



President's Message

In this issue

NYSPA Council Meeting Highlights...2

Dr. Alice Honig presents...4

From the Subpoena to the Witness Stand...4

Dr. Christine Allen awarded...5

Dr. Michael Miller publishes...5

Dr. Rodger Greenberg awarded...5

Dr. Andrew Cole inducted...5

New referral service from NYSPA ...6

Hard to believe we are three quarters through this year!! I took the time recently to do some inventory of what we are up to make sure I have done part to support psychology in Central New York.

I remain very active within NYSPA, specifically legislative efforts. It has been rewarding to represent CNY this way as we look to increase the visibility of psychology, improve access to mental health, and further our interests and role in health care. I am running for Secretary of the organization and want very much to continue to provide a voice for CNY at the State level along with Christine Allen, PhD, your representative to NYSPA council!

Here locally, I have been trying to ensure the strength of our regional association. It is important that we continue to grow our numbers and build strength for continued advocacy. It will be very important to get back our roots of a rich and active program committee. We have a strong committee now under the direction of Dr. Charles Bradshaw! Stay tuned for opportunities in the future!

It is quickly becoming that time of year for elections!! Take this opportunity to get more involved in your profession. Run for a board position!! Please contact me if you are interested!

Tanya Gesek, Ph.D.
Licensed Psychologist
gesekphd@gmail.com

Save the Date! CNYPA Fall Happy Hour

**Dr. Richard Juman, President-elect of NYSPA
to Join CNYPA's Fall Happy Hour!**

When: October 21st, 5-7 pm

Where: Genesee Grande Hotel, Syracuse



Disaster Mental Health – 2011 Update

Maxine Block, Ph.D.



2011 has been a wild year for weather and disasters. The Red Cross has sent teams to nearly every state and the disaster response has been more costly than in recent memory. And, as you can well imagine, an important aspect of effective disaster response involves identifying and assisting with mental health needs.

After 9/11, a number of CNYPA members and other colleagues participated in Red Cross Disaster Mental Health training. Several of our colleagues went to New York to assist in that response, and the impact of their involvement continues today.

Since that time, many local professionals have been trained and have participated in disaster response, both local and national. You may recall Joe Himmelsbach and I each wrote pieces for the CNYPA scope on our experiences in Louisiana following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Disaster mental health work takes many forms. Several colleagues are active in the Red Cross disaster assistance teams that respond to serious fires and events in the immediate area. Personally, I have participated in the local response following two major bus crashes. In addition, several years ago I was deployed through the New York State Office of Mental Health to assist following the shooting at the American Civic Center in Binghamton.

I have also been involved in providing mental health assistance at Disaster Assistance Centers for New York State flood victims. This work involves going to the centers, which housed a

number of agencies (e.g., FEMA, Red Cross, Small business Association, Department of Social Services) providing assistance to flood victims – financial, food stamps, cleaning materials, etc. The mental health role in those centers focuses on observing individuals responses to the understandably stressful situation and to offer support, normalization, and referral to additional resources if needed. In that setting, as in all Disaster Mental Health work, we are alert not only to the needs of the “victims” but also of the other workers and volunteers.

Sound interesting? Here comes the opportunity for you to participate in this rewarding and intense work, and to take your skills outside of the proverbial box. If you are interested, please contact May Becker of the Central New York Chapter of the American Red Cross (at 315 374-6002) and let her know you are interested in Disaster Mental Health. When we get enough people for a class, we will schedule one. (Please feel free to share this information with other licensed mental health professionals, too.) You would be under no obligation to go anywhere once you are trained – you would always be polled regarding interest and availability and you can always decline.

Everyone I know who has made this commitment has found the work rewarding and powerful, and most of us would be more than willing to share about our experiences. CNYPA members make their living responding to the needs of others, helping people respond to life challenges and create and sustain quality lives. Here is one more opportunity to make a difference.

“Everyone I know who has made this commitment has found the work rewarding and powerful...”

NYSPA LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The calendar for legislative committee of the New York State Psychological Association (NYSPA) starts in September each year and we have been off to a very busy start! The legislature in Albany gets back to work in January so we use these months to formulate a strategy and get our ducks in a row.

The legislative committee is taking a much more grassroots approach and we are mobilizing our committee members and NYSPA members around the state to reach out to legislators to make connections and build relationships. When we meet, we offer training on NYSPA's Distressed Constituency Program and how they can get involved in the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Program. Stay tuned for meetings coming up this fall. If you would like to set up a meeting with your representatives, please contact me and I can help you get started!!

One major recent issue that has come up is the laying off of all OMH Psychology interns across the state. When the Public Employees union rejected the most recent contract offer from the state, the governor issued these layoffs, effective October 19. This directly impacts three interns at our Hutchings site! NYSPA has moved swiftly to work with training directors, representatives from APPIC and APA to rectify this egregious situation!

