



10 May 2013

Dear Full and Associate Members

PUBLISHING SACNA MEMBERSHIP STATUS ON PROFESSIONAL LETTERHEADS

We would like to draw members' attention to the following issue, which was previously raised in our newsletter of October, 2012:

1. SACNA's position remains that only *Full Members* of the Association may publish their membership status on their professional stationery, since this membership reflects the acquisition of additional competence via submission to formal examination and peer-evaluation. Consequently, *Associate Members* who publish their membership status on their professional stationery, in such a manner as to suggest that they have acquired additional competence in the field via that membership, would be regarded as mis-using their affiliation with SACNA, and as misrepresenting their status to the public.

2. For those *Full Members* who wish to publish their membership status on their professional stationery, it is important to adhere to the regulations set down in the the Health Professions Act (Act 56 of 1974; paragraph 4 (1) (d)), pertaining to professional letterheads, which prohibit the inclusion of information beyond that listed in the regulations, including membership of associations. The recommendation of SACNA is to situate the statement of membership at the end of a report/letter, underneath the member's signature and professional registration.

3. We reiterate further the requirement of the HPCSA that all psychologists identify clearly their specific category of registration on professional stationery. In particular, we emphasise that the HPCSA registration category (clinical; counseling; educational; industrial; research) may not be replaced by a statement SACNA membership status, nor may membership of SACNA be represented as a formal academic qualification.

4. The Executive Committee of SACNA has consequently resolved that any member of SACNA who contravenes the above regulations governing the use of professional stationery in a manner that contravenes the HPCSA guidelines, or in a manner that may be seen to misrepresent the members' affiliation to the public, would be subject to the Association's sanction, including possible suspension or termination of membership, and SACNA may also support the Health Professions Council of South Africa in any disciplinary steps the Council may deem fit.

Annelies Cramer