



Doctoral Internship Policy & Procedures

Fellow Advisory Committee Overview

Revised 07-01-16

1. **Continuous Quality Improvement:** The Yale Doctoral Internship in Clinical and Community Psychology, which is operated under the auspices of the Yale Department of Psychiatry, is committed to a process of continuous quality improvement. To be effective, that process must be fully informed by the experience and opinions of fellows participating in the program.
2. **Sources of Fellow Input:** Input from fellows is obtained from multiple sources including: their ratings of seminar presentations, supervisors, and placements; completion of an end-of-the year evaluation of the training program; and through verbal feedback provided to placement supervisors, institutional Chiefs of Psychology, and the Director of Clinical Training. The Fellow Advisory Committee (FAC) was established to strengthen the feedback mechanisms, the connection between students and faculty, and involvement of fellows in program quality improvement.
3. **Selection of FAC Members:** During the initial phase of the internship, fellows are invited to express interest in participating in this committee. The Director of Clinical Training selects between three and five self-nominated students for the FAC, ensuring a diversity of representation from facilities and placement sites within the program.
4. **Tasks of the FAC:** The FAC will be convened by the Director of Clinical Training periodically to address a range of tasks that potentially include, but are not limited to the following:
 - a. Track and promote the progress and group development of the internship class
 - b. Identify areas of student concern
 - c. Discuss areas of faculty concern
 - d. Engage in problem solving regarding identified issues or problems
 - e. Identify and help implement potential strategies for strengthening the internship program
 - f. Provide input into policy development or policy changes
 - g. Provide input into strategic planning activities of the program
 - h. Assist in reviewing and developing strategies to address accreditation standards
 - i. Plan program special events
 - j. Coordinate fellow participation in recruitment activities with applicants
 - k. Conduct an orientation teleconference with newly accepted fellows
5. **Responsibilities of FAC Members:** The responsibilities of FAC members are to:
 - a. Establish an open line of communication with other fellows about the internship program
 - b. Gather information about problems and student recommendations for program improvement
 - c. Attend FAC meetings regularly and represent student interests in this forum
 - d. Assist in planning and coordinating selected program events
 - e. Contribute to activities of the Fellow Advisory Committee

Focus on Group Level Issues: The Fellow Advisory Committee is not intended to replace the standard process for resolving issues specific to an individual fellow. When a fellow has difficulty with some aspect of the internship experience, he or she should discuss it with the immediate supervisor and/or primary and secondary placement advisors. If the issue is not satisfactorily resolved at that level, the fellow should reach out in turn to the facility Chief Psychologist and the Director of Clinical Training. The Fellow Advisory Committee will play a role in identifying problems that are experienced by multiple Fellow