

THE AMPLIFIER

MEDIA PSYCHOLOGY

DIVISION 46 OF THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

SPRING 2002

Presidential Message

Rhoda L. Fischer, PhD



Rhoda L. Fischer, PhD

This is my opener as the current president of Division 46. It is not the standard opener—but I'll get to that in a moment. First, I want to thank my son-in-law, Dr. Mark Whitmore, an I/O psychologist and co-chair of the Division 46 Program Committee, for volunteering to write an opening column for this *Amplifier* issue. I am most grateful. On January 22 I

was in an automobile accident and sustained a broken collarbone. This has made word processing almost impossible.

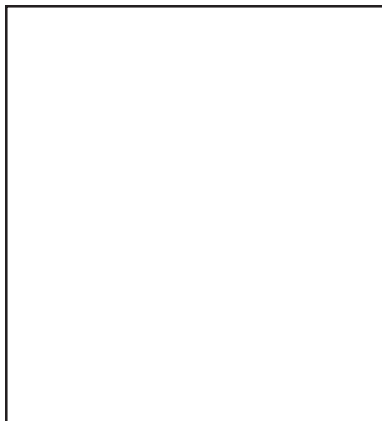
I do want to take this opportunity to welcome you all and hope that we have an opportunity to meet in person. I hope further that we can discuss your concerns, your ideas, and even your complaints. ❖

From the Editor

Louis A. Perrott, PhD

This issue of *The Amplifier* comes to you as the first I have edited. Many thanks to outgoing editor Jill Adaman for her years of service in this capacity and the many improvements to our publication she brought during her tenure.

After our national tragedy, the American Psychologi-



Louis A. Perrott, PhD

cal Association and many psychologists found their way into media, both through giving direct service to people at the major disaster sites but also through giving valuable information to the general public about psychological aspects of disasters, as well as effective coping responses to trauma. Mary Gregerson, PhD, was a disaster response volunteer on-site at the Pentagon in Washington. In "Terrorism, You Are There!" she provides commentary about media responses to our national tragedy, while also discussing her own experiences there.

Contrasting with Dr. Gregerson's article on terror from the outside is Alan Entin, PhD's description of terror from within. As most Division 46 members now know, Dr. Entin experienced a heart attack during the 2001 APA convention. His article titled, "Life Chronicle: On Surviving a Heart Attack," describes meanings he derived from his life-changing experience, paralleling learnings from our national experience.

This issue brings information about the exciting programming being planned for the 2002 APA Convention in Chicago. Mark Whitmore, PhD previews one part of our upcoming Convention programming, in his article on "Psychology at a Technological Crossroads."

Elsewhere in this issue, we briefly look back to the Media Mavens' Talent Show, and their highly acclaimed and very well-received appearance at the 2001 APA Convention in San Francisco, and preview their much-anticipated follow-up appearance at the 2002 Convention in Chicago. This issue also includes our usual array of APA and Division information and snapshots of our members who have been "in the news." ❖

A Preview of Division 46's APA 2002 Convention Sessions: Psychology at a Technological Crossroads

Mark Whitmore, PhD

The traditional view of the practice of clinical psychology is that of a therapist listening and a client talking. Both are seated, face-to-face, in comfortable, overstuffed chairs. Portrayals of therapists appearing in popular television shows such as "The Sopra-

nos” only serve to reinforce this cultural stereotype.

Contrary to this popular image, a number of 21st Century psychologists are practicing their profession using some of the very latest technologies. In some cases, psychologists are counting themselves as among the first to move technology out of the laboratory into everyday life. But the transition has not gone easily. Like many other established professions, psychology has for a long time resisted applying new and somewhat unfamiliar technologies. Only a few years ago, the use of the internet for any therapeutic applications was viewed by some as unethical. Innovative technologies, such as virtual reality and other multi-media applications, have faced similar debates.

Psychology is now at a technological crossroads. Will the profession embrace these new technologies, or continue to view them as disruptive? In *The Innovators Dilemma*, Harvard Business School professor Clayton Christensen states that, often, organizations will at first view new technologies as disruptive to existing processes. Therefore, the strategy to promote adopting them is to confront the unknown through a process of learning and discovery.

