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### APA Goals and Objectives
Approved by Council August 2009

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<th>OBJECTIVES</th>
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<td>1. Maximize organizational effectiveness</td>
<td>The APA’s structures and systems support the organization’s strategic direction, growth and success.</td>
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<td>a. Enhance APA programs, services and communications to increase member engagement and value;</td>
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<td>b. Ensure the ongoing financial health of the organization;</td>
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<td>c. Optimize APA’s governance structures and function.</td>
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<td>2. Expand psychology’s role in advancing health</td>
<td>Key stakeholders realize the unique benefits psychology provides to health and wellness and the discipline becomes more fully incorporated into health research and delivery systems.</td>
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<td>a. Advocate for the inclusion of access to psychological services in health care reform policies</td>
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<td>b. Create innovative tools to allow psychologists to enhance their knowledge of health promotion, disease prevention, and management of chronic disease;</td>
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<td>c. Educate other health professionals and the public about psychology's role in health</td>
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<td>d. Advocate for funding and policies that support psychology's role in health</td>
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<td>e. Promote the application of psychological knowledge in diverse health care settings;</td>
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<td>f. Promote psychology's role in decreasing health disparities;</td>
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<td>g. Promote the application of psychological knowledge for improving overall health and wellness at the individual, organizational, and community levels.</td>
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<td>3. Increase recognition of psychology as a science</td>
<td>The APA’s central role in positioning psychology as the science of behavior leads to increased public awareness of the benefits psychology brings to daily living.</td>
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<td>a. Enhance psychology’s prominence as a core STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) discipline;</td>
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<td>b. Improve public understanding of the scientific basis for psychology;</td>
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<td>c. Expand the translation of psychological science to evidence-based practice;</td>
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<td>d. Promote the applications of psychological science to daily living;</td>
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<td>e. Expand educational resources and opportunities in psychological science.</td>
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CENTRAL PROGRAMS

L. MICHAEL HONAKER, PHD
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
Central Programs
Highlights of Activities
February ‘12 – July ‘12

Please note that the Public Policy Office reports are included in the Science, Public Interest and Education Directorate reports.

American Psychological Association of Graduate Students
The American Psychological Association of Graduate Students is the voice of student concerns within the APA. APAGS develops, endorses and disseminates information to students about relevant education and training issues, legislative positions and developments, and future directions or changes in the field. APAGS creates and supports opportunities for students in the form of grants and awards, association advocacy work, and a host of developmental activities.

The following represents the activities of APAGS for the months of February 2012 – July 2012.

Advocacy

- 2e - APAGS spearheaded a response to the “New York 22” crisis, in which the governor of New York proposed to cut funding for 22 psychology interns. APAGS wrote and distributed an action alert which resulted in more than 3200 students and allies contacting the governor’s office. The ultimate result was that the governor preserved funding for these student interns for the rest of the year.

- APAGS sent its largest group ever – 20 representatives – to advocate on the Hill as part of the State Leadership Conference for Medicare, the Behavioral Hi-Tech Act, and the physician definition.

- APAGS worked closely with the Education Directorate GRO to track, support, and educate members on efforts to alleviate student loan burdens, including interest rates and forgiveness options.

- APAGS-CEMA members were trained in advocacy by Stefanie Reeves, Public Interest Government Relations Office, and advocated for funding for the Minority Fellowship Program in hill visits with Congressional staff on May 22.

- APAGS disseminated the following action and information alerts through the APASGS Advocacy Coordinating Team:
  
  o About APA’s advocacy initiatives as highlighted in the latest edition of the Monitor on Psychology; February 2012
  
  o About Education Legislation; February 2012
  
  o Supporting the Student Non-Discrimination Act; March 2012
o About availability of HRSA funding for internship development; March 2012

o Supporting increased funding for NIH; March 2012

o Opposing cuts to funding that would eliminate political science research; May 2012

o About a federal grant to provide scholarships to “disadvantaged students”; May 2012

o About student loans and federal advocacy efforts related to loans; June 2012

o Supporting S. 483 and H.R. 831, to include psychologists in the definition of physician; June 2012

o About public service loan forgiveness options; June 2012

o Supporting the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;

o Supporting the Behavioral Health Information Technology Act (S539/HR6043); July 2012

Conferences/Meetings

- APAGS participated in the Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice (CAPP) meeting, February 3-4, in Washington, DC.

- The APAGS Chair attended the Board of Directors meeting, February 22-23, in Washington, DC.

- The APAGS Chair and Chair-Elect participated in the APA Council of Representatives meeting, February 24-26, in Washington, DC.

- Twenty APAGS representatives attended the APA State Leadership Conference, March 10-13, in Washington, DC.

- APAGS liaisons attended the APA Spring Consolidated Meeting to participate in meetings with the following groups: the Board of Educational Affairs (BEA), the Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology (CDIP), and the Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA).

- APAGS participated in the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Board’s (ASPPB) biannual meeting April 11-15 in New Orleans, LA.

- The APAGS Chair attended the APA Board of Directors Retreat, April 20-22, in Annapolis, MD.

- APAGS sent two students and two staff to the biannual Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers meeting, April 26-28 in Phoenix, AZ.

- APAGS attended the CAPP meeting, May 4-5, in Washington DC.

- APAGS Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs met May 21-22. They focused on developing a strategic plan for their committee.
The APAGS Chair attended the APA Board of Directors meeting, June 9-10, in Washington, DC.

Convention
- **1a** - The APAGS Convention Committee in conjunction with APAGS staff developed the APAGS Convention Survival Guide for Students to help students navigate Convention. Information includes: funding ideas, Convention preparation, how to select which sessions to attend, Convention city highlights, and self-care at Convention.
- **1a** - The APAGS Committee developed several Convention sessions, including: Alternative Career Paths with a Doctorate in Psychology, Negotiating after the Offer, Graduate Student Debt, and Food for Thought Breakfasts which feature discussions with prominent psychologists.
- **1a** - APAGS solicited more than 50 volunteers to participate in the APAGS Ambassador program at the 2012 Convention.
- **3e** - The APAGS Science Committee and the APA Science Student Council developed a Guide to Convention Program Highlights for Science-Oriented Students that lists science-related sessions and activities at the APA Convention.

Diversity
- **1a** - APAGS-CEMA hosted a virtual happy hour with Dr. Carmen Vazquez in April 2012. The discussion topic was “Advice for Diverse Graduate Students.”
- **2e** - APAGS-CEMA plans to add commentary to the APAGS Resource Guide for Ethnic Minority Students, and plans to post both online, free for students to download.
- **1a** - The APAGS-CLGBTC mentoring program quadrupled its participants this spring and added quarterly check-ins to monitor progress of mentor/mentee relationships.

Student Resources
- **1a, 3e** - The APAGS-developed Journal *Translational Issues in Psychological Science* was approved by the APA Council of Representatives in February.
- **1a** - APAGS held its inaugural *APAGS on the Road* event at the New School for Social Research in New York City on February 4. Titled *What They Didn’t Teach Me in Graduate School*, this event included discussions of loan repayment, career options, starting a private practice, and advocacy in the context of the New York 22. Over 160 students attended this workshop.
- **1a** - APAGS held a second *APAGS on the Road* event at Adler School of Professional Psychology in Chicago, IL. Over 90 students attended this workshop.
- **1c** - The APAGS Division Student Representative Network (DSRN) recently added 31 new members. Members of the DSRN also participated in an APAGS survey to assess the climate for student involvement in Divisions and to determine student needs from APAGS. APAGS will host a luncheon for DSRN members at Convention that will focus on ways APAGS can improve services and support for student leaders in Divisions.
Organizational Policies

- The APAGS Internship Working Group met at the 2012 Spring Consolidated Meeting and continued to develop an expanded policy statement on the internship crisis. The statement was approved in July 2012 and will be posted online along with supplemental materials to support students.

- **1c** - At the 2012 Spring Consolidated Meeting, APAGS updated its policies regarding eligibility for APAGS positions, both elected and appointed. An addition to eligibility requirements was that applicants must be students in a graduate program for at least one year of their term.

- **1c** - Also at 2012 Spring Meeting, APAGS approved a mission statement for the APAGS Science Committee and discussed developing guidelines for accepting sponsorships.

- **1b** - APAGS organized a membership drive to train Campus Representatives to market APAGS to nonmembers on their campuses. 35 Campus Representatives participated in this training and provided valuable feedback on successes and challenges of engaging nonmembers.

Grants/Awards

- APAGS awarded the APAGS Award for Outstanding State, Provincial, or Territorial Psychological Association to the Alaska Psychological Association.

- **1a** - APAGS solicited applications for its spring grants and awards. Over 250 applications were received for 15 grants and awards. Applicants for APAGS grants used a new online application submission system.

- **1a, 3e** - APAGS solicited applications for the newly developed APAGS/Psi Chi Junior Scientist Fellowship. Over 50 students applied for this grant.

- **1a** - APAGS awarded the following scholarships:
  - Nancy B. Forest and L. Michael Honaker Master’s Scholarship for Research in Psychology – Amy Heberle, *University of Massachusetts, Boston*
  - Scott Mesh Honorary Scholarship for Research in Psychology – Erin Porter Hambrick, *University of Kansas* & Laura Stockdale, *Loyola University - Chicago*
  - APAGS LGBT Dissertation Scholarship – Kimberly Michelle Nelson, *University of Washington*
  - David Pilon Scholarship for Training in Professional Psychology – Michael Louis Alosco, *Kent State University*
  - APAGS Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs Grant – Nayra del Carmen Rodriguez Soto, *University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras*
- Shraddha Sundaram, *University of Florida*
  - Basic Psychological Science Research Grant –
    - Logan Fiorella, *University of California, Santa Barbara*
    - Erica Hornstein, *University of California, Los Angeles*
    - Anna Konova, *Stony Brook University*
    - David Piekarski, *University of California, Berkeley*
    - Emily Zale, *Texas A&M University*
  - Carol Williams-Nickelson Award for Women’s Leadership and Scholarship in Women’s Issues – Michelle Vella, *Lehigh University*
  - Raymond D. Fowler Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Professional Development of Graduate Students - George M. Slavich, PhD, *University of California, Los Angeles*

**Public Comments**
- APAGS provided comments to the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) on proposed changes to operating procedures and implementation rules.
- APAGS provided comments to the Board of Educational Affairs (BEA) on education and training competencies for health service psychologists.

**Ethics Office**
The Ethics Office has three primary areas of focus: education, consultation, and adjudication of ethics complaints. The Ethics Office also responds to Association needs by supporting special projects.
- The Ethics Office has developed a vibrant program of ethics workshops.
- Donald J. Brunnquell, PhD is the winner of the fourth annual APA Ethics Committee Award for Outstanding Contributions to Ethics Education.
- The Ethics Office provides support for an annual student ethics writing prize.
- The Ethics program has a long-term educative goal of bringing diversity to the center of psychologists’ ethical awareness.

**Office of International Affairs**
**Staff**
*Merry Bullock, PhD, Senior Director*
*Sally Leverty, International Affairs Assistant*
*Dana Townsend, International Program and Database Manager*
Overview

The Office of International Affairs (OIA) is the central conduit for APA’s international activities. The OIA monitors and provides information to APA members, governance and staff about international issues and opportunities relevant to psychology as a science and a profession. It coordinates APA's presence at major international meetings and conferences, encourages interaction between the APA leadership and the officers of other national psychology associations, supports APA’s non-governmental (NGO) representation at the United Nations, and manages APA’s contributions to the revision process of the WHO-developed International Classification of Disease (ICD10), mental health chapter.

The OIA maintains contact with about 100 national psychological associations, with APA’s 7000 international affiliates and members, and with those national associations of psychology that have signed Memoranda of Understanding with APA.

The OIA also supports the activities of the Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP), coordinates APA activities with national and global organizations concerned with international science and policy issues, including APA’s International Division (52), and International sections in other APA Divisions, and serves as APA’s liaison to global psychology, health and policy organizations. Its programs inform APA members and affiliates, governance and staff about international issues of relevance to psychology, facilitate international outreach, collaboration, exchange, and support capacity building of psychology at the individual and organizational level.
American Psychological Association of Graduate Students

Highlights of APAGS’ Services

Listservs
APAGS Listservs are targeted to a variety of student interests including: ethnic minority issues, disability issues, the dissertation process, international student issues, clinical psychology, cognitive psychology, LGBT issues and many more. Visit http://www.apa.org/apags/resources/listservs/index.aspx for further information.

Grants and Awards
APAGS funds a variety of prestigious grants and awards and has partnered with other APA groups to offer additional awards. Visit http://www.apa.org/about/awards/index.aspx for additional information.

Resource Guides and Books
APAGS provides several resource guides and books specific to graduate student needs. Highlights include:

APAGS Resource Guide for LGBT Students in Psychology addresses the unique experiences/obstacles of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) students.

APAGS Resource Guide for Ethnic Minority Graduate Students, provides advice and recommendations for navigating the graduate school experience.

Women Mentoring Women: A Model for Psychology (APA, 2007) offers psychology students and psychology mentors information and guidance on how to create and manage successful mentoring relationships.

Internships in Psychology: The APAGS Workbook for Writing Successful Applications and Finding the Right Match (APA, 2008) provides resources/information to successfully navigate the internship application process ($19.95 for APAGS members, $24.95 for non-members).

Relieving Stress: Self-Care Practices for Graduate Students in Psychology contains information needed to create a personal approach to self-care.

Succeeding in Practicum: An APAGS Resource Guide includes information about identifying training goals, selecting practicum placements, supervision, and more.
APAGS Liaisonships

APAGS committee members and staff represent students on many boards and committees in and affiliated with the APA. This involvement helps students have a voice in shaping the policies and initiatives that will affect them and their future. Some of these boards and committees include the:

- APA Board of Directors
- APA Council of Representatives
- Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC)
- Council of Chairs of Training Councils (CCTC)
- Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice (CAPP)
- Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI)
- Board of Educational Affairs (BEA)
- Board of Professional Affairs (BPA)
- Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA)
- Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB)
- The National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology (NRHSPP)
- Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology (CDIP)
- Advisory Committee on Colleague Assistance (ACCA)

The APAGS Committee

APAGS is governed by nine officers who are elected by APAGS members along with several specialized subcommittees. The current APAGS Committee members are:

Ali Mattu, PhD  Chair
Milo S. Wilson, MS  Past Chair
Matthew FitzGerald, MA, MS  Chair-Elect
Shanda Wells, PsyD  Member-at-Large, Practice Focus
Lyra Stein, PhD  Member-at-Large, Research/Academic Focus
Ethan Mercish, MA  Member-at-Large, Membership Focus
Gregory Wilson, BA, CAAP  Member-at-Large, Education Focus
Joshua G. Kellison, MA  Member-at-Large, Communications Focus
Rachel Becker, MA  Member-at-Large, Diversity Focus
Paul L. Ascheman, MS  Chair, Advocacy Coordinating Team
Jesse Matthews, MA  Chair, Convention Committee
Megan Smith, MA  Chair, Science Subcommittee
Ethics

Education and Consultation

- The Ethics Office has developed a vibrant program of ethics workshops. The Ethics Office priority is to provide ethics programs that raise funds for state, provincial, and territorial psychological associations and that offer continuing education credit in ethics and law. In the first half of 2012, the Ethics Office participated in 22 educational workshops and programs, 5 of which were for state, provincial, and territorial psychological associations. In May, the Ethics Office collaborated with the Ohio Psychological Association and the State Board of Psychology of Ohio for an all-day law and ethics workshop that emphasized the shared concern between psychological associations and licensing boards in enhancing the competent and ethical practice of psychology. (1a)

- Donald J. Brunnquell, PhD is the winner of the fourth annual APA Ethics Committee Award for Outstanding Contributions to Ethics Education. This award is intended to recognize outstanding and innovative ethics education contributions, to promote and stimulate these activities, and to disseminate ethics education innovations. Dr. Brunnquell will be honored during the Ethics Committee’s program at the annual APA Convention in Orlando, Florida. (1a)

- The Ethics Office provides support for an annual student ethics writing prize. The prize includes a $1000 award; an expense-paid trip to Convention where the winner presents his or her paper; and consideration for publication in the journal Ethics and Behavior, edited by Gerald P. Koocher, PhD. In 2012, Rachel Wasserman, MA, of Loyola University of Chicago is the winner for her paper titled “Ethical Issues and Guidelines for Conducting Data Analysis in Psychological Research.” (1a, 3e)

- The Ethics program has a long-term educative goal of bringing diversity to the center of psychologists’ ethical awareness. It is intended as a result that ethical awareness will be carried to the diverse health care settings where psychologists work. In June 2012, Ethics Committee representatives participated at the annual convention of the Society of Indian Psychologists (SIP). In 2011, Ethics Committee representatives attended the SIP convention for the first time and began a collaboration with SIP to explore the complexities of applying the APA Ethical Principles of Psychologists and Code of Conduct (2010) to Indian psychologists. Additionally, the Ethics Committee
reserves a time at each of its meetings to consider together some aspect of diversity. At its April 2012 meeting, the committee met with Laura Smith, PhD, of Teachers College, Columbia University, for a discussion about “Poverty, Social Class, and Psychology’s Diversity Spectrum.” (2e, 2g)

- The Ethics Office collaborates with the APA Office of International Affairs to offer programs in international venues. Thus far in 2012, the Ethics Office has provided programs for the Universidad Autonoma de Baja California UABC International (Mexicali, Mexico), the Bahcesehir University Department of Psychology (Istanbul, Turkey), and the Columbian College of Psychologists (Bogota, Columbia). In addition, the Ethics Office is involved in programs at the International Congress of Psychology in Cape Town, South Africa, and will represent the APA Ethics program in that venue. (1a, 2e, 2g)

**Adjudication**

- The Ethics Office provides staff support for the Ethics Committee, which last met in April 2012. A complete description of the adjudication program, including statistics regarding all stages of ethics complaint processing in 2011, will be published in the July/August 2012 issue of *American Psychologist*. (1a, 1c)

**Special Projects**

- The Ethics Office continues to provide staff support to a Task Force on Licensing Board and Ethics Committee Training. The task force, a joint endeavor of APA and ASPPB, is part of an Ethics Office initiative to foster improved relations between psychological associations and licensing boards. The task force has been able to proceed in its work without requesting additional funding since 2007. At APA’s 2012 Convention in Orlando, FL, the task force will collaborate with eleven APA Divisions to present a symposium called “Licensing Boards and Ethics Committees – It Takes a Village to Promote Competent and Ethical Practice.” (1a, 1c)

**Office of International Affairs**

The activities of the office since February 2012 are summarized below under the following headings:

- Promoting international collaboration and exchange
- International Outreach: Information and Materials
- Governance
- Convention Activities

**Promoting international collaboration and exchange**

To promote international collaboration and the international growth of psychology, the OIA directly participates in international, regional and national conferences and meetings, and manages a number of programs to facilitate international scientific and professional exchange. These include the following:
1. International exchange at meetings and congresses (Goals 1a; 3e, 2c, 2e, 2g)

APA’s presence at international, regional and national conferences facilitates international outreach and exchange of ideas and programs (please see http://www.apa.org/international/outreach/representation/index.aspx). Since February, APA has been involved in the following meetings:

- IV Regional Congress of the Interamerican Society of Psychology (SIP), in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, attended by OIA senior director Merry Bullock, and APAGS director Nabil El-Ghoroury. In addition to plenary talks and workshops by Bullock and El-Ghoroury, 40+ new international affiliates joined APA at this meeting.
- 21st Congress of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology, Stellenbosch, South Africa, attended by OIA Director Merry Bullock.
- 30th International Congress of Psychology, Cape Town, South Africa. The Office of International Affairs coordinated APA’s presence at this Congress, and APA’s contributions to the Congress. APA’s president, past-president, president-elect, CEO, members of the Board of Directors, members of the Executive Management Group representing education, practice, policy, public interest, publications, and science, as well as senior staff members from the Ethics Office and Office of International Affairs attended as invited speaker, chairs of invited symposia, and presenters. In addition to the APA Books exhibit, the OIA coordinated an APA Information Table, and planned an APA-sponsored reception for APA members, the congress organizers, invited speakers, and international psychology leaders.

In addition, OIA staff met with the organizing committees for 2013 meetings, including the 2013 SIP Congress, and the 2013 Conference on Regulation, Licensing and Credentialing in Psychology.

2. APA “MOU” Partners: Associations that have signed a Memorandum of Understanding with APA (addresses Vision statement 6)

APA has formalized interactions and exchange with fellow national psychology organizations through signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with individual associations. The signed MOU articulates the mutual goals of psychology associations and agrees to regularly communicate and consider the development of joint activities. Activities underway with these MOU partners as well as with others include symposia at the International Congress of Psychology, APA convention activities, workshops on ethics, continuing education, and publications, reciprocal invitations to attend societies’ annual meetings, and visits at the APA headquarters.

During convention in Orlando, APA will sign MOUs with the Japanese Psychological Association (JPA) and with the Spanish Psychological Association (COP).

3. Hosting international colleagues: Visitors Program (Goal 2e)

In March, APA served as host to two senior communications officers of the Norwegian Psychological Association (NPA). The purpose of the visit was to exchange information, strategies, and techniques concerning member and public communications, and advocacy. APA has a memorandum of understanding with the NPA. NPA visitors met with APA staff and informed them about NPA’s strong role in primary health care, among other topics.

4. APA Delegations to Cuba and China (Goal 1a)

The OIA worked with Professionals Abroad to develop an APA-endorsed delegation of psychologists to visit Cuba for professional meetings and exchange. This unique opportunity occurred in March 2012, led by APA Past President Carol Goodheart. The Cuba delegation's full report (http://www.apa.org/international/outreach/cuba-report.pdf) includes a summary of each meeting, personal/cultural highlights of the delegation's visit, and outcomes and potential next steps.
The OIA is currently working with Professionals Abroad to develop a professional program for China. The APA-sponsored delegation, led by Barry Anton, PhD, and Carol Goodheart, EdD, will take place from October 9-12, 2012. Additional information is posted at https://res.academic-travel.com/professionals_abroad/reservation/index.php?X3E9dmlld19vdmVydmlldyUyRjk2Njg. A second Cuba trip is planned for January, 2013.

5. Grant programs to encourage international exchange and development (Goals 1a; 3e, 2c, 2e, 2g)
The OIA manages APA grant programs to promote international exchange among individuals and to promote the development of psychology internationally. 2012 activities include:

- The OIA managed the NSF-funded grant to implement a travel-mentoring program for the 30th International Congress of Psychology. A joint APA-USNC committee selected 14 early career/student participants, paired with 7 mentors for travel stipends to attend ICP2012 in Cape Town.
- Registration Grant Awards. The OIA provided awards of up to $400 to 29 psychologists to attend conferences in the Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, South Africa, and Turkey.
- Convention Travel Awards for international attendees. The OIA provided 20 awards of up to $500 to convention attendees from Azerbaijan, Brazil, China, Egypt, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Israel, Korea, New Zealand, Nigeria, the North Marianas Islands, Palestine, Spain, and the United Kingdom, including 9 students, 2 early career, and 9 senior career psychologists.
- International Scientific Meeting Award. The Committee on International Relations in Psychology selected the following recipients to receive support for psychology meetings: The Interamerican Society of Psychology IV Regional Congress of Psychology in Santa Cruz, Bolivia; the International Neurological Society meeting in Oslo, Norway; the International Society for the Study of Behavioural Development meeting in Edmonton, Canada, and the 3rd International Symposium on School Harassment in Medellin, Colombia.
- OIA provides staff support for the APA Award for Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology and the APA International Humanitarian Award. Awardees are recognized annually at convention.

6. Joining other organizations to promote international activities (among the different liaisons, serves Goals 1a, 2b, 2e, 3b, 3d, 3e)
APA and the OIA maintain an active liaison relationship with a number of international organizations including:

- US National Committee for Psychology (the committee, housed at the US National Academy of Sciences, that serves as the US National Member to the International Union of Psychological Science – IUPsyS),
- Scholars at Risk Network (SAR), a New-York based network that addresses human rights abuses of academics and that seeks to find placement for displaced academics
- AAAS Human Rights Coalition (the APA liaisons are staff from the Science and Public Interest Directorates)
- International LGBGT Network (staff in the Public Interest Directorate manage this network)
- Health Volunteers Overseas (HVO)
- International Medical Societies and Health-Related Network (IMSHAN), a group of staff who manage international offices in health-related organizations
- World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH)
- International psychology organizations, including IUPsyS (International Union of Psychological Science), IAAP (International Association of Applied Psychology), SIP (Interamerican Society of Psychology) and EFPA (European Federation of Psychology Associations).
International Outreach: Information & Materials (Goal 1a)

The OIA serves as a source of information for APA members about psychology around the world. Through its newsletter, website, public mailbox and occasional publications, the OIA serves as a comprehensive resource for timely and comprehensive information about international psychology activities, opportunities and issues.

2. Psychology International: The quarterly newsletter includes feature articles on international policies, programs and activities, as well as regular columns on international research collaboration, the applications of psychology to international social issues, and international perspectives, regular book reviews and lists of newly published materials. The newsletter is sent to all APA members who live outside the U.S. and Canada, all international affiliates, and others who have subscribed individually. It is also disseminated to the Board of Directors, Council and Division listservs, and sent to selected society presidents and officers. Please see www.apa.org/international/pi/.
3. APA is contributing to the development of a new Web resource developed by the International Union of Psychological Science (IUPSYS), called Psychology Resources Around The World (http://www.psychology-resources.org). The Senior Director of the OIA is the editor of the resource, whose aim is to be the "go to" resource site or information on the organizations, structures, and institutions of psychology in every country around the world.
4. The OIA maintains a public mailbox and listservs for information and discussion. These include announce-only as well as discussion lists for targeted audiences. (Goals 1, 2 & 3)

Governance and International Advocacy (Goals 1a,c; 2c,d,e,f,g; 3a,b,d,e)

The OIA provides staff support to the Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP). CIRP met during the spring consolidated meetings in March 2012. The members of the committee are Puncky Heppner, PhD, and Tina Richardson, PhD (co-chairs), with members Barbara Byrne, PhD, Jean Chin, EdD, Virginia Kwan, Ph.D, Chandra Mehrotra, PhD, Bonnie Nastasi, PhD, Susan Opotow, PhD, and Chris Stout, PsyD. The CIRP annual report is available on the international website www.apa.org/international.

At its spring meeting, CIRP developed a new awards program that will grant seed money to foster international activities within divisions. The complete call for applications for the Division International Activities Grant (DIAG) Program is posted at http://www.apa.org/about/awards/international-diag.aspx.

The OIA also provides staff support to APA’s representative team at the United Nations. APA holds NGO special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the UN and is accredited as an NGO to the Department of Public Information (DPI) of the UN. APA’s NGO representatives at the UN New York headquarters (7 representatives, special projects associates and student interns) organize educational symposia in conjunction with UN committee meetings and special events, and work in collaboration to develop the annual Psychology Day at the United Nations. In April and June, the OIA coordinated a call for new volunteer representatives and selection of two representatives for 2012-20117 terms and one associate representative for 2013.

The APA UN team collaborated with other psychology organizations at the United Nations in developing the 2012 Psychology Day. The event, held April 19, had a program theme Contributions from Psychology
to the UN Agenda on Fulfilling the Rights of Vulnerable People. A complete review of the 2012 Psychology Day is posted at http://www.apa.org/international/pi/2012/06/un-psych-day.aspx

**APA Convention Activities (Goals 1a,c; 2b,c,e,g; 3)**

The OIA published a program of all international programming at the 2012 APA convention. It is available at [http://www.apa.org/convention/international-programming.pdf](http://www.apa.org/convention/international-programming.pdf) and at the International resource booth.

At the annual APA convention, the OIA serves as the host for APA’s international attendees. As liaisons to the Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP), OIA staff coordinate the Committee’s convention programming. Staff also serve as liaisons for the two APA international award winners. Dan Landis, PhD, is the recipient of the 2012 Award for Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology, and John Thoburn, PhD, is the recipient of the 2012 APA International Humanitarian Award.

For 2012, the OIA is coordinating the “International Presidents Initiative.” Convention attendees will have an opportunity to meet with the presidents of more than 20 psychology associations from Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. The presidents, invited by 2012 APA President Suzanne Bennett Johnson, will participate in a Symposium on international perspectives concerning the many roles that psychology plays in health, education, and global collaboration. The presidents will also participate in CIRP-APAGS sponsored roundtables on “Psychology Without Borders: Discussions on International Teaching, Service, and Research,” and in many social and networking events.
EDUCATION DIRECTORATE

CYNTHIA BELAR, PHD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
EDUCATION DIRECTORATE
HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES
FEBRUARY ‘12 – JULY ‘12

Education Directorate Mission

The APA Education Directorate advances education in psychology and psychology in education for the benefit of the public. It seeks to enhance (1) the education and training of psychologists across all levels, (2) the teaching of psychology, and (3) the application of psychology to education. Staff of the Education Directorate work in direct support of the Board of Educational Affairs (BEA), its reporting committees, and such other groups as assigned in addressing goals related to this mission. The executive review that follows highlights a sample of the achievements in different program areas of the Directorate with detailed reports of program activities appended.

