

Report to the APA Council of Representatives

The Public Interest Directorate July 2004 - February 2005

The Public Interest Directorate (PI) continues to support and promote efforts to apply the science and profession of psychology to the advancement of human welfare. Public Interest issues are of central importance to psychology and of critical importance to consumers of psychological services and the general public. Whether addressing issues of diversity, violence, or AIDS, or responding to the association's ongoing concerns with accessibility or ethnic minority recruitment, retention and training, public interest concerns continue to offer psychology an opportunity to promote human welfare and shape a discipline that holds an important and effective place in the society it seeks to serve. Additional information about the Public Interest Directorate and its initiatives can be found on the Public Interest Directorate web site: <http://www.apa.org/pi>.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Highlights of Recent Public Interest Directorate Office Activities:

- New student materials, *Geropsychology, Its Your Future!* fact sheets and posters have been developed by the Office on Aging. They highlight career opportunities in geropsychology research and practice. They are available at www.apa.org/pi/aging.
- APA, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the National Institute of Justice, and the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research will convene the sixth interdisciplinary conference on occupational stress and health entitled "Work, Stress, and Health 2006: Making a Difference in the Workplace" in Miami, Florida, on March 2-4, 2006. See <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/workstresshealth.html> for more information.
- The Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Concerns office submitted an application for \$570,000 of funding over two-years (May 15, 2004-May 14, 2006) from the Centers for Disease Control to continue and extend the work of the Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project.
- On July 17-21, 2004, the Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) hosted its second annual MFP Psychology Summer Institute 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.

- BAPPI will sponsor a symposium at the 2005 APA Convention entitled “Mental Health and U.S. Corrections.” The symposium will be an overarching discussion on the impact of mental health issues on correctional institution (local jails and state and federal correctional facilities) populations; and the impact of limited treatment for, and consideration of, mental illness within correctional system populations. Presenters will discuss these issues paying particular attention to the impact upon public interest constituencies (aging populations, persons living with HIV/AIDS, persons with disabilities, lesbian, gays and bisexuals, ethnic minorities particularly African American and Hispanic/Latino males, children, youth and families and women). The symposium will convene psychologists and public health experts to present and discuss these issues and offer solutions and recommendations. The symposium will be cosponsored by the Board of Professional Affairs (BPA) and Division 18.

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

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 and the Working Group on Psychoactive Medications for Children and Adolescents. The office serves as an information and referral resource to APA members and the public, and it develops and disseminates reports and other written materials on professional and consumer issues. For additional information visit the Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) Website at <http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf>.

Committee on Children, Youth, and Families

The Committee on Children, Youth, and Families (CYF) was established by a vote of Council in August 1985 to ensure "...that children, youth, and families receive the full attention of the Association...in order that all human resources are actualized." The Committee consists of six members and reports to the Council of Representatives through the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest. CYF members for 2005 are: Beth Doll, PhD, Chair; Marsha Kline Pruett, PhD; Nancy E. Hill, PhD; John Lochman, PhD; Mario Hernandez, PhD; and Lonnie Sherrod, PhD.

CYF maintains active monitor and liaison relationships with APA divisions, boards, committees and task forces. Division liaisons to CYF are active and involved in the work of the Committee. Liaisons who participated in one or more meetings during 2004 included: Kathy S. Katz, PhD, Division 7; Karen Saywitz, PhD, Division 37; James Bray, PhD, Division 43; Marilyn Erickson, PhD, Division 53; and Randi Streisand, PhD, Division 54.

Members participated advocacy training conducted by the Public Interest Public Policy Office (PPO). Following training by PPO CYF members visited with Members of Congress and their staff. Issues discussed at CYF's October meeting included violence in videogames and interactive media, corporal punishment, lesbian and gay parenting, and rural children's mental health. The Committee provided comments to various governance groups on the Draft Resolution on Families of Incarcerated Offenders; proposal for a Committee on Socioeconomic Status; *The Guidelines on Multicultural Education, Training, Research, Practice, and Organizational Change for Psychologists*; *Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Girls and Women*; and *the Report of the Task Force on Psychological Effects of Efforts to Prevent Terrorism*.

