Ethics and Ethical Dilemmas in College and University Counseling Centers.

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Dr. Behnke is a second year MDiv student. He received his J.D. from Yale Law School and his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan. In 1996, Dr. Behnke was made chief psychologist of the Day Hospital Unit at the Massachusetts Mental Health Center, a position he held until 1998, when he was named a faculty fellow in Harvard University's program in Ethics and the Professions. After completing this fellowship Dr. Behnke directed a program in research integrity in the Division of Medical Ethics at Harvard Medical School. In November of 2000, he took the position of Director of Ethics at the American Psychological Association. He holds an appointment in medical ethics in the Department of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School.

Brief Description of Program Content:

This ethics workshop will address ethical decision-making, the relationship between ethics and law and ways for practicing psychologists and other mental health professionals to minimize exposure to legal and ethical liability. This workshop will include a discussion of the APA Ethics Code, with a focus on the structure of the Code and specific ethical standards that are relevant to clinical practice in college counseling centers. The program will emphasize how psychologists can use the APA Ethics Code to facilitate ethical decision-making by learning a process method designed to address four elements related to every dilemma.

Case vignettes will be used to illustrate ethical decision-making applied in actual clinical practice.

Learning Objectives:

1. Identify a process for resolving legal and ethical dilemmas

2. Find concrete ways to minimize exposure to legal and ethical liability

3. Use the Ethics Code as a tool to facilitate ethical decision-making;

4. Understand how specific standards in the Ethics Code relate to the practice of psychology in college counseling centers.

5. Learn a process method for assessing ethical dilemmas.