Executive Review

Education Outreach Initiatives

- APA is collaborating as a member of the White House Joining Forces initiative, a national effort to mobilize all sectors of society to support service members and their families. APA activities include efforts to prepare the psychology workforce to address the challenges facing the military and veteran communities, including post-deployment reintegration, posttraumatic stress disorder, post-combat depression, the psychological sequelae of traumatic brain injury, family adjustment and other behavioral concerns. (page 23)

Governance Committees, Taskforces and Working Groups

- Educational Disparities Task Force, appointed by Dr. Melba Vasquez, was organized to look at educational disparities and offer evidence-based recommendations across a variety of focus areas - immigration, English language learning, school climate and talent development. The Task Force report was submitted for commentary from Board and Committees this spring and will now be reviewed by the Board of Directors and the Council of Representatives. (page 23)

- The BEA Task Force on Psychology Major Competencies met in Washington, DC, to work on the first revision of the APA Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major (APA, 2006). The revised Guidelines will be designed to reflect a set of optimal expectations for performance by undergraduate psychology majors. (page 24)

- The Education Directorate is providing staff support for one of APA President Suzanne Bennett Johnson’s, PhD presidential initiatives, the Inter-Organizational Work Group on Competencies for Psychological Practice in Primary Care. The group is charged to integrate the existing literature on competencies for psychological practice in primary care settings into one document that could be used to enhance education and training, build a competent workforce, and inform policy makers and other health professions about the contributions of psychology in the primary care setting. (page 25)
**Education Advocacy Initiatives**

- On May 2nd, the Department of Health and Human Services’ Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) announced the opening of the application process for the $10 million Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training Grants (MBHETG) Program. The MBHETG Program aims to grow a competent workforce of psychologists and social workers who pursue work with high need and high demand populations, such as rural, vulnerable, and/or the underserved, and veterans, military personnel and their families. (page 26)

**Directorate Programs in Education**

**Enhancement of Psychology in Education**

- A BEA task force was charged with establishing criteria and mechanisms based on psychological science on which to base an annual award: BEA Golden Psi Award, to a school in rotating geographic regions. (page 28)

**Enhancement of Education in Psychology**

- In February 2012, the APA Council of Representatives approved *Guidelines for Preparing High School Psychology Teachers: Course-Based and Standards-Based Approaches* (APA, 2012). This document outlines models for preparing high school psychology teachers and is aligned to the *National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula* (APA, 2011). (page 29)

- The Office of Precollege and Undergraduate Education (PCUE) supported APA’s participation as a Special Awards Organization at the 2012 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF). ISEF is the largest celebration of precollege science in the world. During two days of judging, a team of volunteer APA judges selected the top seven finalists from projects representing psychological science. (page 30)

- The counseling psychology program at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville was the 2011 recipient of the Award for Innovative Practices in Graduate Education in Psychology, an initiative sponsored by the BEA in collaboration with the Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology (COGDOP). At an event held at the program the awardee was presented with a plaque from APA Staff, the award also comes with a $5000 check. (page 34)

- Deputy Director Cathi Grus, PhD, is representing APA as a member of the advisory committee to develop an Interprofessional Portal in MedEdPORTAL that includes learning resources linked to the competencies for interprofessional collaborative practice. (page 34)

- The Office of Continuing Education in Psychology (CEP) has selected eight pre-convention workshops, 72 workshops, and over 200 CE sessions to offer for CE credit at Convention in August. This year the CEP Office will again offer “Unlimited CE” for CE Sessions at convention. Convention registrants pay a single flat fee ($65 for members) to receive CE credits for as many of the convention CE sessions as they attend. (page 35)

**Quality Assurance in Education and Training**

- The Continuing Education Committee (CEC) approved 55 new organizations as sponsors of continuing education at its June 2012 meeting. There are currently 855 APA-approved sponsors. (page 38)
The Commission on Accreditation reviewed 93 programs for initial and continued accreditation. At the March meeting, accreditation was granted for the first time to 3 doctoral programs, 7 internship programs, and 5 postdoctoral residency programs. The CoA reviewed approximately 60 programs for initial and continued accreditation at its July program review meeting. As of April 25, 2012, there were a total of 924 accredited programs: 375 doctoral; 477 internship; and 72 postdoctoral residencies. (page 39)
**Education Outreach Initiatives**

- **The 2011 Education Leadership Conference**
  The annual APA Education Leadership Conference (ELC) will be held on September 11-14. The theme for the 2012 ELC is *Promoting Quality*. As in years past, the ELC will also provide an opportunity for advocacy training and visits to Capitol Hill.

  The long-term goals of the ELC are to:
  - Provide a forum for groups and organizations across all levels of education and training to address issues of mutual concern
  - Promote a shared disciplinary identity among education and training leaders in psychology
  - Impact public policy regarding education in psychology and psychology in education

  The ELC is the major advocacy event for the psychology education community. (1a, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- Executive Director, Cynthia D. Belar, PhD, ABPP; along with APA CEO Norman Anderson, PhD and other APA directorate executive directors, attended the 30th International Congress of Psychology in Cape Town, South Africa in July. (2b, 2c, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- Dr. Belar represented psychologists who work in Academic Health Centers at the spring meeting of the Association of American Medical Colleges’ (AAMC) Council of Academic Societies in March. (2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- Dr. Belar was invited participated in the June joint Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)/Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) listening session on the behavioral health workforce with administrators, Pamela S. Hyde, J.D. (SAMHSA) and Mary Wakefield, Ph.D., R.N. (HRSA) (2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- APA is collaborating as a member of the White House Joining Forces initiative, a national effort to mobilize all sectors of society to support service members and their families. APA activities include efforts to prepare the psychology workforce to address the challenges facing the military and veteran communities, including post-deployment reintegration, posttraumatic stress disorder, post-combat depression, the psychological sequelae of traumatic brain injury, family adjustment and other behavioral concerns. In May, APA worked with Joining Forces to send a letter from the White House to our professional education and training programs asking for their commitment to one or more activities in support of these goals. To date, dozens of psychology education and training programs have registered and pledged their support [here](http://www.apa.org/about/gr/issues/military/joining-forces.aspx).

**Governance Committees, Task Forces and Working Groups**

- **Educational Disparities Task Force**
  This task force, appointed by Dr. Melba Vasquez, was organized to look at educational disparities and offer evidence-based recommendations across a variety of focus areas - immigration, English language learning, school climate and talent development. The Task Force report was submitted for commentary from Board and Committees this spring and will now be reviewed by the Board of Directors and the Council of Representatives. (1c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)
The BEA Task Force on Psychology Major Competencies
The BEA Task Force on Psychology Major Competencies met in Washington, DC, to work on the first revision of the *APA Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major* (APA, 2006). The revised *Guidelines* will be designed to reflect a set of optimal expectations for performance by undergraduate psychology majors. The document will outline broad goals and corresponding student learning outcomes that represent reasonable departmental expectations for the undergraduate psychology major across educational contexts. The Task Force is also working on indicators of progress on student learning outcomes. This work will continue over the next year and drafts will be circulated broadly for review and comment in the coming months. (1a, 1b, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

BEA Working Group to Strengthen the Common Core of the Introductory Psychology Course
The Office of Precollege and Undergraduate Education (PCUE) staffed the first meeting of the BEA Working Group to Strengthen the Common Core of the Introductory Psychology Course, which was held via conference call in June 2012. The charge of the Working Group is to examine the common core of the introductory course at the college level and to recommend potential action steps to BEA on strengthening the common core. This examination will include the content of the course, identification of outcomes, possibility of a laboratory component, and the major versus non-major course. (1a, 1b, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

Precollege and Undergraduate Education (PCUE) staff participated in meetings of the BEA and the APA Committee of Psychology Teachers at Community Colleges (PT@CC). PT@CC was recognized by APA President, Suzanne Bennett Johnson, PhD on the occasion of its 10th anniversary. PCUE staff also participated in meetings of the APA Committee of Teachers of Psychology in Secondary Schools (TOPSS). In 2012, TOPSS was recognized by APA President, Suzanne Bennett Johnson, PhD on the occasion of its 20th anniversary. (1a, 1c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

Commission for the Recognition of Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology (CRSPPP), held their meeting on May 3-4, 2012. CRSPPP reviewed seven petitions for new or continued recognition as a specialty or proficiency in professional psychology. In addition, CRSPPP continued planning for their sessions at the 2012 APA Annual Convention and for dissemination of the Taxonomy document. The comments received on the Policies and Procedures Manual for Recognition of Organizations that Provide Certification in Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology were reviewed. (1a, 1c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

Health Service Psychology Education Collaborative (HSPEC)
HSPEC is an interorganizational work group that held its fourth and final meeting in July. The group includes representatives from APA and BEA, the Council of Chairs of Training Councils (CCTC), and the Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology (COGDOP). The group was formed to articulate key issues facing education and training in health service psychology and to develop a “Blueprint” proposing action steps to address each issue. As part of their efforts the group developed a document outlining competencies for health service psychologists. The Blueprint is undergoing final editing and will be disseminated soon. (2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

BEA Primary Care Training Task Force (PCTTF)
The PCTTF presented their report to BEA in March. BEA discussed the recommendations in the report and identified several priorities; faculty/supervisor development, promoting research and training in program and patient outcomes research, and advocacy efforts. A directory of education and training programs offering training in primary care is under development. (2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)
• **Inter-Organizational Work Group on Competencies for Psychological Practice in Primary Care**
The Education Directorate is providing staff support for one of APA President Suzanne Bennett Johnson’s, PhD, presidential initiatives, the Inter-Organizational Work Group on Competencies for Psychological Practice in Primary Care. Susan McDaniel, PhD, is chairing the group. Appointments to the work group were invited from organizations identified as having a significant focus on education and service delivery in the primary care setting. The group is charged to integrate the existing literature on competencies for psychological practice in primary care settings into one document that could be used to enhance education and training, build a competent workforce, and inform policy makers and other health professions about the contributions of psychology in the primary care setting. The work group has been meeting via conference calls and has a face-to-face meeting scheduled for September at which time a draft document will be available for comment. A final work product is expected by the end of 2012. (1c, 2b, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

**Education Advocacy Initiatives**

**Education Advocacy Trust**
[www.apaedat.org](http://www.apaedat.org)

- The Education Advocacy Trust (EdAT) is working to promote psychology’s full engagement of the advocacy process. EdAT has been soliciting contributions through the APA dues statement and direct communication with individuals with a stake in psychology’s education advocacy agenda.

The EdAT, which is a legal structure within the American Psychological Association’s companion organization, the American Psychological Association Practice Organization (APAPO) -- a 501(c)(6) tax status organization, received voluntary contributions from approximately 300 individuals so far this year.

The mission of the EdAT is to promote the mutual professional interests of psychologists in advancing education in psychology and psychology’s role in other areas of education through advocacy activities that cannot be conducted legally within the APA, an organization that is tax exempt pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

**Education Government Relations Office (Ed GRO)**

The Education Government Relations Office seeks to increase federal support for psychology education and training and to promote the application of psychology to education.

- **Graduate Psychology Education (GPE) Program Funding**
  Once again; thanks to the many psychologists who came to Washington to participate in Congressional visits, the GPE Program has survived another round of very difficult budget battles on Capitol Hill. With continued bi-partisan support, on June 14th the Senate Appropriations Committee voted to protect the GPE with level funding for Fiscal Year 2013 -- just under $3 million. In addition, the Senate Labor, Health, Human Services and Education (Labor-HHS-Education) Appropriations Subcommittee underscored the critical importance of the Graduate Psychology Education (GPE) Program with a very strong statement in its accompanying report:
"Graduate Psychology Education grants train psychology graduate students to provide supervised behavioral and mental health services to underserved populations. With significant numbers of returning war veterans and a rapidly growing generation of elderly, the Nation's mental health infrastructure is certain to experience increased strain for years to come as individuals and their families increasingly turn to behavioral healthcare professionals in local communities. The Committee supports efforts to help integrate psychology trainees at Federally Qualified Health Centers to provide behavioral and mental health services to underserved populations, particularly those in rural America."

The House has not yet taken up its version of the Fiscal Year 2013 Labor-Health and Human Services-Education budget bill. However, it is not expected that a House-Senate agreement will be reached on the Labor-Health and Human Services-Education Fiscal Year 2013 bill until after the November elections. In the meantime the agencies will be funded at the Fiscal Year 2012 level through a Continuing Resolution. (1a, 1c, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act (GLSMA) Programs Funding Increased**
  The Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act (GLSMA) Campus Suicide Prevention program received $4.97 million from the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Committee for Fiscal Year 2013 which reflects level funding from last year. In addition, the program received $2.535 million from the Prevention and Public Health fund, an increase of $1 million from last fiscal year, providing a grand total of $7.5 million proposed for campus suicide prevention initiatives for the upcoming fiscal year. The Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act (GLSMA) Youth Suicide State Grant program received $29.68 million and an additional $5.67 million from the Prevention and Public Health fund for a total of $35.35 million for Fiscal Year 2013 (as proposed by Senate), which is the same amount this program received in Fiscal Year 2012. Finally, the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act (GLSMA) Suicide Prevention Resource Center received $4.95 million, which is the same as the Fiscal Year 2012 level. In Fiscal Year 2012, the program had received $1 million from the Prevention Fund. As stated above, the House Subcommittee has not yet marked up its Fiscal Year 2013 legislation. (1a, 1c, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **Elementary and Secondary School Counseling Program Funding Protected**
  The Elementary and Secondary School Counseling program received a proposed funding level of $52.3 million for Fiscal Year 2013. This is the same level of funding the program received last year. The President proposed eliminating funding for this program, instead consolidating those monies in a bigger fund, Safe and Healthy Students. The Graduate Assistance in Areas of National Need, or GAANN program, was funded at a level of $30.9 million. This program is now home to both GAANN and the Javits program and the Senate Committee urged the Department of Education to ensure the arts, humanities and social science disciplines are eligible fields for new and continuing grants.

  For a more complete listing of funding levels for education programs as proposed by the Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee, please check on the Education Government Relations Office website. (1a, 1c, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Announces New $10 Million Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training Grants Program**
  On May 2nd, the Department of Health and Human Services’ Health Resources and Services
Administration (HRSA) announced the opening of the application process for the Mental and Behavioral Health Education and Training Grants (MBHETG) Program.

The MBHETG Program aims to grow a competent workforce of psychologists and social workers who pursue work with high need and high demand populations, such as rural, vulnerable, and/or the underserved, and veterans, military personnel and their families. Eligible applicants are institutions of higher education including APA accredited schools and programs of psychology as well as accredited internships in public and private nonprofit institutions.

Approximately $10 million will be awarded to fund up to 15 grants for psychology and up to 15 for social work programs. Applications were due by June 22nd and the three-year grants will be awarded by September 30th. This new grant program presents an excellent opportunity for psychology to benefit from an infusion of new funding in a very tight federal fiscal environment. (1a, 1c, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)
The Center for Psychology in Schools and Education promotes the high quality application of psychology to programs and policies for schools and education.

- **BEA Golden Psi Award**
  A BEA task force was charged with establishing criteria and mechanisms based on psychological science on which to base an annual award to a school in rotating geographic regions. The task force developed a survey to help schools demonstrate their effectiveness in the form of Academic Learning outcomes and Social-Emotional Learning outcomes. The award will be presented on the designated school’s campus at the end of the academic year by a representative from APA. The award criteria were reviewed by BEA during the 2012 Spring Consolidated Meetings. (1a, 2b, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **Gender and Academic Achievement**
  As a result of a request from the BEA working group, CPSE collected data regarding gender and academic achievement from sources such as the Almanac of Higher Education (2011), the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES), and the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). Looking at specific factors such as standardized test scores, high school graduation, college enrollment, and college graduation, data indicate that women have higher scores, as well as graduation and enrollment rates than men through college and the professions. However, men are more likely to complete advanced STEM degrees. The K-12 working group used the data to help inform the BEA panel on issues that surround academic outcomes and gender in psychology education and training. (2b, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **Edited Book: Malleable Minds: Translating Insights from Psychology and Neuroscience to Gifted Education**
  The chapters in this book provide a synthesis of key research in the brain sciences, cognitive psychology, learning sciences, and social psychology as they relate to gifted education. The sections of the book are designed to provide direction for both guiding new research initiatives gifted education and shaping practice in the field. (2b, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **CPSE Coalition Meeting**
  The CPSE Coalition met from June 8-10, 2012 in Washington DC to discuss current and future projects aimed at translating psychological science into resources for K-12 personnel. Projects currently in development include:
  a. A module to support the creation and use of school teams to function more effectively by applying psychological knowledge and research to their practice.
  b. A matrix and accompanying explanation that identifies a series of core psychological topics that should be included in the teacher education curriculum along with their principles and implications.
  c. A module on the use of creativity in the classroom.
  d. A module to help PK-12 educational personnel choose and implement a social emotional curriculum that is appropriate for the needs of an individual school or district.
  e. A proposal to Division 15 on the creation of a module outlining the psychology of teaching a particular elementary school science topic to teacher preparation candidates.
f. An Early Childhood Toolkit that can be used to guide adults working with PK-5 children on the best ways to implement the Early Learning guidelines.

The Coalition also hosted a visit from Dr. Joanne Tornow, Deputy Director of the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate at the National Science Foundation to discuss potential funding sources. (1a, 1c, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **NSF Study on Specialized Science High Schools**

CPSE, in collaboration with the University of Virginia, has been investigating research questions that focus on the effectiveness of specialized science high school graduates who completed high school within the last 4-6 years, comparing outcomes with those of similarly talented people who participated in out of school science enrichment programs and graduated from traditional high schools in the last four-six years. Graduates of 25 selective science high schools completed a survey on the variables associated with completion of a STEM major, including behavioral science. The survey closed at the end of 2011 and the winter and spring of 2012 were spent analyzing data and writing up results. Overall, there were no significant differences in the percentage of STEM graduates from college between the STEM school group and the comparison group (1a, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

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**Enhancement of Education in Psychology**

**Office of Precollege and Undergraduate Education (PCUE)**


The Office of Precollege and Undergraduate Education advances psychology in secondary schools, community colleges, and undergraduate programs by providing information, linkages, resources, funding, and professional development to faculty, students, and the general public.

**Precollege Initiatives**

- **National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula**

PCUE continued efforts to broadly disseminate the APA National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula (August 2011). (1a, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **Guidelines for Preparing High School Psychology Teachers: Course-Based and Standards-Based Approaches**

In February 2012, the APA Council of Representatives approved Guidelines for Preparing High School Psychology Teachers: Course-Based and Standards-Based Approaches (APA, 2012). This document outlines models for preparing high school psychology teachers and is aligned to the National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula (APA, 2011). PCUE staff have started efforts to broadly disseminate the Guidelines for Preparing High School Psychology Teachers: Course-Based and Standards-Based Approaches. (1c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **National Survey of High School Psychology Teachers**

Through funding provided by the American Psychological Foundation in 2011, PCUE and the APA TOPSS Committee launched a national survey of high school psychology teachers in December 2011. This survey collected information regarding teachers’ educational background, preparation and training, and information on resources and opportunities, classroom issues, future trends, and professional development needs. The survey closed in March 2012, and PCUE staff are analyzing the data this summer. (1a, 1b, 1c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)
• **Teaching Resources**
PCUE and the APA TOPSS Committee continued to work with Association members and teacher affiliates to revise several existing unit lesson plans. In 2012, the office offered new online teaching modules on *Biological Bases of Behavior* and *Research Methods, Measurement, and Statistics*. The American Psychological Foundation provided the Directorate with financial support for these efforts. (1a, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

• **Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF)**
PCUE supported APA’s participation as a Special Awards Organization at the 2012 ISEF, held in Pittsburgh, PA. ISEF is the largest celebration of precollege science in the world. Held annually in May, ISEF brought together over 1,500 high school students from 68 countries, regions, and territories to compete for scholarships, tuition grants, internships, scientific field trips and the grand prize: a $75,000 scholarship. During two days of judging, a team of volunteer APA judges selected the top seven finalists from projects representing psychological science. The effort is funded and organized through the Education Directorate. All winners received a scholarship, a certificate, and a one-year student membership to APA. (1a, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

• **APA/Clark University Workshop for High School Teachers**
The eighth annual APA/Clark University Workshop for High School Teachers was held on July 16-18, 2012, at Clark University in Worcester, MA. Twenty-five high school teachers from around the country participated in the workshop. Presenters included two TOPSS members, Clark University psychology professors, and a professor from College of the Holy Cross. Randolph Smith, PhD, Lamar University, delivered a keynote address entitled *Though This be Madness, Yet There is Method In't: The Importance of Research Methods in Introductory Psychology*. This workshop has been made possible through generous gifts from Lee Gurel, PhD, a Clark University alumnus, APA member, and longtime APF donor, to both Clark and APF. (1a, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

• **APA TOPSS Excellence in Teaching Awards**
Laura Brandt of Grayslake Central High School (Grayslake, IL), Kimberly Patterson of Cypress Bay High School (Weston, FL), and Maria Vita of Penn Manor High School (Millersville, PA) were selected as winners of the 2012 APA TOPSS Excellence in Teaching Awards. The Excellence in Teaching Awards are given annually to recognize outstanding psychology teachers. The recipients each received a framed certificate, engraved award, cash prize, *High School Psychology Video Toolkit DVD* and a complimentary TOPSS membership renewal for the 2013 membership year. The *Video Toolkit DVD* was generously donated by Worth Publishers. (1a, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

• **APA TOPSS Scholars Essay Competition for High School Psychology Students**
PCUE and the TOPSS Committee announced and received submissions for a 2012 APA TOPSS Scholars Essay Competition for High School Psychology Students. In the 2012 competition, students were asked to describe specific psychological concepts as they relate to the various ways a person might react to a natural disaster. TOPSS selected four student winners, each of whom received a $250 award. (1a, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

• **APF Awards for High School Psychology Teachers**
In 2010, Lee Gurel, PhD, donated $150,000 to the American Psychological Foundation to benefit precollege initiatives in psychology. The majority of the funds will be used to promote professional development opportunities for high school psychology teachers, with $50,000 earmarked to support the revision of unit lesson plans produced by the Education Directorate and TOPSS. In 2012, six high school teachers received APF Professional Development Awards for High School Psychology Teachers, to attend local or national teaching or psychology conferences. Additionally, five high
school teachers received APF High School Psychology Teacher Network Grants to help establish local organizations of high school psychology teachers. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **APA Convention Award Program for High School Psychology Teachers and Students**
  PCUE staff coordinated a new APA Convention Award Program for High School Psychology Teachers and Students, generously supported by funding allocated by APA President Suzanne Bennett Johnson. Nine high school psychology teachers each received funding to attend the 2012 APA Convention with between two and four of their high school psychology students. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2g, 3b, 3d, 3e)

- **Support at the Advanced Placement (AP) Psychology Reading**
The Education Directorate supported a professional development night at the Advanced Placement (AP) Psychology Reading, held in Kansas City, MO. Additionally, the Directorate sent materials about APA, PT@CC, and TOPSS to the Reading. In 2012, approximately 219,000 AP Psychology exams were taken by high school students across the country. (1a, 1b, 3b, 3d, 3e)

- **Support for High School Teacher Affiliates**
  - PCUE staff coordinated the development of programs and resources for the APA High School Teacher Affiliates (more than 1,800 Affiliates). Through their affiliate membership with APA, they are also members of the Teachers of Psychology in Secondary Schools (TOPSS).
  - PCUE staff produced and distributed two issues of the *Psychology Teacher Network* (PTN) newsletter.
  - A mass mailing was sent to TOPSS members this spring that provided an update on benefits, resources, and other opportunities developed for them. The mass mailing also included award certificates for teachers to recognize their students who excelled in psychology and a newly published APA brochure on *Careers in Psychology*.
  - This spring, a mailing was sent to all high school psychology teachers in Florida and surrounding states to encourage them to attend the APA Convention in August. (1a, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

**Two and Four-Year College Initiatives**

- **Principles for Quality Undergraduate Education in Psychology**
  PCUE continued efforts to disseminate the APA *Principles for Quality Undergraduate Education in Psychology*. These guidelines articulate a set of recommendations for quality teaching and learning in psychology. The new policy has been posted on the APA website and hard copies of the guidelines are available through the APA Education Directorate. (1a, 1c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **Board of Educational Affairs (BEA) Grants**
  PCUE staff facilitated the review process for the BEA grants for precollege and undergraduate teaching conferences. This spring, BEA awarded a total of $10,000 to support the following conferences to enhance the teaching of psychology:

  - Eastern Conference on the Teaching of Psychology (EToP)
  - 26th Annual Farmingdale State College Conference
  - Practical Pedagogy Conference
  - Mid-Atlantic Teachers of Psychology (MATOP) Conference
  - Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Psychology (NECTOP)
  - Academic Psychology Convention
New Hampshire Psychological Association
SPSP Teaching Preconference
Northwest Teachers of Psychology Conference (NWTOP)
RMPA Wertheimer-Portenier Teaching Conference
Iowa Teachers of Psychology (IToP) Conference
Division 2 teaching programs at MPA
12th Annual Enhancing the Teaching of Psychology Conference
(1a, 1c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

• **APA Psychology Department Program (PDP)**
  PCUE is working to expand the APA PDP for 2012-2013. The PDP bolsters APA’s support of psychology departments (especially those in smaller colleges) by providing a single location to tap APA’s education benefits. This program is available for purchase at an annual cost of $300 and includes a package of new teaching and advising publications, newsletter subscriptions, three complimentary student affiliate memberships, and access to varied education resources. (1a, 1b, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

• **Partnerships with the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (APA Division 2)**
  - PCUE staff worked with members of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology to coordinate plans for the annual G. Stanley Hall/Harry Kirke Wolfe Lecture Series at the APA Convention and meetings of the regional psychological associations.
  - The APA Education Directorate continued its partnership with the Society for the Teaching of Psychology to offer the Departmental Consultant Service (DCS). Developed in response to an increasing need for evaluations, the consultant service provides departments of psychology with a list of qualified consultants who will provide feedback that will enable them to improve their programs. In 2012, the Board of Educational Affairs approved four new consultants to join the Departmental Consulting Service (DCS). (1a, 3b, 3d, 3e)

• **Support for Community College Teacher Affiliates**
  - PCUE staff coordinated the development of programs and resources for the APA Community College Teacher Affiliates (more than 1400 affiliates). Through their membership with APA, these Teacher Affiliates are also members of the Psychology Teachers at Community Colleges (PT@CC).
  - Staff produced and distributed two issues of the Psychology Teacher Network (PTN) newsletter.
  - A special mass mailing was sent to the PT@CC members that provided an update on benefits, resources, and other opportunities developed for them. The spring mass mailing also included award certificates for instructors to recognize their students who excelled in psychology and a newly published APA brochure on Careers in Psychology. A mailing also was sent to all community college psychology teachers in Florida and surrounding states to encourage them to attend the APA Convention in August.
  - Staff worked with the PT@CC Committee to administer and judge the annual PT@CC Student Presentation Contest and the PT@CC Teaching Resources Awards in June. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)
Meetings and Outreach Initiatives

- At the March 2012 Independent Colleges Office (ICO) Liaison meeting, PCUE staff participated in a discussion session with representatives from various disciplinary societies and shared APA resources in support of undergraduate education in psychological science. (2g, 3a, 3b, 3d, 3e)

- The PCUE Director attended Project Meeting II and participated in two webinars as part of APA’s participation in a three-year Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (FIPSE) grant project called Mobilizing Disciplinary Societies on Behalf of Our Students...and Our Planet. This project is a collaborative effort of Project Kaleidoscope at the Association of American Colleges & Universities, Mobilizing STEM Education for a Sustainable Future, and the Disciplinary Associations Network for Sustainability (DANS). This project aims to 1) increase student learning in undergraduate STEM courses, and 2) better prepare students for the real-world 21st century “Big Questions” that relate to such issues as energy, air and water quality, and climate change. APA is one of eleven disciplinary societies participating in this initiative. APA was extended an invitation to participate in this project in February 2011 because of the Resolution in Support of Education for Sustainable Development (APA, 2007) adopted by APA's Council of Representatives, as well as APA’s ongoing partnership with DANS. The grant will fund meetings and collaborative projects conducted by society partners. APA is participating in two project teams: Public Policy and Resources. (1a, 2a, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- PCUE staff attended a briefing at the National Press Club that was hosted by the Council on Undergraduate Research (CUR). The purpose of the briefing was to share findings from a new report published by CUR on benchmarks for excellence in undergraduate research and to encourage broad dissemination of this document. The title of the report is Characteristics of Excellence in Undergraduate Research (COEUR). The panelists for this briefing viewed this report as a guide or roadmap for supporting undergraduate research efforts on college campuses nationally. (1a, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- PCUE staff attended an education policy forum sponsored by the American Educational Research Association and the Institute for Educational Leadership on state boards of education and evidence-based policy making. During the forum, the Executive Director of the National Association of State Boards of Education discussed challenges and opportunities faced by the state boards. (1a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- In February, the PCUE Director attended a meeting of the Learning Spaces Collaboratory (LSC) that was held at the Herman Miller Showroom in Washington, DC. APA is one of several disciplinary societies participating in this LSC that is funded by the National Science Foundation and spearheaded by the emerging Learning Spaces Collaboratory, under the leadership of Jeanne Narum, founding director of Project Kaleidoscope. The purpose of the meeting was to develop an assessment rubric for STEM learning spaces. (1a, 2g, 3a, 3d)

- Debra Park, MA, of Rutgers University, presented at the CESPPA business meeting during the 2012 State leadership Conference to provide an update on the APA National Standards for High School Psychology Curricula and the new APA policy on Guidelines for Preparing High School Psychology Teachers: Course Based and Standards Based Models. (1a, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- PCUE staff coordinated meetings with faculty, staff, and students from Prince George’s Community College and Morgan State University. Guest speakers included Robin Hailstorks, Alberto Figueroa, Andrew Austin-Dailey, and Jackie Tyson. These meetings were organized to share information about
the work of the Association and career pathways for psychology majors. (1a, 2c, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- The PCUE Director participated in the annual Science Technology and Research Training (START) Conference at Prince George’s Community College in Largo, Maryland. This annual event showcases students’ research and focuses on how students can apply for research positions and fellowships in the biomedical sciences. (1a, 2c, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- The PCUE Director served as a judge for the annual Christopher Columbus Awards program and reviewed the proposals of semi-finalists for this award. This is a national, community-based science and technology program for middle school students sponsored by the Christopher Columbus Fellowship Foundation. (2c, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- The PCUE Associate Director represented the American Psychological Association at the annual Career Week program sponsored by the University of Maryland University College and shared resources on graduate study and careers in psychology. (1a, 2c, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- PCUE staff coordinated a meeting of students participating in the University of Maryland College Park’s Summer Research Initiative and Ronald E. McNair Research Program. The purpose of the meeting was to provide an overview of the work of the Association and to inform students about APA resources for graduate study in psychology. In addition to Education Directorate staff, APA staff from the Executive Office, Science Directorate, and Public Interest Directorate participated in this meeting. (1a, 2c, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

**Office of Graduate & Postgraduate Education & Training (GPE&T)**

**www.apa.org/ed/graduate**

The mission of the Office of Graduate and Postgraduate Education and Training is to advance the quality and public understanding of graduate and postdoctoral education and training in preparation for careers in teaching, research, and applications of psychology as a scientific discipline and profession.

**Ongoing Outreach Activities**

- The counseling psychology program at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville was the 2011 recipient of the Award for Innovative Practices in Graduate Education in Psychology, an initiative sponsored by the BEA in collaboration with the Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology (COGDOP). At an event held at the program the awardee was presented with a plaque from APA Staff, the award also comes with a $5000 check.

- **IPEC-MedEdPORTAL**
  Deputy Director Cathi Grus, PhD, is representing APA as a member of the advisory committee to develop an Interprofessional Portal in MedEdPORTAL that includes learning resources linked to the competencies for interprofessional collaborative practice. An associate editor has been selected for the project and the advisory group is currently reviewing proposals for small grants to develop submissions to the portal. A call for peer reviewers will be coming soon. The project is coordinated by the AAMC with funding from the Macy Foundation.
Conferences and Meetings

- **Council of Chairs Training Councils (CCTC)**, held their meeting on March 29, 2012. The mission of CCTC is to provide a forum for communication among the doctoral, internship and postdoctoral training associations in psychology. Principle topics of the March meeting included: Education Directorate updates, updates on actions taken to address the internship imbalance, and the need to review their criteria for membership. The next meeting of this group is in the fall of 2012. (1a, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- Staff attended the mid-year meetings of the Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs, Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology, the National Council of Schools and Programs in Professional Psychology and the Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs. Updates were provided on activities of the Education Directorate and opportunity to engage the groups in dialogue about their areas of focus occurred. (1a, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- Staff was invited to participate in a working group meeting sponsored by the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) to provide input to an ASPPB task force that is drafting model regulations related to supervision and licensure. During the meeting the utility of developing education and training guidelines on supervision was identified. A request was brought forward to BEA in March. Formation of a work group was approved by BEA. (1a, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- Staff attended the meetings of the Board of Directors and membership of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) held in New Orleans. A major focus of both meetings was the BEA statement on accreditation and the willingness of state boards to modify their requirements for licensure for health service psychologists to require completion of an APA (or CPA) accredited doctoral and internship program. Dr. Belar delivered a keynote address and Dr. Grus participated in a panel discussion on the implications of such a change. (1a, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- Staff gave an invited presentation at the annual convention of the California Psychological Association on preparing the future health service psychology workforce. The presentation included highlights of APA activities in support of the strategic plan goal 2, expand psychology’s role in advancing health. (1a, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- Dr. Belar delivered the keynote address and GPE&T staff participated in a panel discussion on the internship imbalance at the meeting of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and internship Centers (APPIC) in Tempe, Arizona. The overall theme of the conference was on quality training. (1a, 2b, 2d, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- Data collection for the annual update of the APA publication, Graduate Study in Psychology, was overseen by staff in the Office of Graduate and Postgraduate Education and Training. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2c, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

**Office of Continuing Education in Psychology (CEP)**

[www.apa.org/ce](http://www.apa.org/ce)

The Office of CEP continues to offer, expand, and initiate new programs and products to support the professional development of psychologists. APA offers live workshops at its annual convention and independent study through online, DVD, CD, book-based, and journal-based programs. In addition, the
CEP Office sponsors workshops offered by APA offices and divisions and external groups (e.g., regional psychological associations).