APA Resolution on Bullying Among Children and Youth

The Council of Representatives approved the APA Resolution on Bullying Among Children and Youth as APA policy during their July 2004 meeting. The resolution will be included in the APA Policy Manual.

Working Group on Psychoactive Medications for Children and Adolescents

The APA Board of Directors established the Working Group on Psychoactive Medications for Children and Adolescents (WGPM) in March 2004. Diane F. Halpern, PhD, APA president appointed the following members to the working group: Ronald T. Brown, PhD, ABPP, chair; David Antonuccio, PhD, ABPP; George J. DuPaul, PhD; Mary Fristad, PhD, ABPP;

Cheryl Ann King, PhD, ABPP; William E. Pelham, Jr., PhD; John Piacentini, PhD, ABPP; and Benedetto Vitiello, MD. The working group held their first meeting November 19-21, 2004.

15th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect

The 15th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, April 18 - 23, 2005. The conference theme, "Supporting Promising Practices and Positive Outcomes: A Shared Responsibility," will promote interagency collaboration, as well as collaboration across disciplines, in order to maximize resources and provide more effective services to protect children and strengthen families.

As a national cosponsor of the Children's Bureau/Office on Child Abuse and Neglect's Fifteenth National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, the Association has participated in planning and will participate in implementing the conference. The National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect has been held biennially since 1976, and the APA actively co-sponsored the 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th national conferences. For additional information, please contact: The Fifteenth National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect, by e-mail 14thConf@pal-tech.com or visit the conference Web site at this address <http://nccanch.acf.hhs.gov/profess/conferences/cbconference/index.cfm>

42nd Annual Association of Family Conciliation Courts Conference

The APA accepted the invitation of the Association of Family Conciliation Courts (AFCC) to be a collaborating organization for the AFCC's 42nd Annual Conference, May 18-21, 2005 in Seattle, WA. The conference theme is "Solving the Family Court Puzzle: Research, Policy and Practice." The goal is to increase awareness and use of psychological research to benefit the professions of psychology and law and children, youth, and families. For information about the conference visit this Web address: <http://www.afcnet.org/docs/conferences.htm>.

Disability Issues In Psychology Office

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.

Specifically, the office serves as an information and referral resource to APA members and the public; 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.

You may visit the office's web site at www.apa.org/pi/cdip/homepage.html for more information on disability issues in psychology.

Governance Support

The office provides continuous staff support to the APA Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology (CDIP). The Committee met during the Fall Consolidated meetings in October and worked on a number of key initiatives including: developing best practice recommendations; increasing the visibility of psychologists with disabilities and disability issues within APA;

improving access to testing and assessment instruments; and contributing to a chapter in an APA book on empirically validated treatments.

Legislative Activities

The office serves as APA's representative to the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD) Rights Task Force and Prevention Task Force. The Rights Task Force has been working to oppose the administration's recently proposed Medicaid reforms. Recently, APA's Public Interest Public Policy Office (PPO) joined with CCD and other disability and mental health organizations to advocate for legislation that would allow middle-income families of children with disabilities to "buy into" the Medicaid program to obtain health and mental health services for their children

For information on other APA policy efforts on disability issues, please visit the public policy office's website at <http://www.apa.org/ppo/issues/pdisability.html>

Education and Training Resource

The Resource Guide for Psychology Graduate Students with Disabilities made its debut at the 2004 Annual Convention. Offering practical advice on critical issues and concerns commonly experienced by graduate students with disabilities during the graduate training process, the guide was mailed to all divisional presidents and graduate psychology department chairpersons.

The Resource Guide can be accessed on-line at <http://www.apa.org/pi/cdip/resource/home.html>.

Convention Activities

The office coordinated the services of and provided staff support to the Resource Room for persons with disabilities at APA's Annual Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii. The room was fully equipped with TTY machine, Vocal-Eyes speech software, computer, wheelchairs, canes, and cots. Staff coordinated the services and schedules of two on-call sign language interpreters and a host of volunteers. Staff also ensured smooth, uninterrupted operation of the shuttle bus service between the convention center and hotels. In total, the Resource Room was able to assist approximately forty attendees.

