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Summer Brings New Opportunities for WVPA

Summer greetings from our capital city of Charleston! Though this time of year is known for cookouts, relaxation and vacation, there is still a wealth of activity at WVPA. Our association continues to partner with like-minded organizations for the common good of WV citizens. Recently, members of WVPA met with the West Virginia School Board Association (WVSBA) to discuss concerns about school aged youth as it pertains to their behavioral health and educational needs. From that meeting WVPA has agreed to participate as presenters when called upon at WVSBA state-wide yearly trainings. Our members, when it is requested, will also provide helpful information on psychological topics for a bi-weekly periodical, The Legislature which is published for the duration of each legislative session. This will serve to give both of our organizations a stronger voice in the state legislature as we advocate for the behavioral health needs of our school-aged youth.

Speaking of the legislature, WVPA members are busy planning Fall Lobby Day which will take place on Sunday, October 18. We plan to use the time to get to know our legislators better and to advocate for psychological services in the state. We also wish to provide a primer regarding the Sequence of Training issue (SOT) for our elected officials. In the future, we plan to introduce an SOT bill that will level the playing field for psychologists in WV as it applies to our neighboring

Summer Opportunities
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Is your profession worth \$179 in your pocket?

By WVPA Executive Director Diane Slaughter, CAE, APR, Fellow PRSA

Welcome to the end of summer and the beginning of fall! The white jasmine at my new home are still in bloom, while the leaves are already starting to fall. Things are always changing...

Members of the West Virginia Psychological Association (WVPA), as well as other West Virginia psychologists, enjoyed our Spring Event, and are looking forward to the 2015 Fall Conference. Full conference information and online registration is available to everyone at www.wvpsychology.org, and I hope to see you there!

In making your plans for the Fall Conference, those who aren't yet members of WVPA should join by September 19 to get the member discount. With our pro-rated dues and the member discount, you're actually putting \$179 back in your pocket! Where else can you make \$179 for joining your professional association and attending the premier conference in West Virginia? You can join online at www.wvpsychology.org; check the category that's right for you!

Our membership categories now include:

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our web site at www.wvpsychology.org. Just visit the web site and click the "join" tab!

I look forward to seeing you in October!



Diane Slaughter

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No Surprises in APA Council Report

By Martin Amerikaner, PhD, APA Council of Representatives

It will come as no surprise to most of you that the recent APA Council of Representatives meeting in Toronto was dominated by a focus on the ethical and related policy issues discussed so thoroughly in the Hoffman report.

As I mentioned in an earlier email, I was very impressed with Mr. Hoffman's presentation to Council. He was clear, direct, thoughtful and – at least to me – persuasive that he had no prior agenda or “axe to grind” when he accepted the job of investigating the charges that have been swirling around APA for many years. If anyone has not yet read at least the executive summary of the report, I encourage you to do so; it is available at apa.org.

Council was clearly intent on minimizing finger pointing and rehashing all of the details of the report, and instead staying focused on constructive action to reshape the organization and, as became the phrase of the meeting, “reset APA's moral compass.” One key aspect of the process involved was the very public recusal of all Board members who had had any significant mention or involvement in the issues discussed in the report. Ironically, this included current APA President Barry Anton, who was on the Board during the period of the PENS report,

and thus Barry was essentially absent from one of only two COR meetings that the president presides over each year. Also recused from any discussions of related issues was CEO Norman Anderson, which has resulted in CFO Archie Turner serving as acting CEO for all Hoffman related issues- including personnel related actions.

It isn't possible in a brief column to adequately describe all of the discussions and actions taken during an intense 2 days, but below are a few highlights. More complete descriptions will be included in upcoming articles in the Monitor (Sept and October issues). I'm also anticipating an opportunity for greater discussion within WVPA at the fall meeting, and through the list serv if anyone is so inclined.

The most important action, and the most emotionally charged, was the enactment of a resolution that clearly, thoroughly redefines what is permissible and not permissible for psychologists in terms of their professional roles within national security interrogations. Most central is the definitive statement that psychologists “shall not conduct, supervise, be in the presence of, or otherwise assist any national security interrogations for any military or intelligence entities, including private contractors working on their be-

half, nor advise on conditions of confinement insofar as these might facilitate such an interrogation.” It is important

to note that these new restrictions do not apply to work with domestic law enforcement, or to domestic detention centers where detainees are provided Constitutional protections

Psychologists can no longer be present for or participate in interrogations at Guantanamo, or any international security sites or with any detainees not protected by the rights guaranteed by the US Constitution. Further, the resolution clarifies that for APA, torture and other inhumane techniques are defined in accordance with the UN Convention Against Torture - specifically rejecting the Bush administration's official reservations about that convention which were then used as partial justification for the interrogation methods that were approved for use. Psychologists' only permissible function at restricted sites is to provide health related services for detainees or for military personnel at these locations.



