

My Name is Nadia Thalji, I am a doctoral candidate in Clinical Psychology at Pacifica Graduate Institute and intern at the C. G. Jung Institute of San Francisco. I am also a Member of the multicultural concerns committee (APA / Div 39) and Student Board Member of CAPIC (California Psychology Internship Council).

*I greatly appreciate this opportunity to make an oral presentation before you at the NACIQI - National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity*

The cumulative effects of policies that do not reflect the needs of students can be quite devastating. It is a matter of urgency to address some of the unjust policies and practices by (APA/APPIC/ and the Council on Accreditation), policies that are not inclusive and have a discriminatory impact on students and the public.

In 2015, I had access to a qualified internship through CAPIC, the loss of such organization would be devastating to the diversity of the profession. The half-time internship model, which is not as available at APA-accredited internships, has given me the opportunity to fulfill the requirements for completion of my doctoral degree in the field of Clinical Psychology.

As a student, I could not afford another year of schooling while waiting to obtain an APA-accredited internship.

In addition, as a single parent, I could not afford the expenses required to interview and move across country (for a year) for an APA-accredited internship.

The quality and relevance of the modality offered at my current CAPIC internship, satisfies my personal and professional goals, offers me the opportunity to work with a community and client population that is not as available at APA-accredited internships.

I am here, to ask you to investigate the policies for instance the Implementing Regulation D.4-7(b), that are undervaluing the non-accredited internship opportunities.

Students from underserved communities and parents that are not willing to relocate, should have access to all qualified internships, including CAPIC internship.

The Implementing Regulation D.4-7(b) is an example of policies that are not reflective of the profession and not responsive to its members or to the public.

My hope is to advocate for the practice of clinical psychology by addressing how such policies are unethical as they negatively impact the diversity of students, like me, in the field of psychology.

To best serve the public and the profession of psychology, I ask you to investigate these concerns, and implement policies that are inclusive and reflective of the profession and are responsive to the needs of students, professional members and to the public. Thank you in advance for your consideration.