

Report to the APA Council of Representatives

The Public Interest Directorate
February, 2006 – August, 2006

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Highlights of Recent Public Interest Directorate Office Activities:

- BAPPI, supported by Public Interest Directorate Executive Office staff and members continues to focus its attention on issues related to poverty and its impact on public interest constituencies and interest groups; enhancing diversity within APA governance and staffing; and infusion/integration of the Guidelines on Multicultural Education, Training, Research, Practice, and Organizational Change for Psychologists (Multicultural Guidelines) as areas of focus during 2006.
- *Life Plan for the Life Span* is a web-based brochure developed by the Committee on Aging that offers guidance to young, middle-aged and older psychologists in planning for the variety of challenges that often arise as people age in the areas of: Health and Health Care, Legal and Financial Matters, Work Life and Retirement, Psychological Issues and Social Roles and Resources. It is available at http://www.apa.org/pi/aging/Life_Plan.pdf
- Beginning May 15, the APA Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office has a new 5-year, \$1.6 million cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Adolescent and School Health. The cooperative agreement provides funding for the Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project to provide capacity building assistance to youth-serving organizations for HIV prevention among young men, 18 years or younger, who have sex with men, especially African American and Latino young men. The agreement continues the public-private partnership between the CDC and the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office that began in 1999.
- The central mission of the Office on Disability Issues in Psychology is to work toward the elimination of bias against and the promotion of equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in 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; monitors the welfare of these groups as consumers of psychological services; and promotes the development and application of psychological knowledge to address public policy issues affecting them. Please visit the office's web site at www.apa.org/pi/disability for more information on disability issues in psychology.

- In response to increasing demand for the ACT program in Latino communities, APA launched the *Parents Raising Safe Kids* in Spanish. An initial group of twenty bilingual psychologists and other mental health professionals were trained at the 3-day workshop conducted on May 18-20 at the APA headquarters. Those professionals received training materials and brochures in Spanish to be used and distributed to the parents attending the program sessions.
- APA's Public Interest Policy staff is actively engaged in promoting psychology in the public interest in Congress and with the Bush administration. Public Policy Office (PPO) activities include the preparation of legislative background materials, statutory provisions, and formal comments on proposed legislation and regulations, as well as training and mobilizing the APA membership for grassroots advocacy efforts. The office also identifies and invites psychologists to testify at congressional hearings and APA briefings, and to represent the association on federal agency advisory councils and at executive branch meetings. Additionally, Public Interest Policy staff administers the APA Congressional Fellowship Program and a yearlong public policy internship program for psychology graduate students. This document provides highlights of a variety of policy initiatives undertaken in each of the key public interest areas since January.
- The APA, in collaboration with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), and the National Institute on Disability Research and Rehabilitation (NIDRR), convened the sixth international conference on occupational stress and health in Miami, Florida on March 2-4, 2006. Titled "Work, Stress, and Health 2006: Making a Difference in the Workplace," the conference featured paper, symposia, and poster presentations over a two and a half day period which was preceded by a day of continuing education workshops. Over 600 people attended from over 30 countries.
- In June of 2006, the APA Office on AIDS and its small business collaborator, eNursing LLC, received \$750,000.00 of Phase II funding from the Small Business Innovations Research (SBIR) Program of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) for developing a ten-module, internet-based, continuing education program to train psychologists and other mental health providers about working with people near the end of life.
- The APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA), in collaboration with the APA Committee of Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), was at the forefront of efforts to ensure that issues of culture/race/ethnicity and social-economic status were at the center of all discussions of psychological research and services related to Hurricane Katrina. These efforts were highlighted by the 34-page special section on *Psychological perspectives: Hurricane Katrina – A multicultural disaster* in the March 2006 issue of OEMA's news journal, *The Communique*, which was disseminated to 3100 psychologists of color, every department of psychology in the U.S. and Canada, and others in social policy and APA leadership positions. The special section is also on the APA website where in

May 2006 it still garnered nearly 1000 pageviews. CEMA aggressively lobbied BAPPI to use half of its 2006 convention hours for programs focusing on Hurricane Karina and related issues of culture/race/ethnicity/SES, while the CEMA Chair consulted with the APA Task Force on Multicultural Training and Disaster Response and conducted a Katrina workshop at the 2006 APA State Leadership Conference.

- Recent Public Interest Policy initiatives include effective advocacy for federal legislation to provide mental health services for older adults, women, American Indians, and persons with HIV/AIDS. The office also advocated for increased funding for school mental health services, the Minority Fellowship Program, and Medicaid services across the lifespan. The office successfully opposed the Federal Marriage Protection Amendment, which would amend the U.S. Constitution to define marriage as the union between a man and a woman, and contributed to a recent decision by the Department of Defense to no longer classify homosexuality as a mental disorder in a disability policy.
- The Women's Programs Office staffed the Committee on Women in Psychology, Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls, and Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion. The revised *Women in the American Psychological Association: 2006* is being released in July. Web "best sellers" continue to be WPO's recently revised *Financial Aid Directory* (10,000 pageviews/month) and report of the *Summit on Women and Depression* (5,000 pageviews/month). WPO also released the January - June issues of the e-newsletter, *Women's Psych-E*. Convention events include sessions on research funding, negotiation skills, the sexualization of girls, and violence against women, as well as the annual CWP Network meeting.
- The MFP was established at APA in 1977 and is one of the oldest, most prestigious graduate fellowship programs of its kind in the U.S. The mission of the MFP is 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. It does this by providing financial support and professional guidance to individuals pursuing doctoral degrees in psychology and neuroscience. The office operates, and provides fellowship stipends directly from federal training grants from NIMH and SAMHSA, with additional support provided by the NIMH Office on Aids and NIDA. There are three distinct training fellowships administered by the MFP. The Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellowship (predoctoral and postdoctoral support); the Mental Health Research fellowship (with subspecialties in HIV/AIDS Research and Substance Abuse Research); and the Diversity Program in Neuroscience fellowship (predoctoral and postdoctoral support).