A presentation at the 2002 APA Convention entitled “The Innovators Forum” will provide one such opportunity to showcase the very latest technological applications in the field of psychology. It will consist of both presentations and hands-on demonstrations of some of the newer technological applications. The chairs of the forum will be Marlene Maheu, Mary Gregerson, and Eve Whitmore. Marlene Maheu, author of *Infidelity on the Internet*, will discuss the use of the internet and a variety of web interactions to deliver psychological services. Psychologists will have the opportunity to gain information about the development of web pages and to discuss ethical internet practices. Dr. Frank Wilhelm of Stanford University will present his research on the use of the LifeShirt System, which provides continuous and unobtrusive monitoring of psychological and physiological states. This technology shows promise in treating sleep disorders.

Another group of researchers and practitioners will demonstrate the latest applications of virtual reality to psychology. James Carter, a senior researcher at Dartmouth Medical School Interactive Media Laboratory, will showcase virtual reality applications to preventing psychosocial problems with crews in long-duration space missions. Ken Graap, President of Virtually Better, will demonstrate virtual reality technology in the treatment of anxiety disorders, discussing in particular new treatment approaches for patients with fear of flying. Maria Schultheis, Clinical Research Scientist at KMRREC and assistant Professor at UMDNJ—New Jersey Medical School, will demonstrate the “Virtual Office” used to assess and evaluate cognitive skills of adults with traumatic brain injury and multiple sclerosis who plan a return to work. It is the hope of Division 46 that The Innovator’s Forum will become the first of many opportunities for psychologists to explore and experience application of new technologies in the practice of psychology.

Other sessions at this Summer’s convention include: “Cyber-infi-

delity and Other Internet-related Problems” (Marlene Maheu); “Integrating Online Services into Clinical Practice” (John Grohol); “The Appeal and Relative Efficacy of Online Counseling: Preliminary Findings” (Aaron B. Rochlen); “Behavioral Telehealth and the Internet: A Glimpse into the Future” (Marlene Maheu); and “News: Helping People Cope after 9/11 (Roger D. Klein).”

You can also unwind at the Division’s Social Hour, which we are calling, “From the Roaring Twenties to Virtual Reality.” We hope everyone will come join us at APA this summer in Chicago!

Terrorism, You Are There!

Mary Banks Gregerson, PhD

Terrorism delivered in our living rooms and on our front doorsteps; the mass media made intimate for us the barbaric acts of 11 September 2001. These atrocities occurred not only in New York City, at the Pentagon, and in a Pennsylvania farmer’s field, but media also conveyed them into our homes, offices, public places, and methods of transport. And, they continue to occur and reoccur there, although the actual terrorism sites have been terrorism-free ever since the first and only instance.

One plane hits the South World Trade Center Tower. Another plane takes aim at the North Tower. The Pentagon—hit. A renegade plane in Pennsylvania crashes while heading toward the nation’s capital—my home. A deep part of me used to experience this “memory loop” in the present tense, a rippling reverberation from the witness and caregiver trauma I integrated.

What are your disaster aftermath traumas, as psychologists, as Americans, as humans? Some colleagues experienced the trauma of exclusion after being foiled in their efforts to offer aftermath assistance, for a variety of reasons. Aiding in disaster response and recovery efforts can salubriously affect the doers, as well as the receivers.

My own service as a Red Cross Local Disaster Volunteer for Mental Health Services was the single most gratifying professional experience in my life. At midnight on 12 September 2001, I started providing direct service at the Pentagon site. First, I assisted the rescue (not yet termed recovery) workers. Later, I helped with the triage efforts of the American Airline Care Worker liaisons between the airlines and the victims’ families. Still later, I worked with Pentagon victims’ families through the Family Service Center adjacent to the Pentagon. Lastly, every Friday evening in October 2002 private practice colleagues and I staffed pro bono a public discussion series on “Facing the Future After Disaster.” Such service provided at the inner circle of trauma can reverberate into widening circles of trauma recovery from terrorism.

Media shrinks the distance between home and the site of a trauma. This trauma by television, as media psychologist Rochelle Balter coined it, fast forwards distal reality into immediate experience, truly transforming our world into Marshall McLuhan’s global

village. Some of us, myself included, witnessed de facto in televised live time the second plane taking aim and bombarding the North Tower. How different, qualitatively and quantitatively, was and is our trauma from those directly on-site at Ground Zero, as media and trauma psychologist Elizabeth Carll calls it?

How many of us only think mainly of New York City when we think of the terrorist attacks? Ground Zero, a military term indicating the concentrated center of destruction that radiates outward in lessening ripples of devastation, could apply appropriately to any of the three points of attack. If the media had mainly spotlighted not the destructive enormity of the loss, but, rather, primarily highlighted civilian heroism, I predict that now recalling the terrorist attacks would bring to mind a Pennsylvania farm. Is the Pennsylvania drama in the air remote in your thinking about terrorism? Media can truly mold the national consciousness through omission and commission. This is both the media's responsibility and its power.