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Under the Capitol Dome

By Frank Hartman, JD, WVPA Government Representative

The Legislature has taken most of the summer off with the exception of the Joint Tax Reform Committee tasked with evaluating and reforming the state tax system. Regular monthly interim meetings will begin on September 13. Interim committees have only a few months left to address such weighty issues as: right to work, charter schools, common core, broadband access among other before the regular session begins in January. Healthcare-related study topics include: public-private partnerships for the operation of state hospitals, prescription drug abuse, certificates of need, managed care for the Bureau of Medical Services, and the Hartley Case.

In addition to monitoring these study topics, WVPA is

drafting two major pieces of legislation.

The first proposed bill seeks to modify the sequence of training necessary to become a licensed psychologist in West Virginia. The bill would alter the requirement of one year of postdoctoral supervision for doctorally prepared psychologists. Supervised hours prior to completing the doctoral degree could count toward licensure. The bill is designed in part to release qualified licensed psychologists into practice more quickly in order to increase access to psychological care in West Virginia.

The second is a bill to address eating disorders in West Virginia children. Introduced last year by interested psychologists, the bill will formally

become part of the WVPA's legislative agenda for the 2016 regular session. The bill requires certain procedures for body mass



index screening in West Virginia schools and further requires schools to inform parents of the screening and risks associated with eating disorders.

2016 is an election year, and a looming election always impacts the pace and personality of the regular session. Working with colleagues within psychology and among other professions, the WVPA is poised to have a successful session advancing and promoting the field of psychology in West Virginia.

APA COR Report

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Psychologists can continue to provide more general consultation to national security personnel about humane interrogation proceedings, as long as that work is consistent with the restrictions noted above. The resolution further requires APA to notify the federal government of these changes in APA's policy. In related action, the COR also voted to create a "blue ribbon"

panel or commission to conduct a comprehensive study of the ethics office and ethics policies and procedures of APA, and a second committee to thoroughly review and recommend changes to the Conflict of Interest policy currently in place at APA. Council also passed some additional, more routine items, but there is no room in this column to discuss them, so I'll just report on the remaining items at the fall business meeting.

Everyone was clear that APA has significant challenges ahead in terms of regaining trust among members (and former members) and the public. My sense is that the Board and current office holders, as well as Council more generally, is committed to doing whatever it takes to reestablish APA's standing as a leader in promoting human rights and welfare and to operating with maximum transparency.

WVPA Members Elect Four to 2016 Board

By Martin Boone, PhD, Nominating Committee Chairman

It is with great pleasure that I welcome four members to the West Virginia Psychological Association Board of Directors beginning January 1, 2016.

These four members were elected by members during elections ending August 1. For the first time in a number of years, there were contested elections for the offices of president-elect and secretary. We were honored to have such dedicated candidates for each of these offices.

Your 2016 WVPA President-elect is Keith Beard, PsyD, who teaches at Marshall University. "I have an interest in the continued success of WVPA and I feel that the position of President-elect is a vital aspect of making sure that this success is maintained and grows," said Beard, who served two terms as WVPA's treasurer. "I understand the history of WVPA and its mission, not only in how it functions on a daily basis but on a community, state, and national level." Following his year as president-elect, Beard will automatically serve as president, then immediate past president.

Your new board secretary, serving a three-year term, is Lisa Ryan, PsyD, who works at the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. She said, "Although I've never been interested in political banter or goings

on, I feel that I am at a place in my life and my career that allows me to support WVPA, its members and its leadership to continue to facilitate the growth of psychology as an important field in West Virginia."

Your new WVPA Representative-at-Large for 2016 and 2017 is Sarah Jarvis, PsyD, with Valley Health Systems. Jarvis has just completed a three-year term as board secretary. Also the reigning Mrs. West Virginia, Jarvis said, "I would like to thank the association for its continued support and for the professional and personal friendships that have been forged. I do love this association, its membership and mission and have great hopes for our future."