The following are major initiatives launched in the various offices and programs of the Public Interest Directorate:

Executive Office

Governance Support and Activities

Executive Office staff continues to provide staff support to the public interest oversight board, the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI), including staffing its spring 2006 meeting on April 7-9, 2006.

Enhancing Diversity within APA Governance: Multicultural Leadership Workshop for APA Governance Groups

The Multicultural Organizational Leadership Workshop for APA boards and committees took place on the first day of the spring 2006 Consolidated Meetings, April 7, 2006. The hour-long workshop took place immediately after the APA Presidential Plenary. Sandra Shullman, PhD, served as facilitator and co-presenters at the workshop were John Dovidio, PhD and Derald Sue, PhD. Dr. Dovidio presented "Understanding and Combating Contemporary Bias," and Dr. Sue presented "Racial Microaggressions in Institutional Climates." As a follow-up activity APA boards and committees participating in the Spring 2006 Consolidated Meetings were asked to allocate at least thirty (30) minutes of meeting time on Friday, April 7, 2006 to develop a Diversity Action Plan. Each action plan would outline what each participating board/committee intended to do to advance issues of diversity (race/ethnicity, gender, disability, sexual orientation, age and religion) on their respective board/committee. The APA Board of Directors received an item on its June 2006 meeting agenda that presented the Diversity Action Plans submitted by various APA boards and committees. The item also requested that the B/D review the results of the Diversity Training across APA Governance and determine whether and/or how diversity trainings should be conducted at future C/R and consolidated meetings. The C/R will receive an information item at its August 2006 meeting that reports the results of the feedback received from boards and committees that participated in the workshop and the Diversity Action Plans prepared by various boards and committees.

Infusing the APA Multicultural Guidelines Throughout APA: The APA Task Force on the Implementation of the Multicultural Guidelines

Staff in the Public Interest Directorate Executive Office supported the first meeting of the APA Task Force on the Implementation of the Multicultural Guidelines. The Task Force met in Washington, DC on May 12-14, 2006. The task force is charged with formulating recommendations for the infusion of the Multicultural Guidelines throughout psychology. During its meeting the Task Force began the process of developing recommendations for infusion of the Guidelines across the Association. The Task Force will meet again on November 17-19, 2006. The Task Force will meet twice per year for the next two years beginning and will report to the B/D on a regular basis on the progress of its work.

Task Force on Diversity in Course Content, Publications and Training Programs

The Task Force on Diversity in Course Content, Publications and Training Programs was formed by Council in July 2004. The five-person Task Force is charged with providing oversight and making recommendations regarding the ongoing development of a report

on the status of diversity in course content publications and training programs. This report shall serve to inform Council and serve as a basis upon which to recommend the resources needed to enhance diversity in the discipline of psychology.

The Task Force held its first meeting on July 29-30, 2005 and has continued to complete its work primarily through the use of its Task Force listserv. During this year, the Task Force approved the first survey that has been sent to several Psychology Department chairs. A survey for selected faculty and students is currently being reviewed by the Task Force.

Task Force on Socioeconomic Status

The Task Force on Socioeconomic Status (SES) was established by the APA Council of Representatives (C/R) at its February 2005 meeting and was approved to meet twice per year for two years (2005 and 2006). The task force is charged with (a) operationally defining the scope, nature, range, parameters and effects of socioeconomic inequalities in the United States; b) psychological issues associated with socioeconomic status; and (c) recommending mechanisms and structures that would more effectively address, on an Association-wide basis, the causes and the impact of socioeconomic inequality. The task force held conference calls and two meetings in 2005.

In April 2006, the task force submitted its preliminary draft report for the Cross-Cutting Agenda at the Spring Consolidated Board and Committee meetings. Feedback was received from Boards and Committees, and a revised report was forwarded to the Board of Directors (B/D) for its June 9-11, 2006 agenda. The B/D was unable to address this item during its meeting and deferred discussion for a conference call in July.

The task force held a meeting on June 13th and 14th. During this meeting, an Executive Summary and Action Plan were developed, and the task force made further revisions to the draft report. The revised report, with an Executive Summary and Action Plan, has been forwarded to the B/D for review during the July conference call. The final meeting of the task force is scheduled for October 26th and 27th, 2006.

Office on Aging

Governance Support - The Office on Aging provides continuous staff support to the APA Committee on Aging (CONA). Recent CONA activities include:

Life Plan for the Life Span was printed in March 2006. This web-based brochure offers guidance to young, middle-aged and older psychologists in planning for the variety of challenges that often arise as people age in the areas of: Health and Health Care, Legal and Financial Matters, Work Life and Retirement, Psychological Issues, and Social Roles and Resources. It is available at http://www.apa.org/pi/aging/Life_Plan.pdf

The National Conference on Training in Professional Geropsychology, supported in part with Council of Representatives Discretionary Funding, was held June 8th – 11th. The conference successfully attained its goal to outline competencies and aspirational

educational models at the doctoral, internship, postdoctoral, and post-licensure levels for preparing psychologists to provide psychological services to older adults. The conference proceedings and outcomes will be published in 2007.

ABA/APA Assessment of Capacity in Older Adults Project - The second product of the ongoing collaboration between APA and the ABA Commission on Law and Aging was published in May. *Determining Capacity of Older Adults in Guardianship Proceedings: A Handbook for Judges* is available at: <http://www.apa.org/pi/aging/>. The National College of Probate Judges joined with APA and the ABA as a sponsor of the handbook.

APA Presidential Task Force on Integrative Healthcare for an Aging Population - President-elect Sharon Stephens Brehm, PhD appointed the following members to the task force: Toni Antonucci, PhD (co-chair), Antonette Zeiss, PhD (co-chair), Greg Hinrichsen PhD, Deborah King, PhD, Peter Lichtenberg, PhD, Martita Lopez, PhD, and Jennifer Manly, PhD. The task force will hold its first meeting October 6-8, 2006.