For additional information on disability-related services available at APA's Annual Convention, please visit www.apa.org/pi/cdip/convention.html

Other Activities

Mentoring Program

The office oversees and provides functional support to its on-line Disability Mentoring Program. Launched in 2002, the program supports psychology students with disabilities, disabled psychologists entering the field, and newly disabled psychologists in their educational and professional pursuits by providing them with a mentor. Mentors are APA-member psychologists with disabilities. To date, there are forty-four mentor-mentee matches.

For further information, or to participate in this mentoring program, please visit www.apa.org/pi/cdip/mentoring/homepage.html

International Issues

In 2001, the United Nations General Assembly decided to develop a proposal for an international convention on the rights of people with disability, called the "Draft Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities" (the Convention). An Ad Hoc committee was established to discuss what should be in the Convention.

The Disability Issues officer attended the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Committee at the United Nations headquarters in New York to participate in discussions of the draft text of the proposed Convention. A draft of that text is available at www.un.org/esa/socdev/enable/rights/ahcwgreportax1.htm

The Disability Issues officer will garner feedback to the draft text from several current and former members of CDIP, and work through APA's UN representative to share those comments at the next meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee slated for February.

External Collaborations

The Disability Issues officer currently sits on the executive board and chairs the Communications Committee for the SafeUSA Partnership Council. APA plans to host the next meeting of the SafeUSA in February. For more information on the SafeUSA coalition, you may visit its website at <http://www.safeusa.org>.

The Disability Issues officer was recently asked to represent APA on the Editorial Advisory Board for the *Mental and Physical Disability Law Reporter* of the American Bar Association, and attended the advisory board's meeting in October in that capacity.

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 2004 meeting on March 26-28, 2004 and its Fall 2004 meeting on November 5-7, 2004.

At its Fall 2004 meeting, BAPPI reiterated its commitment to addressing issues related to poverty and socioeconomic status; diversity within APA governance and staffing; and Implementation of the APA Multicultural Guidelines. BAPPI agreed that it would continue to focus upon these issues during 2004 and future years.

Poverty and Socioeconomic Status

In August 2003, a new business item entitled "Establishing a New Committee within the Public Interest Directorate, The Committee on Socioeconomic Status," was assigned to BAPPI. The main motion of the new business item proposes that a new standing, permanent committee be added to the Public Interest Directorate that will have, as its major focus, attention to psychological issues related to social class. This committee would be called the Committee on Socioeconomic Status and would be staffed by Public Interest Directorate personnel.

At its Fall 2004 meeting, BAPPI reviewed the responses from the public interest committees that outlined the degree to which issues of SES are included and integrated into their current activities. The board concluded that SES is not currently being integrated into the work of the individual public interest committees in a uniform manner. The board also concluded that the importance

and impact of socioeconomic status on psychological issues requires that it be addressed on an Association wide basis rather than just within public interest. After reviewing feedback responses from public interest committees and other referral groups (Board of Professional Affairs, Board of Scientific Affairs, Board of Educational Affairs and the Policy and Planning Board), at its Fall 2004 meeting, BAPPI formulated and approved a revised substitute motion that requests the formulation of a six-member APA Task Force on Socioeconomic Status. The task force will be comprised of individuals with expertise in this area and be 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. BAPPI will submit this recommendation to the APA Board of Directors at its February 2005 meeting.