But we are not done yet. With a new lobbyist in place, NYSPA is off to a great year of advocacy! Stay tuned for updates! Below are some proposed bills for this session:

NYSPA's Preliminary Legislative Agenda:

1. Sequence of Training: This involves an effort to obtain a change in NYS licensure requirements consistent with APA's recommendation to enable applicants for licensure to obtain all or part of the two year experience requirement through pre-doctoral work. Dr. Joanne Lifshin is spearheading this effort in conjunction with APA's Nancy Klein and others. Dr. Lifshin has systematically and arduously gathered data from psychology training directors and academic programs to ascertain that there is support in the psychology training community for this regulatory change to be made. The major objection seems to be from SED which would have the responsibility for reviewing and monitoring necessary changes in doctoral programs. A plan of action to deal with this objection is being developed.
2. Mandate Relief. NYSPA has responded to the state's efforts to remove school psychologists from the Committee on Special Education. This was an outcome of the state's mandate relief proposals which stemmed from the property cap legislation and required the state to look for spending mandates that were **unsound, unduly burdensome, or costly**. The Regents proposed eliminating the school psychologist and specific school psychological evaluations from the CSE process as a mandated service. NYSPA strongly opposed this and collaborated with NYASP, the UFT and other organizations through a letter-writing campaign and public testimony. So far, a final decision has not been made and we will continue to find ways to oppose this action.
3. Unlicensed Technician Issue. Over many years, we have been working diligently to amend the unlicensed technician issue which was stalled just prior to Associate Commissioner Frank Munoz' retirement. In the latest development, we met with the new A.C. Doug Lentovich in late August who we had reason to hope would be more amendable to a resolution of this matter. APA has worked actively with us and provided additional support in the way of funding through the APA Defense Fund for the work of the lobbyist on this issue - Rich Leckerling representing both NYSPA and NYSAN- along with the offer to have APA's Dr. Katherine Nordal present at our august meeting with SED. As has been true in the past, NYSPA's commitment is to resolve this through either reissuance of the 2003 memo or legislatively. In so doing, our aim is to abide by the terms of agreement represented in "Draft 11." At the August 22, meeting (NYSPA representatives were Drs. Rasin-waters, Feder and Ms. Russell) there was discussion with Mr. Lentovitch about reissuing the memo as a short-term measure with

the probability that the issue would ultimately require a legislative fix. Although NYSPA and NYSAN made clear their respective needs for content in that memo – about which they are in agreement – it is not clear that Mr. Lentovitch can negotiate along those lines with the psychology board. He was hopeful that something could be issued by end of the year.

4. Concussion management and awareness act. S.3953. Passed June 2011. The bill (S.3953), sponsored by Senator Hannon and Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan directs the State Education Department, in consultation with the State Health Department, to adopt rules and regulations for the recognition and monitoring of concussions in students. The bill establishes minimum guidelines regarding removal from play, physician clearance, and “return to play” protocols. NYSPA objected to the inclusion of only a licensed physician as the stipulated medical professional authorized to make return-to-play decisions. NYSPA met with Nolan’s Director of Legislation to explain the special expertise of psychologists who are trained in neuropsychological evaluation of brain injuries including concussions. She said other groups had also advocated and wanted to establish a minimum standard. She suggested that NYSPA get involved in the training requirement aspect of the bill and work with SED on putting that into regulation.

5. Assessment for fitness in criminal trials. S3884. An act to amend the criminal procedure law regarding the determination of a defendant's mental fitness to understand the proceedings against him or to assist in his or her own defense in a criminal proceeding. It would add the professions of licensed clinical social workers and licensed nurse practitioners in psychiatry to the definition of "psychiatric examiner." Currently, this procedure is allowable by law for licensed psychologists and psychiatrists. Justification: The ability to identify and secure a psychiatrist or psychologist able and willing to perform mental fitness examinations is very limited in many areas across New York State. This has caused a backlog in CPL 730 examinations thus further impacting the criminal

Justice system in addressing persons whose fitness to proceed is in question. NYSPA’s LC will be considering our position on this.

6. Autism Insurance Reform Bill in NY (S5845, A8512). Mandates insurance coverage for ABA (Applied Behavioral Analysis) treatment. Kathy Doyle alerted us to this development. Includes psychological care and requires referral for ABA by either physician or psychologist. Concerns for NYSPA: ABA is a master's level certification but according to Doyle, they're looking for licensure and independent practice and she says their scope looks a lot like ours. Questions: Can we review this bill for insurance implications? Can we monitor indications that ABA certified are moving toward licensure?