National Coalition on Mental Health and Aging (NCMHA) - APA is one of 50 member organizations of this Coalition that provides opportunities for professional, consumer and government organizations to work together towards improving the availability and quality of mental health preventive and treatment strategies to older Americans and their families. APA representatives to NCMHA are Deborah DiGilio, MPH, Office on Aging Director (who also serves as current chair of NCMHA), geropsychologist, David Powers, PhD, and Diane Elmore, PhD of the Public Policy Office. Guests to the Coalition's last meeting were Dennis O. Romero, Director of SAMHSA's Center for Substance Abuse Prevention and Gail Gibson Hunt, member of the 2005 WHCoA Policy Committee.

2005 White House Conference on Aging - The Winter 2006 issue of *Public Policy & Aging Report* included an article authored by Office on Aging Director, Deborah DiGilio, MPH, and geropsychologist, Michael Smyer, PhD. "Mental Health and Aging at the 2005 White House Conference on Aging: Two Steps Forward, One Step Back," recapped the successful efforts of NCMHA and APA which resulted in mental health and health workforce issues ranking in the top 10 policy resolutions resulting from the Conference.

Promoting Awareness of Aging Issues within APA and among APA members - is an ongoing activity of the Office on Aging. During the past six months, the Office on Aging web pages (www.apa.org/pi/aging) have been updated to include the new publications detailed in this report, and a variety of other information such as resource guides on topics such as long term care, psychotherapy, depression, and recent *Monitor in Psychology* articles to which the Office contributed including, "Bracing for the Baby Boom: White House Conference on Aging listed a mental health resolution as a key priority" and "Geropsychology grants in peril." Past issues of the *APA Aging Issues Newsletter*, a quarterly electronic newsletter are also available on these web pages.

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office

New Cooperative Agreement between the CDC and the LGBCO

The Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office has been awarded a new 5-year, \$1.6 million cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Division of Adolescent and School Health. The cooperative agreement provides funding for the Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project to provide capacity building assistance to youth-serving organizations for HIV prevention among young men, 18 years or younger, who have sex with men, especially African American and Latino young men. The agreement continues the public-private partnership between the CDC and the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office that began in 1999.

The new cooperative agreement has three major goals: (1) to build the capacity of youth-serving organizations to provide professional development to local education agencies, specifically the workshop that the Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project developed under its two previous cooperative agreements with CDC-DASH; (2) to build the capacity of youth-serving organizations by linking them to Behavioral and Social Science Volunteers who will provide direct consultation; and (3) to assess the capacity needs of youth serving organizations and develop resources to address those needs.

The staff of the Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project includes Hank Tomlinson, Director, Keyona King-Tsikata, Assistant Director, and Joanne Fournier, Administrative Coordinator, under the supervisory direction of Clinton Anderson, Director, Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office. To learn more see the Project website at www.apa.org/ed/hlgb or contact Hank Tomlinson htomlinson@apa.org.

Network for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns and Gender Identity Issues in Psychology

The Canadian Psychological Association has recently joined APA and psychological organizations in Australia, Brazil, Colombia, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom in the International Network on Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Concerns & Gender Identity Issues in Psychology, which is supported by the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office. The Network has been successful in proposing invited programming to the organizers of the 2008 International Congress of Psychology, including one invited address, one invited symposium, and one workshop. The Network will also hold an organizational meeting in 2008 in conjunction with the International Congress.

New Resources published by the LGBCO

Two new resources have been recently published by the Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office:

Graduate Faculty in Psychology Interested in Lesbian, Gay, & Bisexual Issues 2005

In spring 2005, the APA Office on Lesbian, Gay, & Bisexual Concerns conducted a survey of chairpersons of graduate psychology programs to gather information on research, courses, professional training, and climate indicators for both masters and doctoral programs. Listings of programs and faculty that include specialized content

related to lesbian, gay, and bisexual issues in psychology can be accessed at http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbc/publications/lgbsurvey/grad_home.html

Lesbian & Gay Parenting

The latest edition of a resource targeted at psychologists, lawyers, and parents involved in legal cases, [*Lesbian & Gay Parenting*](#) includes a summary of research findings written by Charlotte J. Patterson, PhD, an annotated bibliography of relevant research, compendium of relevant professional policy statements, and summaries of APA amicus briefs. It is available in PDF, HTML, and paper formats. Contact the LGBCO at 202-336-6041 or access the publication online at <http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbc/publications/lgparenthome.html>

Disability Issues in Psychology Office

Governance Support

The Office on Disability Issues provides continuous staff support to APA's [Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology \(CDIP\)](#). Current priorities of the Committee include:

- Development of a proposed APA resolution on the Americans with Disabilities Act.
- The development of several convention activities, including two symposia, a CE workshop, and conversation hour on a personal/family disaster response plan for those with disabilities.
- The development of disability-related information and content for introductory psychology courses at community colleges.
- Increasing the visibility of disability issues within the APA.

The office also provides staff support to two task forces which were approved earlier this year by the APA Council of Representatives and allocated funds from council 2006 discretionary monies.

APA Task Force on Guidelines for Assessment and Treatment of Persons with Disabilities

The major charge of this task force is to develop a set of guidelines focused on assessment and treatment involving persons with disabilities. To date, the task force has had three conference calls to discuss methodological approaches to development of guidelines; scope of literature/definitional issues; additional literature searches to be conducted; identification of search databases; and organizational issues within the task force to complete its work. The first formal face to face task force meeting will be held in Washington, DC, September 15-17.

