



Edmund G. Brown Jr.
GOVERNOR

CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

PUBLIC PROTECTION THROUGH EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND REGULATION

M I N U T E S

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING

July 12, 2016

Sacramento, CA and Teleconference at Various Locations

Committee Members Present

Tian Feng, Chair
Pasqual Gutierrez, Vice Chair
Raymond Cheng
Betsey Dougherty
Glenn Gall
Sylvia Kwan (arrived 10:29 a.m.)
Ebony Lewis
Kirk Miller
Paul Neel
Barry Williams

Committee Members Absent

Stephanie Silkwood

Guests

Shelly Jones, Special Assistant to the Director,
Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) - Board and Bureau Relations
Tracy Montez, Ph.D., Chief of Programs and Policy Review,
DCA - Executive Office

Board Staff

Doug McCauley, Executive Officer
Marcuss Reinhardt, Program Manager Examination/Licensing Unit
Jeffrey Olguin, Examination/Licensing Analyst
Timothy Rodda, Examination/Licensing Analyst
Lily Dong, California Supplemental Examination Analyst
Gregory Marker, Continuing Education Program Analyst

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Committee Chair Tian Feng called the Professional Qualifications Committee (PQC) meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. Doug McCauley called the roll.

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A. REVIEW AND APPROVE THE JULY 14, 2015 PQC SUMMARY REPORT

Mr. Feng asked whether there were any comments on the July 14, 2015, PQC Summary Report.

Betsy Dougherty made a motion to approve the July 14, 2015, PQ meeting Summary Report.

Barry Williams seconded the motion.

Committee Chair Feng, members Cheng, Dougherty, Gall, Gutierrez, Lewis, Miller, Neel, Williams voted in favor of the motion. Members Kwan and Silkwood were absent. The motion passed 9-0.

B. UPDATE AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2015-2016 STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE TO COLLABORATE WITH CALIFORNIA'S NATIONAL ARCHITECTURAL ACCREDITING BOARD ACCREDITED PROGRAMS AT SCHOOLS AND THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION BOARDS (NCARB) TO ESTABLISH AND PROMOTE AN "ACCELERATED PATH TO ARCHITECTURAL LICENSURE"

Marcus Reinhardt presented this item and reminded the Committee that NCARB has been working the previous few years on integrating the experience and examination components into degree programs via its Integrated Path to Architectural Licensure (IPAL). Mr. Reinhardt then advised the members that Board-sponsored language was enacted by the Legislature to clarify Business and Professions Code 5550.2, which grants the Board authority to allow early ARE eligibility for IPAL students. He also explained that additional programs were accepted into the initiative, including an additional program at Woodbury University.

Mr. McCauley informed the Committee that Vice-Chair Pasqual Gutierrez was a member of the NCARB committee responsible for the development of the IPAL pathway. Mr. Gutierrez commented that IPAL is a dynamic program and he recommended continued support from the Board. He also recommended staff continue monitoring NCARB activities for discussion at future meetings.

Raymond Cheng asked why the accredited programs at public universities had not chosen to participate in IPAL. Mr. Cheng also asked whether a possible reason may be related to the ability to initiate change within their respective systems of governance. Mr. Gutierrez indicated the public universities appear to be monitoring progress on the initiative before before committing resources to IPAL.

C. UPDATE AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2015–2016 STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE TO CONDUCT REVIEW OF ARE TESTING ENVIRONMENT IN ORDER TO ENSURE SECURITY AND EFFICIENCY

Mr. Reinhardt presented this item and informed the Committee that because of the late launch for ARE 5.0 staff was proposing an ARE site visit in mid to late-2017. He also informed the

Committee that staff would research logistics and collaborate with NCARB to identify the best time for the site visit.