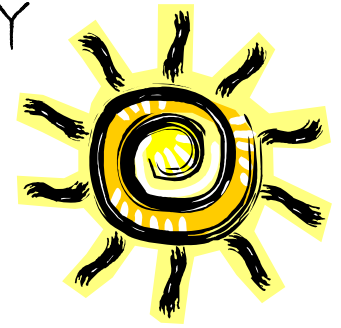
7. Possible future bills generated by NYSPA:

- **Protection of Ordered Custody Evaluations:** The proposed legislation would provide protection to psychologists against frivolous complaints during the course of the trial. Obstacles have been objections of psychology board.
- **Hospital Access:** Would provide that hospitals are prohibited from denying staff privileges or professional privileges to any psychologist without stating the reasons for the denial. We’ve been seeking this for decades, have faced virulent opposition from the medical society and need to discuss possible reconfiguration.
- **RXP**



PROFESSIONAL PSYCHOLOGY COMMUNITY CORNER

Some of our CNYPA members have been very busy recently – take a look!



A “Thank You” from Richard O’Neil

Dear friends colleagues,

I want to thank all who sent good luck and best wishes for my run in the Wineglass Marathon this past Sunday.

I had a wonderful race--came in at 3:23:48, adjusted for my 58 years that translates into 2:49:29 for the 26.2 miles.

My lifetime goal has been breaking 3:00 age-adjusted. So as you can imagine, I am happy as a clam!!!!

I had to use all of my sports psychology knowledge to tough it out, but most useful was having all the good wishes pulling me along, and having my wife Pam Percival, and our sons Nick and Riley, providing water, advil and cheers along the way!

Better living through psychology!

Thanks again.

All the best,

Rich

Congratulations to Dr. Tanya Gesek

Tanya Gesek finished a triathlon this past summer! Please give your CNYPA president a pat on the back the next time you see her!

What do young people dream about?

This is the title of Dr. Alice Honig’s (along with A. Nealis) newest article in the journal “Early Child Development and Care”. The article describes research in which young children ,three to five years old, were interviewed about by their teacher, about their dreams when they came to preschool in the morning. The content and characters of their dreams were analyzed. The article is “in press” currently. Please contact Dr. Honig (ahonig@syr.edu) for an updated publication date.

Dr. Honig also recently led an in-service training session for the Nurses in the Syracuse City School Districts. The topic was how nurses in schools can help children with emotional stresses in addition to physical complaints.

Congratulations Alice!

CNYPA Board Meeting Time Change!!

Please note that there is a time change for our October 21st CNYPA Board meeting. The meeting will be held in its usual place at 2:30 instead of 1:15 (to allow for a smoother transition to the Happy Hour (which starts at 5pm at the Genesee Grande Hotel).

Also, this meeting will have a special guest, Richard Juman, PhD, president elect of NYSPA!

NYSPA COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS September 9th, 2011

This was the third meeting of the year, as the one originally scheduled in June was canceled to save money. The NYSPA Convention was held in Manhattan in June and was the best attended NYSPA Conference ever; there was a lot of positive energy! Beanne Rothenberg, Tanya Gesek and David Stang were there from CNYPA. I received a Distinguished Service Award from NYSPA, for which I was very appreciative (although feel there are many others who have done much more than I have!)

At the beginning of Council, there was a special 30-minute talk by Dr. Greg Hinrichsin at 4:30 on aging and discrimination; we convened 1/2-hour early for the presentation, which was aimed at helping Council begin to address issues of diversity through setting a precedent of educating us on these issues.

Minutes from March 25th Council Meeting were approved as well as were several new committee members. We had discussion of a Divisions that may have fallen short of required numbers to retain a Council seat. A motion was passed that if IPD (Division of Independent Practice does not increase its numbers for 2011 to 400 by December 31st, it will lose its 2nd seat on Council).

I am presenting the President's Report in its entirety here, so that you can get a flavor of her focus:

*New York State Psychological Association
President's Report
Dr Donna Rasin-Waters*

We have been moving at warp speed to get timely information out to NYSPA leaders and members on all that we know thus far about health care reform on both the national and state level. We have learned that all eyes are on NY and it is predicted that what happens in reform in our state will set the pace for other parts of the country.

To that end, I am delighted to report to Council that the APAPO has offered to assist NYSPA in understanding health care reform as it plays out in our state. We are enjoying a closer than ever relationship with access to the APAPO Legal and Regulatory Affairs Team as they assist us with navigating the uncharted waters of health reform law. This is a direct outcome of the activities from the presidential initiative on integrated behavioral health and the think tank on health care reform that was held prior to the NYSPA Convention on June 3rd.

We should all be proud of the hard work by our NYSPA Leaders over many years. Currently our state association is even at a new level of national leadership. We are now poised as a model and other state psychological associations will be having their own think tanks on health care reform. It is a rich opportunity for all of us to expand our connections with colleagues in neighboring states and throughout the country in order to impact and lead mental and behavioral health reform.