Task Force on Training Issues in Psychological Testing and Assessment for Graduate Students with Disabilities

The major charge of this task force is how to best facilitate the acquisition of test instruments and manuals in electronic format suitable for visual viewer software for graduate students with visual impairments who are mandated to meet training

requirements in testing and assessment. The task force is also charged with addressing test accessibility issues globally, offering guidance to training programs on educating students with disabilities in test administration, and educating students with disabilities on test construction and administration. The task force has had three conference calls to date.

Barriers to Students Project

The overall goal of this project is to develop evidence-based information and resources identifying the major barriers to training by students with disabilities and how those barriers can be addressed. The project seeks to increase the capacity of educators and directors of training by providing resources that will improve and increase learning opportunities for students with disabilities. Resource materials will be developed from data and information gathered by three separate on-line surveys soliciting information from psychology students with disabilities, directors of training, and internship directors. The Disability Issues Officer is currently working with the APA Research Office to develop the survey instruments.

Legislative Activities

APA advocates policy by participating in coalitions, by preparing testimony, letters, and other educational materials, and by assisting APA members in their advocacy efforts. The APA Public Interest Public Policy Office has the primary responsibility for federal advocacy on disability issues and concerns; advocacy goals and activities are coordinated with the Office on Disability Issues and the Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology. Current legislative activities include the following:

Disability-related coalitions

The disability issues officer continues to be actively involved with the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) to advocate for national public policy that ensures the self determination, independence, empowerment, integration and inclusion of children and adults with mental and physical disabilities. The office serves on CCD's Rights and Emergency Preparedness and Disaster Relief task forces.

SafeUSA Coalition. The APA has had an active involvement with the SafeUSA Partnership since the partnership was formed by the CDC National Center for Injury Prevention and Control in 1998. Disability issues office staff typically attends 3 meetings per year along with representatives from 8 federal agencies and about 10 other nonprofit organizations and associations whose work is germane to injury and violence prevention. The Disability Issues officer also sits on the executive board and advocates for the inclusion of mental health issues on SafeUSA's agenda and activities. APA hosted two meetings of the SafeUSA executive board this year.

Children, Youth and Families Office

The Children, Youth, and Families Office coordinates APA's public interest, health, human welfare, and social responsibility activities in the areas of children, youth, and families. The office provides staff support to the Committee on Children, Youth, and

Families; the Family – School Relations Conference; APA Working Group on Psychoactive Medications for Children and Adolescents; APA Task Force on Resiliency in Black Children and Adolescents; the APA Working Group on Evidence-Based Psychological Practice for Children and Adolescents; and the APA Wingspread Conference Application Planning Committee.

Committee on Children, Youth, and Families - Members of the 2006 Committee on Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) are Nancy E. Hill, PhD, chair; John Lochman, PhD; Mario Hernandez, PhD; Lonnie Sherrod, PhD, chair-elect; Karen Budd, PhD; and Barbara Fiese, PhD.

Conference on Family-School Relations during Adolescence: Linking Interdisciplinary Research and Practice – Through the leadership of Nancy E. Hill, PhD, CYF chair, APA is a cosponsor of the Family-School Relations during Adolescence Conference scheduled for July 20-21, 2006 at the Sanford Institute of Public Policy, Duke University. The main goal of this interdisciplinary conference is to establish better links among research, practice, and policy related to parental involvement in education during adolescence, particularly for families from ethnically and socio-economically diverse backgrounds. A related goal is to establish research and policy agendas for the coming decade. The National Science Foundation funded the conference; the APA and Center for Child and Family Policy, Department of Psychology, and Program in Education are cosponsors. (Information retrieved June 30, 2006 from this Web address <http://www.childandfamilypolicy.duke.edu/Family%20School%20Conf/index.html>)

Board of Directors Funded Initiatives

Working Group on Psychoactive Medications for Children and Adolescents - At its March 27, 2004 meeting, the Board of Directors established the Working Group on Psychoactive Medication for Children and Adolescents. The working group was charged with reviewing the literature and preparing a comprehensive report on the current state of knowledge concerning the effective use, sequencing, and integration of psychoactive medications and psychosocial interventions for children and adolescents. This review should include a comparative examination of the risk-benefit ratio of psychosocial and pharmacological treatments and the range of child and adolescent psychopharmacology including the appropriateness of medication practices. Members of the working group were appointed by then APA President Diane Halpern, PhD, and include: Ronald T. Brown, PhD, ABPP, chair; David Antonuccio, PhD, ABPP; George J. DuPaul, PhD; Mary Fristad, PhD, ABPP; Cheryl Ann King, PhD, ABPP; Laurel Leslie, MD; William E. Pelham, Jr., PhD; John Piacentini, PhD, ABPP; and Benedetto Vitiello, MD. The Report of the APA Working Group on Psychoactive Medications for Children and Adolescents was considered by the APA Board of Directors during their June 2006 meeting and will be considered by the APA Council of Representatives during their August 2006 meeting.

The Task Force on the Resiliency and Strength in Black Children and Adolescents (RSBCA) – At its February 06 meeting, the Board of Directors established the Task Force on the RSBCA. The task force is charged with the identification of factors that contribute to the healthy development of Black children and adolescents in three

contexts: families, schools, and peer groups. Focus on disparity data in terms of income, female-headed households, academic achievement and criminal justice system involvement fails to inform about attitudes and behaviors that contribute to Black children and adolescents being resilient and strong. The compilation of relevant research data as well as the identification of successful academic programming will provide another lens with which to view these individuals. Such information can inform policy and programming in communities where African Americans reside. The following persons were appointed by APA President Gerald P. Koocher, PhD, to serve on the Task Force: Stephanie Coard, PhD, Chair; Michele Cooley, PhD; Anne Gregory, PhD; Yolanda Jackson, PhD; Robert Jagers, PhD; Caryn Rodgers, PhD; Robert Sellers, PhD; and Anita Thomas, PhD. There were also two Senior Advisors appointed to the group: Faye Belgrave, PhD, and Margaret Beale Spencer, PhD. The Task Force on the RSBCA is funded to hold one meeting in 2006. That meeting is scheduled for October 27-29 at the APA offices in Washington, DC.

