

**Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education
Meeting Minutes
December 2-4, 2011**

In attendance

Members:

Joan Lucariello	Acting Chair, Board on Scientific Affairs
Mary Pitoniak	Division 5 – Evaluation, Measurement and Statistics
Adam Winsler	Division 7 – Developmental Psychology
Sylvia Rosenfield	Division 13 – Counseling Psychology
Eric Anderman	Division 15 – Educational Psychology
Ron Marx	Division 15 – Educational Psychology
Bonnie Nastasi	Division 16 – School Psychology
Hardin Coleman	Division 17 – Society of Counseling Psychology
Isaac Prilleltensky	Division 27 – Community Psychology
Mary Brabeck	Division 35 – Psychology of Women
Peter Sheras	Division 46 – Media Psychology
Andy Horne	Division 51 – Psychological Study of Men and Masculinity
George DuPaul	Division 53 – Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology
Markeda Newell	Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs
Sam Ortiz	Committee on Psychological Testing and Assessment
Jason Young	Psi Chi
Roseanne Flores	Committee on Children, Youth and Families

Staff:

Rena Subotnik	Center for Psychology in Schools and Education
Cynthia Belar	Education Directorate
Ashley Edmiston	Center for Psychology in Schools and Education
Maie Lee	Center for Psychology in Schools and Education
Jennifer Smulson	Education Government Relations
Kerry Bolger	Public Interest Government Relations

Cynthia Belar's update on the Education Directorate

- APA is involved in a strategic planning process, exploring themes such as how to prepare the next generation of psychologists to work in interdisciplinary teams. The topic of Team Training extended to the recent Educational Leadership Conference where the theme focused on interdisciplinary research and practice.
 - APA is currently reinvesting surplus funds into publications in order to increase revenues across the organization, although increased revenues aren't expected to be seen until 2013 or 2014. The biggest changes in publications will include the licensing databases and infrastructure.
- Dr. Belar recently presented at a National Research Council hosted meeting on the *History of Efforts to Include SBE Sciences in K-12 Education: Rationales, Goals, and Empirical Basis*. The focus of her presentation was on psychology as a STEM discipline, but also how psychological science is used in STEM education. In the 2005 paper, "Mapping the Backbone of Science", Boyak et al quantified a number of sub-disciplines in science

using a series of algorithms that primarily looked at journals and databases and found that Psychology was in fact its own knowledge hub. The topic of psychology as a science vs a social science in K-12 education was of special interest to the Coalition, and members wondered if there was a role for the Coalition. The general consensus is that there currently isn't enough discussion about it at APA, and thus should be made more of a priority.

Jenny Smulson and Kerry Bolger's update on Advocacy

- Elementary and Secondary Education Act: The senate committee has voted for the reauthorization of a draft bill.
- APA has contributed to bill revisions in the following areas:
 - Growth model
 - Prohibition on Zero Tolerance Policies
 - Provided language about translating science into practice
- Coalition members were concerned about how people on the hill defined "evidence based".
 - APA should provide some language assistance in ensuring that the use of certain vocabulary is actually workable and realistic.
 - Other Reauthorizations that are coming up: SAMSHA, IDEA, Higher Ed, IES
- Ways the Coalition can help:
 - Jenny will send out a list of words to the Coalition to help define
 - Jenny will send out a list of items that were left out of the current revision of ESEA
 - Coalition members should provide terms and programs to Jenny and Kerry to look for in the current Act. They will see how and if they are mentioned as a basis for future recommendations.

Rena Subotnik's update on current CPSE projects

- CPSE is staffing a BEA initiative to recognize schools that promote effective learning environments. An award will be given based on the criteria developed by a BEA task force to a school in the vicinity of the APA convention.
- CPSE is staffing a presidential task force on addressing educational disparities. The group is distinguishing the dominant explanations of SES and resource variables from those variables that are psychological in nature. The report should be ready for the March consolidated board meetings.
- CPSE staffed a BSA/BEA task force that generated suggested initiatives for APA to pursue in preparing future psychologists to participate optimally in multidisciplinary team science.
- Gifted education: (1) *Rethinking Giftedness and Gifted Education: A Proposed Direction Forward Based on Psychological Science* in Psychological Science in the Public Interest authored by Rena Subotnik, Frank Worrell, and Paula Olszewski-Kubilius. (2) APA is collaborating on an upcoming volume called *Malleable Minds: Translating Insights from Psychology and Neuroscience to Gifted Education*. (3) CPSE is taking the lead in an NSF sponsored study of the impact of specialized science high schools on the science pipeline.