- **2012 APA Annual Convention**
  CEP has selected eight pre-convention workshops, 72 workshops, and over 200 CE sessions to offer for CE credit at Convention in August. The office works with the Continuing Education Committee (CEC) which is responsible for reviewing programs to assure their compliance with the APA guidelines for CE in psychology. (1a, 1b, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **Unlimited CE at Convention**
  This year the CEP Office is again supporting “Unlimited CE” for CE Sessions at convention. Convention registrants pay a single flat fee ($65 for members) to receive CE credits for as many of the convention CE sessions as they attend. Response to this offer last year increased participation by more than 100%, so it is being offered again this year at convention (1a, 1b, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **CE Session Recordings**
  This year the CEP Office is again video recording selected CE sessions at convention for repurposing as online CE programs after the convention. Over 50 hours of CE Sessions are scheduled for recording. (1a, 1b, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **RFID Session Monitoring System**
  This year the Office of CEP is continuing the new system monitoring the CE Sessions at convention. Based on Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) technology, the system “automatically scans” participants’ badges as they enter and exit the CE Session room. This automatic scanning replaces the “swipe-in” and “swipe-out” scanning system that was used in previous conventions and supports a more streamlined and efficient monitoring implementation. (1a, 1b, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

**Clinician’s Corner Workshop Series**

CEP offers a workshop series in the APA headquarters titled, The Clinician’s Corner. Each month a recognized expert in a targeted area of training provides a 3-hour CE workshop for members of the psychological community, within, and outside, of APA. These workshops are simultaneously webcast live throughout the country. The 2012 Clinician’s Corner workshops have included:

- January’s Corner
  Understanding Eating Disorders and DSM-V—Greg Neimeyer

- February’s Corner
  Evaluating Autism Spectrum Disorders With the ASRS: New Data & New Ideas—Jack Naglieri

- March’s Corners
  Interpersonal Psychotherapy for Depressed Older Adults—Gregory Hinrichsen
  Basics in Psychopharmacology—Glenn Ally

- April’s Corner
  New Concepts in Motivational Interviewing: Advancing Your Skills—Ali Hall
• May’s Corners
  What Should Clinicians Know About Practice with Immigrant-Origin Clients?—Carola Suárez-Orozco, Dina Birman, and Pratyusha Tummala-Narra
  Caring for the Military Family: What We All Should Know About Military Culture and the Stress of Deployment—David Riggs
  Professional Issues in the Information Age: Social Media and Beyond—Jeff Ashby

• June’s Corner
  Heart and Mind: Cardiac Psychology—Robert Allan

• Coming Soon:
  September’s Corner—An Evidence-Based Approach to Assessment of Learning Disabilities in Adults—Robert Mapou
  October’s Corners—Effective and Ethical Practice: Billing and Collecting for Your Mental Health Practice—Steven Walfish
  Empathy in Service Professions—Sharon Tettegah

• November’s Corner
  Negotiating the Complex Ethical Terrain of Clinical Supervision—Rod Goodyear

• Independent Study - Online Programs
  The Office has added a number of new programs to its online and Book-based programs in 2012. (1a, 1b, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)
  All Clinician’s Corner webcast (nine to date; thirteen scheduled) have been development into on-demand online programs. See Clinician’s Corner Workshop Series section for program titles (above).

• Interactive Classroom
  CE Classroom provides an interactive and immersive online learning environment that actively involves the user in a participatory approach to learning. New programs that have been added to date in 2012 include:
  1. Cultural Competence in Trauma Treatment
  2. Drug Use and HIV
  3. Traumatic Stress Among Individuals Living with HIV/AIDS

• APA Monitor & CEP Collaboration
  In Collaboration with the APA Monitor on Psychology, the Office of CEP has launched a new CE initiative entitled, The CE Corner. As a quarterly feature of the Monitor, a 3,000-word CE article appears on a selected topic, written by recognized scholars in the field. Each article has an associated CE Quiz posted online, and a link to the Quiz is provided for interested readers who can then complete the Quiz online to receive their CE credit. The 2012 CE Monitor articles to date have included: (1a, 1b, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)
  1. What Are the Benefits of Mindfulness?, July/August 2012 Monitor issue (1 CE credit)
  2. Avoiding Ethical Missteps, April 2012 Monitor issue (1 CE credit)
  3. Record Keeping for Practitioners, February 2012 Monitor issue (1 CE credit)
  4. Aging, with Grace, November 2011 Monitor issue (1 CE credit)
  Improving Learning, July/August 2011 Monitor issue (1 CE credit)
The Counseling Psychologist (TCP)
The Society of Counseling Psychology (Division 17) and American Psychological Association’s Office of Continuing Education in Psychology have partnered to offer a benefit for readers of The Counseling Psychologist (TCP) who can earn CE credits for reading selected articles in each issue of TCP. The 2012 articles have included:
(1a, 1b, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

1. No. 2, Counseling for Work and Relationship February 2012
2. No. 3, Social Justice Advocacy in Rural Communities: Practical Issues and Implications April 2012
3. No. 4, A Qualitative Study of Urban Hispanic Youth in an After-School Program: Career, Cultural, and Educational Development May 2012

Consultation and Publication
The Director of the Office of Continuing Education in Psychology has also been invited to convene with the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards in support of the development of a model continuing education guide throughout the country, and has published a number of papers addressing aspects of continuing education and professional development. (1a, 1b, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

Quality Assurance in Education and Training

Continuing Education Sponsor Approval (CESA)
www.apa.org/ce/sponsorapproval

The Office of CE Sponsor Approval was created by APA to facilitate psychologists’ access to CE programs. It is the function of this office to oversee the process of organizations seeking to become APA-approved sponsors and offer CE to psychologists.

The CE Sponsor Approval System (CESAS), the online system for CE sponsors was launched in January 2011. Due to technical problems the Office of CE Sponsor Approval discontinued using the online system for spring 2012 and returned to paper applications. (1a,1b, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

The Continuing Education Committee (CEC) approved 55 new organizations as sponsors of continuing education at its June 2012 meeting. There are currently 855 APA-approved sponsors. (1a,1b, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

The Committee, in conjunction with the newly formed CEC Advisory Group, has been reviewing and making modifications to their policies, procedures, and technical assistance to enhance the clarity of information available to existing and potential sponsors. The Committee regularly devotes an extra day to the CEC meeting to discuss policy issues, including best practices in continuing education and the implications of policies being considered by the association. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

The Committee is working with the CE Sponsor Approval Office to collect and disseminate data about continuing education for psychologists. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)
The Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation assists the Commission on Accreditation (CoA) in its activities related to the accreditation of doctoral programs, internships, and postdoctoral residencies in professional psychology. This office publishes lists of accredited programs; consults with programs considering application, as well as those already accredited; conducts research to support accreditation; assists with development of guidance documents to support the accreditation process; and represents the CoA at national meetings on accreditation.

- The 2012 Commission on Accreditation (CoA) held three meetings during this reporting period: the annual policy meeting at the beginning of February; the first program review meeting in March; and the second program review meeting in July. All meetings provided time for discussing current policy issues and continuing projects in work groups. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- At the March program review meeting, the CoA reviewed 93 programs for initial and continued accreditation. At this meeting, accreditation was granted for the first time to 3 doctoral programs, 7 internship programs, and 5 postdoctoral residency programs. The CoA reviewed approximately 60 programs for initial and continued accreditation at its July program review meeting. As of April 25, 2012, there were a total of 924 accredited programs: 375 doctoral; 477 internship; and 72 postdoctoral residencies. (Note: The tally of accredited programs is updated 30 days following the program review meetings of the CoA. The next update will be available on August 23, 2012). (1a, 1b, 1c, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- The Accreditation Annual Report Online (ARO) opened for accredited programs on June 4, 2012 and will remain available until September 15, 2011. As part of the annual reaffirmation review of accreditation, accredited programs submit required data and information through the ARO. The CoA switched to a new online platform for the ARO this year and staff provided several training webinars on the new system for program directors. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- The CoA sought public comment on a number of policy issues during the reporting period:
  - Proposed revisions to the *Accreditation Operating Procedures* (AOP) to allow for an accreditation “eligibility” status and a new accredited status of “accredited, on contingency” for internships and postdoctoral residencies.
  - Proposed revisions to Implementing Regulation (IR) D.4-7(b) to set at 50% the threshold for the “percent of students accepted into an internship” for accredited doctoral Clinical and Counseling programs.
  - A series of five proposed implementing regulations to clarify the process used by the CoA for full review of doctoral programs (i.e., periodic review) as well as reviewing programs’ continuing assurance of quality (i.e., annual review). Four specific issues that are reflected in decision letters from the CoA are addressed by this IR series: student selection and admission; student attrition; internship placement; and licensure.
  - Following 30 days of public comment, the CoA approved revisions to IR C-20 concerning programs’ disclosure of education/training outcomes and information to prospective doctoral students at its March meeting. Beginning on September 15, 2012, programs will be required to
update disclosure information annually using standardized data tables. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- In June of 2011, the National Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI) recommended that the Secretary of the United States Department of Education (USDE) continue the CoA’s recognition for one year and for it to come into compliance with seven (7) issues identified by USDE staff and contained within the NACIQI recommendation. In response to the standards for continued recognition by USDE, the CoA requested public comment and review on proposed changes to the *Accreditation Operating Procedures*. These changes, approved by both the CoA and the APA Board of Directors, were subsequently made effective on January 1, 2012. Staff will submit a compliance report on the 7 issues prior to August 8, 2012. CoA is scheduled for a compliance review on its response to these issues by USDE and NACIQI in June of 2013. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- During this reporting period, staff submitted the second portion of the petition for continued recognition by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). As part of its review process, CHEA sent an observer to the CoA’s July program review meeting. The CoA is scheduled to appear before the CHEA Committee on Recognition in November of 2012. (1a, 1b, 1c, 2b, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)
GENERAL COUNSEL

NATHALIE GILFOYLE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Office of General Counsel

In addition to providing legal advice to APA, the OGC continued to advance APA’s interface between psychology and law from February through July 2012 in the following ways:

Amicus Involvement: (3a, 3b, 3c)

1. In July 2012, APA was advised that the Thomas M. Cooley Law Review selected the APA amicus brief filed in *Michigan v. Kowalski* (Supreme Court of Michigan/brief filed 9/11) as one of the winners of the 2012 Distinguished Brief Award (“the most scholarly briefs filed before the Michigan Supreme Court”). At issue in that case was the topic of false confessions. The Court accepted the case to address whether appellant’s constitutional right to present a defense will be violated if he is precluded from calling expert witnesses at his trial for first degree murder. APA’s brief states that the scientific research on false confessions provides a strong empirical foundation for the admission of expert testimony and that it should be admitted as evidence under the *Daubert* standard for expert testimony – primarily that this body of research was conducted in accordance with scientific principles and methodologies that are well-established within the profession.

2. The OGC worked closely with the Committee on Legal Issues, APA directorates, relevant governance bodies, psychological experts, and outside legal counsel to prepare and file an amicus brief in *Golinski v. Office of Personnel Management*. This lawsuit is a challenge to the constitutionality of Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), the section that defines the terms 'marriage' as "a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife" and 'spouse' as "a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife." Section 3 prevents the federal government from recognizing the marriages of same-sex couples who are legally married in their own states and restricts the federal government from granting such couples any federal benefits it provides to opposite-sex married couples. This is not the first case in the nation to be filed against DOMA to reach a federal appellate court. APA previously filed a similar brief in the US Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. APA’s brief applies social science research to rebut some of the justifications offered for the prohibition in Section 3 of DOMA of any federal recognition of the marriages of same-sex couples (e.g., procreation, welfare of children). The brief provides psychological research on key points, including how homosexuality is a normal expression of human sexuality, is generally not chosen, and is highly resistant to change. Also provided is research on the nature of same-sex relationships, the role of child-rearing, and the stigma resulting from denying federal recognition to legally married couples.

3. *Miller v. Alabama* and *Jackson v. Hobbs* -- On June 25, 2012, in a 5-4 opinion, the US Supreme Court ruled that the Eighth Amendment’s prohibition of cruel and unusual punishment forbids a sentencing scheme that mandates life in prison without the possibility of parole for juvenile homicide offenders. The Court ruled that juvenile offenders have “diminished culpability and
greater prospects for reform,” and that judges and juries must have the opportunity to consider the “mitigating qualities of youth” in sentencing even when juveniles commit heinous crimes. Justice Kagan, in her opinion for the majority, cited APA’s brief in concluding that developments in psychology and brain science continue to show fundamental differences between juvenile and adult minds, noting that the social science supporting this conclusion has become even stronger since the Court last visited the question of life-without-parole sentences for juveniles in non-homicide cases.

Committee on Legal Issues (1c, 3c, 3d)

The nine-person Committee on Legal Issues (COLI) continued to review and issue comments and recommendations on proposed guidelines, policies, reports and other proposed action by APA in order to identify potential legal implications.

COLI participated in the APA Spring 2012 Consolidated Meetings and has taken the lead in facilitating the review of a proposed APA Resolution on Interrogations of Criminal Suspects originated by APA Division 41 that is anticipated to return to Council for consideration and approval during its February 2013 meeting. During COLI’s meeting, the Committee also reviewed and issued comments to various APA governance groups on a number of items on the cross-cutting agenda. Specific attention was given to the items pertaining to proposed changes to APA guidelines’ terminology, process and endorsement policies and procedures.

Additionally, COLI addressed current and pending Committee projects including, but not limited to, the following: 1) revision of a frequently used COLI-authored document provided to psychologists addressing how to respond to a subpoena, 2) development of a video primer on responding to subpoenas with the Ethics and CES Offices, 3) programming for the 2012 APA Convention, 4) a proposed state law summary website project, 5) further development of the APA Judicial Ambassadors program, and 6) proposals for future APA/ABA collaboration.

Judicial Ambassadors Initiative (3c, 3d)

During the past several years, efforts have been made by COLI to effectively partner with the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges (NCJFCJ). We have been very successful in sending psychologists to present to judges at a number of NCJFCJ conferences on various topics. In July 2012, Kimberly Lawson, PhD, presented two programs addressing competency restoration for juveniles at NCJFCJ’s 75th Annual Conference in New Orleans.
GOVERNANCE AFFAIRS
HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES
FEBRUARY ‘12 – JULY ‘12

Division Services Office

Division Services Office (DSO) staff supports the work of the Committee on Division/APA Relations (CODAPAR) and the Policy and Planning Board (P&P). In addition, Division Services provides administrative management services to 37 APA divisions and 6 division sections under contractual arrangements with APA. During the past six months:

(1a) Division Services has compiled and distributed by email to all pre-registered convention attendees complete information (program, hospitality suite and social activities) by division for all APA divisions. The information is online at: http://www.apa.org/convention/programming/divisions/index.aspx.

(1a) Division 46, Media Psychology, is in the process of changing its name. The new name, Society for Media Psychology and Technology is being voted on by the Division membership. If the name is approved then existing divisions and the Council of Representatives will be given a 60-day period to review and comment upon the proposed name change. The name change will take effect if no objections are received through the division name-change procedures (Association Rule 100-3) at the close of 60 days.

(1a) Four “letters of intent to form a division” have been received in central office and all 4 petitions are now being circulated and signatures collected. Members can sign at the online site: http://www.apa.org/about/division/index.aspx. The areas of the proposed new divisions are: Financial Psychology, Entertainment Psychology, Implementation Science in Psychology and Society for Technology and Psychology.

(1c) CODAPAR will host a social hour at the 2012 Orlando convention for division presidents-elect and their early career psychologist colleagues aimed at providing an opportunity for informal networking by newly elected presidents-elects, who will meet in January at the 2013 Division Leadership Conference, and for mentoring future division leaders. This is a follow up to Dr. Johnson’s focus on early career members (ECP) during her presidential year. Six early career psychologists were invited to the 2012 Division Leadership Conference to find out more about how to encourage involvement of ECPs in divisions and gain insight into ECP issues.

(1a, 1c, 3e) The 2012 P&P Annual Report will focus on what it means to be engaged as a member of APA and more broadly as a member of any professional association. P&P is working to develop a detailed table that will address the many opportunities that APA offers to engage its members, the various levels of involvement that members can choose and the emotional connections that are possible. The table will tentatively include the following categories: Communications/ Publications, Professional Meetings, Professional Development and Continuing Education, Inter-professional Activities, Products and Services, Membership Recognition, and Leadership/ Governance Participation.
P&P is also continuing its work on the use and availability of data for APA governance purposes. A joint presentation on current and planned data resources available through APA with staff from Public and Member Communications and the Center for Workforces Studies is being planned for the Fall 2012 Consolidated Meetings.
OFFICE OF PUBLIC AND MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

RHEA FARBERMAN
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Office of Public and Member Communications

The Office of Public and Member Communications (P&MC) houses Public Affairs, Editorial and Design Services, the APA Monitor on Psychology, gradPSYCH, Advertising and Exhibit Sales, Membership Development, the Service Center, and the Web Strategy and Content Office.

The office is the primary contact for the APA membership-at-large and customers of the association's products and services. It also links APA and psychology with the news media and the public; helps companies market products and services to psychologists by selling advertising and exhibit space; edits, designs, and publishes documents for APA membership and the public; manages membership recruitment and retention activities; and manages content, design, and communication strategies for the APA website.

The activities of the Office of Public and Member Communications address several of the following APA Strategic Plan goals and objectives.

Public Affairs Office

The Public Affairs Office manages the association’s media relations program and communicates psychology’s important role in all aspects of life through social media that engage diverse audiences. The office also keeps APA members informed about association activities through a new bimonthly all-member newsletter, APA Access.

News Media

From January to July, Public Affairs received 477 inquiries from the news media and referred 1,522 APA member experts to journalists. The office researched, wrote, and distributed 25 communiqués to the media, including news releases, organizational statements, and question-and-answer features with leading psychologists on timely issues. (2c, 2g, 3b, 3d)

Social Media
Public Affairs works to increase public awareness of psychology’s role in all aspects of life by directly engaging diverse audiences through social media such as Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, and Google+. During this period, APA’s main Facebook page gained close to 7,000 fans, rising to 32,000, with each post reaching an average of 7,400 fans. On the professional networking site LinkedIn, the main APA discussion group gained 856 new members, growing to 4,668, with an average of 23 comments and 34 discussions per month.

Public Affairs launched a primary APA Twitter account on March 5, which had garnered slightly more than 1,000 followers by July. At the end of the same period, APA’s Google+ page had 2,191 users. Public Affairs is working closely with other APA programs to unify APA’s messaging and expand public outreach via the organization’s multiple social media sites. (1a, 2c, 3a, 3b, 3d)

Membership Communication: APA Access
In January, Public Affairs launched the organization’s first all-member e-mail newsletter, APA Access. The biweekly newsletter covers an array of current topics, such as advocacy updates, continuing education opportunities, press releases, previews of Monitor on Psychology articles, APA publishing news, new APA products, and a calendar of events. Each issue is sent to 106,000 members and is publicly available on APA’s website. The newsletter consolidates APA’s e-mail messages and provides an additional avenue to promote events, products, and services and to increase website traffic. (1a, 2d)

Editorial and Design Services
Editorial and Design Services (E&DS) continues to provide in-house editing, design, and production services to APA directorates, offices, and governance groups. These in-house services save APA money and provide high-quality publications and other media projects for members and the public. (1a, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3b, 3d, 3e)

E&DS logged in 154 projects from February 2012 through June 2012. Projects included task force reports, PowerPoint programs, electronic and print newsletters, logos, public information brochures, promotional materials, signage, electronic broadcast messages, and other materials. Some specific projects (print and online) were:

- *APA Access* broadcast e-mail messages
- Broadcast e-mail messages for convention, subscriptions, divisions
- *APA Annual Report for 2011*
- *Continuing Education Workshops* insert for *Monitor on Psychology*
- Newsletters, including *Variability, Psyc&AIDS, Psychology Teacher Network, APAInsider*, and others
- Communications related to launching of APA’s Opt-in feature (see below), including articles, ads, letters
- *Biological Bases of Behavior Unit Lesson Plan*
- *Immigration Task Force Report*
- *APA Convention Program* book for 2012 (see below)
Staff members of E&DS joined staff from the Web Strategy and Content Office and ITS to implement a new platform for APA’s electronic broadcast mail service. The new platform makes possible a feature, the Opt-In feature, which allows members to personalize a package of electronic information products they receive as part of their membership. The Opt-In feature went live in June. (1a, 1c)

The increase in broadcast e-mail messages, all of which will soon be delivered by Public and Member Communications rather than ITS and Public and Member Communications, has necessitated the addition of a second Electronic Communications Graphic Designer/Coordinator position. Interviewing for this 3-year position is in process.

E&DS coordinates the production and printing of the 2012 APA Convention Program book. E&DS, the Convention Office, and Advertising and Exhibit Sales revamped the 2012 APA Convention Program book by reducing the size (by 150 pages), lowering the cost (by about $30,000), and making the book more accessible to readers by redesigning various sections. E&DS worked with the designer and the printing company. The convention book was delivered 2 weeks ahead of schedule.

E&DS also edits, designs, formats, and produces projects related to the convention. Projects related to convention include the call for programs, program supplement, task force reports, pages that highlight special programs for convention, and multiple convention-related brochures, ads, PowerPoint templates, broadcast e-mail messages, and other collateral projects.

**APA Monitor on Psychology and gradPSYCH**

A new vendor—Texterity—is hosting the digital editions of the Monitor and gradPSYCH magazines. By moving to Texterity, APA is able to provide members with a more reader-friendly experience, at no additional cost. In addition, Texterity is working with APA to launch apps for both magazines. The apps will be developed for Apple, Android, and Kindle Fire products, giving APA the potential to reach a much larger audience. (1b)

The digital editions of the magazine are popular. Since it launched in October, for example, the digital Monitor has garnered more than 1 million page views. This statistic is expected to go up significantly once we launch the apps.

On the financial side, APA successfully negotiated an accelerated contract renewal for the printing of the Monitor and gradPSYCH. This new 3-year contract will save the association about $40,000 per year. In addition, despite the sluggish economy, Monitor advertising revenue is tracking just slightly behind 2011 mid-year levels (down by only 1.2%). gradPSYCH is down 12%. (1b)

**Advertising and Exhibit Sales**

In addition to Monitor and gradPSYCH advertising sales mentioned above, Internet banner advertising has increased, while journals and APA Practice Organization advertising sales remain steady. APA convention exhibit sales and related convention advertising are tracking just slightly ahead of 2011 (up 2.3%). (1b)
On a related note, recruitment advertising through PsycCareers, APA’s Online Career Center, continues to evolve in an ever-changing marketplace. As of July 2012, more than 4,400 résumés were in PsycCareers, and more than 130,000 were in the National Healthcare Career Network. There are currently 23,497 registered job seekers in PsycCareers and more than 8,500 registered employers. New for 2012, the annual job fair that takes place during the APA convention has been expanded and upgraded into PsycCareers LIVE. Employers and job seekers will be able to use on-site dedicated interview rooms that will be available for reservation through the PsycCareers LIVE scheduling system. (1a, 1b)

**Membership Development**

**Governance Activities**

**Membership Board.** The Membership Board met during the Spring Consolidated Meetings and discussed various items, including: ways to help keep students engaged in APA membership during voluntary interruptions in their education, 2012 membership data, and the possible inclusion of affinity benefits that would be of interest to science and research members. The proposal to change the policy of invoicing for back-year dues was approved. Starting with the 2013 cycle, APA will invoice for current year dues only (all back-year dues will be forgiven unless members want to pay them for life status). (1c)

**Committee on Early Career Psychologists (CECP).** The CECP met during the Spring Consolidated Meetings and discussed items including: convention sessions for early career psychologists, improving ways to identify early career members and graduate student affiliates interested in APA governance, identifying early career and those new to governance on election ballots, and possible revisions to the official APA definition of early career members (7 years postdoctorate). (1c)

The committee announced the twenty $750 2012 Convention Travel Awards winners (more than 180 applications were received), created a document focused on career tips for early career members upon receipt of their doctorate (entitled “What I Wish I Had Known...”), and submitted an article for *APA Access* focused on family-friendly activities and events taking place at convention in Orlando. (1a)

The Fellows Committee met in March and reviewed 112 initial fellow applications (pending approval by Council and the Board). (1c)

**Marketing Activities**

**2012 APA Convention Marketing.** The Membership and Convention Marketing team executed an integrated convention marketing campaign for Orlando, including: ads in the *Monitor on Psychology*; Twitter postings; e-mails; at-a-glance mailers to 50,000 members; four unique landing webpages for members, students, early career and science members; an article in *APA Access* and postcards mailed locally. (1a, 1b)

**2012 APA Member Benefits Program.** The APA Member Benefits program is successful because of a multichannel, integrated marketing campaign, including: unique landing webpages for each of the 16 affinity partners, social media postings, co-op ads in the *Monitor on Psychology*, benefits inserts and coupons in the 140,000 APA membership card mailings, banner ads running throughout [www.apa.org](http://www.apa.org), special banners and announcements in *APA Access*, partner print ads in the *Monitor on Psychology*, Listserv postings to targeted groups (i.e., APAGS), and sponsorship opportunities in the Affinity Pavilion during the annual APA convention (signage, one-on-ones with business experts and members, member benefits and value survey, ads in attendee bags). New affinity partner Life Line Screening has generated over 250 member appointments representing over 1,000 health screenings since the program launched in January 2012. Bank of America launched a new Cash Rewards program for APA members. (1a, 1b)
2012 Student Affiliate Upgrade Campaign. More than 3,000 graduate student affiliates were invited to upgrade to full member through targeted efforts, including direct mail, e-mails, an upgrade webpage, banner ads on www.apa.org and in APA Access, and print ads in the Monitor. New this year, social media and a video campaign were implemented into the upgrade campaign. (1a)

2012 Membership Certificate. The membership certificate program offers certificates (framed or unframed) to members and affiliates. This program is promoted online, in the membership card mailings, and various recruitment and retention campaigns. More than 300 orders have been placed in 2012. (1a)

2012 Membership Card. Membership card mailings for APA members and affiliates have reached 107,172 this year compared to 101,286 at this time last year. (1a)

Service Center

Service Center Operations
The Service Center Operations unit maintains the member, subscription, and customer database records and processes new member and affiliate applications, dues and subscription payments, and book orders. During the first 6 months of 2012, staff reviewed applications and established records for 3,362 new members; reinstated 766 members; and processed applications for about 5,850 student affiliates, 310 teacher affiliates, and 240 international affiliates.

Additionally, staff processed thousands of dues and subscription payments, with about 46% of the renewal payments received electronically. In April, the Circulation staff of the unit completed the 2011 BPA Worldwide circulation audit of the Monitor on Psychology. The Operations unit is working closely with Information Technology Services and Web Strategy staff to improve the web experience for new members joining APA. (1a)

Call Center
Within the Communications unit of the Service Center is its Call Center. The Call Center is the initial point of contact and direct service link to all constituents who contact the association’s main telephone number and/or those who direct correspondence to its fax machines or mailing address. The unit provides direct service to members, subscribers, or book buyers who want to make a payment, place an order, seek assistance, or obtain information. During this period, the unit:

- Received training and began using APA’s new telecommunication software. The new phone system is more robust and allows staff to record their calls and managers to provide immediate feedback and coaching tips to staff on specific calls. Phone reports can now be scheduled to automatically generate during a specified day and time of day. Alerts can be set up to inform all staff when various thresholds are met to ensure that action is taken to address the alert. (1a)

- Completed the placement process of the new career track program implemented within the center in January. Staff have been placed in their new positions after a series of assessments were conducted to determine placement. The program is designed to encourage, motivate, and reward staff members who desire to pursue a customer service career. Staff will advance to higher levels/positions as they meet and maintain predetermined goals and objectives. The program is designed to encourage excellence in service and will further develop the unit goal of delivering the best to the association’s members and customers. (1a)
Publication Fulfillment Operations

The Fulfillment Operations unit of the Service Center manages the warehousing, distribution, and system maintenance for all publications offered by the organization. During this period, the unit processed more than 22,000 orders valued at about $6 million. (1a)

Web Strategy and Content Office

The APA Web Strategy and Content Office is responsible for managing the design, architecture, content, and content strategy for the APA website. During this period, the staff:

- Designed a new MyAPA edit profile page and collaborated with ITS to launch it
- Designed and implemented a system for users to opt in to receive newsletters and alerts
- Improved error message handling in e-commerce
- Researched and began implementation of strategies to make web content more “findable” and improve members’ website experience
- Added content in a new area, health disparities, which helps further psychology’s goal of decreasing health disparities (2)
- Restructured the “About” APA page to make it easier to find information on governance, senior staff, the strategic plan, the convention, APA Style, and ethics
- Redesigned the Librarian’s Resource Center
- Revamped and launched a new Media Referral System, which is used by Public Affairs to refer APA member experts to media

Other major projects included continuing to design and migrate division websites to APA’s servers. During this period, WSCO relaunched the Division 19 and Division 1 websites. Division 18 is readying for relaunch, and Divisions 7, 20, and 21 are in development. WSCO continues to provide support to all divisions already live on www.apadivisions.org. WSCO also created apacommunities.org areas for Divisions 28 and 47. (1a)

In addition, the office:
- Built and launched the 2012 convention pages
- Created an editorial calendar to facilitate association-wide planning of content
- Founded a Google Analytics user group to share knowledge across APA
- Continued maintenance of APA's 28,000 webpages, receiving about 2,500 requests for content updates and improvements during the period. (1a, 1b)

Site Visitor Statistics

Summer tends to be slower on APA.org than fall and winter, so most sites show less traffic from February to June than the previous 5 months. However, all four domains’ visits and pageviews increased over the same time period from 2011.
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<th>Views</th>
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<th>Pages/Visit</th>
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PRACTICE DIRECTORATE

KATHERINE NORDAL, PHD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
PRACTICE DIRECTORATE
HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES
FEBRUARY ‘12 – JULY ‘12

This report contains selected highlights of Practice Directorate activities from February through July 2012. Further information is available by contacting the directorate office as indicated below.