The June 3, 2011 NYSPA Think Tank received front page coverage in the summer issue of The National Psychologist. There were excellent quotes from Peter Kanaris and Bob McGrath who were participants. Please be sure to distribute the article (available online) to your constituents.

At our Council Meeting I will give a brief oral update on health reform. This will include current activities and developments in the state and the goals of our second think tank which will occur September 10th. We will be drafting a tool kit for our membership regarding suggested readings and continuing education to assist with navigating health reform. There will also be brief statements from each of the think tank attendees who are Council Members: Chris Allen, Roy Aranda, Bill Barr, Kristin Talka and Peter Kanaris.

Thanks to the Conflict of Interest Task Force: Dr. Jerry Grodin, Chair; Dr. William Barr; Dr. June Feder; and Dr. Larry Baker for their revised document regarding Conflict of Interest. We will be discussing the document at our meeting.

Thanks also go to the Committee on Psychotherapy Practice for their hard work on putting together an ad marketing psychotherapy services by doctoral level psychologists to primary care medical doctors. Their work will serve as a model for a task force on advertisements for the various specialties within psychology and the NYSPA that I will form shortly and announce at Council.

I look forward to reading committee, region and division reports. Once again, I thank each and every one of you for your service to the NYSPA.

The RxP Task Force was made into a standing committee and Dr. Raisin-Waters appointed a new Task Force on branding for psychology. Council voted to have the January Council meeting on Saturday only to save NYSPA money; Upstate Council members will be able to stay overnight as needed, but it will still save NYSPA significant money. The meeting will no longer be held at a hotel and there won't be a contract so Tracy Russell, our ED, can negotiate the best deal possible as she goes along.

I am also including the entire Executive Director's Report, because I would like you to see how much NYSPA gets for its investment in Tracy and all the things NYSPA is involved with in terms of advocating for psychology. Feel free to only read the parts of interest to you. Also, if you are a NYSPA member, you can go on the website and download any or all of the reports to Council or Council minutes.

Executive Directors Report

***Tracy Russell
August 2011***

While I had anticipated the couple of months following the convention to be quiet and an opportunity for the staff to take some time off and take care of a lot of planning for the fall events, it proved to be a non-stop whirlwind of activity.

I have sent monthly reports to the Executive Committee to keep up with the activity, these are attached. So fair warning that this is a LONG and detailed report. I have summarized the report here and noted references for further details.

Over the summer there was a lot of time spent planning. The staff has been working with NYSPA leaders to schedule events, prepare reports, look at finances and prepare for the fall and the coming year. Staff has worked very hard work with Divisions and regions and assisting their assigned committees and the results are in the reports.

Membership

I trust that you have all noticed the high volume of new members coming to Council weekly for approval. Please take a moment to notice the membership report attached. We will have a final report for 2011 membership at the Council meeting where you will see an increase. We have been receiving memberships from psychologists almost daily since the APA meeting in early August. We are very close to seeing an increase in the number of psychologist members and have exceeded new member numbers. The overall numbers are close to the highest in 10 years

Website Development

I trust that you have all explored the new NYSPA website. The Referral Service has been enhanced, there is a new layout, and Division pages have been more developed. This is a never ending work in progress please take the time to review and send your comments so we can continue to improve the site.

Committees

You can tell from the committee reports that the committees have been very active. Staff continues to provide support for the committee work by providing expertise in various areas. We have assisted with strategy development, facilitation, expert knowledge of specific areas, layout and design and product development and communications. The committees of NYSPA are the heartbeat of the organization and should be commended for all of their commitment.

Educational Programming

The attached schedule of fall events will give you an indication of the level of activity that we have had in meeting planning, we have worked with Divisions on meeting facilities, CE approval, sponsorships,

registration and promotions. There are also NYSPA programs that have been planned to generate additional income and provide requested educational information.

Operational Items

Over the summer there has been an extensive effort to improve the basic operations of NYSPA. Time has been spent soliciting a new accounting firm, reviewing the current lobbying arrangement, working on staffing structure and tightening compliance with IRS rules and regulations. We have also spent a lot of time working with the treasurer to improve NYSPA's financial situation. Our Interim Treasurer has done a wonderful job and is dedicated to having a 2012 budget for approval by Council in November that includes cost savings measures that will bring NYSPA back to sync with the current economic climate. Please see the Treasurer and Finance Committee Report. Also I want to note that Kathryn Ohanian has done a fantastic job selling advertising. This increases non-dues revenue helping the bottom line.

Please email any questions that you may have in advance of the council meetings so I may prepare in advance. I will have updated information at the Council meeting.

