



**State of Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners**  
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**REGULAR MEETING**

**May 26, 2010**

**OPEN SESSION MINUTES**

Members of the Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners met at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, May 26, 2010, at The University of Arizona, Arizona Respiratory Center, Kiewit Auditorium, 1501 N. Campbell Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85724.

**Board Members Present:**

Toni Bernalley, L.Ac., Chairperson  
Ross Adelman, Consumer Member, Secretary  
Maureen Bronson, Consumer Member  
Woohyung Cho, L.Ac., Professional Member  
Dianne Darcy, L.Ac., Professional Member  
John M. Rhodes, L.Ac., Professional Member

**Board Members Absent:**

Robert L. Gear, NMD, DC, Professional Member  
Rebecca Wilks, MD, MD(H), Professional Member

**Administrative Staff:**

Pete Gonzalez, Executive Director

**Attorney General Representative:**

Montgomery Lee, Assistant Attorney General (available by telephone)

## Call to Order

Chairperson Bernalley called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. The Board Members introduced themselves to the audience as the meeting was conducted in Tucson, Arizona.

The following order of business was then considered:

## Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

Board Member Bernalley declared a conflict of interest on the acupuncture license application of Matthew Cavaiola.

Board Member Darcy declared a conflict of interest on the acupuncture license application of Jeremy Werner.

## Discussion and Approval of Minutes

Board Member Bronson moved the adoption of the minutes for the April 28, 2010 regular board meeting with Board Member Rhodes providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 6-0.

Adelman	Bernalley	Bronson	Cho	Darcy	Gear	Rhodes	Wilks	Vote
X	X	X	X	X		X		Aye
								Nay
								Recused
								Abstained
					X		X	Absent

Board Member Bronson moved the adoption of the Executive Session minutes for the April 28, 2010 board meeting with Board Member Darcy providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 5-0.

Adelman	Bernalley	Bronson	Cho	Darcy	Gear	Rhodes	Wilks	Vote
X		X	X	X		X		Aye
								Nay
								Recused
	X							Abstained
					X		X	Absent

**Applications for Licensure (without self disclosures)**

The Board reviewed the license applicant chart and Board Member Rhodes moved for the approval of the applicants for licensure listed below with Board Member Adelman providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 5-0.

Jeremy R. Werner  
Stephanie M. Nelson

Adelman	Bennalley	Bronson	Cho	Darcy	Gear	Rhodes	Wilks	<b>Vote</b>
X	X	X	X			X		Aye
								Nay
				X				Recused
								Abstained
					X		X	Absent

The Board reviewed the license applicant chart and Board Member Bronson moved for the approval of the applicant for licensure listed below with Board Member Rhodes providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 5-0.

Matthew Cavaiola

Adelman	Bennalley	Bronson	Cho	Darcy	Gear	Rhodes	Wilks	<b>Vote</b>
X		X	X	X		X		Aye
								Nay
	X							Recused
								Abstained
					X		X	Absent

**Applications for Auricular Certificate (without self-disclosures)**

The Board reviewed the license applicant chart and Board Member Rhodes moved for the approval of the applicants for licensure listed below with Board Member Darcy providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 6-0.

Yoselin Munoz  
Fernando R. Cardenas

Adelman	Bennalley	Bronson	Cho	Darcy	Gear	Rhodes	Wilks	<b>Vote</b>
X	X	X	X	X		X		Aye
								Nay
								Recused
								Abstained
					X		X	Absent

**Other Applications/Requests – Continuing Education**

The Board reviewed the continuing education application for the course “Clinical Application of Abdominal Acupuncture—Part 2” offered by the Chinese Health Center, Inc. on August 8, 2010 for 8 hours.

Board Member Rhodes moved for the approval of the continuing education application with Board Member Bronson providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 6-0.

Adelman	Bennalley	Bronson	Cho	Darcy	Gear	Rhodes	Wilks	Vote
X	X	X	X	X		X		Aye
								Nay
								Recused
								Abstained
					X		X	Absent

**Presentations from Schools of Acupuncture in Tucson, Arizona**

Alex Holland, M.Ac., L.Ac., President of the Asian Institute of Medical Studies provided the following report:

Asian Institute of Medical Studies – open 10 years, fully accredited by ACAOM.

Our Mission is as follows:

The Asian Institute of Medical Studies believes that healing, teaching and transformation are three faces of one compassionate, skillful and wise intent. This intent is the common motive of AIMS that we will enact specifically:

1. by awakening healing in individuals, one by one, so each may re-experience happiness and wholeness;
2. by teaching the Asian arts of compassionate healing, including acupuncture and Oriental medicine, so that our family of healers and practitioners may bring health and ease throughout the world; and,
3. by transforming the root cause of disease and suffering within the greater context of society, environment and spirit, so that all beings may re-experience the unobstructed joy of living.