At the most recent Virginia Psychological Association meeting, some older colleagues requested that I, as a media psychologist, attempt to influence television news programs toward simplifying their disaster pictures for older viewers. The screen bottom ticker tape, the inserted windows, and the quickly sequenced images can exacerbate media trauma for older viewers. However, for MTV-entrained young adults, these features make the viewing more attractive. McLuhan's now famous phrase "the medium is the message" can serve as an important reminder for media to design the medium specific for the message's audience to minimize adverse effects and maximize benefits. Psychologists need to communicate these psychological concerns to the media.

Restraint can rein responsibility into bounds of taste, decency, effectiveness, and even entertainment. Good media portrayals of provocative real events like 11 September 2001 do exist. For instance, the French documentarians Jules and Gideon Naudet were producing a documentary of a rookie New York City firefighter who happened to be called to the terrorist disaster at the World Trade Center. Even under the immediacy of this disaster's duress Jules Naudet chose not to film people burning in the South Tower lobby of the World Trade Center (the resulting documentary 9/11 was shown by CBS on 10 March 2002). Later both brothers expurgated from the final documentary most of the continuous deafening sounds of crashing "jumpers" as the firefighters called those who leapt to escape the inferno on the upper floors. These non-exploitative "reality TV" filmmakers deserve an award for psychologically sound media work. Likewise, Pentagon officials refused to allow any pictures of discovery and removal of remains. This judicious exercise of selective omissions can soften the mode of expression, or the "medium," without detracting from its impact, its "message."

To conclude, colleagues sharing experiences emphasize our common bond, alchemically transforming horror into strength, anxiety into action, crisis into opportunity. Toward that end, APA's Practice Directorate Director Russ Newman announced that a documentary on "Resiliency" that will be produced with Disney

Enterprises for airing on 11 September 2002 would spotlight post-traumatic growth. Applications of psychology for public good, like the disaster aftermath rescue and recovery efforts in which I participated, will hopefully continue to expand and receive appropriate media coverage. This is psychology's responsibility and its power.❖

Media Psychology Book Series

Perspectives on Psychology and the Media is the title of the first book of this series. Edited by Sam and Diane Kirschner, this 1997 book has chapters on current research and practice issues in media psychology, as well as an epilogue pointing to future directions.

The second volume, *Psychology and the Media: A Second Look*, was edited by Linzer Schwartz and published in 1999. A third volume, with the proposed title *Media Psychology: New and Future Technologies*, is underway and being edited by Harvard Professor Larry Kutner. Past Division 46 President Florence Kaslow is consultant for the book series.

This book series is a significant outlet for sharing media psychology research and increasing awareness of these issues to others. Purchasing these volumes is an excellent means of staying current with the prevalent thinking in the field.

To order, call 1-800-374-2721 and press 1.

Perspectives on Psychology and the Media
Item No. 4316870
ISBN 1-55798-433-6
APA Member/Affiliate: \$19.95; List \$24.95

Psychology and the Media: A Second Look
Item No. 431625A
ISBN 1-55798-578-2
APA Member/Affiliate: \$24.95; List \$29.95❖

Life Chronicle: On Surviving a Heart Attack

Alan D. Entin, PhD, ABPP

“I love you,” I said, thinking those might be my last words, my final gift, to my wife. I was lying on my bed at the Marriott in San Francisco, headquarters hotel for the 2001 APA Convention. I was sweating like a pig, my back pounding unmercifully, waiting for the Emergency Medical Technicians to arrive. I did not know what was wrong, had no energy, and could barely talk or move. I was having a heart attack but did not yet know it.

I had always wondered what it would be like to be struck by terror from within, which was, for me, having a heart attack. With my family and personal health history, I figured I was a sitting duck, that it was really only a matter of time before mine was the same destiny of many men under 55 in my family. All the major risk factors conspired against me: a family history of diabetes and coronary heart disease. I just did not know when or where it might happen: while working alone in my office, or possibly during a therapy session. It actually did happen the night before I was to be honored by the APA Division of Psychologists in Independent Practice.

As I lay on the bed unable to move, I was experiencing “atypical symptoms” of a heart attack. At one time, my primary care physician, while looking at my EKG, had said that, since I never do anything conventionally, why should I have a conventional EKG? So, why should I have typical heart attack symptoms? I had no clue that I was having a heart attack. I had no chest pain, no shortness of breath, no pain radiating down my arms, or any other typical symptoms. Furthermore, prior to this “cardiac event,” I had no warning signs. It all happened so fast. I was not scared. As I faded in and out of consciousness, I did not think about my mortality. I just kept wishing the unremitting pounding in my back would go away.