Working Group on Evidence-Based Practice for Children and Adolescents

During the April 2006 consolidated meetings the Board of Directors met and established the APA Working Group on Evidence-Based Practice for Children and Adolescents. The Working Group was charged with reviewing the extant literature and preparing a comprehensive report on the current state of knowledge concerning evidence-based psychological practice with children and adolescents. This would include empirically supported principles and evidence applied to psychological assessment, case formulation, possible mediating variables such as therapeutic relationship, and intervention with children and adolescents (and often their caregivers). Also included would be the acknowledgement of the variety of settings in which services are provided to children, including schools, clinics, hospitals, independent practices, and homes and the need to consider setting characteristics when implementing evidence-based practice. In addition, developmental and cultural characteristics that influence the applicability, acceptance, and efficacy of evidence-based practice would be addressed. The Working Group is also encouraged to consider implications of its findings for future research agendas and for the education and training of psychologists with specificity to evidence-based practice with children and adolescents. APA President Gerald P. Koocher, PhD, ABPP, will appoint members and the group will meet twice in Washington, DC, in 2006.

Wingspread Conference Application Working (WCA) Group – At its February 06 meeting, the Board of Directors established the WCA and charged it with developing a conference application for a national summit on the mental health of children and families. Members of the working group were appointed by President Gerald P. Koocher, PhD, and include: Barry Anton, PhD, ABPP, Co-Chair; Carol Falender, PhD; Larke Huang, PhD; Mareasa Isaacs, PhD; Mary Ann McCabe, PhD; Karen Saywitz, PhD, Co-Chair; Patrick Tolan, PhD; and Donald Wertlieb, PhD. The WCA planning meeting was held June 9 and 10 at the APA offices in Washington, DC.

OFFICE OF ETHNIC MINORITY AFFAIRS

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." OEMA engaged in the following efforts during the period of January 2006 – June 2006.

Governance Support

OEMA provided continuing staff support to:

- APA Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), including: (a) staffing its April 7 -9, 2006 meeting and (b) administering solicitation of nominations for its 2006 Jeffrey Tanaka Memorial Dissertation Award; and facilitating its convention programs.
- Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training in Psychology Task Force (CEMRRAT2) including: (a) staffing it May 22-23, 2006 annual meeting, (b) administering the award of 19 CEMRRAT 2006 Implementation Fund Grants totaling \$67,000; (c) administering its 2006 Suinn Minority Achievement Awards program including assessing the impact the award has had on past recipients, (d) continuing to develop drafts of a forthcoming 5-year CEMRRAT progress report, and (e) facilitating CEMRRAT's 2006 convention program.
- 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. This assistance included: (a) staffing CNPAEMI's February 1, 2006 meeting, which was held in conjunction with the APA Expert Summit on Immigration in San Antonio, TX, (b) continued facilitation of the preparation of the last two booklets in its publications series; (c) continued collaboration with other APA officials and Boards/Committees in furthering the pursuit of seats on the APA Council for a representative of each of the minority psychological associations.

Communications

OEMA engaged in the following related efforts:

- Edited and disseminated semiannual issues of its newsjournal, *The Communiqué*, to over 5800 individuals, departments/programs/schools of psychology, and public officials and policymakers. The March 2006 issue included a special section on *"Hurricane Katrina: A multicultural disaster"*. The August 2006 issue is under development along with a companion *Guide to ethnic minority convention programs, activities, events and dining in New Orleans: 2006 APA Convention*.
- Served as APA's primary resource for requests for information and data related to ethnic minority issues.
- Continued to maintain and update the OEMA database of information on over 3100 psychologists of color, and continued developing the 5th Edition of the Directory of ethnic minority professional in psychology as an electronic web-based document with a scheduled release in August or September 2006.
- Continued to fine tune and update the OEMA web site (www.apa.org/pi/oema).
- Coordinated with the official magazine of the APA, *The Monitor on Psychology*,

in developing articles on a variety of topics related to ethnic minority concerns.

Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention, and Training Initiatives

Related OEMA efforts include:

- Continued to administer the CEMRRAT Implementation Grants program, which was funded in 2006 by APA for \$100,000 (including staff costs).
- Continued to administer its NIGMS funded project on Expanding Minority Biomedical Research Talent in Psychology (the AAPA/NIGMS Project@), which involves 14 departments/programs of psychology throughout the nation, \$1.6 million in federal funding over 3-years, and 557 students of whom 142 to date have enrolled in graduate programs.
- Prepared and submitted a 5-year competing continuation grant application for the APA/NIGMS Project in January 2006, and submitted an annual project Progress Report in June 2006.
- Continued to provide staff assistance and partial funding to Diversity Project 2000 and Beyond (DP2KB) a mentoring and professional development program for students of color at community colleges interested in pursuing careers in psychology.
- Engaged in early career APA membership retention efforts with 2500 ethnic minority advanced graduate students.
- In May 2006, received notice from HRSA of the cancellation the program announcement under which OEMA had submitted a \$100,000 proposal for The Academic Transitions Project.

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:

- Continued to administer the Promoting psychological research and training on health disparities issues at minority serving institution grants (ProDIGs), a small grants program targeted to early career faculty and funded for \$50,000 by funds received from APA's Academic Enhancement Initiative. Awards were made to faculty at Chamindade University of Honolulu, Tennessee State University, University of New Mexico, and Florida A& M University.
- Continued seeking to increase the response rate (currently 30%) to its Survey of the status of psychology at ethnic minority serving institutions, including preparing a preliminary report of findings to be sent to nonrespondents.

Psychology and Racism Project

- Continued to disseminate resource materials on racism and prejudice.
- Continue to administer the APA National Conversation on Psychology and Racism, which to date has involved more than 90 events across the nation.
- Per C/R mandate, continued to provide staff assistance to the United Nations World Conference Against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance (WCAR) followup activities of a joint CEMA/CIRP subcommittee on the WCAR.