Your new Student Representative for 2016 and 2017 is Hannah Greenbaum, a student in the Counseling Psychology Ph.D. Program at West Virginia

University. She said, "I look forward to helping students understand the value of joining, for both personal and professional development in making meaningful societal and institutional change in our state."



Your newly elected officers will be formally installed during the 2015 Fall Conference in preparation for taking office on January 1, 2016.

Other members of the WVPA Board of Directors for 2016 will be: President Jeff Boggess, PhD; Treasurer Penny Koontz, PsyD; Immediate Past President Scott Fields, PhD; Representative-at-Large Pamela Dean, PhD; and APA Council Representative Marty Amerikaner, PhD.

Join WVPA by September 19 -
save big
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"Education Is the Most Powerful Weapon..."

By Pat DeLeon, former APA President

Interprofessional Collaborative Practice: One of the fundamental tenants of President Obama's Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) is that quality care requires respectful collaboration among the various health care disciplines. Our colleagues in pharmacy have been on the cutting-edge of this evolution with the Departments of Defense (DoD) and Veterans Affairs (VA), under the leadership of Toni Zeiss, affirmatively demonstrating its contributions. The National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) convened a workgroup to build upon relevant recommendations from the National Governors Association (NGA), emphasizing the importance of alignment with pharmacists' considerable education and training. They took the approach that rapid innovation in education, training, technology, and evidence-based guidelines necessitate a collaborative practice framework that is flexible and facilitates innovation in health care delivery, especially at the practice level.

Give An Hour – An Inspirational Vision: Earlier this year I had the opportunity to attend the launch of Give An Hour's new initiative, The Campaign to Change Direction, which focuses upon how our nation views and talks about

mental health/behavioral health issues. First Lady Michelle Obama was the keynote speaker with active participation from the highest level of leadership within DoD and VA, as well as numerous Wounded Warriors. A national public awareness campaign has been launched featuring Mrs. Obama. On July 21, 2015, while addressing the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), the President himself urged all American to learn the five signs that may mean someone you know is in emotional pain and might need help: Personality Change, Agitation, Withdrawal, Poor Self-Care, and Hopelessness. Currently 18% of Americans have a mental health condition and 90% of those who die by suicide have a mental disorder. If one remains until the very end of the film *Love & Mercy*, one will see that as a nation we are finally moving towards viewing emotional issues in the same manner as physical ailments as the First Lady urged. Barbara Van Dahlen, Ph.D., President and CEO of Give an Hour, credits her inspirational vision to her young daughter's concern 10 years ago about how the nation has historically treated (or forgotten its responsibility for) homeless veterans. Immediate family members do have a major impact upon our life journeys.

An Interesting Aspect of the Hoffman Report:

Having been interviewed by David Hoffman and one of his colleagues, I made a special point of carefully reading, and admittedly re-reading, the entire 542 page document. Since my 2000 APA Presidential term, I have been away from the governance feeling that it is time for our next generation. I can understand how the process might have unfolded. I learned many of the specifics enumerated in the report for the first time. My sincerest congratulations to Past-President Nadine Kaslow for being willing to pursue this independent review which, in my judgment, was an act of true courage. Personally, I could never condone torture in any fashion, a conviction I am confident that the vast majority of our colleagues strongly support. One vividly remembers the messages passed on by one's grandparents – "Those were your relatives whom you see hanging for public display." My wife and I were on the National Mall participating in the unfortunately small anti-war demonstration



Education is Powerful
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Support WVPA When You Take a Trust Webinar

By Greg Hill, The Trust

Support the West Virginia Psychological Association each time you register for a Trust ethics and risk management webinar.

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Featuring Eric A. Harris, Ed.D., J.D. (6 hours)
- **Sequence V:**
Hot Topics in Ethics and Risk Management
Featuring Jeffrey N. Younggren, Ph.D.; ABPP, Eric A. Harris, Ed.D., J.D.; Joe Scropo, Ph.D., J.D.; and Daniel O. Taube, J.D., Ph.D. (6 hours)

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Watch your
email for
Fall
Conference
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information!