Diversity within APA Governance

In August 2003, the BAPPI submitted a memorandum to the APA Board of Directors (B/D). The memorandum contained recommendations for enhancement of diversity within APA Governance and Staffing and requested that the B/D discuss the recommendations and determine a course of action that would address the issues raised. In response to a request from the B/D, BAPPI formulated and submitted specific recommendations and action for enhancing diversity with APA governance to the B/D at its June 2004 meeting. At its July 2004 meetings, the B/D and the APA Council of Representatives approved the following:

That the Council of Representatives approves the following affirmative and concrete steps that will enhance diversity representation across the APA governance system:

1. Allocate \$3,000 in 2005 to support the costs of a pilot diversity training activity at a C/R meeting and at the Spring or Fall Consolidated meetings. It is recommended that new governance members receive diversity training in order to inform their work in their respective venues. (It is anticipated that the plenary session at the Spring or Fall Consolidated meeting will be extended to accommodate diversity training).
2. Assess the impact of the training on participants to determining whether/how it should be conducted in future C/R and consolidated meetings.
3. Request that all APA governance groups (including the B/D) include a report on diversity training and representation on their respective groups within their annual reports.
4. Encourage Divisions and State Associations to include diversity training in their respective leadership conferences and to make diversity training sessions an integral part of their leadership conference programs on an annual basis.
5. Encourage Divisions and State Associations to incorporate diversity training into their programs and resources. Encourage Division and State Association presidents to have diversity training on their respective Executive Boards/Committees and allow each Executive Board/Committee member to receive the training at least once during his/her tenure.

BAPPI and the Public Interest Directorate are in the process of developing a Multicultural Organizational Leadership workshop as a "pilot diversity training" for the APA governance in

2005. The Council will participate in the aforementioned workshop during its February 2005 meeting. Another workshop is being planned for the APA boards and committees during the Fall 2005 Consolidated Meetings (Round I and II).

Infusing the APA Multicultural Guidelines Throughout APA

The APA Multicultural Guidelines were passed by the APA Council of Representatives in August 2002. To date there has not been an association-wide plan put in place to implement the guidelines throughout APA. The Guidelines can be accessed by logging onto the APA Public Interest Directorate website at <http://www.apa.org/pi/multiculturalguidelines/formats.html>.

In March 2004, BAPPI was asked to develop recommendations for infusing the Guidelines across the Association. BAPPI asked the public interest committees to submit recommendations to inform the development of BAPPI's recommendations. During its meeting in October 2004, BAPPI reviewed the comments submitted by the public interest committees and discussed methods for infusing/implementing the Guidelines across the Association. During its discussion, BAPPI determined that in order to ensure a wide implementation of the Guidelines it would be important for the entire APA governance system to participate and provide input. To this end BAPPI formulated a main motion that requests the funding and establishment of a Task Force on the Implementation of the Multicultural Guidelines. The task force, as envisioned by BAPPI, will be charged with formulating recommendations for the infusion of the Multicultural Guidelines throughout psychology and will report back to the B/D on a regular basis on the progress of its work. The members of the task force will be appointed by the APA President. The B/D will presented with these recommendations at its February 2005 meeting.

2004 and 2005 APA Convention

BAPPI sponsored two symposia at the 2004 APA Convention.

The Implementation of the APA Multicultural Guidelines promoted and explored applications of the APA Multicultural Guidelines. Participants discussed how they implemented the Guidelines in the areas of research, education and training, organizational development, and policy development, and the effectiveness of their initiative. Participants were: Patricia Arredondo, EdD (chair), Michael D'Andrea, PhD, Nadya Fouad, PhD, Gregory Hinrichsen, PhD, and Jacquie Resnick, PhD.

The Impact of Socioeconomic Status on Mental Health was an overarching discussion on the impact of socioeconomic status on mental health as it applies to various public interest constituencies (aging populations, persons living with HIV/AIDS, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, children, youth and families and women). Participants were: Diana Slaughter-Defoe, PhD (chair), Bernice Lott, PhD, Allan Noonan, MD, Vickie Mays, PhD, and Forrest Scogin, PhD.

Mental Health and U.S. Corrections - BAPPI will sponsor a symposium at the 2005 APA Convention entitled "Mental Health and U.S. Corrections." The symposium will be an overarching discussion on the impact of mental health issues on correctional institution (local jails and state and federal correctional facilities) populations; and the impact of limited treatment for, and consideration of, mental illness within correctional system populations. Presenters will discuss these issues paying particular attention to the impact upon public interest constituencies (aging populations, persons living with HIV/AIDS, persons with disabilities, lesbian, gays and bisexuals, ethnic minorities particularly African American and Hispanic/Latino males, children, youth and families and women). The symposium will convene psychologists and public health experts to present and discuss these issues and offer solutions and recommendations. The symposium will be cosponsored by the Board of Professional Affairs (BPA) and Division 18.

