

Juliet Script for NACIQI

Thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of CAPIC and doctoral psychology students! As a board member of the California Psychology Internship Council, otherwise known through the acronym of CAPIC, I felt it important to come here today to advocate for CAPIC internships and, as an extension, for doctoral students' choices in the directions they wish to focus their training and careers.

There are a **number of CAPIC sites** that have had strong internship programs for **many years**, but some of these sites are now facing a situation where they need to close their doors. **This unfortunate predicament is often due to having less viable applicants** and in some cases, no applicants. Much of this is an outcome of a fear-based stance that academic programs have of not being able to either attain or retain APA accreditation unless they meet the CoA requirement to have at least 50% of their students securing APA accredited internships. CAPIC sites are being marginalized in other ways as well. For instance, a quick jog through a list of ads for job opportunities demonstrates a trend toward only accepting post-doctoral applicants who have completed APA accredited internships as well.

In a number of ways, restrictions that are placed on students in regard to their choice of training, impact clinical and health services that are available in communities as well. For example, a student who is among the first generation offspring of immigrants may need to stay in her/his local community and attain a half time two year internship in order to care for elders who do not speak English. Further, this individual may simply wish to build some professional recognition in a particular community. This wish or choice may be related to a desire to contribute something of value in an underserved geographical area or population. The student may be direly affected by having to move to another geographical area in order to complete internship requirements, simply because the site that the student would choose to complete internship is CAPIC and not APA approved.

The student population is different in 2016 than it was even 20 years ago. We must be mindful of certain contextual factors that can impact stress levels and to be sensitive to family and other systemic considerations. So, with due respect, as we are all in this together, I came here today to speak to these considerations. Thank you very much for your time!