Shortly before this, I had gone out to dinner and taken a walk with my wife, daughter, and Jack Wiggins. Upon returning to the hotel, I began to feel extremely tired and zapped of energy and began walking to the room ahead of the others. As I made my way closer to my room, I thought, “This is a long, long walk. I don’t have the energy to get all the way to my room. It’s too far away.” I began thinking I could not make it. I considered knocking on some doors along the way or lying down on the floor in the corridor. Somehow, I did manage to get to my room, but then collapsed into the bed. Very fortunately, my family and Jack Wiggins walked in at that moment. Though stunned, they sprung into action immediately. Jack got it right when he said, “I think he’s having a heart attack. I’m going to call and find out if they have a physician on emergency call in the hotel.” My wife, Phyllis, remembering the commercials on television, gave me an aspirin, which, as the ads say, helps open clogged arteries. If I had been alone, as I often am at Conventions, I would not have had the energy to call for help and prob-

ably would have died there that night, or else have been severely compromised by the time I was discovered.

It seemed only a few minutes later when the EMT guy looming over me was asking all kinds of mental status questions. I vaguely remember answering with grunts or my fingers. Although I was conscious and aware of what was going on around me, I do not know if he considered me to be “alert.” His quick actions got me to an Emergency Room within the “Golden Hour,” the first hour after having a heart attack. This action saved my life and may have prevented further damage to my heart.

Once inside the Emergency Room of a nearby hospital, however, my pain persisted, and I was transferred to another hospital with a Cardiac Catheterization Laboratory. Technicians in the ambulance must have been unaware that I could hear, as twice I heard them say, “This guy is in bad shape.” I wanted to say, “Thank you for sharing that!” but did not. My life depended on their care. Not until I heard them say this did I start to entertain the notion that I might really die, or that this episode might leave me seriously impaired. At that point I did not have the energy or cognitive abilities to think of being angry or scared about my condition. My survival instincts were triggered by their anxiety about my status.

Not until I awoke early the next morning in the Intensive Care Unit did I become sure that I had a heart attack. I learned that a stent had been inserted to insure my survival. I was pain free and thankful that the only tubes I had in me were one for oxygen and an IV for nutrition. I felt weak, but remarkably in good shape. I was later told that, if you must have a heart attack and arterial blockage, mine is the place where you want it to be because it does the least damage. It’s demoralizing to be hospitalized, bringing about an immediate change in my self-concept: I can no longer think of myself as young and invincible.

Shortly after 8:00 in the morning, I was on the phone with Sandy Haber. It was remarkable. Within four hours of life-saving surgery, I was feeling well enough to begin using the telephone. After that, it seemed the phone never stopped ringing. At 4:00 that afternoon, I was being honored as Division 42’s Psychologist of the Year at the APA Convention. We had arranged for the award to be presented to me live, over the telephone. A past president of Division 46, Kate Wachs, stopped by the hospital to bring me a souvenir from her Convention presentation: a framed “survivor” poster. I was overwhelmed and grateful for the many calls, visits and cards, the outpouring of well wishes, thoughts and prayers and love, which I received from my many psychology friends and colleagues during my hospitalization and recovery period. These expressions of love and support were very powerful and meaningful in my healing process.

On the third day, I was to be transferred out of ICU into a regular room. I indicated my room preference: a room with a view of the Golden Gate Bridge—after all, I was in San Francisco!

When they took me up to the eighth floor, we passed small rooms each dimly lit by a single rectangular window. The beds were all facing away from the tiny windows. I was getting more and more depressed with each room we passed. Then, at the end of the corridor, I was wheeled into my room: a large corner room having four windows on each wall, with a view of the Golden Gate Bridge Towers, the Bay and the Golden Gate Park. If I could not take any other pictures in San Francisco, this would pictorially document my experience. For the two days I was there, I watched fog roll in and out over the Towers. Unfortunately, there was no spectacular sunrise or sunset. I was mildly disappointed that the Creative Source of Our Being, the Force responsible for miraculously saving my life, did not create a magnificent skyscape for my photographs.