Special Projects

- Continued to pursue sponsorship and funding of its proposed Conference on Psychology, Public Policy and Communities of Color.
- Continued to revise and facilitate the review and approval by APA's executive staff of a proposal to establish an OEMA Film Series for APA staff, which would involve bi-monthly presentations followed by moderated discussion of films focusing on the culture, concerns, and experiences of ethnic minority groups.
- The OEMA Director made presentations related to diversity issues at the Division Leadership Conference in January 2006, and the State Leadership Conference in March 2006. She also attended the APA Expert Summit on Immigration in San Antonio, TX in February 2006, and provided resource material to the APA Task Force on Infusing the Multicultural Guidelines. She also was the APA representative to the May 2006 meeting of the American Medical College's Coalition for Health Diversity and provided assistance upon request to the Ethnic Minority C/R caucus, the SLC Diversity Delegates, and Division 45 Executive Committee.
- Continued to administer the OEMA Intern Program, through which students can receive college credit for participating in research, program planning, and public policy activities related to ethnic minority issues in psychology. Recent interns were undergraduate and graduate students from Howard University, Morgan State University, Trinity College, and Notre Dame of Maryland.

Public Interest Policy

- ***Aging.*** PPO staff is spearheading an effort to include key provisions of the Positive Aging Act in legislation to reauthorize the Older Americans Act. PPO staff drafted legislative proposals, conducted numerous meetings with congressional staff, and sent Action Alerts to key APA divisions and other mental health and aging organizations. As a result of these efforts, provisions for mental health screening and treatment, among others, have been included in bills passed by the full House and by the key Senate committee. In addition, PPO staff continues to advocate for passage of the Elder Justice Act and the Lifespan Respite Care Act, along with funding for aging and Alzheimer's services and research.
- ***Children, Youth, and Families.*** PPO staff advocated on behalf of legislation in such areas as child abuse, eating disorders, childhood cancer, bullying, school counseling, suicide, and child care. Policy staff also worked to protect youth who had been adjudicated with sexual offenses from being treated as adults under federal law. In April, PPO contributed to the adoption of a House amendment to the Higher Education Act that would provide loan forgiveness to certain child or adolescent mental health professionals. PPO participated in a negotiated agreement with the media industry (including Fox, Viacom, and ABC) to create guidelines for advertising limits for children's programming. PPO staff also facilitated the APA testimony of Elizabeth Carll, PhD, on the subject of violent videogames at a Senate hearing in March and at a congressional briefing in April.

- ***Individuals with Disabilities.*** PPO and Government Relations Office staff have been working closely with the Campaign for Mental Health Reform, a coalition of 16 national mental health organizations, to safeguard vital mental health provisions in the Medicaid program. In January, PPO sent an Action Alert to key components of the APA membership, urging calls to congressional offices to restore \$45 billion in proposed budget cuts to Medicaid. In March, the Campaign wrote to congressional leaders expressing concerns about Medicaid provisions in the administration's FY 2007 budget proposal. PPO also sent letters of support in June to Sen. Daniel Akaka (D-HI) and the seven cosponsors of his bill to delay implementation of the new citizenship documentation requirement for Medicaid eligibility.
- ***Ethnic Minorities.*** In March, PPO met with Senator Byron Dorgan (D-ND), ranking member of the Senate Indian Affairs Committee, along with congressional staff, American Indian leaders, and leaders of national health organizations to discuss the reauthorization of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act. PPO drafted appropriations report language and met with key House and Senate offices in support of additional funding for the Minority Fellowship Program and the Indians into Psychology program. PPO was also instrumental in drafting legislation to enhance relief and preparedness services for persons with limited English proficiency, as well as to assist those affected by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.
- ***Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Persons.*** PPO prepared and delivered a briefing paper on psychological research related to the Federal Marriage Protection Amendment to about 20 senators regarded as potential swing votes. PPO also sent an Action Alert to the ten social justice divisions and other interested members. The bill was defeated by a vote of 49-48. In another successful effort, PPO worked in collaboration with APA's Division 44 (Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Issues) and Representative Marty Meehan (D-MA) in sending letters to the Department of Defense that contributed to its decision a week later to no longer classify homosexuality as a mental disorder in a document related to disability determinations.
- ***Persons with HIV/AIDS.*** In March, PPO recommended changes to HIV testing guidelines proposed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Recommendations discussed incorporating HIV testing into all mental health facilities and addressed APA's concern with CDC's decision to remove pre-testing counseling and written informed consent from HIV testing. In May, PPO submitted comments to a draft version of the Ryan White Modernization Act of 2006, the legislation to reauthorize the Ryan White CARE Act, to key House and Senate committees. PPO staff successfully lobbied to include mental health and substance abuse services.
- ***Women.*** In March, PPO staff attended the U.N. International Day of Women and met with U.N. and Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) representatives to discuss mental health, domestic violence, and aging issues. PPO staff also attended an April

conference of the Department of Veterans Affairs on mental health treatment for returning soldiers with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) following combat and/or military sexual trauma. PPO staff has additionally been engaged in legislative efforts to address eating disorders and promote sexuality education.

ACT Against Violence Program

The ACT- Adults and Children Together – Against Violence program is the APA's national initiative on early violence prevention focused on educating adults and communities to create safe and healthy early environments for children. The program accomplishes its goals through two components: (a) ACT National Media campaign that includes TV and radio PSAs, billboards, a web site, toll-free number, and publications and (b) ACT National Training program delivered through national workshops and replicated at local communities by ACT-trained professionals and their organizations. ACT is a collaborative effort between the Public Interest Directorate and the Members and Public Communications Office.

In March, the program received a \$250,000 grant from the MetLife Foundation to continue the development of the media campaign and the training program; the award was split between PI and Members and Public Communications Office.