Policy, Research, and Practice when providing mental health services to Aging Populations - BAPPI also allocated two of its 2005 convention program hours to the Committee on Aging (CONA) for the planning of a symposium that will focus on policy, research, and practice when providing mental health services to aging populations with attention to the infusion/implementation of the APA Multicultural Guidelines.

Adults and Children Together Against Violence (ACT)

The ACT- Adults and Children Together – Against Violence project is a national initiative emphasizing early prevention and the important role of adults and communities in creating safe and healthy environments for children and families. The project 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 National Media Campaign

The advertising firm (Chemistri, the agency for General Motors) selected by the Advertising Council to work with the ACT team continued to work closely with the APA ACT team to develop the new wave of the campaign including radio, print and out-of-door advertising. A grant from the MetLife Foundation is supporting the development of the ACT campaign. Drafts of the new radio and print ads were submitted to and reviewed extensively by APA ACT team. A special version of the radio ad was also created for broadcast on U.S. Armed Forces Radio system worldwide. The campaign is expected to be released to the national media simultaneously in March. We are also working with the Advertising Council on a campaign release media promotion and a plan for a campaign impact study.

The ACT Training Program

- Started implementation of the training program on military bases in the Washington, DC area. Two 2-day workshops were conducted at the Bolling Air Force Base for professionals working with the Family Support Program on the various bases in the DC Metropolitan area. APA ACT staff met with the Army Family Support Program national director to discuss strategies to expand the ACT program to bases nationwide. A 1-day follow up seminar in May for those already trained will be held in May in Washington, DC.
- Contacts were initiated with members of the Puerto Rico Commission on Violence to adapt and take the program to Puerto Rico. A 1-day meeting was conducted at the APA headquarters to discuss the potential partnership.
- Developed the ACT Parenting 8-week program, a series of 8 ready-to-go sessions of 1 ½ hour to disseminate the program messages and materials to parents of young children.
- Julia Silva, the ACT Program Director, continued to provide technical assistance to the ACT-trained professionals on a regular base by e-mail and phone.

Fundraising

Fundraising is an ongoing critical part of staff concerns and responsibilities; staff has been involved in the preparation of several grant proposals during the period covered by this report.

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns Office

The office published the final report of the international meeting *Sexual Orientation and Mental Health: Toward Global Perspectives on Practice and Policy*, which APA sponsored in 2001 in conjunction with the APA Convention. The report was primarily published through the office website, but a small printing of the report was produced for distribution to meeting participants, meeting sponsors, and other national psychological associations. In distributing the report, APA has asked that both organizations and individuals consider how they might collaborate with APA on implementing the recommendations of the report.

The office provided staff support to the Board of Directors Task Force on Sexual Orientation and Military Service, which met January 16-18 to discuss issues of common concern between Divisions 19 and 44, including the APA policy on military advertising.

The office hosted a conference call in October to discuss APA participation in the National Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health, in particular activities to promote the second National Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Health Awareness Week, March 14-20, 2004. Newsletter articles about the Coalition and its Health Awareness Week were written and disseminated to APA divisions that have an interest in lesbian, gay, and bisexual health issues.

The Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project

The Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project (HLGBSP) finalized the workshop curriculum and training design, trained the national cadre of trainers on the workshop, and submitted the workshop materials to CDC for clearance. The HLGBSP's fifth and final year of funding from a cooperative agreement with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Adolescent and School Health will end March 14, 2004. The purpose of the HLGBSP is to increase the capacity of school counselors, nurses, psychologists, and social workers to prevent HIV infection & other health risks and promote healthy outcomes of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and questioning youth.

