

## **SOCIAL WORKERS REGISTRATION BOARD**

### **Notes of the 79<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee on Qualification Assessment and Registration**

Date: 10 March 2020  
Time: 7:35 p.m.  
Venue: Conference Room, 26/F Eastern Commercial Centre, 83 Nam On Street, Shau Kei Wan, Hong Kong  
Present: Dr. Alvin KWOK Ngai-kuen (Convenor),  
Ms. Yvonne CHAK Tung-ching (co-opted member),  
Ms. Kathy CHEUNG Lai-yi,  
Ms. Cherry LAU Chiu-man (co-opted member),  
Dr. Zeno LEUNG Chuen-suen,  
Dr. NG Yut-ming,  
Mr. Ivan YAU Tat-yu (co-opted member)  
Apology: Ms. Morgan FAN Yee-kwan (co-opted member),  
Dr. TING Wai-fong  
Secretary: Mr. Eric LEE Wing-po (Registrar),  
Ms. Emily CHAN May-shan (Assistant Registrar)

#### **Confirmation of the notes of last meeting**

1. There were no proposed revisions to the notes of last meeting, that they were confirmed the true records of the said meeting.

#### **Report**

##### Response to the enquiry of fieldwork arrangement due to the outbreak of COVID-19

2. A standard email had been sent to all Tertiary Institutions (“TIs”) on 13 Feb, reiterating the 4 principles issued in December 2019 in response to the social situation, which still applied to the present health situation. Several enquiries from fieldwork coordinators and students were received. TIs were reminded to keep a clear record of any special measures adopted.

#### **Review of the Principles, Criteria and Standards for Recognizing Qualifications in Social Work (“PCS”)**

3. The Committee took note of several documents including the revised draft (CQAR79-3a), the present edition (CQAR79-3b), comparison of revised and present versions (CQAR79-3c), review of different terms related to fieldwork practicum (CQAR79-3d); and summary of opinion collected during public consultation (CQAR79-3e) prepared by the Board Office. Since the rationale and principles of the whole document have been thoroughly deliberated at the past meetings, the convenor stated that the discussion of this meeting should be focused on the use of wordings and format.
4. Members went through the document from the beginning. For the word “educational objectives” written in the 4<sup>th</sup> paragraph of Foreword, (Anonymized) highlighted that there was an in-depth discussion in the past meetings on choosing between “educational objectives” or “competence”

and members resolved to choose the former because they would like to put the focus on the educational element of the programme instead of the result of the graduates' competence. (Anonymized) further shared that (Anonymized) was conducting a research on professional competence recently. Members took note of this information and they confirmed the use of "educational objectives".

5. The Secretary proposed adding into the criteria of the educational objectives prior to sub-section 4.1.1(a) to make the curriculum requirement more explicit and clear. Members agreed to this suggestion.
6. For the phrase "at all levels" written in the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> objectives, members agreed changing to a clear expression as "at micro, meso and macro levels for individuals, families, groups, organisations, communities and societies."
7. Regarding the alignment of the terms like "Field Practicum", "Fieldwork Practicum", "Fieldwork placement" and "Fieldwork Instructor" and "Fieldwork Supervisor", consensus was arrived at using the terms "Fieldwork", "Fieldwork Placement" and "Fieldwork Supervisor" after referring to the document CQAR79-3d for a review of terms used in local and overseas TIs.
8. For the heading of sub-section 4.1.3(b), members agreed changing it to "Core Knowledge related to Social Work".
9. Concerning the requirement of fieldwork hours for Year 3 entry students of BSW qualification, some members supported some TIs' opinion of aligning it with the Conversion Programme, i.e. for those students possessing a social work diploma, not less than 400 hours subject to the application of the TIs and recommendation of the Assessment Team. Members with this view perceived that same rationale and principle should be applied to the students of Conversion Programme and Year 3 Entry of Bachelor degree programme as they believed that the competence and experience of graduates of Diploma programmes are similar to those of the Year 3 entry students. Since there was no consensus reached, convenor suggested to follow up after the public consultation.
10. Members agreed to circulate the revised draft after the meeting and put forth to the Board for endorsement if it was being approved. The second stage of public consultation was proposed to be launched from June to September. Members agreed to collect written feedback instead of arranging consultation sessions due to the uncertainty of the public health situation. Follow up meetings would be held after consultation, while translation and legal vetting of the document would be conducted before submission to the Board for final approval. The Secretary reminded that the date of edition would be different from the effective day to allow a transitional period.

#### **Any other business**

11. There being no other business.

#### **Date of next meeting**

13. The next meeting would be held at 7:30 pm on 10 July 2020.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15pm.

END