ACT Training program

Since 2000, the ACT Program has trained hundreds of professionals and worked with their community-based organizations to disseminate research-based knowledge to parents, child care providers and other adults on child development and the roots and consequences of violence in children's lives, and provide them skills and strategies they can use to model and teach violence prevention starting early with young children.

Evaluation studies, including a study funded by the CDC and conducted by the Battelle Centers for Public Health Research and Evaluation (2004), and other studies conducted at some of the ACT program sites demonstrated the program offers a successful model for disseminating early violence prevention knowledge and skills to adults, and recommended the development of an outcome evaluation as the next step. In order to increase the fidelity of replication and adoption and proceed with an outcome/impact evaluation, and meet increasing demand for the program in Latino communities, we redesigned the program intervention model, refined the materials, conducted pilot tests in four communities and launched in February the **Parents Raising Safe Kids**, an 8-week program in English and Spanish that focuses on educating parents and families of young children. Based on the original ACT Program materials, the **Parents Raising Safe Kids** curriculum organizes the program into eight, two-hour sessions and provides a standardized program to ensure consistency and fidelity in the delivery of the information and the outcome evaluation.

Twenty two professionals from current ACT program sites were trained in February 2006 to implement the parent 8-week program and 11 of them have already begun implementation of the English version in their communities including Albany and

Rochester; Chicago; Jacksonville; Milwaukee; Toledo, and others. On May 18-20, 2006, APA organized the first ACT program Latino workshop in collaboration with the National Association of Latino Psychologists. Twenty Latino psychologists and other mental health professionals were trained to implement the Spanish version in Latino communities this year. The professionals training materials and publications translated into Spanish and adapted to the Latino population. The May training included Latino professionals from Pomona, Santa Ana and Tustin, CA; Akron, Ohio; Houston; Chicago; Washington, D.C.; Fort Lee, N.J.; Miami; Anchorage, Alaska; Rochester; New York and other locations.

Evaluation is a critical component of program implementation; the ACT national office has identified a group of psychologist members of APA to participate in a research advisory team and coordinate the program outcome evaluation project. The goal is to design an evaluation plan and logic model for a proposal to be submitted for external funding.

The ACT program national office continued to provide technical assistance to trained professionals and their community-based organizations and agencies through conference calls, e-mail exchanges, the program web site, listserv, and site visits. The technical assistance purpose is to provide update research and information relevant to the program implementation, a forum for exchange of experiences and ideas, and help with implementation challenges such as fundraising efforts, organization of trainings, and community collaboration.

Women's Programs Office

Governance Support:

WPO provided staff support for the Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP), including the meeting on April 7-9. WPO also staffed two meetings of the Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls and is staffing the Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion, established by Council in February. WPO supported the development of nominations, to be submitted by CWP to BAPPI and then to the Board of Directors, who will appoint members for this task force.

Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls:

The TFSG met February 10-12 and June 22-23. Task Force members are revising their report and recommendations based on comments from over 30 outside reviewers, which included representatives appointed by those boards and committees who wished to participate in review at this early stage. The revised report will be submitted to boards and committees for comment in the Fall, then to Board of Directors in December, and finally to Council in February 2007 for adoption.

Surveys and Publications:

The revised *Directory of Selected Scholarship, Fellowship, and Other Financial Aid Opportunities for Women and Ethnic Minorities in Psychology and Related Fields*, which lists financial aid opportunities for undergraduate, graduate, doctoral and postdoctoral students, and professionals in a variety of social science disciplines, was released late in 2005. This is the most requested document on WPO's website, registering roughly 10,000 hits (or "pageviews") each month for the first half of this year.

WPO staff is finalizing revisions *Women in the American Psychological Association 2006*, which provides data on the numbers of women participating as members and serving in leadership roles in psychology, including in divisions; in state associations; on the boards and committees that make up APA's governance structure; in the publications process as editors, associate editors, and reviewers; and in APA's central office. The 2006 revision includes data through 2005. This publication will be available online by July.

WPO staff wrote and disseminated the January through June issues of Women's Psych-E, a free monthly electronic newsletter that focuses on psychological aspects of women's health and well-being, research initiatives and opportunities for psychologists, announcements about meetings and conferences, WPO and the Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP) news, and general information about women and psychology. (Send an email to tburrwell@apa.org to subscribe.)

The Summit on Women and Depression: Proceedings and Recommendations, which was posted to the WPO website in 2002, continues to register from 4,000 to over 5,000 hits (or pageviews) per month, or up to 60,000 hits annually. A Google search on "women depression" yields this report as the top or near-top search hit.

2006 APA Convention Events:

WPO is providing staff support for the following APA Convention events:

* Thursday, August 10, 2006, 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Symposium: Negotiating Skills for Women--- Private Practice, Medical Settings, Academe Morial Convention Center, Meeting Room 353

Chair: Sharon Brehm, PhD; Participants: Jessica Henderson Daniel, PhD; Dorothy Cantor, PhD

* Friday, August 11, 9:00 am - 9:50 am

Symposium: From Muppet Thongs to Barbie Lingerie – The Sexualization of Girls Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, Second Level, Marlborough Suite A

Chair: Sharon Lamb, EdD; Participants: Eileen Zurbriggen, PhD; Tomi-Ann Roberts, PhD; L. Monique Ward, PhD; Rebecca Collins, PhD

* Friday, August 11, 11:00 am - 12:50 pm

Research and Training Funding: Discussions with Representatives from Federal Agencies New Orleans Marriott Hotel/Mardi Gras Ballroom D

Chair: Veronica Thomas, PhD; Participants: Courtney Ferrell, PhD; Cheryl Boyce, PhD; Miriam Kelty, PhD; Lula Beatty, PhD; Harold Perl, PhD; Rodney Hammond, PhD; David Sleet, PhD; Charlene Le Fauve, PhD; Jorielle Brown, PhD; Valerie Maholmes, PhD

* Saturday, August 12, 8:00 pm - 8:50 pm

CWP Chair, Dr. Louise B. Silverstein, will present the **2006 Committee on Women in Psychology Leadership Awards** at the Division 35 Social Hour
Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, Third Level, Napoleon Ballroom

* Sunday, August 13, 1:00 pm - 1:50 pm

Symposium: Violence Against Women Act – Opportunities for Women, Families and Psychologists Morial Convention Center, Second Level, Meeting Room 265

Chair: Gwendolyn Puryear Keita, PhD; Participants: Diane Elmore, PhD; Leslie Cameron

- WPO is also providing staff support for the annual Committee on Women in Psychology Network meeting.