The office submitted a funding application for nearly \$570,000 over two years to the CDC in response to a program announcement titled Programs to Improve the Health, Education, and Well-being of Young People under Category 1 of the announcement, HIV Prevention. The proposal requested support for continuing and extending the work of the HLGBSP. If awarded, the funding would extend the project from May 15, 2004 to May 14, 2006.

Office on Aging

The Office on Aging is the focal point for APA activities pertaining to aging. Its overarching mission is to promote the application of psychological knowledge to issues affecting the health and well being of older adults.

Governance Support

The Office on Aging provides continuous staff support to the APA Committee on Aging (CONA). Following is a sample of recent CONA activities:

- CONA's newest initiative, *A Roadmap to Aging* will offer guidance to middle-aged and older psychologists in planning for the variety of challenges that often arise as people age, in order to maximize security and satisfaction in the later years. The domains to be addressed include:

Economic/ Financial, Environmental, Health, Legal, Psychological, Social, Spiritual and Work/Retirement. A meeting of experts is currently being planned to translate the wealth of empirical evidence in the research literature into practical steps to assist people in planning for and addressing these challenges, and inform the development of a web-based brochure.

- CONA presented its second annual *Award for the Advancement of Psychology and Aging* at its October 2004 meeting to George Niederehe, PhD.
- CONA has developed a Resolution on the 2005 White House Conference on Aging for inclusion on the Spring 2005 Cross-Cutting agenda.

The 2005 White House Conference on Aging (WHCoA)

The Office on Aging has been actively advocating for the inclusion of mental health issues on the WHCoA agenda, both independently and in collaboration with the National Coalition on Mental Health and Aging (NCMHA). NCMHA is a coalition of 50 national mental health and aging organizations for which the APA Office on Aging hosts and provides staff support.

The Aging Issues Officer, with support of the Public Interest Policy Office, met the Executive Director of WHCoA and the Chair of its Policy Committee, submitted revisions to the draft agenda, offered APA as a resource for the Committee's efforts, and nominated geropsychologists to serve on for the WHCoA Advisory Council. On behalf of NCMHA, the APA Aging Issues Officer provided oral testimony to the WHCoA Policy Committee and planned an all day September 2004 NCMHA meeting at which Mental Health and Substance Abuse Resolutions were developed to forward to the WHCoA Policy Committee. In January 2005, the Aging Issues Officer was responsible for coordinating an official WHCoA sanctioned event, a Listening Session, held at APA headquarters. Fifteen panelists representing mental health providers and consumers, including APA representatives, provided testimony to WHCoA Policy Committee members on the urgent need for attention to mental health and substance abuse issues in the deliberations and resulting resolutions of the 2005 WHCoA.

Geropsychology: It's Your Future

Educational materials were designed and disseminated, with support from the Research Retirement Foundation, to promote geropsychology as a career option for undergraduate students. A fact sheet encourages students to "Discover the answers...Be a part of the solution..." and directs them to websites to learn more about career opportunities in psychology and aging. A companion poster directs their attention to the range of exciting areas of research and practice within geropsychology. The materials were sent to all undergraduate departments of psychology, human development and family studies, and to American Psychological Association of Graduate Students campus representatives for distribution.

The APA/ABA Assessment of Capacity in Older Adults Project

The Office on Aging coordinates this collaborative effort between APA and the ABA Commission on Law and Aging that is under the auspices of the Task Force on Facilitating APA/ABA Relations. The Project's first product, *Assessment of Older Adults with Diminished Capacity: A Handbook for Lawyers* will be available in early 2005. A continuing education offering for psychologists at the 2005 APA Convention, and a companion handbook for judges are currently being planned.

Psychology and Aging Advocacy Training Workshop

The APA Policy Office and the Office on Aging offered a Psychology and Aging Advocacy Training Workshop in November 2004. During the first day of the workshop, participating psychologists learned to utilize a variety of strategies and techniques for influencing social policy. The two-day training culminated with Congressional visits focusing on two current legislative issues – the Positive Aging Act and the Graduate Psychology Education program.