Convening the 29th annual State Leadership Conference
For additional information about the State Leadership Conference, please email the State Advocacy Department at state@apa.org or call (202) 336-5864.

Playing an active role in health care reform and parity implementation
For additional information, please email the Government Relations Department at pracgovt@apa.org or call (202) 336-5889.

Gaining closure of loophole in health insurance definition
For additional information, please email the Legal and Regulatory Affairs Department at praclegal@apa.org or call (202) 336-5886.

Supporting medical staff membership for psychologists
For additional information, please email the Government Relations Department at pracgovt@apa.org or call (202) 336-5889.

Pursuing advocacy and education regarding electronic health record keeping by professional psychologists
For additional information, contact the Legal & Regulatory Affairs Department at praclegal@apa.org or by calling (202) 336-5886.

Seeking appropriate Medicare reimbursement for psychological services
For additional information, please email the Government Relations Department at pracgovt@apa.org or call (202) 336-5889.

Challenging inappropriate health insurance company and managed care practices
For additional information, contact the Legal & Regulatory Affairs Department at praclegal@apa.org or by calling (202) 336-5886.

Advocating for inclusion of psychologists in the Medicare definition of “physician”
For additional information, please email the Government Relations Department at pracgovt@apa.org or call (202) 336-5889.

Enhancing legislative advocacy by grassroots psychologists
For additional information, please email the Government Relations Department at pracgovt@apa.org or call (202) 336-5889.

Playing an active role in treatment guidelines development and promotion
For additional information, please email Governance Affairs at govops@apa.org or call (202) 336-5878.
Participating in psychotherapy codes survey
For additional information, please email the Government Relations Department at pracgovt@apa.org or call (202) 336-5889.

Affirming psychology’s role in behavior analysis for autism
For additional information, contact the Legal & Regulatory Affairs Department at praclegal@apa.org or by calling (202) 336-5886.

Developing telehealth guidelines for psychologists
For additional information, please email Governance Affairs at govops@apa.org or call (202) 336-5878.

Meeting the needs of service members, veterans and their families
For additional information about Give an Hour and related partnerships, please email the Public Relations Department at pracpr@apa.org or call (202) 336-5898.

Educating the public about psychology and the value of psychological services
For additional information about the APA Public Education Campaign, please email the Public Relations Department at pracpr@apa.org or call (202) 336-5898.

Affirming the value of psychologically healthy workplaces
For additional information, please email the Marketing and Business Development Department at pracmanagement@apa.org or call (202) 336-5900.

Providing psychological support through the Disaster Response Network
For additional information, contact the Public Relations Department at pracpr@apa.org or call (202) 336-5898.

Debuting PsycLINK on APACommunities
For additional information, please email the Practice Research and Policy Department at pracrespol@apa.org or by calling (202) 336-5911.
The Practice Directorate engages in a broad range of activities on behalf of practicing psychologists in diverse settings and consumers of psychological services. The directorate’s primary activities involve advancing and protecting professional psychology and consumers’ access to psychological services.

APA Executive Director for Professional Practice Katherine C. Nordal, PhD, provides staff leadership for the work of the APA Practice Directorate as well as the APA Practice Organization (APAPO), a companion organization to APA. The APAPO was created in 2001 as a 501(c)6 organization under IRS rules to enable additional advocacy for the professional practice community beyond what APA, as a 501(c)3 organization, is legally permitted to do.

Following are brief highlights of selected Practice Directorate activities and significant developments from February 2012 to July 2012.

**Convening the 29th annual State Leadership Conference**
Nearly 500 psychology leaders participated in workshops, symposiums and networking opportunities at the 29th annual State Leadership Conference in Washington, DC March 10-13. On the final day of the conference, attendees took three key advocacy messages to the Hill and shared them in more than 300 meetings with members of Congress and staff:

- Congress should replace the flawed Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula and alter the existing favoritism of expensive technology-based specialty services over lower-cost mental health and primary care
- Congress should include psychologists in Medicare’s “physician” definition
- Congress should make psychologists eligible for incentive payments through the HITECH Act (1a, 2a, 2d)

**Playing an active role in health care reform and parity implementation**
Much of the hard work of health care reform implementation will be carried out at the state level. Psychologists must be prepared to take advantage of developing opportunities, and state psychological associations must take an active role in directing and supporting the advocacy activities of their members. To this end, the theme of the March 2012 State Leadership Conference (SLC) held in Washington, DC, was “Bringing Psychology to the Table: State Leadership in Health Care Reform.”

In February, the APA Practice Organization co-authored a comment letter from the Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG) to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) regarding the federal agency’s proposed approach for health benefits rulemaking under the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA). The focus of the letter was a December 2011 bulletin from HHS related to defining Essential Health Benefits (EHB) in state-level insurance plans.

The comment letter showed strong and broad support for upholding mandates embodied in the federal parity law. APA and its 57 co-signers thanked HHS for following through on the intent of the ACA that all exchange plans must include mental health and substance use disorder benefits and that they be provided at parity with medical/surgical benefits.
But the co-signers lamented the decision by HHS not to develop a national standard and addressed several concerns, including seeking further definitions that would shore up important consumer protections. For example, the coalition recommended HHS protect against restrictive access to services and reject insurance guidelines that fail to consider the individual needs of a beneficiary. The letter also urged the department to limit benefit design flexibility in the states so as not to lose the protection of existing state laws governing mental health coverage.

The APA Practice Organization’s State Implementation of Health Care Reform initiative works to generate resources and expertise that state psychological associations can use to position psychology for maximal participation in health care reform within their states. In March and May, Dr. Nordal addressed health care reform summits sponsored by the state psychological associations of North Carolina and Idaho, respectively. (2a, 2c, 2d, 2e)

**Gaining closure of loophole in health insurance definition**

In February, in a victory for mental health advocates, the Departments of Labor, Treasury and HHS published a final rule to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that expands the definition of medical necessity as requested by the APA and 43 other members of the Mental Health Liaison Group (MHLG). As originally written in the proposed rule, the definition for medical necessity tied coverage to “illnesses” and “injury,” but not to physical and mental health conditions arising from other causes.

Last fall, the APA Practice Organization authored the letter from the MHLG recommending that the definition of medical necessity be amended to add the word “condition.” The decision will affect all health plans, reaching approximately 160 million Americans in employer-provided group health plans. The rule goes into effect September 2012 for plan years that begin on or after September 1. (2a, 2c, 2d)

**Supporting medical staff membership for psychologists**

In May, The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released new requirements for hospital participation in Medicare and Medicaid that maintain support for hospital medical staff membership for psychologists. The updated rules, which are consistent with an APA Practice Organization (APAPO) comment letter submitted to CMS in December 2011, state that the medical staff must include doctors of medicine or osteopathy and “in accordance with state law, including scope-of-practice laws…may also include other categories of non-physician practitioners determined as eligible for appointment by the governing body.” (2a, 2c, 2e)

**Pursuing advocacy and education on behalf of professional psychology’s inclusion in incentive payments for electronic health records**

On June 27, Representative Tim Murphy (R-PA) introduced The Behavioral Health Information Technology (BHIT) Act, legislation to extend eligibility for health information technology incentive payments to mental and behavioral health professionals and facilities. Similar to bipartisan legislation already introduced in the Senate by Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), the bill (S 539 / HR 6043) would amend the Health Information and Technology for Economic and Clinical health (HITECH) Act of 2009 to support mental and behavioral health by enabling psychologists and social workers to qualify for Medicare and Medicaid incentive payments for integrating electronic health records into their practices. It would also extend this eligibility to nationally accredited community mental health centers, residential mental health facilities, outpatient mental health treatment facilities and substance use facilities.

Recognizing mental health professionals as eligible “meaningful users” under the law would promote integration of psychology and mental health in primary care settings, reduce adverse drug interactions, reduce duplicative tests and provide necessary information to the emergency department at hospitals to triage patients more effectively.
Also related to the evolution of electronic health record keeping:

- APA Practice Directorate staff attended the second consensus-building meeting at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) on April 13. The goal of these meetings is to begin constructing a framework for operating standards for behavioral/mental health in electronic health records, with the intention that behavioral health is seen as an integral component of health information technology.

- In meetings with members of Congress and their staff, attendees of SLC conveyed APA’s key advocacy message that Congress should make psychologists eligible for incentive payments through the HITECH Act.

- APA members and staff led a workshop at the 2012 State Leadership Conference (SLC) entitled, “Electronic Health Records in Practice: What Are They? What Should You Know, What is APA Doing?”

- The winter 2012 issue of Good Practice magazine included an article entitled, “Charting the Course of Electronic Health Records.” (1a, 2a, 2c, 2e)

**Seeking appropriate Medicare reimbursement for psychological services**

On February 17 Congress passed the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012. The new law signed by President Obama averts the Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) payment cut of 27.4 percent scheduled to take effect on March 1 for the remainder of 2012. However, the legislation failed to include a provision to extend a Medicare psychotherapy payment boost of five percent, despite active advocacy by the APA Practice Organization (APAPO) and grassroots psychologists throughout the U.S. As a result, psychologists and other mental health professionals experienced a five-percent decline in reimbursement for Medicare outpatient psychotherapy services beginning March 1.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) slashed Medicare psychotherapy payment rates as part of its Five-Year Review in 2006. Since that time, due to persistent pressure from the APA Practice Organization and grassroots psychologists, professional psychology has succeeded in gaining four laws that restored five percent of the payment. Two-thirds of the resulting $110 million in Medicare psychotherapy reimbursement accrued to psychologists before the February 2012 law was enacted.

In late April, APA was one of the only non-physician organizations approached by the House of Representatives Committee on Ways and Means as part of its effort to review value-based measures and practice arrangements to look for ways of changing payments to improve health outcomes and efficiencies in the Medicare program. The committee asked for comments and data on a series of questions dealing with rewarding quality and efficiency, alternative payment methods and patient involvement and regulatory relief. On behalf of both APA and APAPO, APA CEO Norman Anderson, PhD, and APA Executive Director for Professional Practice Katherine C. Nordal, PhD, wrote a May 25 letter urging the Ways and Means Committee and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to replace the flawed Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate (SGR) formula and alter the existing payment formula that reimburses expensive technology-based specialty services at a higher rate than lower-cost mental health and primary care. (2a, 2d, 2e)

**Challenging inappropriate health insurance company and managed care practices**

On July 6, the APA Practice Organization (APAPO) and ten state psychological associations sent a letter to the federal agencies that regulate parity, the Departments of Health & Human Services, Labor and Treasury. The letter asserts that unprecedented rate cuts over the last few months by Humana and its behavioral health subsidiary LifeSynch violate the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 (MHPAEA).
In an April 4 letter to the Illinois Department of Insurance, APAPO and the Illinois Psychological Association (IPA) requested investigation of an apparent parity violation by Humana and its subsidiary LifeSynch regarding the companies’ rate cut in Illinois. That letter was sent before the latest round of Humana cuts that prompted the July 6 letter.

In a March 23 letter to the Florida Office of Insurance Regulation (FLOIR), APAPO and the Florida psychological Association (FPA) addressed urgent concerns with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida’s (BCBS FL) including the company’s failure to pay psychologists for more than three months. Some of these concerns arose from the company’s rate cut last year that prompted APAPO and FPA to write to the federal parity regulators asserting a parity violation.

Key mental health groups supported the letter: National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), NAMI Florida, Inc., Mental Health America, American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, and the TeenScreen National Center at Columbia University.

The letter was bolstered by data from an informal survey of more than 500 patients and providers launched in February 2012 on which APAPO and FPA had collaborated with the American Psychiatric Association and some of the mental health groups listed above. The survey was aimed at gauging the impact of BCBS FL’s drastic changes to its mental health and addiction recovery services in order to provide information to legislators and enforcement agencies.

Some of the APAPO letters discussed above have resulted in agency investigations which are currently ongoing. The agencies have indicated that they can better perform their investigation outside of the spotlight and accordingly have asked that we not provide details regarding the investigation to our membership. We will provide further information when we are able to do so. (2a, 2c, 2d)

**Advocating for inclusion of psychologists in the Medicare definition of “physician”**
Inclusion of psychologists in the Medicare definition of “physician” continues to be a priority. Bills sponsored by Sen. Snowe (S. 483) and Rep. Schakowsky (HR 831) to include psychologists in the definition have gained bipartisan support. This effort was bolstered by the 2012 State Leadership Conference, during which psychology leaders held more than 300 meetings with their members of Congress and staff, generating positive feedback about professional psychology’s initiative. Thanks in part to activation of an enhanced advocacy tool (see next section) APAPO secured six new House co-sponsors for HR 831. (2a, 2e)

**Enhancing legislative advocacy by grassroots psychologists**
On May 1 APAPO implemented an enhanced software program to more efficiently communicate with and mobilize grassroots psychologists in legislative advocacy. As part of a nationwide mobilization launched in June to persuade to persuade Congress to include psychologists in Medicare’s “physician” definition, grassroots psychologists have to date sent more than 30,400 messages to their legislators on the issue, compared to approximately 13,000 emails about this issue sent in all of 2011. (1a)

**Playing an active role in treatment guidelines development and promotion**
Staff in the Practice and Science Directorates collaborate in managing the APA effort to develop treatment guidelines, including providing staff support to the Advisory Steering Committee for the Development of Treatment Guidelines (ASC). The ASC was appointed by the Board of Directors and reports as well to the Board of Professional Affairs, Board of Scientific Affairs, and the Committee for the Advancement of Professional Psychology. Thus far in 2012, the ASC has selected the members of a guideline development panel for depressive disorders and has received nominations for panels for PTSD and for obesity. The ASC, with staff assistance, has also developed further the policies and procedures by
which guidelines will be developed. In addition, the ASC and staff have made progress toward selection of the outside entities that will provide the systematic reviews of scientific literature that will underpin guideline development. (1c, 2a)

**Participating in psychotherapy codes survey**
The APA Practice Organization has been involved in a complicated and highly confidential process of reviewing and revising the CPT psychotherapy codes and surveyed psychologists to help establish work values for the revised codes. A random sample of approximately 1400 psychologists was invited to take the American Medical Association (AMA) survey online. In addition, approximately 100 psychologists attending the State Leadership Conference March 10-13 participated in a “convenience sample.”

The survey portion of the AMA/Specialty Society Relative Value Scale Update Committee valuation process for the psychotherapy codes is now complete. The Relative Value Update Committee (RUC) will use the AMA survey data to determine values for the codes. After that, CMS will decide whether to accept the RUC’s recommended code values when it sets the 2013 Medicare reimbursement rates, which may ultimately affect rates throughout the private sector as well. (1a, 2c)

**Affirming psychology’s role in behavior analysis for autism**
At its February 2012 meeting, the APAPO Board approved a Statement on Behavior Analysis and Behavior Analysts which includes the following: "[Q]ualified licensed psychologists should be allowed to provide behavior analysis and to call the services they provide "behavior analysis" or "applied behavior analysis" without obtaining additional credentials or licensure.” This APAPO Board statement provides support for state-level advocacy that promotes consumer safety and protects psychology’s scope of practice. The Practice Directorate is continuing to monitor legislation in this area and to provide resources and consultation to state psychological associations. In addition, a governance-staff workgroup has been convened and is working to develop legislative priorities and to enhance communication and collaboration with interested groups both inside and outside psychology. (2a, 2c, 2d)

**Developing telehealth guidelines for psychologists**
APA is part of the Joint Task Force on the Development of Telepsychology Guidelines for Psychologists, which is working to develop guidelines for the professional use of technology in the delivery of psychology services. It is anticipated that the Joint Task Force’s draft guidelines will be available for public comment in late summer 2012 and included on the Board/Committee Cross-Cutting Agenda during the fall consolidated meetings. (2a, 2c, 2d, 2e)

**Meeting the needs of service members, veterans and their families**
In April, the 2012 VA Psychology Leadership Conference brought together more than 200 Department of Veterans Affairs psychology leaders to share best practices and promote leadership opportunities. The theme of this year’s conference was “VA Psychology Advancing the Transformation: New Directions and Technologies for Care.”

APA continues to partner with Give an Hour, with the Practice Directorate helping spread the word about their mission, commitment and the process by which psychologists can volunteer their services to military personnel and their families. (2c, 2e)

**Educating the public about psychology and the value of psychological services**
The Practice Directorate in collaboration with the Science Directorate worked on an APA survey on willpower released in mid-February in conjunction with the report, “What You Need to Know about Willpower: The Psychological Science of Self-Control.” The survey found that 93 percent of Americans made a resolution to change some aspect of their behavior in 2012. Yet people consistently report that a
lack of willpower is the top reason they fall short of their goals to lose weight, save more money, exercise or make other lifestyle changes. Conducted online on behalf of APA by Harris Interactive among 566 adults in December 2011, the survey is a continuation of APA’s annual Stress in America™ poll, which found that many Americans report lack of willpower as a significant barrier to achieving their goals. The willpower survey and report were covered in stories by USA Today and the Wall Street Journal radio network.

The Practice Directorate worked on an APA workplace survey released in March in which half of all employees who say that they do not feel valued at work report that they intend to look for a new job in the next year. Conducted online among 1,714 adults between January 12 and 19, 2012 on behalf of the APA by Harris Interactive, the survey was released in tandem with the 2012 Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award winners. David Ballard, PsyD, MBA, assistant executive director of marketing and business development, recorded 15 radio interviews on the survey, airing 7,520 times and reaching 14.5 million listeners.

On May 16, bloggers from around the world came together to blog about mental health as part of APA’s third annual Mental Health Blog Party. The party — a virtual event where bloggers wrote on a particular topic to promote a specific cause — generated more than 120 blog posts from throughout the United States and abroad in one of the many events held by APA in support of Mental Health Month. (2c, 2f, 3b, 3d)

**Affirming the value of psychologically healthy workplaces**

In recognition of employers who understand the link between employee well-being and organizational performance, the American Psychological Association honored eight organizations at its seventh annual Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards in Washington, DC, on March 10.

APA’s Psychologically Healthy Workplace Program presented its 2012 Work & Well-Being Conference June 28 in Chicago. Designed for employers and the psychologists who work with them, the conference offered sessions that provided practical, relevant information to help employees and organizations thrive. (2c, 2g)

**Providing psychological support through the Disaster Response Network**

In 2012, Disaster Response Network members, working as Red Cross Disaster Mental Health volunteers, provided psychological support following Tropical Storm Debby in June, wildfires in several western states in June and July, and tornadoes across several central states in January through March. British Columbia DRN members were activated to support community members following two consecutive saw mill explosions in northern British Columbia in January and April. DRN members helped the Chicago Red Cross chapter strengthen and expand its disaster mental health teams in advance of the May NATO Summit. Acknowledging the start of hurricane season, the DRN program published an entry on the Your Mind Your Body blog on how to prepare psychologically for hurricanes and other disasters. Throughout the year DRN members and staff continued to further our partnership with the American Red Cross on both a local and national level. A presentation entitled “Disaster Response: Helping Communities Plan for, Respond to, and Recover from Disasters” was prepared for and delivered at the 30th International Congress on Psychology in Cape Town, South Africa in July.

**Debuting PsycLINK debuts on APACommunities**

Since its August 2010 release, PsycLINK: The Practice Wiki has brought members together to share resources, material and experiences germane to clinical practice. The platform has also encouraged discussion regarding contemporary policy issues relevant to psychological science. Beginning the last week of February 2012, APA members have had access to PsycLINK on APACommunities.org through their APA online account. The revamped PsycLINK offers new tools: Users can now start a blog on the
wiki and post polls, as well as track progress and assign tasks when collaborating with fellow APA colleagues on research or other projects. (2a)
PUBLIC INTEREST DIRECTORATE

GWENDOLYN KEITA, PHD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Public Interest Directorate: Applying Psychological Science, Benefiting Society

The Public Interest Directorate works to fulfill APA’s commitment to apply the science and practice of psychology to the fundamental problems of human welfare and social justice and the promotion of equitable and just treatment of all segments of society through education, training, and public policy.

Public Interest Executive Office
http://www.apa.org/pi/

Work, Stress, and Health Office (2c, 2e, 2g)
http://www.apa.org/pi/work

- Since 1989, APA’s work, stress, and health initiative, in collaboration with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and more recently with the Society for Occupational Health Psychology (SOHP), has convened nine conferences on work, stress, and health.

- The ninth was held May 19-22, 2011, in Orlando, FL – Work, Stress, and Health 2011: Work and Well-Being in an Economic Context -- and attracted over 700 participants from 48 countries.

- Planning is underway for the tenth conference, Work, Stress, and Health 2013: Protecting and Promoting Total Worker Health, to be held May 16-19, 2013, in Los Angeles, California. The conference call for proposals was published in late May 2012, with a submission deadline of October 1, 2012.

Presidential Task Force on Preventing Discrimination and Promoting Diversity

The APA Presidential Task Force on Preventing Discrimination and Promoting Diversity was established by 2011 APA President Melba J. T. Vasquez, PhD to identify and promote interventions that prevent and counteract the deleterious effects of bias, prejudice, and discrimination and encourage and support inclusion, respect, and appreciation of diversity. The task force prepared a report emphasizing the psychological science related to discrimination and diversity, with a focus on socially marginalized and discriminated groups, and the benefits to all when the potential, capacity, and talent of all members of society are optimally developed. The report also addressed how prejudice, discrimination, and bias affect both targets and perpetrators. Council received the report in February 2012. Task force members included James M. Jones, PhD (Chair); Susan D. Cochran, PhD; Michelle Fine, PhD; Sam Gaertner, PhD; Rudolfo Mendoza-Denton, PhD; Margaret Shih, PhD; and Derald Wing Sue, PhD. The report and an executive summary were released earlier this year.
Guidelines on Multicultural Education, Training, Research, Practice, and Organizational Change for Psychologists (2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g)

BAPPI has initiated an extensive review and update of the Guidelines on Multicultural Education, Training, Research, Practice, and Organizational Change for Psychologists (2002). A working group has been convened, reporting through BAPPI, to conduct the review process, with Nadya Fouad, PhD and Patricia Arredondo, EdD, providing leadership as Co-chairs. Both Drs. Fouad and Arrendondo served on the working group that originally developed the Multicultural Guidelines. They have identified experts to serve as reviewers. These Guidelines were developed with the goals of providing psychologists with (1) the rationale and needs for addressing multiculturalism and diversity in education, training, research, practice, and organizational change; (2) basic information, relevant terminology, current empirical research from psychology and related disciplines, and other data that support the proposed Guidelines and underscore their importance; (3) references to enhance ongoing education, training, research, practice, and organizational change methodologies; and (4) paradigms that broaden the purview of psychology as a profession. According to APA policy, Guidelines must be assessed for relevance and accuracy at least every 10 years. The review process for the Multicultural Guidelines is slated for completion in 2013.

APA Public Interest Awards (1a)

The PI Executive Office administers the APA Public Interest Awards. The 2012 award recipients will be honored at the APA/APF Awards Ceremony during the 2012 APA Annual Convention in Orlando, FL on Friday, August 3.

- Bernice Lott, PhD is recipient of the Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest Senior Career Award, which recognizes an individual who earned his or her doctorate degree more than 15 years prior to the date of the nomination.
- Marguerita Lightfoot, PhD is recipient of the Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest Early Career Award, which recognizes an individual who earned his or her doctorate degree 15 or fewer years prior to the date of the nomination.
- Dan Olweus, PhD is recipient of the APA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Research in Public Policy, which honors a psychologist who has made a distinguished empirical and/or theoretical contribution to research in public policy, either through a single extraordinary achievement or a lifetime of work dedicated to informing public policy through psychological understanding.

2012 APA Convention: Public Interest Programming (2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d)

Public Interest Directorate programming for the 2012 APA Convention will focus on promoting health and reducing health disparities; championing social justice, diversity, and human rights; and serving and advocating for our members.

Outreach, Education, and Resources (1a, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d)

The Public Interest Executive Office:

- Oversees and ensures wide dissemination of Public Interest related information via Public Interest websites; listservs; ecards; Executive Director Dr. Keita’s Twitter feed; submissions to APA’s
Facebook page and other social media such as the ACT and SESC RD Facebook pages; and APA and Public Interest publications; and reports.

- Prepares and releases In the Public Interest, the directorate’s monthly e-newsletter, to over 800 subscribers.

- Maintains an inventory of directorate printed publications, to supplement broad web dissemination of information.

- Staffs the Public Interest booth at the APA convention.

Governance Support: Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest

The PI Executive Office provided staff support to the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI) for the March 30 – April 1 consolidated meetings, as well as for the conduct of work via email and conference calls.

BAPPI members in 2012 are Karen F. Wyche, PhD (Chair); Toni Antonucci, PhD; Meg A. Bond, PhD, Y. Barry Chung, PhD; Priscilla Dass-Brailsford, EdD; Claire Guthrie Gastañaga (Public Member); J. Douglas McDonald, PhD; Linda R. Mona, PhD; Allen M. Omoto, PhD; and Luis A. Vargas, PhD.

APA Strategic Initiative: Health Disparities
http://www.apa.org/topics/health-disparities/initiative

The Health Disparities Initiative, part of APA’s Strategic Plan, works to increase support for research, training, public education, and interventions that improve health and reduce health disparities among underserved and vulnerable populations. The initiative will focus specifically on the health conditions of stress, obesity, and substance abuse and addiction. The initiative is headed by Dr. Gwendolyn Keita, Executive Director of the Public Interest Directorate, and Dr. Lula Beatty, via an intergovernmental personnel act agreement with the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA). (2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3c)

National Steering Committee on Health Disparities

The National Steering Committee on Health Disparities comprises eminent psychologists with expertise in health disparities and related issues. The steering committee held its first in-person meeting on May 7 and began a series of monthly conference calls, so that members could provide guidance in the development and implementation of the Health Disparities Initiative. Members of the steering committee include the following APA members: Drs. Faye Belgrave, Elizabeth Brondolo, Felipe Gonzalez Castro, Jacqueline Gray, Martin Iguchi, Vickie Mays, James Sallis, and Brian Smedley.

Best Practices Dissemination

A best practices network, currently in development, will focus on dissemination of evidence-based and best practices to reduce health disparities, including information promoting competency in implementation science. Staff members from the initiative have also submitted a proposal to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ) to fund the Best Practices Dissemination Network, specifically regarding effective interventions in the areas of tobacco dependence in adults.
Internal Work Group on Health Disparities

An internal working group was established, with representatives from each PI Office and other APA directorates, so that existing capabilities, expertise, interests, and products within APA can become an integral part of the health disparities initiative.

Communications Activities

The Health Disparities Initiative has developed and posted content to the APA website and is in the process of drafting a plan for significant expansion of that content, to include the Dissemination Network, as well as a public campaign that will offer information on effective interventions related to stress, obesity, and substance abuse and addiction as they affect priority populations.

New fact sheets available online address health disparities and health disparities and stress. Two new fact sheets on obesity and on implementation science are nearly final. Also, an annotated bibliography on stress and health disparities within racial/ethnic minority populations has been created, which will also be posted to the website for use by APA members and other psychologists working in the area of health disparities.

Upcoming Events and Activities

Planning is underway for a Fall 2012 meeting in Washington, DC on Psychology’s Role in Reducing Smoking in Health Disparity Populations. This invitation-only meeting is expected to result in the creation of an Action Plan to strengthen APA and psychology’s ability to more actively encourage the reduction of smoking and tobacco use in health disparity populations.

Planning is also underway for the establishment of two working groups studying (1) effective interventions regarding health disparities for Boys & Men and (2) reducing stress in priority populations.