Current Coalition Projects – Updates and Discussions

1. Teaming

Lead: Sylvia Rosenfield

Other Coalition members: John Fenning (skype), Isaac Prilleltensky, Markeda Newell, Karin Hodges

Overview: Teams are an organizational regularity in K-12 schools. Although teams can be a strong resource for improvement and reform, members often struggle with making their teams successful in reaching their objectives. The Coalition is developing a module to support school teams to function more effectively, by applying psychological knowledge and research to their practice.

Content: The group created a list of different steps/stages for creating a team and deciding on the use of the team for a particular problem.

1. Readiness for training	2. Organizing yourself for the team	3. Team Itself	
Resources – time, space, schedules	School professionals may be unclear about what other people do	Factors that Inhibit	Factors that facilitate
Academic calendar – stopping, starting, summers	Selection may be arbitrary and not always just based on expertise	Unions	Improve student outcomes
	Mandated vs non-mandated teams	Labor Rules	Social support
		How long they can participate	High stakes context
		Accountability	Foster cohesion in school climate
		Tardiness and attendance	Provide fun and interpersonal support
		Unpredictable environment	
		Coordination and communication	
		Teachers feeling isolated	
		Teacher identity	

Next steps:

- The group will hold a conference call in the next couple of weeks.
- Eduardo Salas will review the work conducted by the coalition group and integrate it into the next iteration of module development, which will be presented at the June Coalition meeting.

2. Matrix article

Lead: Joan Lucariello

Other Coalition members: Mary Brabeck, Jane Conoley, Jason Young, Bonnie Nastasi, Adam Winsler, Mary Pitoniak, Sam Ortiz

Overview: As part of the initial research for the Core Psychology project, Coalition members identified a list of “drop dead” topics that should be included as part of the teacher education curriculum. These topics were

cross referenced with other publications and manuals dealing with of the knowledge and skill base for teacher education. The outcome was a foundational matrix. The Coalition is developing a publication based on the matrix, using the Institute of Medicine document *Improving Medical Education: Enhancing the Behavioral and Social Science Content of Medical School Curricula* as a model (http://books.nap.edu/openbook.php?record_id=10956&page=56). The matrix article can be used as a means to advocate with state certification programs, as well for designing new programs (both traditional and alternative) and revising current ones. **Look at IOM Book on drop-dead behavioral issues that should be incorporated into physician training.

Goals and next steps:

- List of drop dead issues are now down to 21 and more balanced in terms of breadth and specificity.
- Each one will be described and the list distributed to the Coalition and NSF grant group.
- Hoped for outcomes: Article for teachers, policy paper, advice for accreditation, NSF conference.
- Related to NSF conference, perhaps connect to an NSF PI conference, also see if anyone knows someone at IOM to talk about the process they followed in preparing their 2004 book.
- Check for related proposals from other psychologists
 - Division 15 – interest in collaboration? Eric and Ron will ask the president

3. Dissemination of Coalition projects

Coalition members: Hardin Coleman, Andy Horne, Peter Sheras, Roseanne Flores, George DuPaul

Overview: The Coalition decided to take on a project focusing on dissemination and marketing of Coalition projects and materials in order to reach as broad an audience as possible.

Content:

- During the development of new products, it's important to keep in mind how they will be used and what primary and secondary audiences are being targeted.
 - For example, many of the modules developed for teachers are being used by school psychologists as training modules for their workshops. Developing a set of training resources may be something to include for future modules.
- Identify the coalition's we need to build about soliciting ideas about what they need and what kinds of modules they want?
 - Teachers, Principals, Great City School, APA Members (and Deans), AERA, NSF, School Boards, Donors, Ed Reform, NAIS, Superintendents, State Education Commissioners, AACTE, NASP, CADREI, Council Urban Boards of Education, Department of Education, ASCA, ACA
- Identify places we go to regularly and develop a protocol set of questions:

For these groups, create a boilerplate message from the Coalition that can be passed on

- What do you worry about most?
- What's missing in your world?
- What would make a big difference for you?
- Where do you get information support that's most useful?
- What role does psychology play in your major challenges?
- How can we get your group more access to materials?
- Follow up after 1 week
- Consider the types of materials to be developed and the timing of the advertising
 - Materials: modules, white papers, web sites, newsletters, articles, blogs, social media, mobile app.
 - Consider timing: Summer, just after the school year has begun, convention

Next Steps:

- Develop a CPSE logo to be used with marketing efforts
- Look into the development of an app
- To the Coalition: Send out (1.) a questionnaire online to find out what groups coalition members meet with regularly and (2.) a draft of the questions.
- Create a boilerplate message that can be easily sent out to coalition members' divisions and colleagues that include links to products and can be easily updated.
- Develop a checklist of communication for when a new product is launched.
- Develop a Power point presentation (5-6 slides) of ALL of the products that can be taken around to different conferences and continually updated.