The HIV Office for Psychology Education (HOPE) Program

In September 2004, the APA Office on AIDS was awarded \$750,000.00 by the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) to continue the HIV Office for Psychology Education (HOPE) Program for another five years. During the past six months, HOPE Program staff have focused on updating HOPE Program training materials and providing technical assistance to HOPE Trainers as they develop and implement local continuing education workshops. Since its inception in 1991, the HOPE Program has trained over 25,000 mental health providers.

Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer Program

The Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer (BSSV) Program is a national HIV prevention technical assistance program for health departments, community planning groups (CPGs), and community-based organizations (CBOs). In September 2005, the APA Office on AIDS received a new subcontract from Macro International Inc. (ORC Macro) for \$359,700.00 to continue operating the Program for another year. In September 2006, the BSSV Program will receive a sole source contract from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for \$422,000.00 to operate for an additional year until September of 2007. Since its inception in 1996, over 500 organizations have been served by BSSV Program volunteers. Recently, BSSV Program staff has been working with CDC to develop a Resource Guide for community-based organizations who attempting to adapt evidence-based HIV prevention interventions for local populations that they serve.

NIMH Funding for Internet-based Continuing Education Program on End-of-Life Issues

In June of 2006, the APA Office on AIDS and its small business collaborator, eNursing LLC, received \$750,000.00 of Phase II funding from the Small Business Innovations Research (SBIR) Program of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) for developing a ten-module, internet-based, continuing education program to train psychologists and other mental health providers about working with people near the end of life.

Minority Fellowship Program

February 2006

February 3rd – 5th, the annual winter meeting of the Diversity Program for Neuroscience was hosted at the APA building (6th Floor conference room). At this meeting, applications for fellowships were reviewed and progress reports of continuing fellows were reviewed. New Fellows were selected and continuing Fellows were reappointed. During the meeting, plans for the annual Summer Program in Neuroscience, Ethics, and Survival (SPINES) and for the summer Training Advisory Committee meeting were discussed. In addition, plans for submitting the competitive renewal in the spring was discussed.

March 2006

March 10th – March 12th, the MFP Advisory Committee convened to review applications for new fellowships and to review progress reports of continuing fellows under the MHSAS and MHR programs. New Fellows were selected, and continuing Fellows were reappointed. During the meeting, the committee continued to discuss the overall MFP direction, plans for the annual Psychology Summer Institute and the upcoming APA convention. The committee also reviewed the evaluation report sent to NIMH in December and discussed the competitive renewal due to NIMH in the spring for the MHR program.

March 1st, the MFP submitted its noncompetitive renewals for the Diversity Program in Neuroscience and the Mental Health Research program to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). March 15th, the MFP submitted its noncompetitive renewal for the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (MHSAS) program to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

May 2006

May 12th, the MFP submitted two major competitive grant renewal applications to NIMH; one for the Diversity Program in Neuroscience and one for the Mental Health Research Program.

June 2006

June 17th, the annual Summer Program in Neuroscience, Ethics, and Survival (SPINES) was kicked off at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. SPINES is a month-long program funded through an R25 grant from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). Even though the MBL is now the official grantee for this program, the Diversity Program in Neuroscience still plays a major role in running the institute because the DPN Director, Dr. Joe L. Martinez, Jr., and DPN Training Advisory Committee members, serve as core faculty for the program. In addition, DPN Fellows are required to attend and continue to make up the majority of students participating in the institute.

July 2006

July 8th – 9th, the annual summer Training Advisory Committee meeting of the Diversity Program in Neuroscience was convened at the Marine Biological Laboratory (MBL) in Woods Hole, Massachusetts. At the meeting, the committee discussed the competitive grant application which was submitted in May. The committee also undertook planning for the upcoming annual Society for Neuroscience meeting, which will be held in Atlanta, GA in October 2006. The committee also reviewed the progress of DPN Fellows and reviewed the current participants in SPINES. SPINES adjourned July 16th, 2006.

July 23rd – 29th, the MFP will host its fourth annual MFP Psychology Summer Institute (MFP PSI) at the Holiday Inn – Capital Hill, in Washington, DC. The goal of this program is to enhance the ability of MFP Fellows to transition into competitive positions in psychology departments or other professional settings by providing them with skills in grant concept development and grant writing. This is consistent with the goal of the MFP to not only fund graduate students in psychology, but to also ensure they can develop independent research careers or service providing careers in which they are placed in leadership positions. The institute has partnered with the APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA) and invited the Promoting Psychological Research and Training on Health Disparities Issues at Ethnic Minority Serving Institutions (ProDIGS) grant awardees to attend and be part of the training experience. The institute's faculty is comprised of leaders in the field of research, services, and training from around the country. The APA CEO, Dr. Norman Anderson, will provide the keynote address.

August 2006

August 10th – August 13th, the MFP will participate in events at the annual APA Convention in New Orleans, LA. On August 9th, the MFP will hold its annual New Fellows Orientation. The MFP will also host its annual “New Directions Symposium,” “MFP Special Topic Symposium,” and Social Hour/Awards Ceremony at the APA Convention. In addition, the Student Poster Session will be held in conjunction with the Social Hour/Awards Ceremony.