2012 APA Presidential Initiatives

- Consistent with APA’s Strategic Plan:
  - Maximize organizational effectiveness
  - Expand psychology’s role in advancing health
  - Increase recognition of psychology as a science

- Based on Partnerships
  - Within APA
  - Between APA and other groups

- Inspire You to Take Action
  - Encourage you to build partnerships of your own
Presidential Initiative: Engaging the Next Generation of Psychologists

- Addresses Strategic Plan’s goal to maximize organizational effectiveness
- Critical because APA membership is aging
  - Mean age of APA members in 2011 was 54.5
  - Mean number of years post-degree was 20.9
- Unless we engage the next generation of psychologists, APA cannot be effective
Engaging the Next Generation of Psychologists: Activities to Date

- Focus of January Monitor column and my remarks to DLC and SLC
- CODAPAR partnered with CECP to make early career psychologists involvement in divisions a focus of the Division Leadership Conference

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Engaging the Next Generation of Psychologists: Activities to Date

- APAGS partnered with APA to develop a new journal, Translational Issues in Psychological Science, to focus on timely themes in translational science and serve as a reviewer/editor/author training mechanism for APAGS.

- Working with TOPSS, we have provided a scholarship program for 6 Florida high school teachers of psychology who are bringing 22 high school students to the convention; we have developed a Guide to Convention Program Highlights specifically for them.

- APA is initiating its own TED like talks:
  - [www.ted.com/talks](http://www.ted.com/talks) - often feature psychologists and are very popular with the next generation.
  - TED The Anatomy of a TED Talk Saturday 6:30-7:30 pm Level IV, Valencia Ball Room B&C – Phil Zimbardo and TED.com reps.
Presidential Initiative: Interdisciplinary Science and Practice

- Addresses APA Strategic plan goals:
  - Expand Psychology’s Role in Advancing Health
  - Increase Recognition of Psychology as a Science
- Critical because science is becoming more and more interdisciplinary; the really hard questions cannot be answered by a single discipline
- Critical because health care is moving to integrated care where patients’ needs are addressed by inter-professional health care teams
Interdisciplinary Science and Practice: Activities to Date

- Inter-organizational work group to identify competencies for psychologists to practice in primary care finalizing their report in September:
  - APA Health, Pediatric, Aging Divisions, APAHC, CFHA, CDCHPTP, SBM, STFM, VA Training Council (Chair- Susan McDaniel)
  - Saturday 10 am Session 3143 Level II, W206B/C

- USAID – APA partnership: Evidence Based Summit on behavior change interventions to impact health in the developing world planned for early 2013 (Lead: Robert Balster)

- Co-Chair, Committee on Interdisciplinary Science for the Council of Scientific Society Presidents with a number of outcomes planned
Interdisciplinary Science and Practice: Activities to Date

- Thanks to many APA Divisions/Boards/Committees program hour contributions in we have more than 20 hours of convention programming in:
  - Interdisciplinary Science
    - Co-Chairs: Nancy Dess and Lynne Cooper
  - Inter-professional Practice
    - Chair: Helen Coons)
Presidential Initiative: Obesity

- Addresses APA Strategic plan goals:
  - Expand Psychology’s Role in Advancing Health
  - Increase Recognition of Psychology as a Science

- Critical because obesity:
  - Is the second leading cause of death in U.S. and expected to become the leading cause
  - Will result in decreased U.S. life expectancy for first time in a century
  - Is expected to bankrupt the health care system
  - Is a behavioral problem; psychology has much to offer
Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults
BRFSS, 1990, 2000, 2010
(*BMI ≥30, or about 30 lbs. overweight for 5’4” person)

Source: CDC:
http://www.cdc.gov/obesity/data/trends.html
Obesity: Activities to Date

- Presidential Monitor articles and presentations available
- Obesity treatment guidelines are underway
- APA- Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi) Summit on Obesity in African American Women and Girls in planning stages
Obesity: Activities to Date

- Opening ceremony will feature Kelly Brownell and Rena Wing: international experts on obesity
- Thanks to program hour donation of many Divisions/Boards/Committees enjoy 20 hours of convention programming on obesity (Chair: Gareth Dutton); look for the OB logo
- Addressing our own COR work environment
  - Healthier food options at Council
  - Free morning exercise – Peabody Plaza International Ballroom G/H 7-8am Th – aerobics; Fri – zumba; Sat - yoga
  - Health Challenge Pavilion; Booth 1124 in Exhibit Hall - play active games: Wii golf, dance, bowling, basketball
  - My presidential party features dessert tastings and dancing
Psychology’s Paradigm Shift from a Mental Health to a Health Profession

- Despite a 1996 APA Policy statement identifying psychology as a health profession, this paradigm shift has yet to occur for many members and staff.
- This superordinate issue is so critical to psychology’s future that it has become the overarching theme of my presidency.
- My Presidential Address – Friday 2pm Level II, W205 A&B will focus on this issue.
  - This and other Monitor articles and presentations on this topic are available at http://www.apa.org/about/governance/president/index.aspx