A couple more days there, and I was ready to leave. After discharge, going back to say good-bye to the staff and physicians of the ICU, I was dressed in black, a camera hanging from my neck, and on the receiving end of strange stares from them. Their eyes at first seemed to be saying, "You look familiar, but who are you?" Quickly, recognition set in from the nurses who had taken care of me. They could not at first fathom that, yes, I was the guy just discharged from ICU because, at that moment, I did not have the look of a person who recently had a heart attack and stent insertion. I had regained sufficient strength to walk, talk, and smile without signs of exertion.

I experienced our national terror of September 11 during the early stages of my recovery. I identified intensely with the vulnerability that victims, their families and friends feel. I wanted to help however I could, but I was then still at home recuperating and not yet working. So, I could not go on an extended "outing" when the Red Cross called me as a member of the Disaster Mental Health Response Network. However, I was able to begin making local media appearances to discuss how to help children cope with the anxiety of terrorism and how to ease fears of flying. Richmond colleagues said that seeing these televised interviews told them I was well along the road to recovery. Watching the interviews gave one psychologist "a sense of relief and reassurance for all of us that bad things can happen to people, and they can bounce back." Providing services to others, contributing to our community, helping our neighbors in distress was heart healing for me. Sitting at home any longer, resting to recover and reduce the stress in my life, would have only served to produce a paradoxical effect within me: increasing my stress.

The following week, another tragedy hit. About 17 members of the Richmond Dive Club were caught in a hurricane in Belize and lost their lives. I was one of the three psychologists who helped the families of these victims. Although my primary care physician advised that I should be home resting and recuperating, I saw these activities as helping to heal my heart. Later in the Fall, at the Virginia Academy of Clinical Psychologists convention, I was invited to share my experiences offering therapy to Richmond Dive Club families.

Bob Resnick described my heart attack as "a shot across the

bow"—a wake-up call. To me it was the gift of a second chance. This time, I am making health a top priority. I am changing my lifestyle, my diet, and my professional practice. While I try to not to make it the only focus of my life, I do feel very much like a thankful and hearty survivor. ❖

Subscribe to Division 46 Listserv

Looking for a forum to join with others interested in a dialogue about Media Psychology issues? To subscribe to the Division's listserv, send an e-mail to:

listserv@lists.apa.org

In the subject line, type **subscribe**.

In the message section, type

subscribe DIV46-MEDIAPSYCHyourfirstnameyourlastname.

Amplifier Statement

The Amplifier is published three times a year by APA Division 46, the Division of Media Psychology. Unsolicited contributions from members are welcomed and encouraged. Send articles directly to the Newsletter Editor (loupero@infi.net). Deadlines for receipt of articles are as follows: March 1 for Spring Issue; June 1 for Summer Issue; and October 1 for Fall Double Issue. Articles submitted must be relevant to media psychology and should not have been published elsewhere. Authors should ensure that their articles are in accord with APA guidelines regarding client confidentiality, use of research participants, format, etc.

APA February 2002 Council Meeting

Lilli Friedland, Council Representative

Our APA Council of Representatives February meeting was characterized by energy and creativity. Our president, Phil Zimbardo, implemented new strategies during the meetings—such as stretch breaks and “open mike” times (time used for any Council members to bring up issues of interest). Council finished with the business items on the agenda on Saturday and then voted to not adjourn early, but rather to use Sunday’s time for visioning and planning for the future. The exciting aspect of this Council meeting was the determination of Council to move in the direction of leading, not just managing, the association.

Commitment to Leadership, Future Planning and Developing Alternative Strategies

More than eleven new business items were generated in the Sunday session, primarily related to long-range strategic planning and ways to strengthen Council’s leadership roles. A primary focus of the new direction is to establish a structure for ongoing organizational renewal and future planning. The new energy of Council is to become more proactive and ready to accept the challenges of leadership for psychology and APA.

Ethics Code

There was a presentation of the latest update of the Ethics code. The Ethics Task Force continues to seek input from individuals, divisions, and committees on the ethics code. Division 46 also is requesting its members to look at the ethics code and give feedback to the task force. There are provisions that specifically focus on issues of media psychology and the use of the new technologies, such as 5.04 Media Presentations, 5.02 Statements by Others in the Advertising and Other Public Representations section, and 3.10 Informed Success via Electronic Transmission. There are many other sections that affect the media psychology. The document can be reached by going to www.apa.org/ethics. There are plans to bring the revised Ethics Code to the Council floor in Chicago in August.

Task Force on Psychological Testing on the Internet

Additional funds of \$7,000 were voted to convene another meeting on the Task Force on Psychological Testing on the Internet. This is already allocated monies to enable the task force to meet, as they were only able to meet once in 2001, and two meetings had been scheduled. Many issues pertinent to Division 46, related to media and the new technologies and psychology, will be addressed by this task force.