Update on Recent Activity

APA

On Friday July 8, President Rasin-Waters and I had a call with APA Practice Directorate AED Dan Abrahamson, PhD and Legal and Regulatory AED Shirley Higuchi, Esq and Stacy Larson, PsyD, JD. They requested the call to discuss the efforts that NYSPA has made to educate members on integrated health care and accountable care organizations. APA has indicated that NY is currently leading the nation in this effort and they want to support these efforts and work with us so the information can be shared with other states.

In APA's efforts to organize a plan of action that will be inclusive they are putting together an advisory committee. The committee will consist of representation from many areas of APA including STPA representation. Only a few states will be asked to have a representative, NY, NJ, FL, OH and CA. Dan asked Donna if she would be interested in serving on the committee representing NYSPA. He also strongly encouraged her to prepare a presentation for State Leadership 2012. Donna gladly accepted, this is an honor for NYSPA. The call was very productive and encouraging for NYSPA as these efforts spotlight the work of NYSPA setting a positive example for the rest of the country.

Partnership with NYSAN

The grant from the APA Defense fund for \$15,000 has been delivered to NYSAN and NYSPA (\$7,500 each). In the original agreement NYSPA and NYSAN each indicated that they would pay \$2,500 to have a total of \$20,000 in service from Rich Leckerling in the effort to resolve the Neuro Tech issue in accordance with Draft 11. At this time we will utilize the \$15,000 to contract through December 31, 2011, or until the funds are depleted. If it appears that we will need the additional time, the matter will be addressed before the contracted time has expired. There is a lot of hope that the new Director will be more amenable to a solution. There is a conference call being scheduled with the active parties to discuss the next steps. Those that are to be on the call include: APA – Shirley Higuchi, Elizabeth Winkleman, Deborah Baker; NYSPA – June Feder, Donna Rasin-Waters, Tracy Russell; NYSAN – Dominic Carone, Joanne Festa, Bridget Amatore, Ed Barnowski

Website Update

As you are aware, we have been working on the website. The work on the website began during the convention buzz and excitement and we had hoped to complete it before July 4 week upon return from the convention. From a technical aspect the site was ready to launch. Much to my dismay, from an aesthetic aspect and end user functionality, it was not. We had the site down for the week of the July 4th holiday, this was a good week to do this as most members were not tuned in to NYSPA that week.

We did a tremendous amount of work, uploading photos, rewriting copy, testing links and updating information. There is still much work to be done. The goal is to have the site ready to promote in August. We will begin the membership push for 2012 in September and this will be one of the promotional items. The work schedule is as noted:

- Registrations for fall programming up by July 15th, will continue to add as information is received from the Divisions
- Content edits and photo uploads complete by July 25th

- Referral Service phase one complete by August 8 – members populated, photo template active, changes to menu options, functionality for end user
- Referral Service phase two complete by end of year – advertising component for revenue generation, enhancements to reporting for member users, options for web page
- Other enhancements
 - enhanced shopping cart to allow easier purchase of registrations, webinars, division memberships, etc with one checkout
 - Member social network – profiles and inter-website communications, bulletin boards, discussion groups, etc.

Financial Update

Per direction of the Budget and Finance Committee I have researched options to avoid liquidating long term investments and still be able to pay the bills through the summer.

- In meeting with Key Bank I should have a response on the line of credit with details on interest rates and terms.
- The convention bill can be paid in installments with a 1.5% interest charged monthly on outstanding amounts after July 29. If we pay in 3 installments we will incur less than \$2,000 in interest charges. We are on track to meet the current projected budget, even with the non-budget professional fees incurred for accounting, attorney, and website consultant fees. It is unlikely that we will be able to come in much less than the projected deficit. With this in mind I have not moved forward on hiring the Digital Media Coordinator, it is not budgeted, at this time I cannot find anywhere else to cut to make room for the funding.

Convention

As I begin to finalize the convention details on revenue and expenses it seems we will be at approximately a \$10,000 deficit with the convention (I am still working the numbers, we have not realized all of the income from advertising – next reconciliation to do). The primary source of the loss is as follows, these are items that are above the, "per person" expense calculated which included AV and food:

- \$7,095 in presenter discounts for registration – 77 total presenters (this was the same case last year, we lost approx. the same amount as the free registrations, this year we just discounted, not complimentary)
- Key note speaker expense
 - Nick Cummings was only airfare and two room nights (total \$762)
 - Jonathan Shedler - \$6,500 honorarium, \$1271 in expenses; \$1498 additional AV requests – IPD, Clinical and Psy paid \$5,700; NYSPA paid \$3,569
 - 22% service charge from hotel = \$19,765
- I still feel that the convention, while not a financial success, was an association success. If we continue the momentum we may actually get into a positive cash flow with a convention in NYC. The financial results were 3x better than the previous event held in NYC. With some additional tweaking we can make another attempt in the near future.
- Positive notes from this meeting are:
 - We attracted ~42 new members (still working on this number – roughly 12 new students and 35 new psychologists)
 - I believe that the convention had a positive effect on member retention for 2011 from 2010, this is harder to measure.
 - 434 attendees is a record attendance
 - The momentum from the Divisions sharing the event is still being felt in a positive manner

Other revenue sources

I have had a student research possible grants for Foundation activities. There are a few grants that may be applicable to the PEC activities and possibly Leadership Institute. These will be researched further to determine if they would be worthy of contracting a professional grant writer.