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states. This, we believe, will help more psychologists stay in the state to work and thus provide valuable services to our citizens in need. The proposal would allow for clinical hours completed by doctoral psychology candidates prior to graduation to count toward licensure once the doctoral degree is attained and all other necessary requirements are met. It is modeled after the successful SOT push in Ohio several years ago. Ohio has since seen a growth in their number of new psychologists licensed in the state without any negative changes in terms of services provided. Maryland and Kentucky are two other border states that have adopted the SOT change as well. Dr. Jessica Luzier and I are scheduled to go before our WV Board of Examiners of Psychologists for the second time this Fall and further explain the proposal in hopes that we will gain their full support.

I know it is a cliché but a change can do us good. Two potential positive changes in my opinion are on the horizon for WVPA. First, as mentioned in a prior issue of the *Beacon*, members will soon be voting on a bylaws change that, if passed, would require one of our Representative At Large positions to be filled by an early career psychologist (ECP). In truth, both of our current officers in

that position, Dr. Patrick Kerr and Dr. Pamela Dean are ECPs. So we already have a wealth of respect for our ECPs and value their contribution to WVPA. This bylaws change would just make it official and ensure that the ECP voice continues to be heard year after year on our Board of Directors. Thus, only ECPs could run for that one Representative at Large seat. Another positive change is being spearheaded by Dr. Neil Morris. Dr. Morris is working with our state officials to kick off the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards in West Virginia. Since 1999, the American Psychological Association has used these awards to recognize companies that place a high value on employee well-being. The APA uses five categories to assess this: employee involvement, work-life balance, employee growth and development, health and safety, and employee recognition. Numerous states participate in this program and now our state will as well. Kudos to Dr. Morris!

Our Spring CE session in Charleston was a smashing success. President-elect Dr. Jeff Boggess put together an outstanding group of faculty who taught us about a diverse range of psychological topics. Whether you needed an ethics refresher, do individual therapy with youngsters, do testing with our senior citizens, or are a student looking for assistance on apply-

ing for internship, the Spring CE Event had you covered. Dr. Boggess is working hard to assemble yet another stellar lineup of faculty and presentations for our Fall Conference October 2 - 4th. The theme this year is "Commitment to Excellence in Psychological Services: Psychological Issues Surrounding Trauma." Please plan to join your colleagues for some fun and fellowship at the Waterfront Hotel in Morgantown, WV.

As always if you have questions or suggestions regarding your state psychology association, do not hesitate to contact me or anyone on our Board of Directors. We are here to serve and are very eager to see you this October in Morgantown.

Warm regards,



Scott A. Fields, PhD
2015 WVPA President

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the night before the President acted. These are very important issues for all Americans. Although lengthy, I would strongly urge everyone to read the entire Hoffman report – there is much to be learned which must never be forgotten.

The report describes psychology's long history of involvement with the Department of Defense (DoD). During World War I, on the day that Congress declared war on the German Empire, APA President Robert Yerkes convened a meeting of a group of psychologists to discuss how psychology could assist in the war effort. A special meeting of APA's Council established 12 committees to assist the government in addressing psychological problems, including committees on the psychological examination of recruits; psychological problems of incapacity, including those of shell shock; and, recreation in the army and navy. One of the largest endeavors undertaken with the assistance of psychologists in support of the war effort involved the administration of tests to assess potential recruits. The Army administered a battery of tests similar to the Binet-Simon intelligence scale to more than 1.7 million recruits to attempt to differentiate between potential recruits who were unsuitable for service, those who would be suitable privates,

and those who could serve as officers. During World War II, the effort to assess potential recruits expanded and by 1945 more than 13 million people had been screened. A number of prominent psychologists also developed an intensive program designed to assess the suitability of a candidate seeking to serve in the Office of Strategic Services (OSS), which had been created by President Roosevelt as the agency responsible for intelligence collection, espionage, subversion, and psychological warfare. Psychologists' participation in the war effort led directly to the creation of the modern APA. Throughout the Cold War, psychology had a close relationship with the military.

The G.I. Bill strengthened the profession of psychology both by expanding enrollments in institutions of higher education and by allowing some returning soldiers to train to become psychologists and join APA. The military also drove a major expansion in infrastructure supporting clinical psychology. Over time, the military and the VA created a demand for psychologists to care for soldiers and veterans with mental and emotional problems. Psychology had an important influence on the development of military doctrine regarding interrogations. Beginning in at least 1956, the military forbade the use of tactics it deemed coercive in interrogations.