Convention

President Phil Zimbardo announced that the Convention’s Opening Ceremonies keynote speaker will be Studs Terkel. There was a presentation about the new format for this year’s convention, for example, shorter format, multi-divisional presentations, and evaluation of this new format.

Principles/Guidelines/Standards

Among the action items was the “Principles for Education and Train-

ing at the Doctoral and Post-Doctoral Level in Consulting Psychology/Organizational Psychology.” Though action was deferred on this item, the issue of competencies and standards were raised. A discussion ensued as to whether the terms *suggestions*, *principles*, or *guidelines* would or could be seen as criteria for competence or standards for psychologists. Jim McHugh, Esq. Chief legal counsel to APA, stated that it is not the title that is of concern, but rather the manner in which the document is written in judging as to whether they might be used as standards.

Budget

The budget is tight. Discussion revolved around the relatively stable number of members and the declining income derived from publications.

In a related action, Council voted to approve \$100,000 for a membership recruitment and retention fund to be used to identify and develop programs targeted at students and early career psychologists, and also to recruit among community college and high school teachers.

Licensure Challenges

Council approved revising APA’s policy on challenges to the doctoral standard for psychology licensure by adopting a position upholding the use of the terms *psychological* or *psychologist* to refer only to licensed PhDs. This is an extension of recognizing the requirement for PhD in existing, and now extending this requirement to new, state statutes.

President Zimbardo’s Vision

President Zimbardo, in an effort to use media and proactive strategies to reach a broader audience, is initiating the development of a compendium of research that has made a difference in psychology. He has urged that psychologists contribute to this effort by identifying research studies that have made a difference in their area of expertise! Members were encouraged to complete an on-line survey at <http://research.apa.org/survey/compendium>. The compendium that is produced will be a valuable record of psychology’s value and strength, and will allow APA to help policy and decision makers use psychological science and knowledge.

Children’s Mental Health

Council approved the report of the APA Working Group on Children’s Mental Health: *Developing Psychology’s National Agenda for Children’s Mental Health; APA’s Response to the Surgeon General’s Action Agenda for Children’s Mental Health*. In another motion, Council voted \$13,000 for the task force to meet to develop a plan to implement the agenda.

Division on Psychopharmacology

Council approved a new division of pharmacotherapy. It is anticipated that this is the precursor for promoting interest of graduate students in pharmacotherapy and to facilitate state psychological associations seeking legislative authority for psychologists to prescribe.

Family Psychology as a Specialty

Council approved CRSPPP’s recommendation to recognize family

psychology as a specialty in professional psychology.

Book of Women of Color Leader Psychologists

Council voted \$15,000 to publish a book on women of color leader psychologists. This book would be a positive example of role models for students.

Student Vote on Council

Council did not vote on whether to give APAGs, the association of graduate students, a vote on Council. Currently there are approximately 60,000 student members, out of the approximate 159,000 total APA members. Though Council values and respects the input of the student members, there is mixed sentiment about giving students a vote.

There was comment from the floor speaking against voting privileges for APAGS because (a) APA is an association of full members (though welcoming associate and student members) and (b) the practice of giving representation to designated subgroups had never been done by APA (for example, full members in previously underrepresented groups, such as women, ethnic minorities, or disabled, gay, lesbian, or bisexual members, had never been given a vote. So the question is raised as to why we would give a vote to non-full members of APA).

Competencies Conference

Council voted to contribute to the Competencies Conference.❖

Report of the 2003 Nominations and Elections Committee

Elizabeth K. Carll, PhD
Div 46 President-elect and N&E Chair

Congratulations to the following Division 46 members who have been nominated for 2003 offices.

President-elect:
 Eve Fisher-Whitmore
 Louis Perrott

Secretary:
 Sarah Benolken
 Leslie Drozd

Member-at-large (3 seats open):
 Rochelle Balter
 Irene Deitch
 Harriet Schultz
 Dorothy Singer
 Kate Wachs
 Martin Williams❖



Division 46 Media Mavens Talent Show: Encore! Encore!

Florence Kaslow, PhD
Director/Producer

The show must go on. And so it did at the 2001 Convention, first at Norine Johnson's Presidential Reception and then again at the Division 46 Social Hour. The variety show, which featured singers, comedians, and musicians, played to a standing-room-only crowd on Friday night in San Francisco town.