4. Update - NSF Grant Proposal on 3rd grade Science Modules

Coalition members: Mary Brabeck, Eric Anderman, Ron Marx, Rena Subotnik

Overview: This project is designed to identify and translate research from psychological science central to topics that aspiring teachers should master to be effective in the PreK-12 science classroom. In collaboration with colleagues in science education, the project aspires to create a series of modules applying psychological science to the preparation of teachers in elementary science education. Small teams of researchers, scientists and teachers affiliated with Georgia State University, University of Maryland and Teach For America have been formed to serve as consultants in the development of the modules, each focusing on 6 evidence based strategies.

Next steps: The proposal will be submitted to NSF by January 10, 2012

5. Update: Social- Emotional Learning Project

Lead: Hardin Coleman

Overview: This project will help teachers to include social-emotional development in classrooms. The purpose of the Coalition module will be to help teachers be prepared to facilitate social-emotional competencies in pupils. Although the idea sounds logical and beneficial, implementing is the real challenge.

Next Steps:

- Goal of proposed project is to get SEL into teacher education
- After looking over Collaborative for Academic, Social and Emotional Learning (CASEL <http://casel.org/>) website, wondering how we can be helpful to them, since they have been so comprehensive in their approach.
- Possibly invite a CASEL rep to our next meeting.

6. Update: Creativity Module

Lead: Steven Pritzker

Overview: This module will provide evidence based content for teachers to strategies to implement creativity in the classroom. A good portion of the module will consist of interviews with an array of experts to provide teachers with practical ideas for the classroom. Themes in the module will include: (1.) Understanding the nature of classroom creativity; (2.) How teachers can nurture student creativity; (3.) How teachers can nurture their own creativity; and (4.) Building from here – Resources to build and sustain their efforts.

Current status: Interviews are being filmed and production of the module should be completed in 2012.

Discussion of potential new topics for Coalition

- Modules or white papers on: (1) Myths or misconceptions about psychological topics – e.g. learning styles, or (2) Leadership
- “Wellness in your Hands” classroom video game targeting K-12 student population.

Meeting with NSF – Joan Ferrini-Mundy, PhD, Directorate of Education and Human Resources

Dr. Ferrini-Mundy’s presentation established links with psychology through the history of science education at the NSF starting with Sputnik, Jerome Bruner and the important curriculum development movements that were led by key psychologists over time. She also displayed lists of currently funded projects that address psychological science directly and also in multidisciplinary form. She welcomed additional participation of the Coalition and APA in the Education Directorate at NSF including the recruitment of reviewers and rotators to serve as program officers. CPSE sent Dr. Ferrini-Mundy a list of ten people from the Coalition willing to serve as reviewers right away if their area of expertise is needed.

Ideas that emerged from the discussion:

Applying for Funding:

- Apply for research grant on analyzing-synthesizing what have been EHR's top ten (most successful) interventions
- Apply for NSF conference funds to develop the matrix project
- Apply for RAPIDS funding for research related to time-sensitive situations (e.g., natural disasters)