Public Interest Government Relations Office (PI-GRO)
http://www.apa.org/about/gr/pi/

PI-GRO regularly works with the APA membership to help ensure the success of its advocacy efforts and to enhance the ability of the field to advocate on key issues. PI-GRO relies on member experts to assist in the development and dissemination of educational and advocacy materials that are shared with Congress and the Executive Branch. In addition, PI-GRO provides APA members with a variety of public policy and advocacy opportunities, including:

- Federal Advocacy Trainings and Capitol Hill Visits
- Congressional Fellowship Program
- Public Interest Graduate Student Policy Internship
- Public Policy Advocacy Network (PPAN)

AGING

- In July 2012, prepared a press release announcing the Institute of Medicine report The Mental Health and Substance Use Workforce for Older Adults: In Whose Hands, and began planning a congressional briefing to present key findings of the report to policymakers. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 2e)
• In June 2012, met with key congressional offices regarding the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act to advocate for APA mental health and family caregiving priorities and joined interdisciplinary Eldercare Workforce Alliance partners to urge policymakers to continue their support of geriatric education and training programs. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 2e, 3e)

• In May 2012, attended a meeting of key stakeholders with Kathy Greenlee, Administrator of the Administration for Community Living (ACL), and Henry Claypool, ACL Principal Deputy Administrator to be briefed on the new ACL, which brings together the Administration on Aging (AoA), the Office on Disability (OD), and the Administration on Developmental Disabilities (ADD) and is charged with developing policies and improving supports for seniors and people with disabilities. (2a, 2d, 2f)

• **Signed on to a May 2012 letter** urging key congressional appropriators to increase funding for critical family caregiving programs. (2d, 2f, 2a, 3d, 2e, 3c)

**CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILIES**

• In May 2012, **APA member Anthony Mannarino, PhD, spoke** about his work on children and trauma at the congressional briefing in honor of National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Day. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 2e)

• In April 2012, coordinated participation of APA member experts in a call with the Government Accountability Office (GAO), to provide information for a congressionally-mandated GAO study of children’s mental health services. (2c)

• In March 2012, met with key congressional staff to advocate for the Protect our Kids Act (S. 1984/H.R. 3653), which would establish a commission to develop a national strategy and recommendations for reducing fatalities resulting from child abuse and neglect. (2d, 2f, 2a, 3d)

**INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

• In June 2012, urged members of PPAN to contact their Senators as part of an advocacy effort that resulted in a Senate hearing on the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. (2a, 2f, 2c)

• In summer 2012, worked with the Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology (CDIP) and Science GRO on developing comments to the National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research’s long-range plan. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 3d)

• In spring 2012, worked with CDIP to develop a policy strategy around issues including health equity, education, and employment. (2d, 2f, 2a, 3d, 2e)
INDIVIDUALS LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS

- Coordinated APA activities for the July 2012 International AIDS Conference in Washington, DC. (2f, 2c, 2a, 3d)

- In May 2012, coordinated meetings for Perry Halkitis, PhD, chair of APA’s Committee on Psychology and AIDS, to speak with key federal legislative and executive branch staff about APA’s Resolution on Combination HIV Prevention, the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, and funding for HIV/AIDS activities at the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 3d, 2e)

LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER (LGBT) PERSONS

- In May 2012, submitted comments to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services that recommended including questions about gender identity and sexual orientation as a criterion for prospective grantees to qualify for electronic health record incentive payments, in collaboration with the Practice and Science Directorates, the Office on LGBT Concerns, and APA members. (2d, 2f, 2c)

- In March 2012, coordinated efforts in support of the Student Nondiscrimination Act (H.R. 998/S. 555), a bill to provide civil rights protections against bullying in schools based on gender identity and sexual orientation, that included mobilizing members of PPAN, circulating an APA letter of support to Congress, and joining dozens of organizations in asking President Obama to endorse the legislation. (2d, 2f)

- In February 2012, verified that a reissued National Institutes of Health (NIH) program announcement contained an increased focus on LGBT populations, largely fulfilling APA’s goals for follow-up on the recent Institute of Medicine report The Health of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender People. (2d, 2f, 2c, 3e)

RACIAL AND ETHNIC MINORITIES

- Over the first half of 2012, coordinated an advocacy campaign in support of the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) that included federal advocacy trainings and Capitol Hill visits for members of the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs and participants in the MFP Psychology Summer Institute; the participation of APA member Sherry Davis Molock, PhD, at a congressional briefing on the MFP entitled Addressing the Behavioral Health Needs of Minority Populations; and advocacy by members of the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), for which PI-GRO staff provided training for CEMA members to meet with staff in their congressional district offices in support of the MFP. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 2b, 2e)

- In May 2012, presented with the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA) and a member of CEMA on APA’s Programmatic and Public Policy Efforts to Advance Ethnic Minority Issues at the 2nd Biennial Division 45 Conference in Ann Arbor, MI. (2a, 2f, 2c)
• **Coordinated a May 2012 congressional briefing** and Capitol Hill visits to share the findings of the report of APA’s Presidential Task Force on Immigration, in which Melba J. T. Vasquez, PhD, ABPP; Carola Suárez-Orozco, PhD; Dina Birman, PhD; and Usha Tummala-Narra, PhD, participated. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 3c, 3d)

• In April 2012, as a member of the Friends of Indian Health Coalition, participated in bipartisan meetings with key staff from the offices of six members of the Senate and House Appropriations Committees to advocate for additional Indian Health Service funds to better serve the needs of American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) populations. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 3d)

**SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS**

• **Signed on to a May 2012 letter** urging Congress not to eliminate the Social Services Block Grant program in an attempt to find federal budget savings. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a)

• In April 2012, as part of SAMHSA Homeless Partners, advocated for funding for SAMHSA programs to support mental health and substance abuse services for homeless individuals and families. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 3d)

**WOMEN’S ISSUES**

• In June 2012, **mobilized PPAN members** to urge Congress to support the *Paycheck Fairness Act* (S. 3220), which would close loopholes in current law and make key progress toward eliminating the gender wage gap, and sent a letter thanking Senator Mikulski for her leadership. (2d, 2f, 2a, 3d)

• In June 2012, sent a letter to Representative Schakowsky supporting her introduction of the *International Violence Against Women Act of 2012* (H.R. 5905), which supports evidence-based training, psychosocial assistance, and trauma-informed services for international domestic and sexual violence survivors and their families. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 2e)

• In summer 2012, **sent a letter to House leadership** prior to a floor vote on the *Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act* (H.R. 4970), mobilized members of PPAN in advance of the reauthorization conference, and sent a letter to congressional leadership encouraging their support for a comprehensive reauthorization. (2d, 2f, 2c, 2a, 3d, 2e)

• In April 2012, **mobilized members of PPAN** to urge Congress to vote in favor of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (S. 1925), which successfully passed and included essential provisions to extend and consolidate key health programs and ensure protections for diverse populations. (1a, 2f, 2c, 2a, 3d, 2e)
HEALTH CARE REFORM

Continued work in support of appropriate and timely implementation of several key provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L. 111-148) that address integrated health care, prevention and wellness, geriatric and pediatric health professions education and training, health disparities, (AI/AN) health, and long-term services and supports. (2a, 2d, 2f, 3d, 2e, 3c)

MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES

- Presented a talk entitled Using Scientific and Clinical Knowledge to Inform Public Policies for Veterans and Their Families at the 20th Annual Boston VA Healthcare System Psychology Education Conference in July 2012. (2f, 2c, 2a, 3d, 2e)

- Presented a symposium entitled Collaborating to Identify Best Practices for the Assessment and Clinical Management of Suicide Risk in Military Service Members and Veterans with Janet Kemp, RN, PhD, Department of Veterans Affairs and APA member David Rudd, PhD, ABPP, University of Utah at the June 2012 DoD/VA Suicide Prevention Conference. (1a, 2d, 2f, 2c)

- Secured the participation of APA member Abigail Gewirtz, PhD, in an April 2012 Conference on Engaging Community Support for Veterans in cooperation with the Institute for Veterans and Military Families at Syracuse University and Representative Ann Marie Buerkle (R-NY), Chair of the House Veterans Affairs Health Subcommittee. (2f, 2c, 2a, 3d, 2e)

- Secured the testimony of George Ake 3, PhD, and David Rudd, PhD, ABPP, at a February 2012 hearing of the Health Subcommittee of the U.S. House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs entitled Building Bridges between VA and Community Organizations to Support Veterans and Families. (2f, 2c, 2a, 3d, 2e)

APA CONGRESSIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Entered its 38th year, with the Program’s current Fellows serving in the offices of Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM) and Senator Jon Tester (D-MT). 2012 Convention activities include a booth (#329) in the APA Convention Exhibit Hall and a symposium at 2-2:50 PM on Saturday in Room W303B featuring former Congressional Fellows. (1a, 2c)

Office on Aging
http://www.apa.org/pi/aging

The Office on Aging is the focal point for APA activities pertaining to aging and promotes the application of psychological knowledge to issues affecting the health and well-being of older adults. The office provides consultation and information to APA entities, psychologists, other professionals, policymakers, and the public, and establishes linkages with health and aging organizations to work cooperatively to address the needs and support the strengths of older adults, their families and caregivers.
Institute of Medicine (IOM) Report: Mental Health and Substance Use Workforce for Older Adults: In Whose Hands? (1a, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g)

The IOM released its report, *The Mental Health and Substance Use Workforce for Older Adults: In Whose Hands?* in July. Psychology and Geropsychology are highly visible throughout the report (unlike in a 2008 IOM report on the geriatric workforce). APA invested significant effort to provide the IOM with a multitude of background materials and reference articles. The Office on Aging developed a white paper, *Psychology’s Role in Addressing the Mental and Behavioral Health Needs of the Geriatric Population* and provided models of geriatric mental and behavioral health care that incorporate interdisciplinary teams, descriptions of geropsychology doctoral and internship/postdoctoral training programs, and efforts targeting postlicensure training. A 19-page, health care workforce data collection form requested by the IOM was completed in collaboration with the Education, Science and Practice Directorates. Much of the information APA provided is incorporated in the report.

A 2012 convention symposium, *The Geriatric Mental Health Workforce: Current Initiatives and Critical Issues* sponsored by BAPPI, BEA and CONA, is scheduled for Saturday, August 4, from 2:00-3:50 pm at the Convention Center, Room W105A. It will include a presentation on the IOM report’s recommendations.

National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease (AD) (1a, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

The first *National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease (AD)* was released in mid-May. The Office on Aging and Science Directorate submitted two written comments and two oral comments on earlier versions of the plan since January. These comments were informed by members of the Committee on Aging, Division 40, Division 20, and Division 12 Section 2. The final version of the National Plan was responsive to some of our concerns. It now explicitly mentions psychologists as a member of the skilled workforce needed to address the needs of individuals with AD and their caregivers. It states that DHHS will disseminate, evidence-based dementia-specific guidelines including those generated by psychologists. The Plan has a more balanced approach emphasizing behavioral and cognitive research in tandem with research on molecular and cellular mechanisms and genetic epidemiologic research to identify risk and protective factors for AD. The recommendations of the Advisory Council on Alzheimer's Research, Care and Services were released on the same day as the National Plan. Those recommendations highlight the importance of biological and behavioral markers, as well as behavioral and pharmacologic interventions, throughout. A summary of all APA comments and a synopsis of the changes reflected in the final Plan are available on APA’s National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease webpage.

Assessment of Capacity in Older Adults Project (1a, 1b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

In February, a survey of individuals who requested *Assessment of Older Adults with Diminished Capacity: A Handbook for Psychologists* (2008) was conducted. More than two thirds of respondents reported referring to the handbook at least several times yearly or more. Of respondents, 73% reported using the handbook to assist with clinical evaluations, 42% for student/intern training, and 41% for legal or forensic evaluations; 84% of respondents recommended the handbook to colleagues or students. Planning for additional training opportunities, based on the information collected, is currently underway. The series of handbooks for psychologists, lawyers, and judges continues to be popular with 27,104 web hits in the first four months of 2012 and over 20,000 hard copies distributed by APA and ABA to date,
**Governance Support: Committee on Aging (CONA) (1a, 1c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)**

CONA, the Division 40 Scientific Advisory Committee, and Division 20 will sponsor a mentoring event for early career investigators and students, *Speed Mentoring for Budding Geropsychology and Neuropsychology Careers* on Friday, August 3, 12:00-1:50 pm, at the Convention Center, Room W311F. This mentorship session will focus on demystifying grant applications. The session will include a mock study section review followed by breakout sections with senior faculty who have expertise in specific areas of aging research. Related to CONA’s commitment to engage early career psychologists, its [2013 Call for Nominations](#) specifies the one of CONA’s two slates will be dedicated to early career psychologists. The Office on Aging provides staff support to the Committee on Aging. The 2012 Committee on Aging members are: Neil Charness, PhD (chair), Adam Brickman, PhD, Kelly O’Shea Carney, PhD, CMC, Manfred Diehl, PhD, Jennifer Moye, PhD and Karen Roberto, PhD.

**Office on AIDS**

The Office on AIDS works to sustain and coordinate APA’s nationwide leadership in the educating psychologists and society about the unique roles psychology can play in the fight against the HIV/AIDS pandemic.

**HIV Office for Psychology Education (HOPE) Program (1a, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d)**

The [HIV Office for Psychology Education (HOPE) Program](#), administered under the APA Office on AIDS, recruited, trained, and certified 47 new trainers. Newly recruited trainers joined returning trainers in Chicago, IL to be trained in two new workshops. These workshops, based on evidence-based prevention interventions were Short Term Evidence Based Interventions for People Living With or at High Risk for HIV, and Integration of Mental Health, Substance Abuse, and HIV Prevention. HOPE staff continuously update training materials, and provide technical assistance to trainers as they develop, market, implement, and evaluate HIV educational workshops across the country. Since its inception in 1991, the HOPE Program has trained more than 31,000 mental health providers.

HOPE is funded through a 5-year, $1.2 million contract with the SAMHSA Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS).

**Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer (BSSV) Program (1a, 2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d)**

The Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer (BSSV) Program is a national HIV prevention technical assistance (TA) program for community-based organizations (CBOs) funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A Peer to Peer Initiative has been launched to create an integrated network of peer mentoring and information exchange by connecting CBOs across the U.S. with common TA needs and complementary program strengths. An initial webinar session featured presentations from three CBOs who shared success stories and lessons learned from their experiences in implementing the evidenced-based intervention, Healthy Relationships. Also, as part of our effort to provide practical resource tools that can be used by CBOs, state and local health departments, and our behavioral and social science volunteers, we have created the first in a series of consumer facts sheets addressing the topic of “Why Evaluate” with a subsequent fact sheet on “Developing An Effective Program Evaluation Plan.”
**Internet-based Education Program on End-of-Life Issues** (1a, 2b, 2c, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d)

The APA Office on AIDS and its small business collaborator, eNursing LLC, received $850,000 from the Small Business Innovations Research (SBIR) Program of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to develop and test a **10-module, internet-based, continuing education program** to train psychologists and other mental health providers about working with people near the end of life. The Office on AIDS and the APA Continuing Education Program launched the end-of-life training program on the APA website in August 2009. The program is currently being actively marketed to APA members and other relevant constituencies.

**Conference on Advancing the National HIV/AIDS Strategy in Metropolitan Washington: Science-Practice Partnerships Conference** (2c, 2g)

The 1-day, multidisciplinary **Conference** on **Advancing the National HIV/AIDS Strategy in Metropolitan Washington: Science-Practice Partnerships** brought together the District of Columbia’s diverse community in a forum to address future directions for HIV/AIDS research, practice, and policy in metropolitan Washington, DC. Sponsored by APA, Howard University, and the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the conference was held on April 20, 2012 in Washington, DC.

Approximately 200 HIV prevention and care providers, researchers, local and federal health officials, community-based and faith-based organizations, HIV advocates and people living with HIV/AIDS attended to explore ways of addressing the city’s epidemic and to set a path for future collaboration. The forum ensured that prevention efforts include behavioral as well as biomedical interventions. A conference report containing a synopsis of conference presentations and recommendations from the breakout groups will be released during the summer.

**APA Resolution on Combination Biomedical and Behavioral Approaches to Optimize HIV Prevention** (2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2f, 2g, 3c, 3e)

On February 25, 2012, the APA Council of Representatives adopted a resolution developed by the Ad Hoc Committee on Psychology and AIDS which emphasizes the need for prevention research that incorporates strategies to deal with mental health and substance abuse issues, behavior change, and adherence. Entitled **“Combination Biomedical and Behavioral Approaches to Optimize HIV Prevention,”** the resolution calls upon Congress, the executive branch, and other governmental and nongovernmental agencies to increase support for further research to identify and disseminate effective strategies to prevent and treat HIV and other sexually transmitted infections.

**Press Release on Behavioral Strategies and Truvada** (2a, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

In response to a Food and Drug Administration (FDA) panel recommending approval of the drug Truvada, which is currently used as part of a cocktail of drugs to treat HIV patients, APA released a press statement entitled, **HIV Prevention Measures Must Include Behavioral Strategies to Work: Truvada Alone Not Sufficient, Given Adherence and Other Challenges.** This press release emphasized HIV prevention and treatment measures must include both medical *and* behavioral strategies to be effective.

**Psychology and AIDS Exchange Newsletter** (1a, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)

The Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Psychology and AIDS (COPA) and staff of the APA Office on AIDS developed, produced, and disseminated a 40-page **special edition of the Psychology and AIDS**
Exchange newsletter on the psychosocial stressors which gay men experience that heighten their vulnerability to HIV. Articles addressed:
- Discrimination and Homophobia Fuel the HIV Epidemic in Gay and Bisexual Men
- The Minority Stress Perspective
- Community-Based Approaches to HIV Prevention That Address Anti-Gay Stigma
- Stigma and Its Role in HIV Prevention and Care of Gay and Bisexual Men
- COPA
- Combination Biomedical and Behavioral Approaches to Optimize HIV Prevention
- AIDS Programs at APA
- Public Policy

Governance Support: Ad Hoc Committee on Psychology and AIDS (1a, 2c, 2e, 2f, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d)

The Office on AIDS provided staff support for the Ad Hoc Committee on Psychology and AIDS. 2012 members include Perry Halkitis, PhD (Chair); Timothy Heckman, PhD; Velma McBride Murry, PhD; Scyatta Wallace, PhD; Amanda Houston Hamilton, DOMH; Monica Rivera-Mindt, PhD; and Eugene Farber, PhD.

Office on Children, Youth, and Families
http://www.apa.org/pi/families/index.aspx

The Children, Youth, and Families Office (CYFO) coordinates APA's public interest, health, human welfare, and social responsibility activities in the areas of children, youth, and families.

Public Interest Welcomes New CYFO Director: Lauren G. Fasig, JD, PhD

Dr. Fasig took over as the new Director of the Children, Youth and Families Office on June 4. She comes to APA from the University of Florida, Levin College of Law, Center on Children and Families, where she served as Director of Research. She is also quite familiar with APA headquarters operations, as she served earlier as the James Marshall Public Policy Scholar, awarded by the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues and APA. She brings extensive knowledge and expertise of behavioral research and advocacy related to children, youth and family issues. The May issue of In the Public Interest includes a full biographical summary.

APA Presidential Task Force on Immigration (1a, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3c, 3d)

Established by 2011 APA President, Melba J. T. Vasquez, PhD, the APA Presidential Task Force on Immigration developed an evidence-based report that addresses the psychological factors related to the experience of immigration, with particular attention to the mental and behavioral health needs of immigrants across the lifespan and the effects of acculturation, prejudice/discrimination, and immigration policy on individuals, families, and society. Task Force members included Carola Suárez-Orozco, PhD (Chair); Dina Birman, PhD; J. Manuel Casas, PhD; Nadine Nakamura, PhD; Pratyusha Tummala-Narra, PhD; and Michael Zárate, PhD. The final report, Crossroads: The Psychology of Immigration in the New Century, was received by the Council of Representatives at their February 2012 meeting. The full report, executive summary, and related products were released earlier this year. The online version of the report has received 2,400 downloads since being posted in early April, and almost 350 hard copies have been disseminated since they became available in late May.

In addition as part of APA's Mental Health Month activities in May, Dr. Vasquez along with Drs. Suarez-Orozco, Birman, and Tummala-Narra held a May 9 briefing for members of Congress and their staffs on
the new report. The briefing was covered in the July-August 2012 issue of the Monitor. The briefing was followed on May 10 by a continuing education workshop; a Clinician’s Corner on What Clinicians Should Know about Practice with Immigrant-Origin Clients.

18th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect (2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d)

APA cosponsored the Office of Child Abuse and Neglect’s 18th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. The National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN) is under the aegis of the Children's Bureau and its Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN). The conference was held April 16–20, 2012, in Washington, DC. Participants included more than 2,000 leaders, policymakers, researchers, and practitioners in child welfare. APA was recognized at the conference as a lead organization dedicated to shaping public policy, research, and best practices in preventing and responding to child maltreatment through this partnership with the Children's Bureau and Office on Child Abuse and Neglect. Cosponsorship also provided a forum to network with federal partners and other national organizations to shape the only federally sponsored national conference on child abuse and neglect. In addition to cosponsorship, CYFO staff volunteered to assist with conference activities.

NCCAN has been held biennially since 1976 and APA also cosponsored the 11th - 17th National Conferences. The 18th National Conference is especially significant because 2012 marks the 100th anniversary of the Children’s Bureau, which is the oldest federal agency responsible for administering federal child welfare programs. NCCAN has a long-standing national reputation in providing training and technical assistance for policy makers, practitioners and researchers.

Head Start's 11th National Research Conference (2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d, 3e)

APA cosponsored Head Start's 11th National Research Conference, Research on Young Children and Families: Effective Practices in an Age of Diversity and Change, held June 18-20, 2012 in Washington, DC. Head Start's Research Conference seeks to identify and disseminate new research in early childhood and family issues, while encouraging dialogue among researchers, practitioners, and policy makers. Applied research ranging from major national program evaluations to small studies about child and family development were presented.

Speak Up for Kids Campaign (2c, 2e, 2f, 2g)

APA agreed to partner with the Child Mind Institute in the Speak Up for Kids Campaign, which took place during National Children’s Mental Health Awareness Week (May 6-12, 2012). CYFO, the Practice Directorate, and Public and Member Communications invited APA members to give talks in their communities as part of this national effort to raise awareness about the importance of children’s mental health. Seventy-nine APA members in communities across the country gave scientifically sound talks about childhood mental health disorders and topics related to raising healthy, happy kids.

Governance Support: Committee on Children, Youth, and Families (1a, 1c, 2e, 2f, 2g)

The office provides staff support to the Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, which works to assure “…that children, youth, and families receive the full attention of the Association in order that all human resources are actualized…including issues related to gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and disability.”

Committee on Children, Youth, and Families members in 2012 include Preston Britner, PhD (Co-Chair); Yo (Yolanda) Jackson, PhD (Co-Chair); Roseanne L. Flores, PhD; Patti Johnson, PhD; Laurie McCubbin, PhD; and Michael Southam-Gerow, PhD.
Disability Issues in Psychology Office

The Disability Issues in Psychology Office works to eliminate bias against and promote equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in psychology education and training, research, and professional practice. The office serves as an information and referral resource on disability issues; develops and disseminates reports and other written materials on professional and consumer issues; and promotes the development and application of psychological knowledge to address public policy issues concerning people with disabilities.

On-line Toolkits (1a)

APA’s Disability Issues Office has launched DART – the DisABILITY Resources Toolbox. This on-line resource contains information and tools psychology training directors and faculty can use to better support students with disabilities. By visiting each toolkit, you will gain a better understanding of your legal obligations, become familiar with typical accommodation strategies, and become aware of disability-related data, statistics best practices, and available resources.

Student/Early Career Disability Advisory Group (1a)

During this report period, the office met, via conference call, with the Student/Early Career Disability Advisory group. This group was formed to:

- Serve in an advisory capacity to the Disability Issues Office;
- Provide input and feedback to office activities related to students and early career psychologists with disabilities;
- Bring forth issues and concerns of psychology students and early career psychologists with disabilities;
- Assist the office in developing develop resources to address those concerns;
- Assist the office in identifying relevant resources, research, and recommendations to share with the Public Interest Government Relations Office; and
- Assist the office in disseminating office products and materials.

The Student/Early Career Disability Advisory Group will work with the Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology to produce the third edition of the Student Resource Guide.

Mentoring Program (1a)

This on-line mentoring program, currently with 43 mentor/mentee matches, provides mentors to support psychology students with disabilities, disabled psychologists entering the field, and psychologists in the field who develop a disability.

Presentations (2c)

During this reporting period, the Disability Issues Office Director made the following presentations:

- Race, Ethnicity, and Disabilities: State of the Science Conference (March 1-2): “Mentoring Psychology Students with Disabilities.”
- 2012 National Transition Conference (May 30-June 1): “Preparing secondary and post-secondary settings to provide a welcoming and inclusive environment.”
Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (2c, 2d, 2e)

As a long-standing member of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), the Office uses psychologists’ research and expertise to promulgate and support specific disability policies and legislation to ensure self-determination, integration, and inclusion of children and adults with physical and mental disabilities. Office Director Anju Khubchandani presently serves on the coalition’s Rights, Health, and International task forces, and monitors disability policy and legislation that may have implications on APA policy initiatives. In particular, the Director is currently working with the International Task Force to galvanize efforts to encourage the United States to ratify the UN Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities.

Outreach, Education, and Resources (2c, 2e, 3b, 3d)

The Office Director serves on the Editorial Advisory Board for the Mental and Physical Disability Law Reporter of the American Bar Association, and attends regularly scheduled board meetings in that capacity.

The Office Director met with the Disability Interest Group of the American Public Health Association to share relevant information and to identify potential collaborative activities.

The Office Director collaborated with the Association of University Centers on Disabilities (AUCD) to develop public health workforce competencies regarding people with disabilities.

The Office Director serves on and attended one meeting of the Human Rights Committee of Life Skills Center, a DC-based non-profit organization that serves those with developmental disabilities.

Governance Support: Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology (1a)

The office provided staff support to the APA Committee on Disability issues in Psychology (CDIP). 2012 CDIP members are Kim A. Gorgens, PhD (Chair); Erin Elizabeth Andrews, PsyD; Lawrence Pick, PhD; Joseph F. Rath, PhD; Bruce Walker, PhD; and James L. Werth, Jr. PhD.

Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs
http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/

The APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA) was established in 1979 “to expand the roles of culturally diverse peoples in the profession of psychology,” and OEMA continues to work to ensure the successful achievement of this mission. Accordingly, OEMA welcomed its spring/summer interns, Ms. Danielle Stephenson (Howard University) on April 16, 2012, and Ms. Nneka Nnadozie on June 5, 2012. The following are activities OEMA accomplished during the current reporting period:

Communications

- Coordinated and implemented activities for the Ethnicity and Health in America Series (EHAS), which is designed to raise public awareness concerning the varied health concerns of America’s people of color, while highlighting the impact of psychology and psychological factors on these health concerns. In honor of Black History Month, OEMA’s EHAS focused on HIV/AIDS in the African American community. In collaboration with the Healthy Families/Thriving Communities Collaborative Council of Washington, DC and with support from APA’s Office on AIDS, a panel
discussion was held at the Marshall Heights Community Building in Northeast DC on February 29, 2012. A similar panel discussion, co-sponsored by APA’s Diversity Activities Planning Group and supported by the Office on AIDS, was held for APA staff on February 27, 2012. (2f, 3e)

- Coordinated and implemented activities for the May installment of EHAS. In recognition of both Asian-American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month and Mental Health Awareness Month, OEMA, in collaboration with several professional partners, highlighted mental health among Asian-American/Pacific Islanders. A panel discussion, entitled Asian Americana: Understanding AAPI Family Generations, a joint venture with the DC Mayor’s Office, took place on May 21, 2012 at the AARP Headquarters in Washington, DC. (2f, 3e)

- Conceptualized, solicited articles, and initiated development of the Convention issue of the Communiqué, released July 2012. This marks the first issue after a 2-year hiatus, and it includes a special section on racial bias, racial profiling, and microaggression in response to the Trayvon Martin tragedy. (1a)

- Continued other ongoing efforts such as (a) maintaining and updating the OEMA database of over 3,500 psychologists of color; (b) updating and managing the OEMA Website; (c) coordinating with the official magazines of the APA to submit announcements for OEMA related activities and programs in 2012; and (d) responding to inquiries from members and the general public. (1a)

Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention, and Training Initiatives

- On behalf of the APA Board of Directors (BOD) CEMRRAT2 Task Force, coordinated the competition and ultimate selection of the 2012 Richard M. Suinn Minority Achievement Award for Excellence in Ethnic Minority Recruitment and Graduation and prepared information and material for the award presentation ceremony scheduled to take place during the APA annual convention in August. (1a)

- On behalf of CEMA, managed and coordinated the competition and selection process of the 2012 Jeffrey S. Tanaka Memorial Dissertation Award in Psychology and prepared information and material for the award presentation ceremony scheduled to take place during the APA annual convention in August. (1a)

- The CEMRRAT2 Task Force, with support from OEMA staff, solicited proposals, reviewed, identified, and selected projects for funding, and authorized OEMA to disburse funds for the CEMRRAT Implementation Grants Fund (IGF) program. (1a)

Psychology in Ethnic Minority Serving Institutions (PEMSI)

This initiative seeks to strengthen both relationships between APA and this sector of postsecondary institutions, as well as teaching and research in psychology at these institutions:

- OEMA solicited applications, coordinated review and selection, and coordinated grant award processes for three 2012 awardees of OEMA’s Promoting Psychological Research and Training on Health Disparities Issues (ProDIGs) grants to early career faculty at minority-serving institutions. ProDIGS grantees attended the 7-day 2012 MFP/PSI professional development institute from July 8-14, 2012. (2f, 3e)
National Ethnic Minority Psychological Associations and the Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Interests (CNPAAEMI)

OEMA awarded funding to the National Latina/o Psychological Association (NLPA) to support its national conference that will take place on October 11-13, 2012 in New Brunswick, NJ. (1a)

OEMA provides staff support to CNPAAEMI, which consists of the presidents (or their designees) of APA, Division 45, and the four national ethnic minority psychological associations. (1a) OEMA provided the following support and assistance:

- Management and coordination of follow-up activities and actions resulting from CNPAAEMI’s semiannual meeting, held May 23, 2012 in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

- Facilitated communication and network development associated with CNPAAEMI’s projects and concerns, for example, voting seats on the APA COR for the four ethnic minority psychological associations, support for the Leadership Development Institute (which held its first workshop on May 24, 2012), and development of an informational brochure on tests and assessment. (1a)

Governance Support

OEMA provided continuing staff support to:

- APA Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA): members include Iva GreyWolf, PhD; Derald Wing Sue, PhD; Pratyusha "Usha" Tummala-Narra, PhD; Helen A. Neville, PhD; Ignacio David Acevedo-Polakovich, PhD; and John D. Robinson, EdD, MPH, FACHP. Staffing support consisted of (a) securing hours and supporting proposal development for CEMA’s 2012 convention programs; (b) producing and disseminating the 2012 calls for nominations for both CEMA and its dissertation award; (c) coordinating CEMA’s review and feedback on various governance related items; and (d) staffing its spring 2012 meeting, including agenda book development and follow-up actions. (1a, 1c)

- Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training in Psychology II Task Force (CEMRRAT2 TF): members include James E. Freeman, PhD; Beth Boyd, PhD; Jessica Henderson Daniel, PhD; and Frederick Leong, PhD. Efforts involved: (a) coordinating the development of its 2012 convention program; (b) staffing its 2012 annual meeting including agenda book development and related activities; (c) facilitating the solicitation and selection process of its Richard M. Suinn Minority Graduate Achievement Award; and (d) managing the review, selection, and disbursement of funds for those projects that earned 2012 CEMRRAT Implementation Grants Fund awards. (1a, 1c, 2f)

Conventions and Conferences Attended

April 2012 – OEMA’s Senior Director attended the Kentucky Psychological Association’s (KPA) Diversity Conference in Louisville, KY. The conference was sponsored by OEMA.

May 2012 OEMA’s Senior Director presented at the 2nd Biennial Division 45 Conference in Ann Arbor, MI.
July 2012 - OEMA’s Senior Director attended the Annual Convention of the Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsI) in Los Angeles, CA.

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office**

**APA Participation in the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1a, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d)**

- Dr. Clinton Anderson, on behalf of the Public Interest Directorate, with Sangeeta Panicker, on behalf of the Science Directorate, represents APA in the American Association for the Advancement of Science Science and Human Rights Coalition. It is a network of scientific organizations that recognizes a role for science and scientists in efforts to realize human rights.

- Human Rights: Supported the development of APAs policies and programs on human rights, including representing APA in the AAAS Science and Human Rights Coalition and liaising with governance groups and divisions, especially BAPPI.

**APA Participation in the CDC Mental Health Coordination Team (1a, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d)**

- Represented APA in the Mental Health coordination team of the CDC Guide to Community Prevention Services.

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office (LGBTCO) (1a, 1c, 2a, 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)**

LGBTCO works to advance psychology as a means of improving the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people, as a means of increasing understanding of gender identity and sexual orientation as aspects of human diversity, and as a means of reducing stigma, prejudice, discrimination, and violence toward LGBT people.

The LGBTCO provided technical support to the Joint Division 44/CLGBT Task Force on Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Clients as the task force initiated its work. (2 e, f, g, 3c)

**Policy Analysis, Development and Advocacy (1a, 2c, d, e, f, g)**

- Worked with the APA Office of General Council on the development of one amicus brief: Golinski v. United States Office of Personnel Management

- Liaised with the Michigan Psychological Association and the Division 44 Policy Committee on “conscience clause” legislation introduced in Michigan.

- Developed publicity for APA Convention programs and events related to Florida public policy debates over adoption rights.

- Continued work with the Public Interest Government Relations Office especially with regard to executive branch advocacy and federal agencies related to health in coordination with LGTBT health advocacy organizations.
- Participated in the Minnesota Psychological Association’s 2012 annual convention as a speaker in the program related to MPA’s work to oppose the November 2012 ballot measure to ban marriage for same-sex couples.

**The International Network for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns and Transgender Issues in Psychology (2g, 3c, d)**

- Provided secretariat support for the International Network for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns and Transgender Issues in Psychology (the Network).
- Coordinated and participated in quarterly conference calls and activities of the APA Oversight Group monitoring APA involvement with the Network.
- Implementing 2-year, $150,000 grant from the Arcus Foundation supporting the work of the secretariat and build the capacity of the Psychological Society of South Africa and the Psychological Association of the Philippines to support the human rights of LGBT people in those respective regions.
- Developed publicity for LGBT-related programming for the 2012 International Congress of Psychology.