The crowd cheered for the Division 35 choral group, led by Jackie Gentry and numbering amongst its luminary vocalists Dorothy Cantor and Lenore Walker. Soloists included Laura Brown doing torch songs and Phyllis Koch-Sheras performing operatic selections. Irene Deitch led off with stand up comedy. David Shapiro's Yiddish *DSM-IV* was witty and wonderful, and the Texas Blues Brothers scored another big hit. Don David Lusterman's classical piano selections kept our foray into high culture way up there.

We appreciated the piano accompaniments by Chris Kitchmar on Friday night and Stan Moldawsky on Monday night. Also want to thank Liz Kaplinski and Judy Strassburger from the APA Executive Office, for so ably assisting us in insuring the success of the show. We were also pleased that the Division 52 (International Psychology) co-sponsored and co-hosted the social hour and talent show, together with Division 46 on Monday.

We are truly delighted that President Philip Zimbardo has asked us to do the 2002 version of the Media Mavens Talent Show in Chicago at the President's Grand Ball. At press time, names of star performers must still remain a big secret. Any talented individual(s) who enjoy performing can contact me directly at: kaslowfs@worldnet.att.net or by fax at 561-625-0320

ALL ABOARD FOR CHICAGO!❖

Media Watch Committee Report: Division 46 Midwinter Board Meeting

Harriet T. Schultz, PhD, Chair, Media Watch Committee

The MWC now has 30 members who conduct an active email exchange as we monitor fictional portrayals of mental health professionals in movies and TV. Over the last few years we developed a rating system to rate both the professional/ethical behavior of the fictional professionals and the way in which the producers portrayed them. We have also created the Golden Psi award, which we give to a show's producers for excellence in the responsible portrayal of the mental health professional—meaning that the producers depict either very appropriate professional/ethical behavior or, if the behavior is not professional or ethical, the producers highlight it as such.

At the 2001 APA Convention we honored two TV shows with the Golden Psi award. *Law & Order* was cited for two episodes and *Once and Again* for two episodes. The Fall Amplifier described the episodes and why the committee found them worthy. We received gracious and humorous thank you notes from the producers, and these were quoted in the Amplifier as well. A story about the Golden Psi awards, written by Karen Peterson, appeared in *USA Today*, and the *APA Monitor* also ran an article about the awards.

Other recent media articles that our committee contributed to include:

2001 December 3 *USA Today* — "Schizophrenia and 'Beautiful Mind' experts divided on portrayal." Our committee was solicited for opinions about the film "A Beautiful Mind."

2001 August 27 *USA Today* — "TV episodes win for couching therapy in realism." — a story about the Golden Psi awards.

2001 May *Psychologie Magazine* (Netherlands) — "DePsihiater is gek"— a story written in Dutch about our committee.

2001 April 9 *Knight-Ridder News Service* — "Prime time gets serious about therapy, thanks to Sopranos"

At the 2001 APA Convention committee members Drs. Beverly Paden and Stephen Dine Young presented their research in a symposium entitled, "Analyze This 2: Motivations and Professionalism of Hollywood's Movie Psychologists." Shirley Glass and Harriet T. Schultz were Co-Chairs, Dr. Glass was the Discussant.

The committee is presenting a symposium at the 2002 Convention focusing on how fictional portrayals influence our patients and students, using examples from our offices and classrooms. We are excited about this since it is the first time we have systematically examined this topic. Presenters will be Drs. Mary Gregerson, Dana Wasserman, Shirley Maides-Keane, and Angela Lipsitz. Dr. Schultz is Chair; Dr. Glass is Discussant.❖

Convention Preview: Living Longer and Living Better: Health Psychology at the Cutting Edge

*Alan Entin, PhD, ABPP
Cluster Program Chair*

As you are probably already aware, the APA Annual Convention in Chicago has been dramatically revamped and the Convention shortened.

Every day there will be a Convention **Plenary Session** with sufficiently broad appeal for all psychologists so that everyone will want to attend these sessions, and against which no other programs will compete for time.

Then, there will be what are called “**Cluster Programs.**” All APA Divisions were asked to select four other divisions with whom they would like to form clusters, divisions having similar interests. Division 46 has been included in the “Practice Cluster,” together with the Divisions of Psychotherapy (29), Independent Practice (42), Psychoanalysis (39), and State Psychological Associations (31). The times for the 15 different Cluster Programs will be set out in competing times, one against the others. All will be on Thursday afternoon and Saturday morning. Some will offer CE credits.