Other Items

NYSUT

As directed by the Executive Committee I have researched options for lobby alternatives. The options are attached to this email. Below are my comments. Upon approaching other lobbyists I shared with them the details of what NYSPA would need in representation:

- *Monitoring service*
 - *Monitoring legislation and regulation for key words and subject matter that may have an impact (positive or negative) on psychology. These items would be reviewed with the Executive Director and Legislative Chair (or individual(s) appointed by the chair.*
- *Strategic planning for future legislation including RxP, Protection of Custody Evaluators and combatting the LLC regulations*
- *Guidance on PAC giving*
- *Consult and assistance in grassroots relationships, assisting in facilitating introductions*
- *Being well enough connected and respected to obtain sponsors for bills*

Accountant

Per direction of the Budget and Finance Committee I have developed and distributed a RFP for a new accounting firm. I have a list of 13 potential firms that are recommended by not-for-profit organizations. Upon return of the RFPs I will have Beth Downing, the staff accountant review and make recommendations to narrow the list. Once it is narrowed to 2 or 3 we will discuss the next step of interviews/reviews by Budget and Finance committee in order to make the final decision.

This is a long report that I have attempted to break into segments – they almost feel like chapters. I hope that there is an opportunity at one of our meetings to elaborate on some of these issues as they are important and relevant. I will try to distribute the information in smaller doses with articles and reports to Council and various committees and divisions as they are applicable. I will send another report on operational items.

Update on CESPPA Activity and APA Convention Attendance

Big States Meetings - July 31 and August 1

Big States are defined as those states having more than 2,500 members and/or a budget of more than \$500,000. These states include: GA, FL, NC, OH, CA, TX, MD, MA, NY, PA, NJ. This is an informal group where the Executive Directors meet to discuss issues that are relevant to larger states. The following is a brief summary of the 2 day discussions.

- *CAPP financing and what role big states could play if the funding to smaller states continues to decline.*
- *The importance of advocating for the small states that are losing their foothold in the battle against Masters level professionals – the weakening effect that will be felt across the country*
- *Behavior Analysts and the autism bills that are sweeping the states*

The first three topics occupied a great deal of time as the overall impact to the profession across the country would be felt if small states are weakened. I have included a little more detail on the CAPP issue from the CESPPA business meeting.

As the smaller states are focusing more on operational funding and the bare basics of a membership organization, they will not have the resources to keep an eye on the legislative and regulatory activity, or fight an issue that arises. The LCSWs, MSWs and ABAs are taking advantage of this in these states and becoming more aggressive with their requests for expanding their scope. If a number of these states begin to pass laws and regulations allowing for this expanded scope, there will be precedent set that will be difficult to overcome in other states. We are already seeing the SWs partner with NPs and the ABAs gain authority through Autism laws.

The discussion focused on how larger states can assist the smaller states that are neighboring, or border states. Some of the suggestions that we agreed to take back to our membership to discuss included a sharing of resources.

For example:

- *expanding our legislative monitoring to a bordering small state and sending alerts to the STPA to then distribute to their membership,*
- *sharing staff resources where applicable (duplicate a newsletter, or contract at a low fee for a duplication of services),*
- *offer the smaller state members member rates to the larger state functions (live and virtual)*
- *share (at no cost) educational webinars with the smaller STPA to then distribute to their members and potentially generate an income*

- *have a mentoring system where larger states „check-up’ on our smaller neighbors and attempt to introduce the governing board members as a resource*

We will continue these discussions on our big states list serve as we communicate with our leadership to generate more ideas and resolutions.

Other topics discussed:

- *Partnering with the APAPO and/or the Education Directorate on a revenue share for online CE*
- *The Education Directorate has developed an agreement that will allow states to revenue share with their online educational offerings. States will establish a portal to the Educational offerings and then receive a percentage of the income generated through that portal. The advantage would be a potential of generating income – this is a greater potential for those states that have mandatory CE with licensure. The disadvantage is that it competes with existing efforts to offer continuing education. Each state will make an independent decision as to whether or not to participate in the partnership.*
- *Member retention and differential generational recruitment/retention strategies*
 - *Most states offer a variety of tiered membership categories for early career and retired members*
 - *The consensus was that to attract early career states had to show real value to launching a career and the training directors in each state needed to be sold on state association (or professional association) membership*
- *PAC fundraising*
 - *Since states have varying regulations for PACs this conversation allowed for brainstorming that has to be checked with state regs*
- *Foundation structures*
 - *I came away from this discussion with even more of a sinking feeling in my stomach than I had anticipated. I have brought this matter up consistently over the last 2 years – our Foundation is not operating within the bylaws that govern the entity. We are filing all paperwork appropriately and reporting within the IRS terms, however the immediate problem is the governance as noted.*
- *When NYSPA changed their bylaws in 2004 to reflect that the NYSPA Council will govern the Foundation – they did not change the Foundation bylaws. The foundation bylaws direct the Foundation to be govern by a “Board of Trustees which shall have a minimum of 4 members and shall not exceed 11 members, the exact number of which shall be determined from time to time by the Council of Representatives of the NYSPA. The Trustees shall be elected for one-year terms by the Council of Representatives of the NYSPA. “*
- *The current status of the Foundation is appropriate and we should act within those bylaws. I do not recommend changing the Foundation bylaws to concur with the NYSPA bylaws as this is a gray area for the two not-for-profit organizations. The NYSPA bylaws do not govern he Foundation, therefore we are not obligated to act as the NYSPA bylaws dictate.*
 - *The Foundation should generate more income, however, until the operational governance issue is settled I am not willing to bring attention to the Foundation. There is a movement across the country to “crack down” on not-for-profits – the effort is to stop corruption, which we are not guilty of – however some organizations that are just sloppy are getting caught in the sifting. Once this matter is resolved I want to have our new accountants provide suggestions for operational procedures related to funding and then pursue grants and development campaigns for specific efforts.*
- *Use of technology –pros and cons*
 - *NY is on the leading edge for technology use in education, other large states are exploring webinars and video-casting, currently with similar results.*
 - *All other big states (exception of NY) hold at least one of their governance meetings (Council) virtually either with GoToWeb or Ready Talk using visuals to keep the meeting on track.*
- *Transitional planning for staff and EDs*
 - *There was a general consensus that the “Bus Book” is the best tool. We began developing ours at NYSPA in 2009 just after I started. It is the manual that will allow a new ED, staff member or volunteer to have direction on the operations, event management in the case the ED can no longer fulfill their duties.*
- *Board Governance Training*

- *ALL big states and most all of the other states conduct a board governance training EVERY year. Some have a separate training for newly elected/appointed leaders. The purpose for the training is to assist in keeping volunteers focused so they do not become overwhelmed and to be sure that volunteers are fully aware of their liability.*
- *As best I can determine, NYSPA has not had a governance training for leadership in many years. Elena Eisman, 22 year ED for MA Psychological Association is also a psychologist and currently serves on the APA Board of Directors. She was an invited guest to our Think Tank exercise and is very knowledgeable of volunteer governance and the STPA aspect. She has agreed to conduct a session for NYSPA's Council of Representatives. This will need further discussion, I have tentatively secured her for the November council meeting.*
- *Healthcare Reform education*
 - *NY conducted the first Think Tank session – many other states are following suit. Within the next few months MD, FL and OH will conduct a session. CA plans to complete some form of discussion and organization before SLC.*
 - *There was much praise from APA for the efforts that NY has made to educate members and share information this year. We will share the model of the Task Force development and the strategy for disseminating education.*
 - *Donna and I presented a session to CESPPA on “What states should do to begin to educate members”*
 - *There were several sessions about the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and how the ACOs, PCMHs and other integrated models will be developing. I will submit a whole report on this issue, as a summary there was an emphasis on two areas of concern:*
 - *education for private practitioners to be able to know how they can work with, or around, these models*
 - *dangers to psychology as other healthcare disciplines adopt the model without consideration for a behavioral health professional*
 - *concerns that master level behavioral health professionals will be preferred in these models*

CESPPA Business Meeting and All States meetings, August 2 and 3

As previously noted, I am serving as Secretary this year for CESPPA, at the Business meeting I was nominated and elected to serve as the Chair-Elect for next year and Chair for 2013. I accepted the nomination. As a part of my Chair- Elect duties I am responsible for SLC plenary sessions sponsored by CESPPA

Other items discussed during the meeting with all of the states include:

- *Conscious clause legislation – increasingly healthcare professions have taken the stance that they should not have to provide certain services if it is against their conscious beliefs and values. This raises questions about boundaries between professional responsibility and personal values. This is starting to enter into the training world. Training programs are opposed to the states telling them what is appropriate training. A bill came about in AZ that passed and is now surfacing in MI. APA has put together an APA advisory on the issue. It will be distributed to the CESPPA list serve once it is ready.*
- *Discussion on the states implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) - APA will be building a support and infrastructure to assist the states as their issues come up. The project is currently titled the “State Implementation of the Affordable Care Act Initiative.” An Advisory group is being pulled together to include the committee on state leaders, the rural health committee, public education, CESPPA (recommendation for a small and a large), we also have representatives from some STPA of individuals that are currently involved. [Note Donna Rasin-Waters was asked to serve on this advisory committee]*
- *CAPP report - The recommendations from the subcommittee will take place August 22, the Sept meeting was cancelled and the next face-to-face meeting will take place in November. There is a chance that there will not be a vote on the grant subcommittee's suggestions until November. For small states applying for Organizational Grants there will not be a change for 2012. Any changes voted on will take place in 2013. There has been no directive from CAPP as to whether there will be changes for 2012 to the Canadian grants*