D. UPDATE ON NCARB RESOLUTION 2015-02 REGARDING ALTERNATIVE FOR CERTIFICATION OF FOREIGN ARCHITECTS

Mr. Reinhardt informed the Committee that during its 2015 Annual Business Meeting held on June 18-20, 2015, NCARB announced it will commence work with Member Boards on developing a path to licensure for professionals who have qualified experience from more than five years ago (which exceeds the current Architectural Experience Program [AXP] reporting requirement). He added that the purpose of this proposal is to create a path to licensure that permits documentation of valid work experience and fulfills the spirit of AXP, but falls outside the limit of current AXP reporting requirements. Mr. Reinhardt noted this program is fundamentally similar to the Broadly Experienced Design Professional Pathway previously proposed to NCARB by Mr. Gutierrez. He added Board staff will be monitoring NCARB communiques for updates as they are released.

Mr. Reinhardt advised the Committee that during the NCARB 2015 Annual Business Meeting, Member Boards approved Resolution 2015-02, which discontinues the Broadly Experienced Foreign Architect (BEFA) program in favor of a simplified alternative for receiving an NCARB Certificate. He added the effective date is July 1, 2016. Mr. Reinhardt informed the Committee the Board accepts the NCARB Certificate issued through BEFA from foreign candidates pursuing reciprocity. He added the Board also provides them the option of the initial licensure pathway for those who do not wish to use BEFA. Mr. Reinhardt explained that in the past the Board did not accept the NCARB Certificate issued through BEFA nor have reciprocity with foreign countries, except Canada. He noted that there are only 12 individuals who have successfully completed the program.

Mr. Reinhardt advised the Committee that the new alternative for foreign licensees will replace the current BEFA Program's requirements, eliminating the committee dossier review and the need to document seven years of credentialed practice in a foreign country. Instead, he explained that foreign architects will be required to document completion of IDP experience requirements and successfully complete the ARE to obtain NCARB Certification.

Ms. Dougherty expressed her concern to the Committee regarding NCARB requiring completion of the ARE and IDP for foreign architects prior to being permitted to practice architecture in the United States. She opined this requirement will require talented international architects to joint venture with international companies in order to have their IDP experience endorsed by a US architect, and that would be an impediment for foreign architects.

Mr. Miller inquired whether there is any service that evaluates a foreign degree in architecture. Mr. Reinhardt explained that NAAB administers the Education Evaluation Services for Architects, which evaluates the credentials of foreign educated and broadly experienced architects in comparison to the NCARB Education Standard. He added that if deficiencies are determined during the evaluation, the candidates must make up those deficiencies in an accredited program.

Mr. Reinhardt advised the Committee that the Board, at its March 12, 2015, meeting, took an "oppose unless amended" position on Resolution 2015-01, which would have eliminated NCARB Certificate eligibility for architects without postsecondary education. He noted that at the March 12-14, 2015, Regional Summit, the proposed resolution was extensively debated and Board President Jon Baker strongly advocated an amendment to preserve the existing pathway for architects without postsecondary education. Mr. Reinhardt informed the Committee that based upon the feedback received from membership, the NCARB Board of Directors unanimously voted at its April 23-25, 2015, meeting to present a revised draft of the resolution for consideration at the 2015 NCARB Annual Meeting. Mr. Reinhardt indicated the resolution was again amended at the Annual Meeting and subsequently failed to pass by a narrow margin. As such, NCARB stated it would return in a year with a new proposal that would capture the blend of rigor, inclusion, and ease of use that is acceptable to a majority of its members.

Mr. McCauley and Mr. Gutierrez recommended that the Committee review any new proposal from NCARB to assess impact on existing pathways to attaining the Certificate.

E. DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON 2015-2016 STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE TO EVALUATE THE PROFESSION IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY ENTRY BARRIERS FOR DIVERSE GROUPS

Mr. Reinhardt informed the PQC that the 2015-2016 Strategic Plan includes an objective for the Board to identify entry barriers for diverse groups. He noted that NCARB released its *2016 NCARB by the Numbers*, which includes data demonstrating that diversity within the profession has doubled to 44 percent since 2007.