Our motto is: Teaching a Perspective on How Consciousness Influences Healing

Two programs: 3 year M.Ac.  
3 1/2 year MAOM

In addition: - 750 hour Shiatsu Certificate Program for body workers  
- 240 hour Tuina Certificate Program for body workers

- 12 weekend Certificate Program on Psycho Energetic Acupuncture which teaches participants how to combine TCM theory and practice with the ancient and modern techniques of energy reading and healing.

We also offer Public Education courses to raise awareness to the public regarding the benefits of TCM. These courses primarily revolve around Chinese perspectives on diet and nutrition and self-cultivation of energy through the practice of Qigong.

Our graduates have nearly a 100% passage rate on the national NCCAOM exam.

We have a Community Clinic through which our interns practice TCM skills on the general public and are supervised by licensed practitioners who have been practicing an average of between 12 and 25 years.

To assist our graduates, we have developed a **Residency Program**:

This program is for graduates that allow them to continue to practice at the Institute's Community Clinic after graduation for up to 6 months. The Residency Program was developed so individuals could maintain their clinical skills and work with colleagues while waiting for licensure or as they develop their own private practice outside the school. Many graduates have taken advantage of this supportive opportunity.

The Institute is also, through popular demand, reinvigorating its "College of Ideas" and will soon be presenting evening talks on the following two phenomena:

1. The Mayan Calendar and its implications
2. The Crop Circle formations and their symbolism

In addition, we have community affiliations with the following organizations that help our students and graduates integrate TCM into the greater context of society:

#### Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine

The Asian Institute has an ongoing relationship with Andrew Weil's Arizona Center for Integrative Medicine (AzCIM) at the University of Arizona Medical School. I am the primary Preceptor in TCM for the Arizona Center and have taught hundreds of physicians the theory of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Through this relationship, our students have been invited to participate in the AzCIM Patient Conference, a consortium of CAM practitioners who discuss cases and determine the best strategies for therapy. In addition, AzCIM Residents, who consist primarily of medical doctors and osteopaths, shadow our students in the AIMS Community Clinic twice a year for two weeks. This is a great opportunity to educate western healthcare practitioners in the art and practice of TCM.

#### Cortiva Institute

Cortiva Institute is a massage school in Tucson and has a community clinic.

Student treatments at Cortiva are regularly priced at \$30 for a 50-minute session, but faculty, administration and students of the Asian Institute qualify for a special discounted price of \$20 per session. The Asian Institute reciprocates by offering a discount to their students and associates in our community clinic.

### The International Rescue Committee

The International Rescue Committee was founded in 1933 and offers lifesaving care and life-changing assistance to refugees forced to flee from war or disaster.

The Asian Institute has a developing relationship with the IRC to provide Traditional Chinese Medicine therapeutics in our Community Clinic for refugees working with the IRC. Working through translators, our students provide healthcare for refugees from all over the world to help relieve suffering from both physical and mental trauma. The Asian Institute was honored by the IRC in 2006 for our work with refugees and we continue to be supportive of their humanitarian mission.

### Arizona Integrative Wellness Coalition

AIMS was also a founding member of the Arizona Integrative Wellness Coalition (AIWC) that sponsors monthly networking breakfasts and speakers for alternative healthcare practitioners. The AIWC mission states:

We come together in a spirit of service and celebration to build community among practitioners in complementary and alternative wellness professions; promote integrative practices; build bridges with other health practitioners; and cooperate in advancing the health and wellbeing of the public at large through education and advocacy.

Although the Asian Institute is a young school, we have much to be proud. We believe in bringing community together by being active in community.

Laurel Inman, CTACC, Director of Education, Arizona School of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine provided the following information:

1. College began in 1997.
2. Have around 50 students.
3. Offer 2 Master Degree programs.
4. Offer 1, 2-year Tuina Certificate program that follows the Tang Shou Tao lineage.
5. Offer federal financial aid, due to accreditation.
6. Currently focused on the re-accreditation process.
7. Community focus that includes:
  - Co-sponsoring work of Dr. Emoto's Tucson event.
  - Health Festivals - over 100 attendees offering free TCM sessions, vendors, food, music, kid's activities and more.
  - Variety of community Health Fairs (UofA, Botanical Gardens, Chinese Cultural Center, etc.)
  - interested in supporting a Tucson AzSOMA chapter.