CAPP has made some financial improvements \$650,000 in the red (\$100,000 better than last reported) The root of the problem is that CAPP has lost funding due to a membership deficit; states

can assist by encouraging our members to join APA and pay the Practice Assessment dues – this in turn helps the states as there is more money available for funding grants.

- *Coalition on Patients' Rights: Coalition of non-physician providers formed in response to the scope of practice partnership Membership provides access to the environmental scanning tools and participation in the face-to-face meeting as an observer. Benefit - the connection to other non-physician professional groups that can benefit psychological efforts – legislative, regulatory and other*
- *RxP Toolkit Update – we received an updated fact sheet that I will share with the RxP Committee*
- *Discussed and shared Social Media policies*

APA Convention Attendance, August 4 and 5

On August 4, I spent most of the day in the Exhibit Hall gathering contact information for exhibitors. I collected the information so we could use this to NYSPA's advantage to solicit sponsors, continuing education programs, exhibitors and advertisers. There was great interest in attending a meeting in NYC, there was not much interest in attending a meeting with less than 300 attendees. The information has been entered into a spreadsheet and Katherine has already begun soliciting them for advertising.

Sessions attended

- *It was an honor to attend the Opening Ceremony where Dr Florence Denmark was recognized with the Lifetime Achievement Award, we will highlight this recognition in this week's Friday Flash.*
- *Session chaired by Bob McGrath on Healthcare reform*
- *Session presented by Division 31 on Boards of Psychology*
- *Session chaired by Ben Miller on Integrated Healthcare models*
- *State Leaders Session, Division 31, chaired by Dinelia Rosa – "What States need to know about ACOs"*

Our Membership is up from last year to over 3000 members. We have many new student members, whom we hope to retain, but also new Ph.D. Psychologist members. We are running at a deficit of about \$20,000 this year, which is better than anticipated. Next year they anticipate a balanced budget. Barbara Fontana, who is the Secretary for NYSPA took over as Treasurer in March after the Eric Garfinkel resigned and is running for Treasurer for 2012. She has been doing a fantastic job and we seem to be getting on track financially, with significant cuts especially to Council.

I will defer on reporting on Legislative Issues to our Legislative Representative, Dr. Tanya Gesek (who was nominated to run for the NYSPA-wide office of Secretary next year!!).

The By-Laws Committee (of which I am a member), has been meeting every two to three weeks to work on finishing up the revisions and also revising the Rules of Council. We hope (pray!) to be done sometime in 2012. The Conflict of Interest Task Force presented its latest version, which was narrowly defeated due to some wording issues. Contact me if you would like a copy of the proposed document or would like to be involved in this process in any way. The Task Force will make additional revisions.

APA Representative's Report (see attached report): Dr. Polowczyk reported that APAPO has less and less money because APA members are not paying their assessment to the practice organization. She urged council members to pay the assessment and to encourage others to pay the assessment.

Dr. Grodin, head of Nominations and Elections Committee, reported that some divisions have not put up slates and have two weeks to do so; those nominated for NYSPA-wide slates are for President –Elect - Jean Lau Chin & Eric Neblung; Treasurer – Barbara Fontana, John Northman, Chris Morrison & Carolyn Springer; Secretary – Tanya Gesek & Robin Gay. The slate of officers was approved by Council. Ballots will be going out soon.

Dr. Juman, President-Elect and therefore head of the Program Committee, reported that the convention will be in Saratoga Springs and will focus on psychology and the arts, June 8 – 10, 2012.

The meeting was miraculously adjourned at 9:27 pm, three minutes ahead of schedule. The tone of the meetings continues to be more positive and collaborative; I encourage CNYPA members to consider being willing to serve as Council Rep or Legislative Rep in the near future.

I also participated on Saturday as a Mentor for Rochester psychologist, Dr. Kenya Malcolm at the NYSPA Leadership Institute. Dr. Malcolm is running unopposed for President-Elect of GVPA for 2012. I participated in the 2nd Health Care Think Tank on Saturday and attended the Business of Practice Workshop on Sunday (along with my CNYPA colleague, Dr. Rene Wilett).

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Allen, Ph.D.
CNYPA Rep to NYSPA Council
NYSPA COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
SEPTEMBER 9TH, 2011