Mr. Reinhardt advised the PQC of the survey [*Diversity in the Profession of Architecture*] conducted by The American Institute of Architects (AIA), NCARB, and National Organization of Minority Architects, National Architectural Accrediting Board, Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture (ACSA), American Institute of Architecture Students, and the Coalition of Community College Architecture Programs about the perception of racial and gender diversity within the profession. He informed the PQC of the key findings (e.g., need for more involvement from practitioners in the community, providing greater tools for people of color, greater investment from the community to make education affordable and inviting, and greater investment from firms to promote diversity) and various sources noted in the agenda item.

Mr. Reinhardt provided the PQC with information relating to how the Board compares to the national average on newly licensed individuals broken down by sex as compared with the national average.

Mr. Reinhardt informed the PQC of staff recommendations to consider. He asked the Committee for direction and recommendations to the Board. Mr. Reinhardt explained the staff recommendations to consider: 1) collaboration with NOMA, 2) further student access to NAAB-accredited programs, and 3) inspire student interest in the profession through licensed professionals.

Mr. McCauley informed the PQC of the Little Hoover Commission (LHC) study on occupational licensure. Mr. McCauley discussed the issues of collecting racial and ethnicity data on

candidates and licensees. He informed the PQC that the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) does not currently have authorization to collect such information. Mr. McCauley also explained that legislation may be introduced to allow entities within DCA to collect such information. DCA would likely be charged with managing such data.

Mr. Feng inquired as to the main observations and findings with respect to diversity in the profession in California compared to the national data. Mr. Gutierrez explained that in the past, the Board has reached out to community colleges to explain the pipeline into the profession. Mr. Gutierrez and Mr. McCauley indicated to the PQC that a poster is in the process of development, and there are plans on dispersing the information to community colleges, California Department of Veteran Affairs, US Department of Veteran Affairs, and high school career centers.

Mr. Cheng indicated that the percentage of minority architects is improving, but that there needs to be more encouragement in the area of education. He also stated that California is moving in the right direction, and doing as well or better than the national statistics.

Mr. Neel and Mr. Williams noted that 51% of California Polytechnic State University, San Louis Obispo (Cal Poly) architecture students are female.

Ms. Dougherty indicated that internships for high schools students are becoming popular in Orange County. She indicated that drafting programs were dropped from local schools and asked PQC members if anyone knew of a mandate for internship programs in their communities. Mr. Neel indicated that the State of California has dropped these programs in favor of Regional Occupational Programs (ROP). Mr. Neel indicated ROPs are effective because they do not require college level education in order to gain skills to enter the workforce.

Mr. McCauley inquired whether AIA, California Council's Build Environment Education Program (BEEP) was still functioning. Ms. Dougherty indicated that two school districts in Orange County had the program. Mr. Williams indicated that Kathy Steward of San Luis Obispo County continues to keep the program with the schools. Mr. Gutierrez indicated that during his time as President of AIA, Inland California, BEEP was used extensively for demonstrations in malls during Architecture Week.

Mr. Williams indicated that Cal Poly offers a four-week summer career workshop for high school students who were considering architecture as a career. He stated that the workshop has become more popular every year with over 60 students attending in 2016. Mr. Williams noted the workshop had a good representation of minorities.

Mr. Williams discussed the challenges for students of community colleges to get acceptance into NAAB-accredited programs. Mr. Williams also indicated that Cal Poly has been accepting more out-of-state students than in-state students.

Mr. Feng inquired whether the summer career workshop was profession-specific. Mr. Williams indicated that the workshop did incorporate other similar professions (engineering), but it primarily focused on architecture. Mr. Feng stated that he was impressed with the Cal Poly program and that it was great for students to be exposed to the concepts of architecture.

Pasqual Gutierrez made a motion to make a recommendation to the Board to evaluate staff recommendations for the foundation to initiate the Strategic Plan Objective to encourage and promote California diversity in architecture.

Betsey Dougherty seconded the motion.

Committee Chair Feng, members Cheng, Gall, Kwan, Lewis, Miller, Neel, and Williams voted in favor of the motion. Member Silkwood was absent. The motion passed 10-0.

The meeting adjourned at 11:32 p.m.