**Media Relations, Publications, and Communications (1a, 2b, e, f, g, 3d)**

- Successful communications for International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia and LGBT Pride Month.
- Continued with periodic notification to office listservs with “Today at the Top” promoting new LGBTCO webpage content.
- Provided content for the Public Interest Directorate’s monthly electronic newsletter, periodic contributions to the APA Facebook page, and content for “tweets” from the PI executive director.

**Governance Support: Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns (1a, c, 2b, e, g, 3d)**

- Provided support to the Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns (CLGBTC).
- Maintained liaison relationships with APA divisions and affiliated state, provincial, and territorial psychological associations that have an interest in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues.
- Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns members in 2012 include Ellyn Kaschak, PhD; Kevin Nadal, PhD; Angela D. Ferguson, PhD; Parrish L. Paul, PhD, HSP; Helen Hsu, PsyD; and Jose Miranda, PsyD.
Minority Fellowship Program
http://www.apa.org/pi/mfp/
http://www.apa.org/pi/rtp/

The MFP was established at APA in 1974 and is one of the oldest, most prestigious graduate fellowship programs of its kind in the United States. MFP works to increase the knowledge of issues related to ethnic minority mental health and neuroscience and to improve the quality of mental health treatment delivered to ethnic minority populations. MFP does this by providing financial support (through federal training grants) and professional guidance to students and professionals in psychology and neuroscience.

- In January and February, the APA Recovery to Practice (RTP) project team attended the midwinter conferences of CCPTP, CUDCP, and NCSPP. Persons with lived experience of mental illness shared their stories while emphasizing the importance of integrating recovery principles into training and practice. Training directors were encouraged to learn more about the RTP initiative and to register to pilot the curriculum. (2f, 2g, 3d)

- In March, one postdoctoral and 11 predoctoral psychology applicants were selected as new fellows for the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (MHSAS) Fellowship, the progress of continuing fellows was reviewed, and program planning was discussed at our Training Advisory Committee meeting. One of the newly selected predoctoral students received a policy fellowship and is working with Larke Huang at SAMHSA as a summer intern. (2f)

- July 8-14, MFP hosted its 10th annual Psychology Summer Institute in Washington, DC. Thirty-five predoctoral, postdoctoral, and early career participants (including three grantees from the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs’ ProDIGS program) received professional mentoring on their projects, career development training, and assistance with technical skills such as grant writing and publishing. The participants also had the opportunity to network with established ethnic minority psychologists, as well as program officials from federal agencies and foundations. (2f, 3e)

- In April, the RTP project staff attended SAMHSA’s annual RTP crossdisciplinary meeting with five other national associations (psychiatry, social work, psychiatric nursing, peer specialists, and drug abuse) awarded a subcontract to assess the state of mental health recovery and develop trainings for behavioral health professionals. The participants presented summaries of their respective curricula and discussed ways to advance recovery practices for students and professionals. (2f, 2g, 3d)

- In June, the APA RTP project staff completed the initial drafts of 15 modules for its curriculum. These modules will be piloted in doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral programs in psychology this fall. (2f, 2g, 3d)

Office on Socioeconomic Status
www.apa.org/pi/ses/

The Office on Socioeconomic Status (OSES) directs, oversees, facilitates, and promotes psychology’s contribution to the understanding of SES in the lives and well-being of the poor. OSES develops and facilitates relationships and activities to advance psychology as a major force in research, policy, and advocacy related to SES through various activities and programs. OSES manages and supports the activities of the Committee on Socioeconomic Status (CSES).
OSES Communications Activities (1a, 2c, 2d, 2f, 2g, 3c, 3d)

OSES continues to engage in various communication activities to inform the discipline and increase attention and participation among psychologists to social class and SES-related issues. Additional communications activities during this reporting period include:

- **The SES Indicator (Newsletter)**
  OSES published two issues of the quarterly newsletter, *The SES Indicator* during this reporting period to include lead articles on Household Food Insecurity, guest editor Pediatric Psychologist Maureen Black, PhD, University of Maryland Medical Center (June 2012) and Mental Health Outcomes of Unemployment, guest editors Arthur Goldsmith, PhD, and Timothy Diette, PhD, of the Department of Economics at Washington & Lee University (April 2012). OSES continues to recruit and welcome topics and guest editors for the SES Indicator.

- **CSES Monitor Campaign**
  To better inform the discipline of psychology and increase attention among psychologists to social class and socioeconomic status and to inform members by providing opportunities for dialogue at the local level, OSES organized a campaign to recruit monitors to CSES from state psychological associations and APA divisions. OSES invited over 100 state associations and APA divisions to designate individual monitors to CSES. As of June 2012, there are 25 confirmed monitors.

- **Increased Utilization of Social Media Platforms**
  OSES has increased utilization of social medial platforms, like Twitter and Facebook, to increase awareness of SES, mental health, or social class-related news articles, events, and media. Each “tweet” on Twitter or Facebook posting is linked to OSES-published materials. During this reporting period OSES has published over 30 “tweets” on Twitter and has published three postings on APA’s Facebook Page which were shared by over 90 individuals, “liked” by over 200 individuals, and generated close to 20 comments. OSES will continue to utilize social media platforms to publicize OSES or CSES-published materials and to increase discussion of SES-related issues.

**CDC-funded Socioeconomic Status Related Cancer Disparities Program (SESRCD) (2a, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)**

The Office on Socioeconomic Status is in its 4th year of a 5-year awarded cooperative agreement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Cancer Prevention and Control to implement the Socioeconomic Status Related Cancer Disparities Program (SESRCD). SESRCD aims to strengthen the capacity of community cancer-serving organizations and stakeholders to utilize evidence-based strategies to improve or initiate cancer prevention, early-detection, and survivorship activities in socioeconomically disadvantaged populations. SESRCD has worked steadily to implement the goals and objectives of the grant during this reporting period to include:

- The third cohort of Behavioral and Social Science Volunteers (BSSVs) were trained in New Orleans, LA, March 16-19, 2012. SESRCD received over 400 inquiries of interest resulting in approximately 290 completed applications, of which 30 strong candidates were identified and invited to participate in the training and program. The work of the SESRCD BSSV component was highlighted in the May edition of APA Access, APA’s national initiative to address health disparities in cancer. During this reporting period five capacity-building assistance matches were established between cancer-serving organizations and SESRCD BSSVs.
- SESRCD conducted three Professional Development Training Resource (PDTR) workshops for cancer-serving professionals and stakeholders, including (1) Detroit, MI, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Community Health, the Michigan Cancer Consortium, and the Michigan Public Health Institute; (2) Nashville, TN, in collaboration with the Tennessee Cancer Coalition and the American Cancer Society, Mid-South Division; and (3) Birmingham, AL, in collaboration with the Alabama Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, the UAB Reach US Coalition, and the American Cancer Society, Mid-South Division. The PDTR is designed to increase cancer-serving professionals’ intentions to act on and advocate for the initiation and improvement of programs and services for socioeconomically disadvantaged populations and includes an overview of the psychosocial needs of cancer patients.

**Office on Socioeconomic Status Online Resource Guide (1a, 2c, 2d, 2f, 2g, 3c, 3d)**

In an effort to provide more information on SES-related resources, OSES developed and published (June 2012) an online resource directory of statistics, nonprofit organizations, government websites, fact sheets, various media, upcoming conferences and events, suggested print texts, and social media platforms. The online guide will be continually monitored and updated with resources and information.

**OSES Requests for Consultation/Collaboration (2c)**

During this reporting period, OSES received and is being responsive to the following consultation/collaboration requests:

- OSES was contacted by representatives of the United States Federal Judicial Center’s (FJC) Bankruptcy Judges Education Committee. FJC’s Bankruptcy Judges Committee sought assistance in planning orientation and continuing education resources for bankruptcy judges to better understand the psychological impact of poverty. Proposed topics include the impact of a global economy on economic opportunity and well-being, changing demographics of poverty, and poverty policies in the United States. OSES responded to the initial request with a brief overview of the literature, suggested speakers/training facilitators, and online resources. Two FJC representatives, Ms. Denise Neary and Ms. Elizabeth Wiggins, met with CSES, during its Annual Meetings in March 2012, to provide further background on the FJC’s mission and goals.

- The National Committee on Vital Health Statistics Committee on SES Measurement is preparing to make recommendations to HHS Secretary that a minimum set of questions on SES be included on federal surveys. OSES responded to a request in April 2012 to share related materials and make recommendations of psychologists with expertise in this area to participate in a public hearing on the issue. OSES also attended the related public hearing.

- Each year, OWL-The Voice of Midlife and Older Women launches a Mother’s Day Campaign that culminates in May with a report focused on an area of special concern to midlife and older women. The 2012 Mother’s Day Campaign is focused on jobs and economic security. OSES responded to a request brokered by the Office on Women’s Program from OWL requesting information on unemployed women, underemployed women, and depression/self-esteem issues, as well as examples of innovative models/practices wherein women support one another.
Recognition of the Committee on Socioeconomic Status’ 5-Year Anniversary (2007-2012)

The APA Council of Representatives approved funding for the Committee on Socioeconomic Status (CSES) in August 2006. CSES held its first meeting as a committee in Spring 2007. The year 2012 marks the 5-year anniversary of CSES. OSES and CSES are planning a campaign to highlight past and present achievements, as well as future goals and objectives for Convention 2012.

Governance Support: Committee on Socioeconomic Status

OSES provided staff support to the Committee on Socioeconomic Status (CSES). The Committee on SES members of 2012 includes Salvador Macias, III, PhD (Chair); Hector M. González, PhD; Cynthia Hudley, PhD; Faye A. Reimers, PhD; Ruth Riding-Malon, PhD; and Laura C. Smith, PhD.

Violence Prevention Office

www.apa.org/pi/preventviolence/
actagainstviolence.apa.org/

The Violence Prevention Office (VPO) coordinates APA’s activities related to violence and injury prevention and treatment on topics associated with child maltreatment, trauma, media violence, youth violence, and intimate partner violence. VPO has three major functions (a) coordination of the development, implementation, and evaluation of two major programs: ACT/Raising Safe Kids Program and Effective Providers for Child Victims of Violence Program; (b) technical assistance to professionals and organizations participating in both programs; and (c) dissemination of knowledge and information to professionals and the general public.

ACT/Raising Safe Kids Program (2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d)

MetLife and Pritzker Early Childhood Foundations fund this national early violence prevention initiative designed to partner with organizations and agencies and train professionals to mobilize communities and educate adults who raise children from birth to 8 years old to create safe, stable, nurturing environments that protect children and youth from violence and abuse and its lifelong consequences. ACT is currently implemented in 18 states in the United States and in Greece, Puerto Rico, Peru, and Colombia. During this period:

- The office continued the international expansion of the program. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed with the Alliant University/Japan Master’s Program to take the program to Japan, and discussions have advanced to take the program to Brazil in partnership with two Brazilian universities.

- The ACT Annual 2-day Leadership Seminar conducted in early March provided an opportunity for 42 national and international program coordinators to (a) learn about updated research-based topics relevant to the program curriculum, implementation, and evaluation; and (b) network and share their experiences implementing ACT.
Effective Providers for Child Victims of Violence Program (2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d)

Under a 2-year $250,000 grant from the Department of Justice Office for Victims of Crime to APA, VPO developed this national training program aimed to increase the capacity and effectiveness of mental health professionals providing services to children victimized by violence. During this period:

- Three regional workshops – organized in partnership with state psychological associations and other organizations – were held in Phoenix, Washington, DC, and Chicago.
- Eighty-one mental health professionals (EP Trainers) were trained at the regional workshops to conduct community 1-day workshops to disseminate the program curriculum on the impact of violence and trauma on children, assessment tools, trauma-focused evidence-based treatment programs, a family-centered, culturally sensitive, and integrated treatment model to local mental health professionals providing treatment to victimized children.
- A meeting with the EP Program consultants and partners was held in May to discuss progress made, evaluate preliminary results from the regional workshops, and outline next steps.
- VPO director has participated in meetings at the invitation of DOJ to discuss possibilities for continuation of the program in the future.

Webinars: Technical Assistance (2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d)

VPO also offers 60- and 90-minute webinars several times yearly to the ACT Program Coordinators and Facilitators and EP Program Trainers.

Communication and Dissemination

The office maintains two websites, the VPO page and the ACT program page, as well as the ACT Facebook page. The Effective Providers Facebook page is under construction and will be live shortly. They are important vehicles to disseminate research-based updated information and materials related to the office topics to professionals and the general public, especially parents and caregivers.

The VPO Director represents APA at the CDC STRYVE (youth violence prevention) initiative and at the National Health Collaborative on Violence and Abuse (NHCVA), promoting the contributions of psychology to violence and abuse prevention and disseminating psychological knowledge and findings to help advance prevention and treatment efforts.

Women’s Programs Office

The Women's Programs Office (WPO) works to improve the health, education, well-being, and status of women psychologists and consumers of psychological services. WPO activities span the science, practice, education, and policy arenas. WPO staff: Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD, Senior Director; Tanya L. Burrwell, Assistant Director; Kari A. Hill, Women’s Programs Assistant; Gabriel Twose, PhD, Research Scholar; and Emily Moses and Paige Tieman, Interns.
On March 29, 2012, at the APA Headquarters, the WPO hosted the 4th annual APA Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology (LIWP) Spring Follow-on program. Thirty-eight members of the 2011 Class participated. The March program included modules on leadership styles, budget and financial management, and navigating personnel challenges. Ms. Leslie Pine, CPA, Principal, Argy, Wiltse & Robinson, P.C., lectured on managing fiscal resources.

Members of the 2011 Class also participated in two Webinars:

- “Women in Leadership: How to Run for APA President” -- Carol D. Goodheart, EdD, APA Past President, and Dorothy W. Cantor, PsyD, APF President and APA Past President, lectured on how to run a successful campaign for the APA presidency.

- “Women in Leadership: Fundraising and Development” -- Dina Plapler, Vice President for Development, UConn Health Center, and Vice President, UConn Foundation at University of Connecticut.

In January, WPO released the 5th Annual APA LIWP Call for Applications, which convenes on July 30-August 1, 2012, in Orlando, FL. The APA LIWP Executive Committee selected 51 mid-career women psychologists to be members of the Class of 2012-2013.

The Inequity to Equity: Promoting Health and Wellness of Women with Disabilities project works to educate psychologists and other health care providers about major barriers to health care confronting women with disabilities, strengthen the capacity of psychological and health services professionals to provide informed and appropriate health care to women with disabilities, and develop recommendations. The Conference Planning Committee is distilling the ideas generated during the conference to produce a research, practice, and policy agenda that will lay out concrete recommendations on improving how psychologists and other health professionals who deliver and facilitate the delivery of health care services to women with disabilities. Drs. Nancy Sidun (former CWP Chair), Erin Andrews (former CDIP member), Julie Williams (CWP member and former CDIP member), and Shari Miles-Cohen (WPO) will participate in a BAPPI-sponsored symposium during convention entitled, “Promoting the Health and Wellness of Women with Disabilities.”

The WPO was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation to support the Women with Disabilities in STEM Education Research Agenda Development Project (WWDSE) which will establish a 5-year research agenda to identify barriers and promote successful outcomes for women with disabilities in STEM education.

This two-phase project consists of a Delphi survey of NSF and DoEd grantees, which should be completed by August, and an experts’ workshop to be held in October.

In April 2012, Dr. Delores Cimini (WWDSE Co-Chair) was honored at the White House as a “Champion of Change” for her work in enhancing access to the STEM disciplines by students with disabilities through her research, leadership, and mentoring efforts.
Dr. Miles-Cohen was invited to present WWDSE preliminary results on the Broadening Research Participation Panel at the recent NSF 2012 Joint Annual Meeting in June.

**National Academies of Science Testimony**

WPO took the lead on preparing a [written statement](#) presented by APA President Dr. Suzanne Bennett Johnson on APA’s behalf to the National Academies of Sciences conference, Seeking Solutions: Maximizing American Talent by Advancing Women of Color in Academia. Dr. Miles-Cohen attended the conference and disseminated 75 copies of *Surviving and Thriving in Academia: A Guide for Women and Ethnic Minorities*.

** Trafficking of Women and Girls (2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3b, 3c, 3d, 3e)**

In April 2012, BAPPI appointed AnnJanette Alejano-Steele, PhD, Co-Founder and Research & Training Director, Laboratory to Combat Human Trafficking, to fill the seat vacated as a result of Dr. Rita Chi-Ying Chung’s resignation. WPO staff and the task force chair continue to work to secure funding for the task force, including submitting a proposal to the Samuel Rubin Foundation.

In June 2012, CWP and BAPPI submitted a request to the Board of Directors to recommend that the Council of Representatives approve $12,300 in additional expenditures to fund conference calls and a 2012 meeting of the Task Force on Trafficking of Women and Girls. The Board approved that request and an item has been forwarded for consideration during the August 2012 Council of Representatives meeting.

** Governance Survey (1c)**

WPO and CWP met with Steve Breckler, PhD, Executive Director of the Science Directorate, to discuss options for data collection and the future of the governance survey, which collects data on individuals serving on and running for office in APA governance. Plans are currently underway for the distribution of the 2012 Governance Survey expected in August 2012.

In June 2012, CWP and WPO submitted a proposal for a time-limited Visiting Scholar to collaborate with CWS to gather and analyze data to update the work of the Task Force on the Changing Gender Composition of Psychology (1995).

**Women’s Psych-E (1a)**

WPO staff produce *Women’s Psych-E*, a quarterly newsletter focusing on psychological aspects of women's health and well-being, research initiatives and opportunities for psychologists, and WPO and CWP news. To subscribe, please visit MyAPA portal on the APA homepage.

** Women in the American Psychological Association (1a)**

WPO is preparing Women in the American Psychological Association 2012, which provides information about women participating as members and serving in leadership roles in APA. Three fact sheets (Division Officers, APA Presidents, and Board and Council Representation) are in production.

**Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) (2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3d)**

WPO, working with CWP, developed a consumer-friendly factsheet highlighting the mental health consequences of IPV.
**Postpartum Depression Brochure (PPD)** (2b, 2c, 2e, 2f, 2g)

The WPO partnered with La Clinica de Pueblo, a local Washington, DC area clinic that “provides culturally appropriate services to persons in the Latino community regardless of their ability to pay,” to disseminate the Spanish language PPD brochure.

**Governance Support: Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP)** (1c)

WPO provided staff support for the CWP, which met March 30 – April 1, 2012. 2012 CWP members are Cynthia de las Fuentes, PhD (Chair); Sandra L. Shullman, PhD (Vice-Chair); Joan C. Chrisler, PhD; Ramani S. Durvasula, PhD; Maureen C. McHugh, PhD; and Julie L. Williams, PsyD, CRC, ABPP (RP).
PUBLICATIONS & DATABASES

GARY VANDENBOS, PHD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
The APA Office of Publications and Databases (OPD) produces, disseminates, and archives psychological knowledge. From February 2012 through July 2012, OPD continued its purposeful expansion of content, outreach, and sales. Through publication activities, OPD supports the Council of Representatives priorities by publishing and disseminating psychological science. OPD activities and products encourage the integration of scientific and practice psychology at all levels of psychology and for all psychologists by covering the vast array of psychology domains applicable to global needs. All OPD activities add benefits and value to APA membership and assist members in their careers as they promote human welfare through social justice, research, practice, policy, and/or education throughout a global society.

Sales, Marketing, and Licenses

(1b) Consortia sales of APA databases and electronic products remained strong during the first half of 2012, including:

- Waldo Academic Consortia (New York State): Since launch of PsycTESTS and PsycTHERAPY, consortia has generated 10 PsycTESTS licenses for $21,000 and 3 PsycTHERAPY subscriptions for $13,000;

- SCELC Academic Consortia (California): Since launch of PsycTESTS and PsycTHERAPY, consortia has generated 6 PsycTESTS licenses for $9,500 and 2 PsycTHERAPY subscriptions for $8,000;

- NERL-Northeast Regional Academic Consortia: Since launch of PsycTESTS and PsycTHERAPY, consortia has generated 7 PsycTESTS licenses for $22,000 and 3 PsycTHERAPY licenses for $13,000;

- OCUL-Ontario Academic Consortia: Since launch of PsycTESTS and PsycTHERAPY, consortia has generated 5 PsycTESTS licenses for $21,500 and 4 PsycTHERAPY licenses for $17,000;

- Ontario Council of University Libraries (OCUL): PsycBOOKS sales increased from $78,000 in 2011 to $88,000 in 2012—an increase of $10,000 or 13%;

- Keio University-Japan’s academic consortia: PsycARTICLES sales increased from $36,000 in 2011 to $50,000 in 2012—an increase of $14,000 or 39%;
• PASCAL (Partnership Among South Carolina Academic Libraries): PsycINFO and PsycARTICLES sales increased from $286,667 in 2011 to $318,644 in 2012—an increase of $31,977 or 11%;

• Colorado Alliance: 2012 Renewal for PsycARTICLES was $83,481—with one new institutional member being added—a 28% increase.

• BIBSAM-Swedish Academic Consortia: Combined database revenues increased from $542,000 in 2011 to $630,000 in 2012. This is an increase of $88,000 or 16%

• CBUC-Spanish Academic Consortia: PsycINFO sales increased from $157,000 in 2011 to $175,000 in 2012—an increase of $18,000 or 11%;

• Swiss Academic Consortia: Combined PsycINFO and PsycARTICLES revenues increased from $218,000 in 2010 to $267,000 in 2011. This is an increase of $49,000 or 22%.

• NHS England: Despite extreme budget cuts in the healthcare sector in the United Kingdom, client renewed PsycINFO. Renewal value is $473,000.

Through June 2012, the marketing programs for electronic products, books, and journals contributed to and supported product sales efforts by collectively producing 80 direct mail campaigns, 3 catalogs, 50 email campaigns, 231 paid advertisements, 50 house advertisements, 1 telemarketing campaign, 5 press releases, 693 book publicity mailings, and booth displays at on-site exhibitions and product displays handled by outside vendors at additional conferences. In combination, all such efforts resulted in more than 6,500,000 promotional exposures.

PsycINFO

• (1a, 1b, 3e) The PsycTESTS database currently has more than 7,000 tests, approximately 70% of which are full-text. APA also has agreements with more than 150 test publishers, and summary records for commercial tests will be added. A wiki is now available as an interactive supplement to the database at http://psycwiki.apa.org.

• The Library Advisory Council met at APA on Friday, May 4. The Library Advisory Council consists of research institution librarians from across the nation, and provides PsycINFO staff with valuable feedback on existing products as well as ideas for new products and services. The May agenda included such discussion items as the Research Works Act, Library Service Levels, Shared E-Resources Understanding (SERU), Shibboleth and New Forms of Authentication, Interactive Digital Communications, Archiving, Evaluating Discovery Services, Mining PsycINFO, and others.

APA Books

• (1a, 1b, 3e) The PsycTHERAPY database became available to APA members with PsycNET Platinum and PsycNET Gold Plus. This autumn, subsets of videos in PsycTHERAPY—
collectively known as the *APA Clinical Training Video Series*—will be available for smaller institutions that train in specific approaches such as couples therapy, behavioral health counseling, and substance abuse and addiction.

- (1a, 1b, 3e) *PsycESSENTIALS: A Pocket Resource for Mental Health Practitioners* by Janet L. Sonne is now available in standard print, e-book, and mobile app versions. This resource is a quick but comprehensive guide that helps mental health clinicians locate answers to common and often urgent questions. Chapters are arranged chronologically to address the typical progression of therapy. The app version includes functions such as live links to intake questions, evaluation measures, state laws and reporting regulations, sites for appropriate tests, favorites, note taking, and tables. PsycEssentials is the first product from APA Books specifically designed for use with mobile devices.

- (1a, 1b, 3e) The *APA Concise Dictionary of Psychology* app was released for delivery on iPhone, iPad, and Android. Users can search the 10,000 entries directly or browse an alphabetical index, add notes about definitions, mark terms as “favorites,” and link directly between cross references. Additional features include “Word of the Day” and “Historical Figures in Psychology.”

- (1a, 1b, 3e) The *APA Dictionary of Clinical Psychology* is scheduled for release in August, and has 11,000 entries in core areas—assessment, evaluation, diagnosis, prevention, treatment—as well as terms more generally related to biological, cognitive, developmental, and personality/social psychological areas of mental health.

- (1a, 1b, 3d, 3e) APA Books released the following new titles:
  
  - *Methodological Approaches to Community-Based Research*, edited by Leonard A. Jason and David S. Glenwick, presents cutting-edge research methodologies that are applicable to specific social problems and community-wide interventions. Case studies are provided, along with a companion website with downloadable datasets.
  
  - *The Science of Attorney Advocacy: How Courtroom Behavior Affects Jury Decision Making*, by Jessica D. Findley and Bruce D. Sales, evaluates evidence from the behavioral sciences to determine the efficacy of strategies that law professors, judges, and other trial commentators most commonly recommend for persuading juries.
  
  - *Relationship Science: Integrating Evolutionary, Neuroscience, and Sociocultural Approaches*, edited by Omri Gillath, Glenn Adams, and Adrienne Kunkel, brings together researchers from psychology and neighboring disciplines whose work illuminates the topic of relationships. The book focuses on evolutionary, neuroscience, and sociocultural perspectives—three relatively new approaches at the forefront of relationship science.
  
  - *Cop Watch: Spectators, Social Media, and Police Reform*, by Hans Toch, examines the vast changes in police procedures that have occurred over the last half-century and emphasizes the power of the crowd and society to shape police practice.
Succeeding With Adult ADHD: Daily Strategies to Help You Achieve Your Goals and Manage Your Life, by Abigail Levrini and Frances Prevatt. In short manageable chunks, the authors outline proven daily strategies to help people overcome the challenges of adult ADHD.

The Journey From Child to Scientist: Integrating Cognitive Development and the Education Sciences, edited by Sharon M. Carver and Jeff Shrager. This volume integrates research from cognitive development and education and examines the implications of insights from cognitive science for children’s classroom learning. Authors discuss such wide-ranging ideas as the evolution of "folk science" in young children, the mechanisms that underlie mathematical understanding, and mental models used by children in classroom activities.

Qualitative Strategies for Ethnocultural Research, edited by Donna K. Nagata, Laura Kohn-Wood, and Lisa A. Suzuki. Culture is a key construct in contemporary psychology, yet when behavioral scientists research ethnocultural communities, they typically rely on quantitative methods, excluding the richness that numbers alone cannot convey. This volume presents the state-of-the-art discourse on qualitative methods in psychology and community studies.

You've Earned Your Doctorate in Psychology…Now What?: Securing a Job as an Academic or Professional Psychologist, by Elizabeth M. Morgan and R. Eric Landrum. This book helps students transition from graduate education to a career in an academic or professional setting. Each chapter covers a step in the process of applying for and landing a position, with evidence-based guidance where available, practical advice, sample materials, and stories from recent applicants and employers.

Conducting Multinational Research: Applying Organizational Psychology in the Workplace, edited by Ann Marie Ryan, Frederick T. L. Leong, and Frederick L. Oswald. This book presents accessible models and real-world examples of large-scale, multinational research within organizations. Psychometric, ethical, and methodological concerns are explored, as well as the personal and professional rewards of conducting this type of research.

Acceptance and Commitment Therapy by Steven C. Hayes and Jason Lillis is the latest volume in APA’s Theories of Psychotherapy Series. This short volume explains how embracing acceptance and mindfulness processes, as well as commitment and behavior change can produce psychological flexibility in clients.

Research for the Public Good: Applying the Methods of Translational Research to Improve Human Health and Well-Being, edited by Elaine Wethington and Rachel E. Dunifon presents models and real-world examples of translational research. This approach to research directly links scientific findings with programs and policies that improve human health and well-being.
o Practical Ethics for Psychologists: A Positive Approach, Second Edition, by Samuel J. Knapp and Leon VandeCreek. This second edition of a bestseller on proactive ethics is thoroughly updated and includes material on the implications of new technological developments in the field of psychology.

o Cultural Adaptations: Tools for Evidence-Based Practice With Diverse Populations, edited by Guillermo Bernal and Melanie M. Domenech Rodríguez explores cultural adaptations of conventional evidence-based practices. Chapter authors explore appropriate treatments for psychological problems in clients from a range of ethnicities and cultures.

o APA Style Guide to Electronic References, Sixth Edition. Adapted from the sixth edition of the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, this comprehensive guide in pdf format offers up-to-date information on formatting electronic references in APA style.


o Evidence-Based Teaching for Higher Education edited by Beth M. Schwartz and Regan A. R. Gurung. This book synthesizes findings from the scholarship of teaching and learning in order to help university teachers choose techniques and tools that maximize student learning.

o Making Evidence-Based Psychological Treatments Work With Older Adults, edited by Forrest Scogin and Avani Shah. The book discusses the prevalent psychological disorders that afflict older adults. Each chapter focuses on a presenting problem, with researchers identifying successful evidence-based treatments, and clinicians discussing how they tailored the treatment to the special needs of their older clients.

o Meaning, Mortality, and Choice: The Social Psychology of Existential Concerns, edited by Phillip R. Shaver and Mario Mikuliner. The international contributors to this book investigate existential concerns of mortality within a framework that is both philosophical and clinically practical.


o Trauma Therapy in Context: The Science and Craft of Evidence-Based Practice, edited by Robert A. McMackin, Elana Newman, Jason M. Fogler, and Terence M. Keane. This book is intended for all clinical mental health professionals who work with trauma survivors,
particularly those who seek to broaden their understanding of the way various approaches interact to inform a holistic understanding of trauma treatment.

• (1a, 1b, 3d, 3e) APA Books Reference program released the following titles in its Handbooks series:
  o *APA Handbook of Research Methods in Psychology*, edited by Harris Cooper. This three-volume handbook describes many techniques that psychologists and others have developed to help them pursue a shared understanding of human behavior. The earliest chapters address broad questions related to research designs such as which designs are most appropriate for which question, and the ethicality and feasibility of such designs. Next, chapters describe the types of data psychologists most often collect and how to determine whether the measurement techniques are the best ones for the research purpose. Later chapters present a panoply of research design options as well as techniques for data analysis and choices to be considered when writing up research. The APA Handbook series addresses the reference needs of researchers, practitioners, and graduate students in psychology and complementary behavioral fields.

  o *APA Addiction Syndrome Handbook*, editor-in-chief, Howard J. Schaffer. This two-volume handbook provides a comprehensive review of addiction. Volume 1 focuses on the background and history of addiction, the distal and proximal influences on addiction, and the expressions of addiction; the latter includes chapter discussions about both the universal and unique consequences of addiction. Volume 2 examines the many aspects associated with recovery from addiction, the prevention of addiction, and other essential issues commonly associated with addiction, such as technology, driving under the influence, and homelessness. Both volumes provide insight and perspective about the addiction syndrome and the place of this model within the ongoing development of a science of addiction.

  o *APA Handbook of Counseling Psychology*, editor-in-chief, Nadya A. Fouad. This two-volume set demonstrates how the field of counseling psychology is characterized by long roots in vocational psychology, prevention, primary interventions, advocacy, and an emphasis on individual differences. Whereas the field’s fundamental philosophical approach historically emphasized human strengths, well-being, and prevention, it has, over the years, added emerging emphases on cultural context, dimensions of diversity, the role of work in people’s lives, and expanded roles for counseling psychologists in new settings, contexts, and with new populations. This handbook highlights the practices in counseling psychology’s traditional areas as well as in new and emerging areas.