## Professional Business

The Executive Director provided the Board with an explanation of the proposed Continuing Education Provider List. In the development of the 2010 strategic plan, the Board identified the need to review the continuing education (CEU) process and practice. The goal is to develop a plan to encourage top rated CEU providers to come to Arizona.

The Board reviewed the draft Continuing Education Provider Application. Schools, professional associations and individual licensees are the usual providers of continuing education courses.

The Board reviewed the draft application and will schedule the approval of the application at a future board meeting.

After review of the proposed Imposter Alert—notification to the public of individuals who present themselves as licensed acupuncturists without a valid license to practice—the Board took action on this item.

Board Member Bronson moved for the approval of the Imposter Alert with Board Member Rhodes providing a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 6-0.

Adelman	Bennalley	Bronson	Cho	Darcy	Gear	Rhodes	Wilks	Vote
X	X	X	X	X		X		Aye
								Nay
								Recused
								Abstained
					X		X	Absent

## Executive Director Report

### License and Certificate Status Report:

Active Licensed Acupuncturists: 491  
Expired Licenses: 6  
Active Certified Auricular Acupuncturists: 61

### Board Office Information/Activities:

- Pursuant to Arizona Revised Statutes §32-3925 (B), license and certificate renewal notices for July 2010 licensees were prepared and sent. In addition, expired license and certificate letters for the month of April were sent.
- Coordinated with the University of Arizona and others on preparations for the regular board meeting in Tucson.

- Working with technology consultant to improve the office database functions to include the ability to send mass email notices to licensees on various topics of interest.

For the month of April, the board website was visited by 863 individuals. A steady increase of hits has taken place in the last three years. In 2006, a total of 7496 individuals used the web; 10,200 in 2007; 11,930 in 2008 and 10,927 in 2009. To date in 2010, there have been 4009 unique visits and 57,174 hits.

### **Future Meeting Dates**

June 23, 2010

July 28, 2010

### **Call to the Public**

Deborah Malone, L.Ac. from Tucson addressed the Board and thanked them for their dedication and for holding a board meeting in Tucson. Ms. Malone spoke to the need of acupuncturists to assist the public in matters pertaining to health issues. Ms. Malone shared information regarding auricular acupuncture treatments and asked the Board to open a rulemaking to meet the public's need for additional auricular acupuncture services such as aftercare. The apparent need for more auricular acupuncturists is critical and Ms. Malone urged the Board to explore this identified and vital need.

Joseph Balensi, L.Ac. from Tucson shared his thoughts on the topic of auricular acupuncture and requested the Board revisit his proposal to approve specialty substance abuse treatment programs. Mr. Balensi contacted Susie Cannata, who has been involved in acupuncture legislative matters, and she stated the Board does have the statutory authority to approve specialty substance abuse treatment programs. Mr. Balensi and Ms. Cannata will provide a draft rule for the Board to consider at a future date.

Catherine Niemiec, L.Ac. from Phoenix on behalf of the Arizona Society of Oriental Medicine and Acupuncture (AzSOMA) informed the Board about national legislation that may have some impact on the practice of acupuncture. AzSOMA will continue to make elected officials aware of pending legislation and of issues important to the profession of acupuncture and oriental medicine. The efforts to strengthen the activities underway by AzSOMA are ongoing to best address issues of importance to this Board.

Y.M. Chen, L.Ac. from Phoenix thanked the Board for holding its board meeting in Tucson. Mr. Chen stressed the need for practitioners to get involved so they can assist in the growth of the profession.

Richard Utt, L.Ac. from Tucson addressed the Board regarding the process involved in providing continuing education course. Mr. Utt explained his teaching methods and asked the Board to consider his continuing education course offerings as a benefit to practicing licensed acupuncturists.

Minerva R. Perez, National Acupuncture Detoxification Association (NADA) trainer and acu-detox specialist from Tucson. Ms. Perez expressed her concern about auricular acupuncturists losing their certification when they move from one location to another. Ms. Perez asked the Board to revisit the rules on this matter given the potential impact on the auricular acupuncturist.

**Discussion of Items to be place on a future meeting agenda**

No requests were made at this time.

**Adjournment**

Board Member Adelman moved for adjournment and Board Member Bronson provided a second. The motion carried by unanimous vote: 6-0. The Board adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Adelman	Bennalley	Bronson	Cho	Darcy	Gear	Rhodes	Wilks	Vote
X	X	X	X	X		X		Aye
								Nay
								Recused
								Abstained
					X		X	Absent

Respectfully Submitted,



Pete Gonzalez  
Executive Director

Approved by the Board: June 23, 2010