

COMPETENCIES 2002:
FUTURE DIRECTIONS IN EDUCATION AND CREDENTIALING
IN PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY

During the past few years, a number of developments have signaled that the time has come to hold a conference focused on the identification, training, and evaluation of professional competencies for health and human service providers and educators in psychology. These developments include, but are not limited to: conferences, workgroups, and commissions throughout North America and Europe; efforts among various groups to identify core and specialized competencies; and initiatives to facilitate mobility. There is an increasing realization that the articulation, identification, and evaluation of competencies that define a psychologist enable the profession to communicate to the public and legislators about services psychologists can provide. The purpose of *Competencies 2002* is to bring together representatives from diverse education, training, practice, public interest, research, credentialing, and regulatory constituency groups to engage in a process of: (1) identification of core and specialized competencies building upon already existing models; (2) formulation of developmental and integrated models of competencies for the training of the next generation of psychologists; and (3) development of strategies for the evaluation of competencies. It is hoped that this conference will serve as a catalyst for continued collaborative efforts related to the identification, training, and evaluation of competencies; foster links between a broad array of constituency groups to better train the next generation of psychologists; enhance the competence of professional psychologists; and better serve and protect the public.