

CECA MEETING MINUTES

December 19, 2013

Members present:, Armand Antommara, Sally Bean, Ken Berkowitz, Courtney Bruce, Joe Carrese, Brian Childs, Art Derse, Stuart Finder, Ann Heesters, Martha Jurchak, Aviva Katz, Hannah Lipman, Kathy Powderly, Terry Rosell, Jeffrey Spike, Wayne Shelton, Stuart Sprague, Lucia Wocial (chair)

Others present: Anne Cordes (Interim Executive Director)

Absent: Lisa Anderson-Shaw, Malcolm Shaner, Anita Tarzian

The meeting was called to order at 11:05 am ET.

MINUTES

Minutes from the November meeting were discussed, MOTION: To approve the minutes from the November meeting with minor correction. APPROVED

CECA CHARGE

Committee members (18) responded to the survey about possible activities to propose to the ASBH board. There was discussion about the results and clarification of items listed.

There is consensus that the following activities should be put forward to the ASBH board.

1. Author an article about the Code of Ethics to AJOB seeking commentary. Anita Tarzian will be invited (not volunteered) to be lead author on the article. Bob Baker's input will be sought as well. Details about how to navigate a 20 person authored article will be discussed once we identify the lead author. If Anita declines, Lucia (as chair) will coordinate efforts. The article would include a discussion of the process used to create the code and the justification for creating the code.
2. Build products (e.g., power point for education that uses cases to illustrate application of the code of ethics). Target audiences for these products include individuals who need "self study" CE opportunities, members of ethics consultation services, members of ethics committees, organizational leaders who are not directly involved in ethics consultation. Education about the code of ethics would be case based and use the code to help describe what to expect from ethics consultation. Tentatively, the products would be developed on a timeline to make it possible to share at the 2014 ASBH meeting during the CECAG meeting. Attendees would be asked for input (following the same process used to develop and edit the code of ethics).
3. Explore the concept of accrediting ethics consultation at the service level (i.e., is an ethics consultation service within a healthcare facility conforming to standards in the field?). It is unclear what direction the exploration needs to take, and is expected to evolve over time. However, members present felt it was important to

put this forward to the ASBH board as the third leg of the stool (accreditation of training, certification/attestation of individual and accrediting/certifying consultation service teams).

CECA CHARTER

Historically, CECA was created to meet the need for an expert body to review ethics consultation work. Going forward, it might be more useful if the charter reflected a broader purpose with an area to focus on for each year. The work of this group has evolved since its original charter. For example, based on the original charter, the QATF activities seem to fall within the scope of CECA work. While there is intentional overlap between membership on CECA and QATF, it remains unclear how the two groups formally relate to each other. The same is true for activities related to accreditation of programs. The Association of Bioethics Program Directors has taken a lead on this work. CECA members would like the ASBH board to clarify how the Quality Attestation Task Force and ABPD, and CECA are related.

CECA has taken a stab at revising the charter to reflect the current state. It will be sent to the ASBH board with a request that the members of the board provide an updated charter for this group. Some highlights from the revisions that the board needs to address:

- The original committee was named “Clinical Ethics Consultation Affairs” and yet the language that is most consistently used is “Health Care Ethics Consultation”. Does the charter need to reflect the new nomenclature? If so, does the committee need to be renamed? CECA tried to address this issue a bit when the board asked us to reconcile the language issues in the Code.
- The original proposal stated “certification” explicitly. Since ASBH is pursuing an attestation process, should that be reflected in a revised charter (e.g. eliminate the word certification)?
- Content that is covered in the policy on standing committees was eliminated.
- Details about membership criteria was added.

Regardless of the details of the charter, the group fees the identified activities for the year represent the next logical step in dissemination of the code of ethics.

QAPTF UPDATE

Some members were selected, some not. No information about the random selection process was available during the meeting. Members of the QATF will follow up and share with CECA when available.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at noon ET.

The next meeting will be held via teleconference on January 15, 2014 11 am – noon ET.