• (1a, 1b, 3d, 3e) Magination Press, APA’s children’s book imprint, released six new titles:
  o *Silence*, by Lemniscates. This gentle, illustrated book encourages children to stop, listen, and reflect on their experiences and the world around them. Notes for parents and therapists are included.
Putting on the Brakes: Understanding and Taking Control of Your ADD or ADHD, Third Edition, by Patricia O. Quinn, MD, and Judith M. Stern. This updated and expanded guide—celebrating its 20th year in print—shows older elementary and middle school students how to improve their organization, focus, attention, time management, and scheduling, as well as studying and homework skills. Importantly, kids will also find strategies for making friends, controlling emotions, and being healthy.

Ben's Flying Flowers, by Inger Maier, PhD. This picture book is aimed at young children who have lost a sibling. The story follows a young girl as she learns how to overcome her grief following her brother's death.

Max Archer, Kid Detective: The Case of the Recurring Stomachaches, by Howard Bennett, MD. This illustrated reader is the second of two Max Archer books, and is an approachable and humorous story about stomachaches for kids ages 6-10. The story addresses the big three causes of stomachaches: lactose intolerance, constipation, and stress, and does so in a way that each topic is integral to the “case” as Max goes about to undercover the cause of Emily’s stomachaches. It includes “Extra Activities” and an Q & A just for parents at the end of the book.

AD/HD and the College Student: The Everything Guide to Your Most Urgent Questions, by Patricia O. Quinn, MD. This comprehensive resource addresses the most common issues and most challenging problems students with AD/HD face in college and offers compassionate, realistic, and informed advice, strategies and tools for dealing with those problems.

Asperger’s Rules! How to Make Sense of School and Friends, by Blythe Grossberg, PhD. This book is designed to help kids with Asperger’s navigate common friendship issues and school situations they may face, and offers how-to information for connecting and dealing with peers and teachers. For pre-teens, 8-13 years old.

(1a, 1b, 3d, 3e) APA Videos released five new titles, including the following:

Mindfulness for Anxiety, a psychotherapy training video by Ronald D. Siegel. The mindfulness-oriented approach presented in this video combines cognitive restructuring, exposure and response prevention, and psychodynamic exploration.

Culturally Responsive Cognitive–Behavioral Therapy in Practice, in which Pamela A. Hays demonstrates her change-oriented approach to psychotherapy, adapting mainstream cognitive–behavior therapy to fit the client's cultural identity, context, and preferences.

Assisted Living Decisions in Psychotherapy, a clinical training video featuring Claudia Drossel. In this program, Dr. Drossel demonstrates an approach to therapy with caregivers and their loved ones in which the therapist's role is to put the clients' personal history and values in context as they explore the best care options for the clients' circumstances.
APA Journals

- (1a, 1b, 3c) APA Journals published the first volumes of Psychology of Popular Media Culture; International Perspectives in Psychology: Research, Practice, Consultation; Couple and Family Psychology; Psychomusicology: Music, Mind, & Brain; Law and Human Behavior; and Peace and Conflict: Journal of Peace Psychology.

- The Council of Editors met April 13-14, 2012, with 22 APA Editors in attendance. A wide range of issues were discussed, including data sharing and data repositories.

- The P&C Board is pleased to announce the following editorial appointments, to begin in 2013 as the editor-elect year (and 2014 as the beginning masthead year).
  - Journal of Experimental Psychology: Animal Behavior Processes—Ralph Miller, PhD
  - Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied—Neil Brewer, PhD
  - Neuropsychology—Gregory G. Brown, PhD, ABPP
  - Psychological Methods—Lisa L. Harlow, PhD

- The P&C Board opened 7 searches for the following journals:
  - Behavioral Neuroscience
  - Journal of Applied Psychology
  - Journal of Educational Psychology
  - Journal of Personality and Social Psychology: Interpersonal Relations and Group Processes
  - Psychological Bulletin
  - Psychology of Addictive Behaviors
  - Families, Systems & Health

- APA Journals published 6 special issues and 11 special sections of journals.
SCIENCE DIRECTORATE

STEVE BRECKLER, PHD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
SCIENCE DIRECTORATE
HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES
FEBRUARY ‘12 – JULY ‘12

The mission of the Science Directorate, which is under the purview of the Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA), is to communicate, facilitate, promote and represent psychological science and scientists. In the following, we report on activities under BSA oversight, Science Directorate programmatic activities, and Science Government Relations activities for the period February 2012 - July 2012.

Initiatives under the purview of BSA—

- **Psychological Science for the 21st Century (PSY21)** is the BSA/Science Directorate initiative to help psychology meet the opportunities and challenges of the 21st century. Approved by Council during the August 2004 meeting, BSA and staff meet with various constituencies in planning for the PSY21 activities. One highlight of PSY21 activities is the eighth annual Science Leadership Conference, to be held in September.

- **Academic Enhancement Initiative (AEI) activities:**
  - Advanced Training Institutes (ATI) – Four ATIs took place during the summer of 2012: one on structural equation modeling in longitudinal research, one on non-linear methods for psychological science, one on research methods with diverse racial and ethnic groups, and one on exploratory data mining in behavioral research.
  - Summer Science Fellowships – Twelve talented undergraduate students were placed for six-week research experiences with faculty at George Mason University, which hosts the program. Planning and review of applications for the 2012 program took place in the fall and winter of 2011.
  - Academic Career Workshops - Plans were made for 2012 academic career workshops, which took place at the regional meetings of EPA, MPA, and SWPA.

- **Science Committees**
  - The Committee on Animal Research and Ethics (CARE) continued to work on projects focusing on educating the public about the nature of nonhuman animal research, in general, and in psychology in particular.
  - The Committee on Psychological Tests and Assessment (CPTA) continued their participation in projects and activities involving several testing and assessment related issues. Specifically, activities related to the revision of the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing*, and the revision of the *Guidelines for Test User Qualifications*.
  - The Committee on Human Research held its fifth meeting March 30-31, 2012 during which the Committee further fine-tuned its priorities and identified issues and broad areas on which it will focus its efforts over the next 3-5 years.
Science Directorate Activities—

- **Communications:**
  - Psychological Science Agenda (PSA): The Science Directorate newsletter is distributed electronically each month and sent to thousands of subscribers.
  - Science Policy Insider News (SPIN): Monthly newsletter on policy and advocacy efforts at the federal level.
  - The Science Website includes information about people and programs for psychological scientists and students.

- **Student programs**—Dissertation awards, student travel awards, and the Science Student Council all benefit students of psychological science.

- **Testing and Assessment Office**—Science Directorate staff has been monitoring and coordinating activities in response to the re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Staff has also participated in activities related to the on-going revision of the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing*, and the development of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) standards for Personnel Selection.

- **Research Ethics**—Science Directorate staff has been monitoring the changes and proposed changes in regulations and policies for research with humans and other animals and are compiling informational resources.

- **Center for Workforce Studies (CWS)**—Results from the latest APA and CWS surveys are available at [http://www.apa.org/workforce](http://www.apa.org/workforce). These include the 2008 Health Service Provider Survey, 2010-2011 Faculty Salaries, 2009 Doctorate Employment Survey, and results from the 2011 Graduate Study in Psychology. A major re-organization of the Center began in 2011, and will be completed in 2012.

- **Reference Services**—The APA Library provides reference assistance and document delivery services to the central office staff and governance groups. It is also open to APA members and the public. The history of APA, including APA books and journals, governance materials, oral histories, photographs, and many other items is collected in the archives.

Science Advocacy—

- Friends of NIDA Coalition Hosts Congressional Briefing on Developing Medications to Treat Addiction
- APA comments on National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease
- Friends of NIA Lobby Day Brings Attention to Research on Aging
- APA member briefs Capitol Hill on PTSD research with women veterans
- I/O Psychologist Delivers APA’s Senate Defense Testimony
SCIENCE DIRECTORATE
HIGHLIGHTS OF ACTIVITIES
FEBRUARY ‘12 – JULY ‘12

Under the purview of the Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA), the Science Directorate has primary responsibility for all association efforts on behalf of its many science-oriented constituencies. Its broad mission is to communicate, facilitate, promote and represent psychological science and scientists. These goals are addressed through programs that promote psychological science in academic and scientific arenas (primarily through PSY21 and the Academic Enhancement Initiative), that address ongoing issues and opportunities (primarily through committee work, task forces and working groups); that communicate activities, issues and opportunities to members and the public (primarily through the newsletter, web site, and Division listservs) through advocacy and public policy initiatives, and to the general public.

Science Directorate Staff:

Major Initiatives Under the Purview of the Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA)

Psychological Science for the 21st Century (PSY21)

PSY21, an ongoing initiative in the Science Directorate, is helping to create a foundation to build an effective agenda to support and promote the science of psychology. These activities will advance the science of psychology, provide value to its membership, and attract new members. PSY21 is organized around three areas of emphasis: (1) responsible conduct of research (RCR), (2) culture of service to the discipline, and (3) infrastructure for the science of psychology.

- Science Leadership Conference (SciLC) – The Directorate is planning the eighth annual SciLC meeting September 2012 in Washington, DC. The theme of the 2012 SciLC is “Act Locally: Promoting Psychological Science in Our Academic Institutions and Local Communities.” (1a, 2d, 2e, 3c, 3d)

- Culture of Service Awards – Nominations were collected and reviewed by BSA for the Departmental Award for Culture of Service in the Psychological Sciences and the Award for Distinguished Service to Psychological Science. These awards, established by BSA, recognize individuals who have made outstanding contributions to psychological science through their commitment to a culture of service and recognize departments of psychology who instill a culture of service in their training of students and mentoring of faculty. (1a, 3e)
Academic Enhancement Initiative

The Academic Enhancement Initiative (AEI), approved by Council at its August 2000 meeting, began in January 2001. Progress on the AEI projects managed by the Science Directorate is as follows:

- **Advanced Training Institute (ATI)** – ATIs provide training in cutting-edge methods and technologies to psychological scientists. Four ATIs took place in 2012. (1a, 2b, 2e, 2f, 3a, 3d, 3e)
  - *Structural Equation Modeling in Longitudinal Research*, at the University of California, Davis, from May 29-June 2, 2012. John McArdle, a University of Southern California faculty member, and Kevin Grimm, a University of California, Davis, faculty member, led this course, which featured a series of lectures and hands-on computer workshops on longitudinal methods, modeling, and measurement in contemporary psychological research using SEM.
  - *Exploratory Data Mining in Behavioral Research*, at the University of California, Davis, from June 4-8, 2012. John McArdle led this course, which provided an overview of recent methodological advances in this topic. The ATI covered the conceptual bases and strategies of exploratory data mining, and reviewed current techniques and software. Participants gained hands-on experience with the techniques and were invited to bring their own data and research problems to work on in consultation with the course instructors.
  - *Research Methods with Diverse Racial & Ethnic Groups*, at Michigan State University from June 11-15, 2012. Frederick Leong led this ATI, which included sessions on methods for investigating treatment outcomes in diverse populations, quantitative and qualitative methods, measurement equivalence and invariance across diverse groups, and methods for work in areas ranging from genomics to aging research to social network research.
  - *Non-Linear Methods for Psychological Science*, at the University of Cincinnati, from June 18-22, 2012. Organized by John Holden, this ATI provided a thorough introduction to a variety of non-linear and dynamical methods. Such methods are becoming increasingly prominent within psychology and related disciplines. Specific topics included time series analysis, recurrence quantification analysis, fractal analysis, and dispersion analysis.

Information about the ATI workshops is disseminated through a variety of relevant listservs, announcements in the *Psychological Science Agenda* and other APA publications, and the APA website.

- **Summer Science Fellowships (SSF)** – Planning for the 2012 Summer Science Fellowships (SSF) program took place over the fall and winter of 2011/2012. A national competition was held in winter 2012 to select twelve upper-level undergraduate students from across the country to place in select research labs at George Mason University for a six week period in summer 2012. (1a, 3a, 3e)

- **Career Workshops** – Spring 2012 workshops will occur at the annual meetings of the Eastern Psychological Association (EPA), Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA), and Southwestern Psychological Association (SWPA). A workshop will also be held at the October meeting of the New England Psychological Association (NEPA). The Science Directorate hosts these workshops to introduce graduate and postdoctoral students to the nuts and bolts of pursuing an academic career. (1a, 3c)
Committee Activities Under the Purview of the Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA)

Committee on Animal Research and Ethics (CARE)
The Committee continued to work on projects focusing on educating the public about the nature of nonhuman animal research, in general, and in psychology in particular. The Committee is also seeking to become more actively involved in advocacy at the federal level on regulatory issues related to the care and use of laboratory animals. (3a, 3b, 3d, and 3e)

The Committee revised its Guidelines for Ethical Conduct in the Care and Use of Nonhuman Animals in Research. The Committee incorporated appropriate suggested comments received by other APA Governance groups and the public at large. The draft Guidelines was approved by the Council of Representatives in February 2012. The revised Guidelines are now APA Policy, replacing the 1996 Guidelines. The Committee also revised its Guidelines for the Use of Animals in Behavioral Projects in Schools (K-12). Comments are currently being solicited on the draft Guidelines from APA membership and the public at large. The draft Guidelines will also be placed on the fall 2012 cross-cutting agenda for input from other APA boards and committees. Finally, the Committee updated a 2004 survey which will be sent to psychology department chairs to gain information about the current status of nonhuman animal research programs in psychology departments. (3a and 3e)

Committee on Human Research (CHR)
The newly established continuing Committee on Human Research (CHR), held its fifth meeting March 30-31, 2012. At this meeting the Committee further fine-tuned its priorities and identified issues and broad areas on which it will focus its efforts over the next 3-5 years. The Committee revised the Guidelines for Ethical Conduct of Behavioral Projects involving Human Participants by High School Students. The Committee incorporated appropriate suggested comments received by other APA Governance groups and the public and large. The draft was approved by the Board of Directors in June 2012 and will be placed on the August 2012 Council of Representatives agenda for final approval. If approved, the Guidelines will become APA Policy. Finally, the Committee continued to work on the collaborative e-technologies with the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS). (1a, 3a, 3e)

Committee on Psychological Tests and Assessment (CPTA)
Members of the Committee continued their participation in the ongoing revision of the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* and the revision of the *Guidelines for Test User Qualifications*. CPTA also continued to participate in APA sponsored advocacy efforts in response to activities related to the re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) (3b, 3d, 3e).

APA Science Student Council (APASSC)
The Science Student Council (SSC), with nine students representing different research areas, advises the Directorate on student-related issues, including awards and programming at the APA Convention.
The Science Student Council has developed a cadre of programs that are helpful to science-oriented graduate students, including oversight of the $1,000 Early Graduate Student Researcher Award, which recognizes pre-doctoral level research; preparation of information pieces aimed at graduate students on a wide variety of topics; and development of Convention programming to highlight graduate student research. (1a, 3a, 3b, 3e)

**Relations with Outside Organizations**

The Science Directorate and BSA maintain regular relations with a number of outside organizations including the Association for Assessment and Accreditation of Laboratory Animal Care (AAALAC), American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), American Educational Research Association (AERA), College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD), Consortium of Social Science Associations (COSSA), Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences (FABBS), International Test Commission (ITC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO), National Association for Biomedical Research (NABR), National Council on Measurement in Education (NCME), Public Responsibility in Medicine and Research (PRIM&R), Social Sciences Research Council (SSRC), and Society for Neuroscience. (2c, 2d, 3a)

**Other Directorate Programs and Projects**

**Research Ethics**

Science Directorate staff has continued to monitor the changes and proposed changes in regulations and policies for research with human and nonhuman animals. Science Directorate staff has also been monitoring current situations regarding psychology and the responsible conduct of research, specifically concentrating on research integrity issues, such as data falsification and fabrication. All pertinent information regarding these issues has been communicated to members through the Science Directorate Newsletter, the *Psychological Science Agenda*. (1a, 3a, 3e)

**Testing and Assessment**

Staff will continue to collaborate with other APA directorates on assessment related activities associated with educational reform as the re-authorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) continues. Activities related to the revision of the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing* are on-going and are expected to continue through the end of 2013. Various outreach activities involving the National Academies, the U.S. Department of Education, the National Research Council, and other professional organizations focused on testing and assessment are on-going. (3b, 3d, 3e)

**Clinical Treatment Guidelines**

Staff in the Practice and Science Directorates collaborate in managing the APA effort to develop treatment guidelines, including providing staff support to the Advisory Steering Committee for the Development of Treatment Guidelines (ASC). The ASC was appointed by the Board of Directors and reports as well to BPA, BSA, and CAPP. Thus far in 2012, the ASC has selected the members of a guideline development panel for depressive disorders and has received nominations for panels for PTSD and for obesity. The ASC, with staff assistance, has also developed further the policies and procedures by which guidelines will be developed. In addition, the ASC and staff have made progress toward selection of the outside entities that will provide the systematic reviews of scientific literature that will underpin guideline development.
Student Programs
In addition to supporting the Science Student Council, the Directorate sponsored a number of student-specific awards, including the Dissertation Research Awards, the Student Travel Awards, and the APF/COGDOP Scholarships. Fifty-one students received Dissertation Research Awards this year, with awards ranging from $1,000 to $5,000 each. APA Student Travel Awards benefitted 100 graduate students in 2012, enabling them to attend the APA Convention in August. The Science Directorate also administers the APF-COGDOP Scholarship, with recipients announced each fall; 13 to 14 awards are available, ranging from $1,000 to $5,000 each. (1a, 3a, 3e).

Lecture Series
The Distinguished Scientist Lecture Program supports up to three (3) psychological scientists to speak at Regional Psychological Association meetings each year. The Master Lecture program supports up to five (5) psychological scientists to speak at the APA Annual Convention. Both lecture programs were developed by BSA and have been ongoing for several years. Additionally, each year, BSA selects one eminent scientist as the Neal Miller lecturer, to give a talk dedicated to neuroscience and animal research at the APA Annual Convention. The Board of Scientific Affairs sponsored Distinguished Scientist Lecturers at the 2012 meetings of MPA, NEPA, and RMPA. Five Master Lecturers and a Neal Miller lecturer are scheduled to speak at the 2012 APA Convention. (1a, 3a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

Nonacademic Careers
The popular series of autobiographical profiles, “Nonacademic Careers for Scientific Psychologists,” has continued under the new title “Interesting Careers in Psychological Science.” Profiles appear periodically in Psychological Science Agenda and are posted on the Science Directorate website. (1a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

Communications (1a, 3c, 3d, 3e)

- **Psychological Science Agenda (PSA):** The monthly Science Directorate newsletter is distributed electronically to thousands of subscribers. It includes information and news in scientific, regulatory and advocacy arenas, as well as regular features - including the Executive Director’s column, a student-focused column, and Science Briefs. *PSA* is also available from the Science website at [www.apa.org/science/psa](http://www.apa.org/science/psa).

- **Science Policy Insider News (SPIN).** This monthly electronic newsletter contains updates on science policy and advocacy efforts targeted to Congress and federal agencies.

- The **Science Website** includes information about people and programs for psychological scientists and students. Web pages have been developed in a number of areas, including research ethics and related issues, student programs, and applied psychological science. These and other web pages are an invaluable resource for psychological scientists and accessible through the Science Directorate homepage ([www.apa.org/science](http://www.apa.org/science)).

Center for Workforce Studies (CWS)
Results from the latest APA and CWS surveys are available at [http://www.apa.org/workforce](http://www.apa.org/workforce). These include the 2008 Health Service Provider Survey, 2010-2011 Faculty Salaries, 2009 Doctorate Employment Survey, and results from the 2011 Graduate Study in Psychology. A major re-organization of the Center began in 2011, and will be completed in 2012. Two new staff have been hired. Work has been focusing on a study of the geropsychology workforce (in collaboration with CONA), the faculty salary survey (in collaboration with COGDOP), and on the next Governance Survey (in collaboration with CWP). (1a, 3a, 3e)
Reference Services/Library and Archives

The Library and Archives furthers the mission of APA by supporting the research needs of central office staff and governance groups and by recording the history of the association. The library staff provides reference assistance, document delivery services and an increasingly digital collection of reference materials, journals, books, and videos. APA’s institutional memory is preserved in the archives, which collects items such as governance materials, photographs, videos, oral histories, state and division newsletters and all APA publications. From February to July of 2012 the library and archives responded to over 270 requests, worked with PsycEXTRA to digitize several hundred division newsletters, and is in the process of digitizing our unique collection of oral history interviews. (1a)

Science Government Relations Office Highlights

NICHD Invites Comments on Proposed Reorganization (2c, 2d, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)

After undertaking the Vision Process last year to help identify scientific opportunities for the coming decade, NICHD Director Alan Guttmacher announced at the January Advisory Council meeting that he would also like to streamline the organization of the institute itself. Under the proposed reorganization, seven of the current ten extramural research branches would be renamed to more clearly identify for the research community what research the branch funds and two additional branches are proposed to be added. One of the new branches will focus on pediatric injury prevention and critical care, in recognition that childhood injuries are the leading cause of childhood mortality. Notably, the Child Development and Behavior branch and the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities branches would remain unchanged, while the Demographic and Behavioral Science Branch would be changed to the Demography and Population Sciences Branch. Under the proposed reorganization, no research portfolios or research programs have been moved or eliminated, although there will be a review at the staff level to determine if adjustments in portfolios are needed. Comments on the proposed reorganization can be sent to NICHD at: NICHDDirectorsOffice@mail.nih.gov.

On March 7, Guttmacher took questions about the reorganization at a meeting to be held at APA, prior to a meeting of the Friends of NICHD.

Administration Focuses Additional Resources on Alzheimer’s Disease Research and Services

On February 7, President Obama announced that his Administration would take steps to raise the priority of Alzheimer’s Disease (AD) research and services. He announced that $50 million in Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 and $80 million in FY 2013 would be spent on research. Another $26 million would be allocated to other agencies in the Department of Health and Human Services starting next year for caregiver support, education, and public awareness. The additional resources serve as a down payment for the National Alzheimer’s Project Act, legislation that was signed in January 2011, to bring additional federal coordination, planning, and resources to bear on the costly and growing problem of Alzheimer’s Disease. See January’s Psychological Science Agenda for information about the drafting of the National Plan and APA’s participation in the process. Currently, the NIH spends $450 million annually on research on AD, which afflicts as many as 5.1 million Americans. The total number of Americans with Alzheimer’s could more than double by 2050, according to the federal government.

The $50 million for AD research in FY 2012 is redirected, rather than new, money. Of the total, $25 million will come from ongoing research on whole genome/exome sequencing at the National Human Genome Research Institute. That research will be refocused on AD. The additional $25 million will also come from current NIH funds, but NIH Directors and Deputy Directors are still planning how to do
this. The $80 million in additional AD research proposed in the Administration’s FY 2013 budget would come from the Prevention and Public Health Fund created by the Affordable Care Act to focus research on pressing public health needs.

**RFI Released for a New Institute of Substance Use and Addiction Disorders (2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

On February 8, the National Institutes of Health released a Request for Information (RFI) to receive input on the strategic plan for the proposed National Institute of Substance Use and Addiction Disorders. APA along with our partner organizations advocated repeatedly for this opportunity and it is our hope that the extramural science community will rally with a vigorous response. The latest strategic plans for the individual institutes were completed in 2009 and 2010 for NIAAA and NIDA respectively. At the NIAAA Advisory Council meeting on February 9, Dr. George Kunos, Scientific Director of NIAAA’s Intramural Research Program, indicated that a functional integration with NIDA’s Intramural Research Program was already well underway in three key areas: a joint clinical research program, genetic studies of substance use disorders, and medicinal chemistry.

In addition, NIDA and several other Institutes are actively collaborating with the Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Tobacco Products, which is funding a range of research needed to inform regulatory decisions FDA will make as it fulfills the statutory requirements of the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. That research agenda is rapidly taking shape and is the topic of an FDA sponsored workshop in February, where several APA members presented on the topic of challenges to conducting research.

**President’s Budget Released for Fiscal Year 2013**

*APA Federal Budget Blog Update*

The Administration’s Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 budget, also known as the President’s Budget, was released on February 13. The budget adheres to the spending caps adopted in the 2011 Budget Control Act, and federal department heads held briefings over the past two weeks to explain the proposed numbers.

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is level funded at the Fiscal Year (FY) 2012 level of $30.86 billion. While there is widespread relief that the NIH budget was not cut, flat-funding is hardly considered good news. There is some “new” funding in the budget, including $80 million designated for Alzheimer’s research tapped from the Prevention and Public Health Fund (created by the Affordable Care Act). The Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research is level-funded at $27 million.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) receives $340 million in the proposed budget, an increase of 4.8 percent over the FY 2012 enacted level. In a tough budget year, NSF’s solid increase reflects the President’s commitment to doubling the three major federal (non-NIH) basic science agencies — NSF, the Department of Energy’s Office of Science, and the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Every scientific field across NSF would see an increase for core disciplinary research in this budget, including the behavioral and social sciences.

Within the Department of Defense (DoD), the basic research account (known as the 6.1 level) would see a $2 million increase over FY 2012 for a total of $2.1 billion, whereas the applied research accounts (6.2 and 6.3 levels) would see cuts of $260 million and $45 million respectively. The Medical and Prosthetic Research account within the VA would get a very slight (0.3%) increase from $581 million in FY 2012 to $583 million in FY13.
The President’s budget includes about $6.56 billion for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), but with a total budget authority of only $4.99 billion-- a decrease by more than $660 million from the agency’s budget authority for FY 2012, and 22 percent below FY 2010. The rest of CDC funds would come from the Prevention and Public Health Fund ($903 million) and transfers from HHS ($667.5 million). The Prevention and Public Health Fund, which has seen recent attacks on the Hill by legislators who call it a “slush fund,” sees a $4 billion cut over the next 10 years in the President’s Budget.

The President’s Budget proposes $620 million for the research, development, dissemination and evaluation activities of the Department of Education’s Institute of Education Sciences (IES), which would restore funding for research and development to the FY 2010 levels. The National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research would receive $106 million under the president’s plan, including $69.6 million for continuation of grants made in previous years and $26.2 million for new awards in FY 2013.

Since the release of the President’s Budget, the House and Senate Budget Committees have held hearings with Office of Management and Budget Acting Director Jeffrey Zients.

**APA Comments on NIH Working Group on Diversity in the Biomedical Research Workforce (2c, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

In January, the National Institutes of Health’s (NIH) Advisory Committee to the Director (ACD) issued a Request for Information for input into the deliberations of the ACD’s Working Group on Diversity in the Biomedical Research Workforce. The Working Group was formed by NIH Director Francis Collins after an NIH report published in the August 19 issue of Science showed that black applicants were ten percent less likely to receive R01 awards than white applicants.

In its response to the RFI, APA recommended NIH undertake “a thorough scientific examination of the role of potential bias in the peer review process. Various forms of bias – unconscious, implicit, and explicit – should be assessed, and interventions aimed at reducing bias should be developed and tested. These possible biases should be examined in how they form perceptions and ratings of the individual investigator as influenced by such factors as his/her institutional home, mentors, and previous training, and interactions of these variables where indicated.” APA also encouraged NIH to expand the pool of reviewers to include members of underrepresented groups and to examine the process by which funding decisions are made at the institute level as it affects black and other underrepresented scientists. Although the paper highlighted the discrepancy for black applicants, APA also recommended that the Working Group and other NIH offices continue to carefully evaluate possible funding discrepancies among all traditionally underrepresented groups, including Latino, Asian, Native American, and Alaska Native, and those with disabilities.

**Friends of NIDA Coalition Hosts Congressional Briefing on Developing Medications to Treat Addiction (2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

On March 1 the Friends of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) coalition in conjunction with the Congressional Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus hosted a congressional briefing, Developing Medications to Treat Addiction: Challenges for Science, Policy, and Practice, the 16th in the in the Charles R. Schuster Congressional Briefing Series. The briefing, co-sponsored by 24 organizations and organized by APA’s Science Government Relations Office, drew an audience of over
90, including staff from 23 Senate and House offices, as well as federal agency staff and members of the research advocacy community.

The briefing featured a roundtable discussion among national experts from both NIDA and the pharmaceutical industry. The panelists were NIDA Director Nora Volkow, who gave a presentation on NIDA’s research portfolio on medication development, Phil Skolnick, Director of NIDA’s Division of Pharmacotherapies and Medical Consequences of Drug Abuse, David Gastfriend, Vice President for Scientific Communications at Alkermes, and Shaun Thaxter, President of Reckitt Benckiser Pharmaceuticals.

Central to the discussion were the questions of why pharmaceutical companies have reduced their research in the area of psychopharmaceuticals in recent years and what incentives are needed to foster more research on addiction treatment. The panelists discussed challenges for companies including the high costs of research and development with uncertain return on investments. Panelists explained how the market for addiction treatment is different from that of other medications and discussed the problem of access to patient populations due to factors including the stigma of addiction and patients’ willingness to seek treatment.

Panelists agreed that healthcare reform will likely increase access to patient populations, presenting new opportunities for the field, and they emphasized the need for the system to be ready for these new patients. They also discussed the need for incorporating addiction treatment training into formal medical education, and thanked the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) for their commitment to this cause. Volkow talked about NIDA’s development of curriculum for the Centers of Excellence, which she would like to see adopted by medical schools, along with training programs for nurses and pharmacists.

Panelists shared examples of successful past collaborations between NIDA and pharmaceutical companies in developing treatments, including CURB (Cocaine Use Reduction with Buprenorphine), now used by NIDA in the Clinical Trials Network, and they discussed promise for the development of new drugs—Volkow and Skolnick conveyed that there are multiple new targets with potential for development and noted the need to bridge development phases with pharmaceutical companies.

Charles O’Keefe of Virginia Commonwealth University moderated the discussion and made a special point to laud the work of the psychological science community in the development of behavioral and psychosocial interventions that are the mainstays of addiction therapy, especially for disorders like methamphetamine addiction, for which no pharmacotherapies currently exist.

**Surgeon General Releases New Report on Preventing Youth Tobacco Use (2c, 2d, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

The Surgeon General’s Report, *Preventing Tobacco Use Among Youth and Young Adults*, was released on March 8 (along with a consumer-oriented companion booklet) and was the 31st SG report on tobacco use but the first on prevention in youth since 1994. Of the seven chapters within the report, two in particular pay broad tribute to the importance of psychological science in understanding youth tobacco use and the efficacy of prevention efforts. Chapter four addresses the Social, Environmental, Cognitive, and Genetic Influences on the Use of Tobacco Among Youth and chapter six examines Efforts to Prevent and Reduce Tobacco Use Among Young People. One conclusion of the latter chapter is that “the evidence is sufficient to conclude that mass media campaigns, comprehensive community programs, and comprehensive statewide tobacco control programs can prevent the initiation of tobacco use and reduce its prevalence among youth.”
As a follow-on the Department of Health and Human Services launched a mass media campaign “Tips from Former Smokers” on March 15, featuring real depictions of the health risks of smoking. The goals of the campaign are to increase awareness of the health risks of smoking and second hand smoke exposure, motivate smokers to quit, encourage smokers who need help to call 1800QUITNOW, and encourage adults not to expose their kids to second hand smoke. The ads started running on March 19. APA and many other scientific organizations joined an effort led by the Campaign for Tobacco Free Kids to thank Secretary Sebelius for her leadership in promoting the ads.