Quoting directly from the report: "The very substantial benefits APA obtained from DoD help explain APA's motive to please DoD, and show that APA likely had an organizational conflict of interest, which it needed to take steps to guard against. DoD is one of the largest employers of psychologists and provides many millions of dollars in grants or contracts for psychologists around the country. The history of DoD providing critical assistance to the advancement and growth of psychology as a profession is well documented, and includes DoD's creation of a prescription-privileges 'demonstration project' in which psychologists were certified to prescribe psychiatric drugs within DoD after going through a two-year training course...."

"The APA Board also asked three sub-questions.... The third sub-question was 'whether any APA action related to torture was improperly influenced by government-related financial considerations,' including grants, contracts, or prescription-privileges policy for military psychologists. As described above, the substantial financial benefits in the form of employment, grants, and contracts that DoD provided to psychologists around the country had a strong influence on APA's actions relating to the PENS Task Force (and therefore 'relating to torture'), since

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preserving and improving APA's relationship with DoD (including the benefits to psychology that flowed from it) formed an important part of the motive behind APA's actions. We did not find that APA was motivated by a specific contract or grant, or that APA itself actually received any substantial grants, contracts, or other payments from DoD during this period. The financial motivations for APA related to the substantial benefits that flowed from DoD to the profession of psychology."

"As for the prescription-privilege program, we found that APA believed that this program has provided a very substantial benefit to psychology and APA, because obtaining prescription privileges in order to better compete with psychiatry was one of APA's leading priorities for many years. DoD's 'demonstration project,' created in 1991 and in place through 1997, which was initiated principally by Pat DeLeon (APA President in 2000) and his boss, Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI) and his Chief of Staff, psychologist Pat DeLeon (APA President in 2000), allowed psychologists to have prescribing privileges in DoD and other federal locations, and created a two-year certification program that could be recognized by a state that authorized properly-certified psychologists to have prescription privileges like

psychiatrists. Approximately ten psychologists were trained and certified through the DoD demonstration project, including Debra Dunivin. The demonstration project thus served a crucial unlocking function for psychology and APA, since it established the legitimacy of a prescription-training program outside of traditional medical school, thus providing a strong answer to the traditional critique from psychiatrists that the only way to be trained in prescribing psychiatric medications was to graduate from a traditional four-year medical school."

"We do not believe that by 2005, APA officials were realistically seeking or expecting anything further from DoD on the topic of prescription privileges. Nor do we believe that APA officials actually worried that a failure to curry favor with DoD would cause DoD to reverse course on prescription privileges by, for instance, disallowing previously-certified psychologists from continuing to prescribe medication when they treated DoD personnel. Thus, we do not believe that the prescription-privileges issue was a significant 'financial consideration' for APA in taking the actions it took in 2005."

"Nevertheless, it is clear to us that the way in which DoD had supported psychology in crucial ways in the prior years, including through the prescription-privileges program, played a fundamental role in APA feeling

motivated to curry favor with DoD. This was less of a function of APA seeking something concrete with regard to a specific contract or program (like prescription privileges), but more of a function of APA knowing very concretely how willing and able DoD was to provide large-scale support to psychology as a profession – now and perhaps in the future in unknown ways. This was support that APA did not want to risk jeopardizing by taking a position that was at odds with what APA perceived as DoD's clearly stated preferences within the PENS process."

On pages 83-85 of the report, the authors provide a comprehensive overview of the DoD "demonstration project" (PDP). "In 1999, the U.S. General Accounting Office (GAO) found that PDP graduates were well-integrated into the Military Health Service, that they held positions of responsibility and treated a broad spectrum of patients, carrying patient case-loads that were comparable to those of psychiatrists. It found that most of the graduates had been granted independent status, which allowed them to operate with only the same level of review as psychiatrists at their locations. The GAO further found that the graduates were evaluated as good to excellent, both by their clinical supervisors, and an outside panel of psychiatrists and psychologists,

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Continued from page 11 and found no evidence of quality problems in their credential files. However, the GAO also found that the PDP program was more costly than the Department of Defense's traditional mix of psychiatrists and non-prescribing psychologists, and stated that the impact of the program on combat readiness was minimal at best." We would strongly urge all psychologists to carefully review the entire Hoffman report. You may agree or disagree with its conclusions; clearly, reasonable colleagues do. Nevertheless, it is a fascinating document.

Make plans now to join your colleagues and



friends at the WVPA Fall Conference
October 2-4, 2015

Roster of 2015 WVPA Board of Directors

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