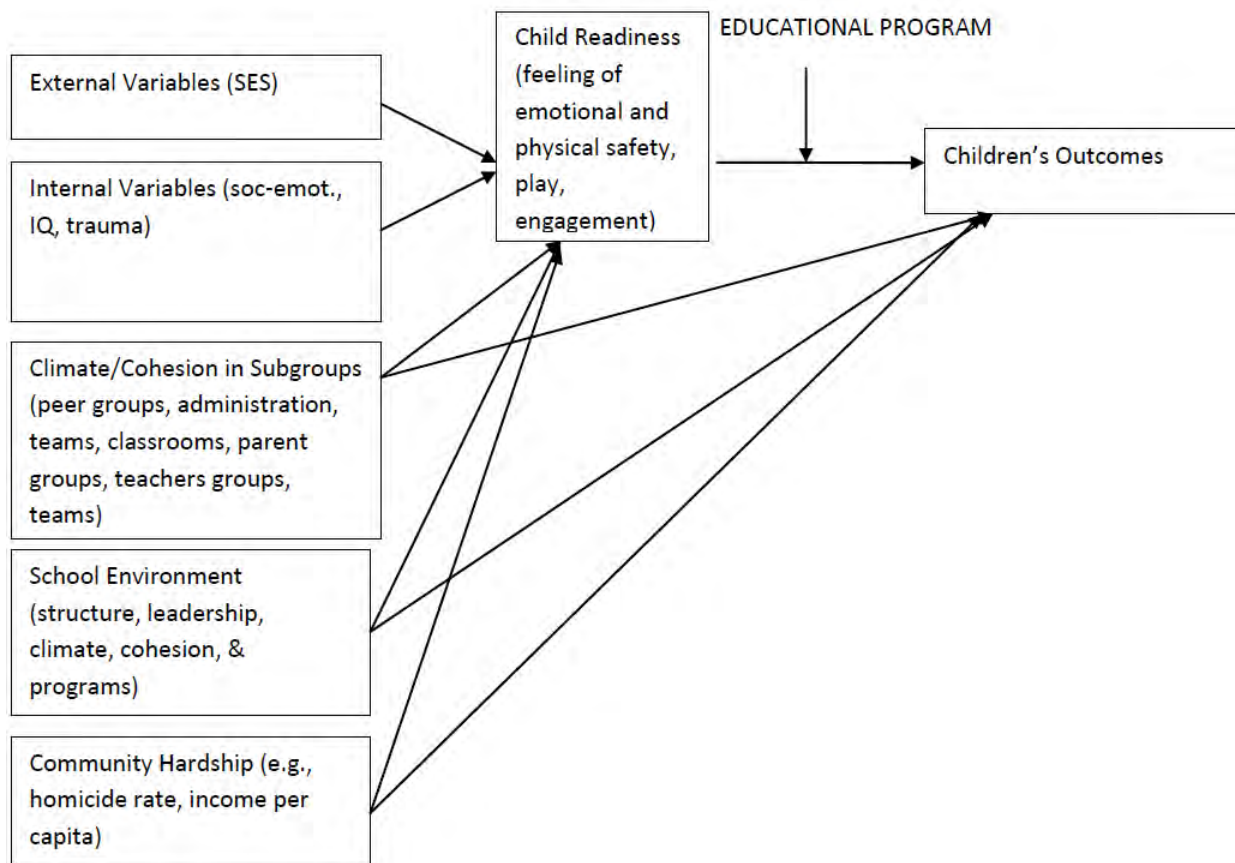
Other Actions Coalition and APA Could Take

- Hosting NSF Graduate Research Fellows in Psychology
- Serving as reviewers for EHR generally and for Graduate Research Fellows program specifically. Also encourage applications to this program as funding amount by field is proportional based on number of submissions
- APA visiting NSF to explain work of Coalition and ways that the two organizations could collaborate.
- Coalition Meeting as part of NSF's regular convening of their PIs as a way to build their capacity
- Helping NSF develop a stronger mechanism for assessing implementation.
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Addressing the Issue of Implementation, As Discussed at the Meeting of the Coalition for Schools and Education Karin Hodges, PsyD

Educational programs are often difficult to implement broadly to a wide range of schools. In order to test implementation of an education program, many factors ought to be considered. External factors include the child’s socioeconomic status, various school-based group experiences (peer group experiences, classroom), and the community in which the child lives. These external factors represent the context in which the child learns.

Internal to the child is his or her intelligence and resilience. The combination of external and internal factors may interact and influence the child's readiness and ability to absorb material being taught within a school. Often, we see investigators look at either internal or external factors in isolation, either leaving out context and individual child's capacity to work with the learning and living environment. However, internal and external factors interact and influence the individual's ability to make use of educational experiences. Investigators might want to ask, "For whom and in which schools and communities are particular educational programs beneficial." Within an implementation study, an investigator would benefit from considering the use of multilevel structural equation modeling to analyze the effect of a program.



Possible speakers for next meeting - Wallace foundation and principal training or Roger Weissberg from CASEL

Conferences

- Markeda Newell's proposal to NASP to talk about CPSE modules was accepted. The session is 1.5 hours. Feb 23, 2012. Get any thoughts to Markeda (newell@uwm.edu) about what to focus on. Markeda can send out her power point for others to use and possible as use as a boilerplate presentation.
- CPSE staff will send out list of upcoming conferences to Coalition members, asking them to their put name next to ones they are already planning to attend, and whether they would be willing to present something on the Coalition

Next Steps:

- Group sharing – CPSE will set up a Google Docs site to allow members to edit materials

We would like to welcome Joan Lucariello as the new Coalition Chair beginning June 2012.

Thank you to Jane Conoley for serving as a wonderful Coalition Chair!

NEXT MEETING: June 1-3, 2012