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THE ROLE OF PEER SUPPORT IN MENTAL HEALTH RECOVERY
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WOMEN AS MENTORS: DOES SHE OR DOESN’T SHE?
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Until the early 2000s, much of coaching’s knowledge base was produced by private coach training organizations and individual practitioners. Since then there has been a growing movement toward evidence-based coaching and a scholarly-practitioner foundation for the profession. As Ronald M. Cervero noted in 1992, the university-based model of research and training within most professions unites “the production of knowledge and the production of practitioners” into the same structure.

Continuing from last month’s tidbit on the growth of coaching in Australia, yet another pioneer was Dr. Anthony (Tony) Grant, who graduated from the University of Sydney’s Department of Psychology with a Doctorate in Psychology in 1998. His doctoral thesis, *Towards a Psychology of Coaching: The Impact of Coaching on Meta-cognition, Mental Health and Goal Attainment*, was one of the first to explicitly examine coaching psychology (Grant, 1998). He is both a practitioner and an academic. In January 2000, Grant established and became Director of the world’s first Coaching Psychology Unit at the School of Psychology at the University of Sydney. Grant is the leading proponent and published researcher in evidence-based coaching, a term that was coined by his staff.

Major universities began offering coaching certificates and degree programs in the late 1990s. As Patrick Williams notes, “options for credentials multiply as the world of higher education embraces coaching.” The first coach certificate programs began in the United States in 1998 at George Washington University (and reportedly at George Mason University, although I was unable to verify this). The University of Sydney, Australia, was the first to offer a postgraduate degree in coaching psychology in 2000. These institutions were soon followed by other colleges and universities offering classes leading to certification and degrees in coaching and related fields. (For the most comprehensive list of such colleges and universities see Peer Resources’ Coaching Directory of Coach Training Organizations here.)

From The Sourcebook of Coaching History

The Rising Tide of Evidence-Based Coach Training Programs

Vikki Brock

(Editor’s Note: Vikki Brock has graciously prepared a number of brief stories from her book: *The Sourcebook of Coaching History*. Each month during 2014, the Peer Bulletin will include one of these stories. Note: Links typically are for current work of group or individual.)

(This article is available as a PDF here.)