**Former Rep. Brian Baird Joins APA Staff for APLS Plenary Session (3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

APA's General Counsel, Nathalie Gilfoyle, JD, and Science GRO's Heather Kelly, PhD, were pleased to join psychologist and former Congressman Brian Baird, PhD in Puerto Rico mid-March to discuss the translation of psychological science into public policy at the annual meeting of the American Psychology-Law Society (APLS, APA's Division 41). Baird retired from Congress in 2011 after serving six terms representing Washington state in the U.S. House of Representatives and chairing the House Science Subcommittees on Research and Science Education and Energy and Environment. At APLS, Baird discussed the challenges of being a scientist on Capitol Hill and advocating for the application of psychological science to national problems. Gilfoyle outlined the decision process and strategies behind APA's involvement in amicus briefs, and Kelly urged psychological researchers to be actively involved with the APA Science Government Relations Office's federal advocacy activities.

**House Budget Expected March 20**

*APA Federal Budget Blog Update*

The budget deficit never really left center stage, but the spotlight is about to shine on it again. House Budget Committee Chairman Ryan (R-WI) will release his Committee’s budget draft on Tuesday, March 20. The budget is expected to include a spending cap of $1.028 trillion, which is $19 billion below the cap that was agreed to by both houses of Congress last August in the Budget Control Act. As was the case last year, more conservative elements in the House majority will press hard for lower spending and faster deficit reduction than is palatable to the Senate majority.

Last year Ryan used the budget to define Republican priorities, including significant changes to Medicare. That budget was adopted by the House on a party-line vote but failed in the Senate. The Senate can be expected to reject the House Budget this year also, and negotiations between the two chambers will break along similar lines as those last year, e.g., how much to cut spending, whether to increase revenues by eliminating some special tax breaks, and how or whether to reform entitlement programs. Unlike last year, however, this year’s debate begins in the shadow of a large spending cut. The Budget Control Act required that the deficit be reduced an additional $1.2 trillion dollars or automatic cuts (a sequester) would take place in January 2013. Because Congress was unable to agree on how to reach that goal, the sequester looms in the future unless new legislation is passed to avoid it.

Advance word about the Ryan budget is raising concerns in public health and science advocacy organizations. According to the *National Journal*, Ryan plans to use the budget to exempt defense from the spending cuts required under the sequester. Defense spending was to account for $600 billion of all mandated cuts over 10 years. Ryan doesn't expect nondefense discretionary programs to pick up the slack. Instead, he wants entitlements to absorb the cost of a defense exemption. “House Republicans are continuing their efforts to reprioritize the savings called for under the Budget Control Act, because our troops and military families shouldn’t pay the price for Washington’s failure to take action,” said Ryan. Advocates of non-defense programs worry that exempting defense accounts will make the eventual cuts fall harder on health, science and education programs, and entitlement programs.
Over 900 health, education, workforce, and social service organizations, including APA, co-signed a letter (PDF, 150KB) to House and Senate Appropriations Committees urging them to protect funding for critical domestic programs and services.

Remember that the sequester language was written to provide incentives for both parties to come to the table for an agreement. The theory was, Republicans would be motivated to work with Democrats to find ways to avoid cuts to defense, and Democrats would be motivated to avoid cuts to domestic discretionary spending. Thus the language exempting defense from spending cuts can be expected to draw a lot of fire from Democrats.

The APA Science Government Relations Office will be working hard to help maintain current investments in health, science, and education programs. There are many ways you can keep up with these important issues. Subscribe to APA’s Science Policy Insider News, to the APAScience twitter feed, to this blog, and to APA’s Psychological Science Agenda.

**APA Executive Director for Science testifies before Congress on FY 2013 budget for NSF, NASA, and DOJ (3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

On March 22, the American Psychological Association's Executive Director for Science, Steven J. Breckler, presented oral testimony before the House of Representative’s Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies. Breckler gave an overview of APA's written testimony (PDF, 376KB), which was submitted for the Congressional Record, urging the subcommittee to support President Obama's Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 proposed budgets for the National Science Foundation (NSF) and National Aeronautic and Space Agency (NASA). These proposed budgets could make possible increased funding of psychological research, including projects that address major national challenges that require an understanding of human behavior.

Subcommittee Chairman Frank Wolf (R-Va.) has been a vocal champion of NSF over the years, and he worked hard to restore Senate-proposed cuts to the agency for FY 2012.

During his oral testimony, Breckler also encouraged the Subcommittee to provide increased funding for Department of Justice programs related to juvenile justice and crime prevention, which have seen dramatic cuts over the last ten years and are another APA advocacy priority.

Government Relations staff within the APA Science Directorate have continued to advocate for overall research agency budgets and support for psychological research portfolios within the agencies in the FY 2013 appropriations process on Capitol Hill.

**NIH Director Francis Collins Testifies Before House and Senate Appropriators**

In March, both the House and Senate Appropriations Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies held hearings on the proposed budget for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) with Francis Collins, Director of NIH. He was accompanied by Tom Insel, who has been serving as the Acting Director of the new National Center for Advancing Translational Science (NCATS) as well as Director of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) along with Directors from several other institutes. As mentioned in the APA Federal Budget Blog, the President has proposed level funding for the NIH at $30.86 billion for FY13, and Collins explained to Congressional appropriators how NIH is planning to manage its budget. In his testimony to both House and Senate appropriators, Collins reiterated that level funding for NIH has a deep impact on the ability
of new scientists to establish successful research careers. Under current funding levels, a new investigator has a less than 20 percent chance of receiving funding, the lowest success rate in NIH history. The impact of possible sequestration in January 2013 that would reduce the NIH budget by eight to nine percent would be even more devastating; under those circumstances NIH would fund 2,300 fewer grants than are planned for FY13.

As an indicator of the traditional bipartisan support for the NIH, Members on both sides supported NIH as a funding priority, even in the tough budget climate. In the Senate, Ranking Member Richard Shelby (R-AL) added that he was concerned that NIH’s possible strategies of capping grant amounts for individual investigators or capping inflationary costs may conflict with the policy of letting the merit review process determine which scientists receive funding. Expressing a common challenge for behavioral scientists and policymaker alike in preventing chronic disease like diabetes, Senator Shelby asked Griffin Rogers, Director of the National Institute on Diabetes, Digestive Disorders and Kidney Disease (NIDDK), “How do you get people to eat an apple instead of a cheeseburger?” While Rogers cited research on offering more healthful choices to nudge individuals to make more healthy eating decisions, Chairman Tom Harkin (D-IA) also mentioned his support for NIDDK’s Diabetes Prevention Program, one of the scientifically proven behavioral interventions to prevent Type II diabetes.

Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS) asked Insel about NIMH’s research that would be helpful to returning veterans. In response, Insel stated that NIMH was “particularly concerned about returning veterans and the incidence of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).” The NIMH’s largest single project, the Army Study to Assess Risk and Resilience in Servicemembers (STARRS) project, is a joint collaboration with the Army that has enrolled more than 30,000 active duty soldiers and will identify risk and protective factors for mental health that may be applied to ongoing health promotion, risk reduction, and suicide prevention efforts.

Senator Sherrod Brown (D-OH) questioned the NIH’s decision to alter the geographic sampling of the National Children’s Study, a decision that has come under scrutiny from scientists concerned about the lack of random sampling in the final study. Having abandoned the household recruitment strategy to improve efficiency, Brown asked whether NIH was going to address the risk of omitting low-income children of mothers without a provider. Collins defended the decision, saying that “we are invested in the success of the NCS, with the goal of following 100,000 kids. We conducted vanguard studies on the best way to ascertain how to enroll that many people. We discovered ways that are at least as effective and considerably more efficient. The main study might be more efficient than knocking on doors, whereas working through geographically distributed providers. We are very sensitive to these issues you raise. It needs to include those with no coverage or providers, to have a representative group, but does give us the information we need to know about genetics and environment.” He encouraged those that have concerns to be part of the process going forward to ensure that NIH is getting all the information it needs.

APA comments on National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease (2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)

On March 28, the American Psychological Association (APA) submitted comments on the Draft National Plan to Address Alzheimer’s Disease (PDF, 1.46MB). The National Plan is being assembled by the federal government’s National Advisory Committee on Alzheimer’s Research, Care and Services (PDF, 50KB) and was authorized by the National Alzheimer’s Project Act, legislation approved in 2010.
This was the second round of comments APA has submitted on the National Plan (see previous coverage). A revised draft of the plan incorporating some of the original comments from stakeholders was released on February 22.

APA’s latest comments include a call for research that links identification of biomarkers with cognitive and behavioral markers. “The ability to image biomarkers has significantly advanced the study of Alzheimer’s. What continues to be missing in the current draft is an acknowledgement of the critical role of neuropsychological testing and assessment to measure changes in cognitive performance. Real clinical benefits for those with AD [Alzheimer’s Disease] depend on fully understanding how biomarkers relate to cognition and behavior.”

The draft National Plan also calls for a public education campaign to help correct misperceptions and prevent stigma. APA’s comments encourage the Department of Health and Human Services to include two important messages: “1) Alzheimer’s Disease (AD) is not a normal part of cognitive aging; and 2) there are modifiable risk factors for AD (including diabetes, midlife hypertension, midlife obesity, smoking, depression, cognitive inactivity or low educational attainment, and physical inactivity) and actions individuals can take now to reduce their risks. A recent study (Barnes et al, 2011), notes that up to half of AD cases worldwide are attributable to seven potentially modifiable risk factors — and that a 10-25% reduction in all seven risk factors could potentially prevent as many as 1.1-3.0 million AD cases worldwide.”

The draft National Plan called for a summit meeting to set a research agenda for Alzheimer’s. The National Institute on Aging is planned this meeting for May 14 and 15, 2012, on the campus of the National Institutes of Health. The agenda is posted online.

**Ryan Budget Would Lower Spending Cap, Exempt Defense from Automatic Cuts**

*APA Federal Budget Blog Update*

On March 27, the House adopted Chairman Ryan’s “Path to Prosperity” (H Con Res 112), by a mostly party line vote of 228-191. The Ryan budget (now the House Budget Committee resolution) sets the spending cap for overall discretionary spending at $1.028 trillion, $19 billion below the $1.047 trillion spending cap enacted in the Budget Control Act (BCA). It also replaces the automatic cut required under the Budget Control Act (BCA) with budget reconciliation instructions directing six House committees to identify necessary savings by April 27.

About half of the budget’s $2.5 trillion in 10-year savings would come from health care programs, including health care reform programs. Food stamp assistance would be cut by an estimated $133.5 billion, and an additional $94 billion would come from the Pell Grants program for low-income college students. The plan extends the Bush-era tax cuts — including lower rates for capital gains — but would phase out current tax benefits for the working poor.

The House resolution instructs authorizing committees to find savings in the programs under their jurisdictions. Each marks up its own bill, which is then combined with other committees’ bills and “reconciled” in a single resolution. This bill’s target is to reduce deficits by $261 billion over the coming decade, and by $18 billion next year.

Remember though: even if a proposal is included in the House budget, that doesn’t mean it’s a ‘law.’ The budget is a blueprint that does not carry the force of law itself, but it lays out overall priorities and makes assumptions about how to achieve them. An exception is the Budget Control Act which was passed as a law.
Meanwhile in the Senate, Budget Committee Chair Kent Conrad (D-ND) and Senate Appropriations Committee Chair Daniel Inouye (D-HI) urged House leaders to abide by the BCA cap. Chairman Conrad filed a “deeming resolution” which formalized the $1.047 trillion spending limit in the Senate. Formally adopting the BCA cap allows the Senate appropriators to determine “302(b)” allocations, or top-line funding levels for spending bills in each of the 12 appropriations subcommittees.

On March 27, House Democrats released an alternative budget proposal that would set overall spending for Fiscal Year 2013 at the BCA level. In that resolution, Budget Committee Minority Representative Chris Van Hollen (D-MD) proposed to make permanent the Bush-era tax cuts for the middle class but to generate $1 trillion in new revenue by ending tax cuts for millionaires, closing tax loopholes and establishing “the Buffett Rule,” designed to ensure millionaires do not pay lower tax rates than the middle class. Predictably, this proposal failed when brought to the House for a vote.

It goes without saying that 2012 is an election year, and that budgets are political documents. Both parties’ budgets may be characterized as ‘aspirational.’ But their importance for setting the terms of the debate this year between chambers and parties cannot be overestimated.

APA Submits Congressional Testimony on Veterans’ Research Funding (2c, 2d, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)

Psychologists work within the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as research scientists and clinicians committed to improving the lives of our nation’s veterans, and a strong VA psychological research program provides the scientific foundation for high-quality care within the VA system. On April 2, APA’s Science Directorate submitted written testimony from Executive Director for Science, Steven J. Breckler, PhD, to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies. Breckler urged the Subcommittee to support health research sponsored by the VA’s intramural Medical and Prosthetic Research program by increasing funding from its current level of $581 million to $611 million in Fiscal Year 2013. Earlier this year, President Obama proposed a very slight increase in the program’s support for Fiscal Year 2013 ($2 million, for a total of $583 million), which if enacted would not cover even basic inflationary costs. Heather O’Beirne Kelly, PhD, in APA’s Science Government Relations Office, is coordinating a series of advocacy activities in support of the VA research program, including an upcoming Capitol Hill educational briefing on VA’s post-traumatic stress research portfolio and meetings with staff from the Congressional committees with oversight over VA research programs and funding.

Psychologist on Detail to the White House Meets with APA Staff on Science Issues (3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)

Psychologist and APA Fellow Philip Rubin, PhD has been detailed to the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) as the Assistant Director for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences. Rubin also will serve as a Senior Advisor at the National Science Foundation in the Social, Behavioral and Economic Sciences Directorate, where he previously was Director of the Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences. Rubin returns to Washington, DC on leave from his role as Chief Executive Officer and Senior Scientist at Haskins Laboratories in New Haven, Connecticut. Rubin met this month with APA’s Norman Anderson, PhD (Chief Executive Officer), Steven Breckler, PhD (Executive Director for Science), Howard Kurtzman, PhD (Deputy Executive Director for Science) and Heather O’Beirne Kelly, PhD (Senior Legislative and Federal Affairs Officer) to begin discussions regarding behavioral issues of interest to the White House. Throughout the tenure of recent Administrations, APA has worked with key staff at OSTP on issues relevant to psychological science,
ranging from scientific infrastructure and the protection of the peer review process to the inclusion of the social and behavioral sciences in federal programs.

**Friends of NICHD Coalition Targets Appropriations Staff (2c, 2d, 2e, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

As the current chair of the Friends of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD), Karen Studwell in APA’s Science Government Relations Office organized a lobby day for coalition members on Tuesday, April 17 to help educate congressional appropriations staff about the broad scientific advances that NICHD has made in the areas of child development, infant mortality and low birthweight, birth defects, intellectual and developmental disabilities, and the reproductive and gynecologic health of women throughout their lifespans. Coalition members reiterated the importance of stable funding for biomedical and behavioral research across the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and recommended at least $32 billion for NIH and $1.37 billion for NICHD. While bipartisan support exists for funding NIH, there remain significant differences between the House and Senate on spending priorities and potential cuts are still being negotiated.

**Friends of NIA Lobby Day Brings Attention to Research on Aging (2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

Adam Brickman, PhD of the Taub Center at Columbia University and APA staff participated in a series of Congressional staff meetings on April 20 to highlight the progress and promise of research on aging. Brickman, a member of APA’s Committee on Aging, talked about his research and answered questions from Congressional staff about how universities are coping with the increasingly tight budgets of the National Institutes of Health.

The Friends of the National Institute on Aging (NIA), a coalition of scientific and health organizations that lobbies in support of the budget of the National Institute on Aging, provided information calling for an appropriation of at least $32 billion for the National Institutes of Health for Fiscal Year 2013, approximately a 4.5 percent increase over the FY 2012 appropriation. The Friends of NIA also called for an appropriation of $1.4 billion for NIA, an increase of $300 million.

On April 20 the Friends group met with staff of members of the Senate Special Committee on Aging, the Aging and Retirement Subcommittee of the Health Education Labor and Pensions Committee, and the House and Senate appropriations subcommittees that fund the National Institutes of Health.

**House/Senate Budget Allocations at Odds, and Committees Get Busy With Appropriations Bills**

*APA Federal Budget Blog Update*

On April 24 House appropriators approved Fiscal Year 2013 spending bill allocations that are $27 billion lower than the Senate’s, setting the stage for tough conference negotiations to enact any spending measures this year. House appropriators approved annual 302(b) allocations (that is, the division of available funds among appropriations subcommittees) that followed the $1.028 trillion level set in the House budget resolution.

The House Appropriations panel rejected a Democratic proposal to set spending levels that would instead conform to the $1.047 trillion level called for by the 2011 debt limit law, the Budget Control Act, which is the top line that Senate appropriators approved last week. The House allocated $8 billion more than the Budget Control Act level for defense, exempting defense from a potential sequester of
funds, and $19 billion less for domestic discretionary funding, creating a $27 billion difference between the two chambers’ budget assumptions.

The White House Office of Management and Budget sent a letter to appropriators last week assuring Congress that the President will veto any legislation that does not conform to the Budget Control Act numbers.

The House Appropriations Committee approved the Energy-Water spending bill on April 24, the first of the 12 appropriations bills that must be enacted by September 30, 2012, and the Committee is set to approve the Commerce-Justice-Science (CJS) measure as well. (The CJS bill includes the National Science Foundation—more information on that bill soon). The Senate Appropriations Committee is keeping pace, advancing the Energy and Water and Agriculture bills.

National Children’s Study Advisory Committee Debates Sampling Strategies

For the first time since the President’s Budget came out proposing a $28 million decrease for the National Children’s Study (NCS) in Fiscal Year 2013, the Advisory Committee met to discuss the potential design of the study moving forward. NICHD Director Alan Guttmacher explained to the Advisory Committee members that the Vanguard Centers had been piloting several recruitment strategies after determining the cost and length of time of the initial two-stage geographic-based probability sample and door-to-door household recruitment strategy might compromise the NCS’ feasibility. After piloting a provider-based model and a model relying on direct outreach to the public, the NCS Program Office is considering options using prenatal care providers. In a recent white paper, the Advisory Committee was given seven possible sampling strategies to consider as alternatives, including two that were probability designs, two convenience designs, and three hybrid designs. Dr. Guttmacher invited the Committee members to weigh in on the advantages and disadvantages of the various sampling strategies.

The Committee discussed the need for simulation models and a possible independent review of the data collected so far, as well as further exploration into what kind of information the NCS would be able to provide scientists or policymakers if it is not a random design. The Committee also debated the need for 100,000 participants in the study, as this number was only required for a probability sample. Bob Kaplan, Director of NIH’s Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research, added that it has been 12 years since the study was authorized by Congress, so there is some urgency for the full study to move forward with recruitment. Several principal investigators that are currently involved with the study recommended that the NCS retain a probability sample and continue the NCS in the current 105 sites that were randomly selected and work with providers in those areas to help recruit. As one Committee Member stated, “the devil is in the details.” NCS Director Steve Hirschfeld indicated that NIH wanted input from the Advisory Committee and would be consulting with federal partners, statisticians and NIH Director Francis Collins before making any final decisions on the design.

APA member briefs Capitol Hill on PTSD research with women veterans (2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)

A Capitol Hill briefing, held on April 25, 2012, featured Paula Schnurr, PhD, who serves as Deputy Executive Director of the Department of Veterans Affairs’ (VA’s) National Center for PTSD and is a member of the American Psychological Association (APA). Schnurr was one of two featured VA scientists at the event, sponsored by APA’s Science Government Relations Office and the Friends of VA Medical Care and Health Research. She was invited to brief Members of Congress and their staff on
the results of clinical trials that she has overseen involving women veterans suffering from PTSD as well as on the importance of funding VA’s intramural research program.

Rep. Ann Marie Buerkle (R-NY), Chairwoman of the House Veterans’ Affairs Subcommittee on Health, opened the briefing by urging her Congressional colleagues to support veterans through continued investment in veteran-centric research within the VA. A registered nurse and former Assistant New York State Attorney General, freshman Congresswoman Buerkle has brought to her new Subcommittee role both first-hand experience in healthcare and a strong commitment to serving veterans in the context of their families and communities. Within the past year she has partnered with APA’s Public Interest Directorate in addressing the issue of suicide prevention in military and veteran populations, and her remarks at this hearing signaled her support for VA research.

The VA’s Chief Research and Development Officer, Joel Kupersmith, MD, was on hand to give the standing-room-only audience, which also included federal agency personnel and veterans organization representatives, an overview of the broad VA research portfolio. Schnurr outlined the mission of the VA’s National Center for PTSD, which is aimed at promoting “the best clinical care and functional status of veterans through research, education, and training related to the etiology, diagnosis, and treatment of PTSD and stress-related disorders.” She described the Center’s seven divisions, representing unique areas of expertise ranging from neurobiology to dissemination and training, and explained that her own work grew out of a need to close the gap between evidence and practice to work with the growing number of women using VA healthcare.

Schnurr led the first VA cooperative study focused exclusively on women, employing randomized clinical trials to study prolonged exposure treatment for PTSD. Despite concerns that VA patients could not tolerate prolonged exposure treatment and that VA therapists would not be able to deliver the treatments, Schnurr and her team found that women veterans in her treatment group were 2.4 times as likely as those in a comparison group to experience complete remission and that VA therapists could be trained to deliver the treatments effectively. VA is now implementing rollouts of prolonged exposure therapy and cognitive processing therapy (both evidence-based treatments for PTSD) to all VA medical centers. Schnurr is focusing on comparative effectiveness studies to identify optimal strategies for individual patients with PTSD.

Schnurr was joined on the research expert panel by Randy Kardon, MD, PhD, a neuro-ophthalmologist and Director of the Iowa City VA Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Visual Loss. Kardon’s research into the human eye has led to the development of smartphone applications that may be used soon on the battlefield (and at home) to better detect and monitor a variety of diseases and injuries for more effective treatment in military personnel, veterans and eventually civilians.

APA’s science government relations staff and colleagues from the Friends of VA coalition have continued to meet throughout the spring and summer with Members of Congress and their staffers to increase support for the VA research program as funding bills are marked up and introduced.

APA’s Science GRO Provides Federal Advocacy Training to I/O Psychologists (3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)

Heather O’Beirne Kelly, PhD, in APA’s Science Government Relations Office (Science GRO), was invited to provide federal science advocacy training at the April annual meeting of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP—APA Division 14). SIOP has committees and task forces on scientific affairs, science advocacy, and external relations, and seeks to engage its members in strategically positioning themselves and the organization to be more involved in advocacy in multiple arenas. Science GRO has collaborated with many I/O psychologists over the years to provide
Congressional testimony, meet with agency staff, and develop briefs for policy-makers. Kelly also urged SIOP and its members to capitalize on the relevance of its applied research and consultation expertise to legislative activities and to broaden their reach to the media and policy communities.

**Annual Capitol Hill Exhibit Features APA Learning Scientist (2c, 2d, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

Each year the Coalition of National Science Funding (CNSF), of which APA is an active member, hosts an exhibit/reception on Capitol Hill to showcase stellar research funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). For the 18th annual event, held in May, APA brought in distinguished learning scientist and APA Fellow Roy Pea, from Stanford University. Pea and his colleagues receive some of their research funding through NSF’s Science of Learning program, and Pea’s recent work on social media usage and problematic developmental outcomes in “tween” girls has received substantial national media coverage. In addition to talking with the Members of Congress in attendance at the exhibit/reception (Reps. Lois Capps (D-CA), Hansen Clarke (D-MI), Colleen Hanabusa (D-HI), Rush Holt (D-NJ), Mike Simpson (R-ID), and Lamar Smith (R-TX)), Pea and the APA Science Government Relations Office’s Heather Kelly met personally earlier that day with Sen. Barbara Boxer’s (D-CA) legislative assistant for education and health to discuss the Senator’s support for developmental research related to technology and media.

**Meeting with the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (2c, 2d, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)**

Philip E. Rubin, PhD, recently named the Principal Assistant Director for Science in the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), met with representatives from the social, behavioral, economic and neuroscience research communities in May to outline relevant Administration activities. In particular, the Administration is interested in hearing from stakeholders about how work in neuroscience – considered broadly to include issues related to cognition, learning, mental health, national security, etc. – can be advanced more quickly through public-private partnerships and shared governmental resources and activities. APA’s Science Government Relations Office staff continue to work with OSTP in this area and with other coalitions focused on neuroscience, including the American Brain Coalition and the newly formed One Mind for Research.

**PCORI Announces Funding for Comparative Effectiveness Research**

In May the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), established by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 as an independent, non-profit organization to support comparative clinical effectiveness research, released its first primary research funding announcements for up to $96 million in funding.

The funding announcements correspond to the first four areas of focus in PCORI’s National Priorities for Research and Research Agenda adopted by the Board of Governors in May. The four areas are: assessment of prevention, diagnosis, and treatment options; improving healthcare systems; communication and dissemination; and addressing disparities. A fifth funding announcement for up to $24 million will be issued during the summer, focused on accelerating patient-centered and methodological research. PCORI is seeking stakeholders, including scientists, clinicians, policymakers, educational training institutions, and other types of stakeholders, to review the funding applications.

In April the PCORI Board of Governors voted to select 50 award applications for funding as a part of the institute’s Pilot Projects program. The selection process is outlined in a committee presentation available on the PCORI website.
I/O Psychologist Delivers APA’s Senate Defense Testimony (3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)

Bill Strickland, APA Fellow and President of the Human Resources Research Organization (HumRRO), delivered APA’s oral testimony before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense on June 6. Strickland is an industrial/organizational psychologist with particular expertise in military personnel recruitment, selection and training. APA’s Science Government Relations Office requested and was given a slot to testify before the Subcommittee again this year, focusing on the Department of Defense (DoD) research portfolio for Fiscal Year 2013. Strickland urged the Senate to reverse another round of Administration cuts to the DoD Science and Technology budget. In the President’s Fiscal Year 2013 budget request, the overall level of fundamental and applied DoD research in military laboratories would decrease, and some psychological research programs would take a substantial hit. APA encouraged the Subcommittee to support human-centered research vital to sustaining warfighter superiority, in line with recommendations of both the National Academies and the Defense Science Board.

Panel on Rehabilitation Research Reports to the NICHD Advisory Council

At the June 7 NICHD Advisory Council, Director Alan Guttmacher and Council members heard a report from Rebecca Craik, who co-chaired the Blue Ribbon Panel on Medical Rehabilitation Research, formed last year by NIH Director Francis Collins. Craik presented the Panel’s recommendations regarding the role of the National Center for Medical Rehabilitation Research (NCMRR). The panel focused on whether the NCMRR is accomplishing its mission and whether there are ways to maximize the coordination of investments in rehabilitation research across the NIH. According to the panel’s review, NCMRR is meeting its mission but obstacles remain, including a lack of coordination of rehabilitation research across NIH, NIDRR, VA, DoD, and NSF, and difficulty in maintaining funding for newly funded scientists. The Panel recommendations include: 1) a new definition of rehabilitation research; 2) development of a trans-NIH Research Plan with periodic review of the plan; 3) strategic networking with other Institute staff and experts in the rehabilitation community; 4) changing the center name to the National Center for Rehabilitation Research, removing “medical” from the title; 5) increasing the clinical and societal relevance of the research portfolio; 6) a substantial increase in funding for all aspects of rehabilitation research, 7) continuing to build research capacity; and 8) an increase in the participation of people with disabilities and public advocates in the development and implementation of the Research Plan.

The Panel made additional functional and structural recommendations that would move the NCMRR into the Office of the NIH Director, where it would operate similarly to the Office of AIDS Research, which has independent budget and grant-making authority as well as a strong coordination role across the NIH. A full report will be submitted to Guttmacher and Collins, and Guttmacher assured Council that further informal conversations would be held about how to implement any of the recommendations and develop practical solutions to maximize NIH’s investments in rehabilitation research. As Guttmacher mentioned, it would take an act of Congress for the NCMRR to move out of the NICHD and Congress would decide what to do with the level of appropriations for rehabilitation research, but there may be other ways to address the panel’s other recommendations.
Senate Appropriations Committee Approves Funding Bill for Health Programs

APA Federal Budget Blog Update

On June 14, the Senate Appropriations Committee voted to report its Fiscal Year (FY) 2013 spending bill for Labor, Health and Human Services and Education. According to a summary statement released by the committee, the bill would provide $158.8 billion, including offsets and cap adjustments, to the Departments of Labor, HHS, and Education and related agencies. HHS funding would see a slight 1.9 percent increase under the bill, providing discretionary programs $71 billion (program level), up from $69.6 billion in Fiscal Year 2012. NIH is provided $30.723 billion, a $100 million increase.

Funding levels in the Senate bill surpassed the gloomy expectations about next fiscal year’s funding prospects. Remember that there are many acts still to play out in this drama, including floor action and any subsequent funding cuts that may come as a result of the sequester provision in last summer’s Budget Control Act. The House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee plans to mark up its version of the bill on June 20, 2012, if Chairman Dennis Rehberg (R-MT) can secure enough votes for passage. Last year, the House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittee was unable to report a bill because of lack of agreement within the majority party about funding levels and priorities.

You’re probably wondering – what is happening with the sequester? Worrying, mostly. You may recall that unless Congress acts to stop or replace them, the sequester, or automatic cuts, would trim $109 billion from FY 2013 spending on Jan. 2, including $55 billion from defense and the balance from domestic programs. Over nine years, the automatic cuts would reduce spending by $1.2 trillion. You correctly assume that this subject comes up in virtually every advocacy coalition meeting and phone conversation.

Last week, U.S. Rep. Edward Markey (D-MA) sent a letter to Kathleen Sebelius, the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS), asking how the agency plans to distribute a potential 7.8 percent cut (the amount estimated by the Congressional Budget Office, also the lowest current estimate) that will take place if the Budget Control Act’s sequester cannot be avoided. Rep. Markey raises concerns about how research, food and drug safety, and assistance to low-income families will be affected. He cites estimates of cuts to research based on Research!America’s recent analysis: that organization predicts $3.6 billion in cuts to research at HHS, including $2.4 billion in cuts to NIH.

Friends of NIDA to Host Briefing on HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse (2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 3a, 3b, 3c, 3e)

The Friends of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) will host a congressional briefing in July titled “Treatment as Prevention: HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse.” The briefing, organized by APA’s Science Government Relations Office and sponsored in conjunction with the congressional Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus, will be the seventeenth in the coalition’s Charles R. Schuster Congressional Briefing Series. The briefing will feature research funded by NIDA and address current barriers to reducing the spread of HIV infection. Presenters include Nora Volkow, director of NIDA; Marguerita Lightfoot, co-director of the University of California at San Francisco’s Center for AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS); Frederick Altice, director of Yale University School of Medicine’s HIV in Prisons Program; and Carlos Del Rio, co-director of the Emory Center for AIDS Research (CFAR).