



AMERICAN
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August 2010 – January 2011

Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs

**Staff of the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs
During the Reporting Period**

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Overview

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.” During the period August 2010 to January 2011, OEMA’s activities continued to be limited due to budgetary constraints and the loss of 2 additional professional staff members (Sr. Director due to retirement; Program Officer due to resignation and elimination of related FTE) -- bringing the OEMA staff complement to 33% of its 2008 level. During the current report period, OEMA engaged in the following efforts.

Communications

- Produced and disseminated the August 2010 issue of **the OEMA Communique Newsjournal**, which featured a special section on *Indigenous peoples: Promoting psychological healing and well-being* and other noteworthy information. Available at: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/communique/index.aspx>
- Conceptualized, solicited articles, and initiated development of the forthcoming Spring 2011 issue of the **Communique**, which will include a special section on the histories and contributions to psychology of the four national ethnic minority psychological associations.
- Continued other ongoing efforts such as (a) maintaining and updating the **OEMA database** of information on over 3100 psychologists of color; (b) updating and managing **the OEMA Website** (<http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/>) (c) coordinating with the official magazine of the APA, *The Monitor on Psychology*, in developing articles on topics related to ethnic minority concerns, submitting announcements for OEMA related activities and programs in 2011; and responding to inquiries from members and the general public.

Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention, and Training Initiatives

- On behalf of CEMRRAT2 Task Force, coordinated the competition and ultimate selection of the 2010 ***Suinn Minority Achievement Award for Excellence in Ethnic Minority Recruitment and Training*** and facilitated the award presentation ceremony. See: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/recruitment/commission.aspx>
- On behalf of CEMA, managed and coordinated the competition and selection process of the 2010 ***Jeffrey S. Tanaka Memorial Dissertation Award*** and coordinated its award presentation ceremony. See: <http://www.apa.org/about/awards/tanaka-award.aspx>

- As a result of restoration of related 2010 funding, OEMA engaged in numerous activities related to the planning and on-site management of the 2010 *Diversity Project 2KB (DP2KB)* 4-day Summer Institute for community college honor students of color interested in pursuing a career in psychology, which will be co-sponsored by APA (OEMA and the Education Directorate), NIDA, and Psi Beta Honor Society. See: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/recruitment/dp2kb.aspx>
- For a second year, all annual funding (\$100,000 including \$25,000 in staff costs/ year) for the *CEMRRAT Implementation Grants Fund program* was eliminated by COR action. OEMA staff was unable to continue to solicit progress and final reports on previously funded projects or to submit a grants status report to COR. For more information: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/recruitment/grants-awarded.pdf>
- Federal funding of the NIGMS funded project on *Expanding Minority Biomedical Research Talent in Psychology (the "APA/NIGMS Project")*, terminated on July 31, 2009 after providing intensive behavioral and biomedical research mentorships and supportive academic services to more than 700 ethnic minority undergraduate students over a 13 year period. Consequently, efforts focused on completion of a Project Final Report. See: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/recruitment/nigms.aspx>

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. Related OEMA efforts included:

- Despite continued funding reductions, OEMA solicited applications, coordinated review and selection, and coordinated grant award processes for the four 2010 awardees of OEMA's *Promoting Psychological Research and Training on Health Disparities Issues (ProDIGs)* grants to early career faculty at minority-serving institutions. Four applicants were each awarded approximately \$6500 for research activities preliminary to preparation of a major research/training grant, as well as additional funding of approximately \$2700 to support their mandatory attendance at the 7-day 2010 MFP/PSI professional development institute. See: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/disparities/index.aspx>
- Due to staffing shortages, OEMA was unable to disseminate an **e-newsletter targeted to psychology departments at minority serving institutions**. This is an important project that OEMA will consider implementing once again as staff support improves.

National Ethnic Minority Psychological Associations and of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Interests (CNPAEMI)

OEMA provides staff support to the Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Interests (CNPAEMI), which consists of the presidents (or their designees) of APA, Division 45, and the four national ethnic minority psychological associations. See: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/associations.aspx>.

OEMA assistance included the following:

- Management and coordination of follow-up activities and actions resulting from CNPAEMI's summer meeting in June, held in conjunction with the APA Division 45 Inaugural Research Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- Facilitated communication and network development associated with CNPAEMI's projects and concerns e.g., voting seats on the APA COR for the four ethnic minority psychological associations, development and funding requests for a Leadership Development Institute, development of an informational brochure on tests and assessment.
- Coordinated the competition process and selection of CNPAEMI's *2011 Henry Tomes Awards for Distinguished Contributions to Ethnic Minority Psychology* – one award for Distinguished Lifetime Contributions and one award to an Emerging Leader. See: <http://www.apa.org/about/awards/pubint-tomes.aspx>

Governance Support

OEMA provided continuing staff support to:

- **APA Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA)**, including (a) providing staffing assistance in support of proposal development and securing of hours for its 2010 convention programs; (b) announcement of 2010 call for nominations for both CEMA and its dissertation award; (c) coordinating CEMA's review and comment on various proposals, and (d) staffing its Fall 2010 meeting, including agendabook development and coordinating related follow-up actions.. For more information: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/committee/index.aspx>
- **Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training in Psychology II Task Force (CEMRRAT2 TF)**. Efforts included: (a) coordinating the development of its 2011 convention program on human resources development to address health disparities; and (b) planning for its 2011 annual meeting including agenda book development and related activities. For more information: <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/recruitment/commission.aspx>

Conventions and Conferences Attended

In consideration of budgetary limitations, OEMA staff has attended few out-of-town conferences. Meetings and conferences attended:

- August 10-11: OEMA Acting Senior Director presents workshop session on psychology careers during the DP2kB Summer Institute.
- August 12-15: OEMA Acting Senior Director presents on two symposia during APA's annual convention in San Diego, California; leads a discussion on graduate student funding during a conversation hour held in the Division 45 Hospitality Suite, and attends the Division 45 Executive Committee meeting.
- October 22: OEMA Acting Senior Director attends National Latino Behavioral Health Association briefing, *Addressing Mental Health Disparities through Community Driven Research and Practice: The Community Defined Evidence Project (CDEP)*
- October 24: OEMA Acting Senior Director attends and reports on OEMA activities during the Division 45 Strategic Planning Retreat in Washington, DC
- November 11-13: OEMA Acting Senior Director attends the National Latina/o Psychological Association (NLPA) conference.
- January 24: OEMA Acting Senior Director presents information during a plenary session to members attending the Division Leadership Conference.