Finally, there will also be the **standard division programming**, against which all divisions will be competing for audience time in the usual format. However, this year there will be fewer of these hours available because of the revamped format and condensed time of the Convention.

Our Cluster will focus on the Life Cycle of Clinical Practice, with Thursday conceptualized as the “business” of and Saturday as the “process” of clinical practice.

There will be an array of programs, including a Conversation Hour on Legacies of Clinical Life, a symposium on Finding a Balance Between Clinical and Personal Life, a workshop on Starting and Maintaining a Private Practice, and a symposium on Political Advocacy, to name a few.

I am especially excited about the Symposium I organized around the theme of Living Longer and Living Better: Health Psychology at the Cutting Edge. First off, we are very fortunate to have with us two speakers well known for their work in the area of cardiovascular fitness and longevity. **Dean Ornish, MD**, will speak on “How to Use Health Psychology to Avoid the Cutting Edge.” Dr. Ornish is internationally known for his nutritional approaches to dealing with and reversing cardiovascular disease. **Steven Blair, PED**, is Director of Research at the Cooper Institute in Dallas and internationally known for his work in the area of cardiovascular disease and exercise. Also presenting parts of my symposium will be **Lilli Friedland, PhD**, who is an expert in

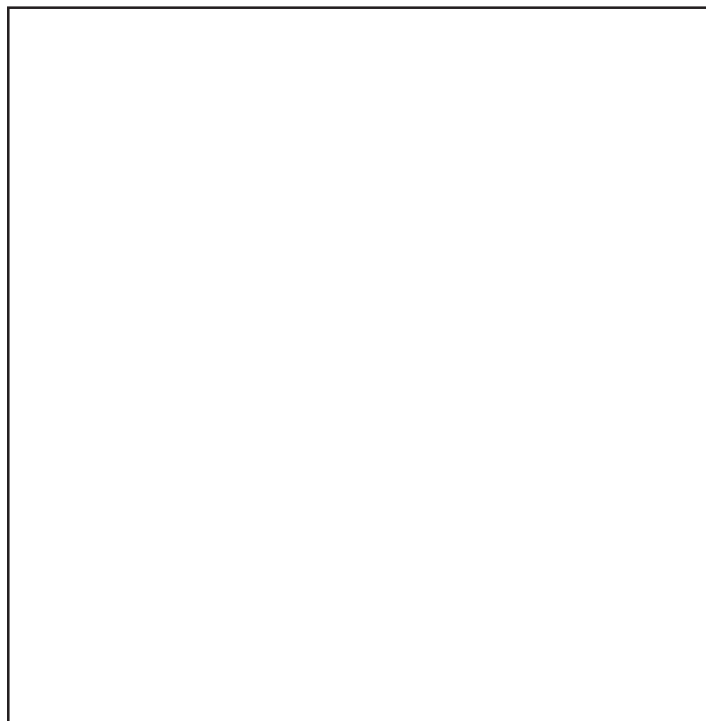
Telehealth and long distance learning, and **Patricia Pimental, PsyD**, who will discuss her innovative multidisciplinary work in pain management, her area of professional expertise. This program is scheduled for Saturday morning.

We sincerely hope that you will find all these offerings informative, innovative, and exciting. Please plan to attend the Convention in Chicago and support all the Division of Media Psychology programs, its Social Hour, and special events. ❖

People News

Alan Entin, PhD, Division 46 President in 2000, received a Golden Psi Award honoring him in this regard (see picture). Because Alan was unavailable to receive the award at the 2001 APA Convention because of his recent health problem, the award was presented to him by Lou Perrott at the Fall Convention of the Virginia Psychological Association in November.

Former Division 46 President **Irene Deitch, PhD**, continues to make regular media appearances. She was interviewed on “Healing the Wounds” for *Time Magazine*, “Humor and Stress” for the *Washington Post* (Health Section), and “The First Holiday Following Loss” for the *New York Daily News*. She also did a radio program on “Coping with Crisis,” together with Dr. Roberta Vogel, on WSIA FM radio. ❖



“Survivor” Alan Entin receives the Golden Psi Award for his 2000 Presidency, presented by Lou Perrott at the Fall Convention of the Virginia Psychological Association.

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Division 46 Listserv and Website

Join the Division 46 listserv by sending an e-mail to the listserv@lists.apa.org address. Leave the subject line blank. In the message, type the following: **subscribe DIV46-MEDIAPSYCH first name last name**

Also, be sure to check out our website, created and designed by Joe Ceniti. The website is located at www.apa.org/divisions/div46.

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