?

Also, how can the D.Psych. attract such a substantial reduction in months of supervision, whilst the Clinical PhD has increased?

Many thanks for your attention.

Kind regards,

Richard Syrkiewicz.

Clinical Psychology PhD Candidate.
School of Psychology and Social Science.
Edith Cowan University.