Securing the Representation of Geropsychology In Efforts External to APA

The Office on Aging continues its efforts to secure the representation of geropsychology in national efforts to address the needs and support the strengths of our growing older adult population. In the past six months, Steve Zarit, PhD and representatives of the Office on Aging and Science Policy Office met with the Chief and staff of the newly created Geriatric Treatment and Preventive Intervention Branch at NIMH to discuss funding priorities and opportunities for psychologists given the new structure. Forrest Scogin, PhD represented APA at the Stakeholder Planning Conference on a National Evidence Based Practice Initiative for Older Adults. Margaret Gatz, PhD provided testimony on APA's behalf at the WHCoA Listening Session described earlier. Participation in these meetings, along with the ongoing relationship between the Office on Aging and NCMHA, insures that psychology has a place at the "mental health and aging table."

Promoting Awareness of Aging Issues within APA and among APA Members

This is an ongoing activity of the Office on Aging. The *APA Aging Issues Newsletter* is published three times annually. In addition, the *Monitor on Psychology* published a number of articles on aging issues in the past six months, including those on Expanding Geropsychology Training, the APA/ABA Capacity Assessment Project, CONA's Roadmap to Aging Project, and the 2005 WHCoA.

Office on AIDS

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 has focused on developing internet-based continuing education programs on the topics of HIV/AIDS-related work issues and prevention. Additionally, staff provided 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 20,000 mental health providers.

Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer Program

In September 2004, the APA Office on AIDS received a subcontract from Macro International Inc. (ORC Macro) for \$359,700.00 to continue operating the Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer (BSSV) Program for another year. This new funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) supplements the existing funding for the BSSV Program provided through a subcontract with the Academy for Educational Development (AED). The BSSV Program is a national HIV prevention technical assistance program for health departments, community planning groups (CPGs), and community-based organizations (CBOs). Over 350

organizations have been served by BSSV Program volunteers since the program's inception in 1996.

Tabono Program

In June of 2004, the APA Office on AIDS received additional funding from CDC through a five-year subcontract from ETR Associates, Inc in California. This funding has been used to establish the Tabono Program, which provides capacity-building services to community-based organizations (CBOs) and health departments (HDs) in the western region of the United States (i.e., Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, and Guam). The primary purpose of the Tabono Program is to train and mobilize capacity-building assistance providers for the purpose of designing, developing, implementing, and evaluating HIV prevention interventions for African Americans.

Ad Hoc Committee on End-of-Life Issues

During the fall of 2003, members of the APA Ad Hoc Committee on End-of-Life Issues disseminated an internet-based survey to determine what psychologists are doing in the areas of dying, suicide, bereavement, traumatic loss, and end-of-life issues. The survey was distributed to graduate faculty and students as well as members of state associations and divisions. Thus far, over 1200 surveys have been completed. Results from the survey will be summarized and posted on the APA website at the following location: (<http://www.apa.org/pi/eol>).

In May 2004, a small business, eNURSING llc, in partnership with APA received Phase I funding from the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) through its Small Business Innovations Research (SBIR) to assess the feasibility and acceptability of a prototype for a ten-module, internet-based program designed to educate practicing psychologists and other mental health providers about effective behavioral and psychosocial strategies for working with patients and families near the end of life. All activities and deliverables associated with Phase I were completed in July 2004 and a proposal for Phase II funding was submitted to the National Institute of Mental Health in August 2004.

Children and Adolescents Task Force of the Ad Hoc Committee on End-of-Life Issues

In February 2003, the Council of Representatives provided support for the formation of the Children and Adolescents Task Force of the Ad Hoc Committee on End-of-Life Issues. The task force was charged with producing a report on practice, research, training, and policy issues for psychologists involved with children and families dealing with the end of life. A subcommittee of the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI) selected task force members in July of 2003. The first and only face-to-face meeting of the task force was held in November 2003. The task force produced a *Draft Report of the Children & Adolescents Task Force of the Ad Hoc Committee on End-of-Life Issues (Draft Report)* and the *Draft Report* was placed on the cross-cutting agenda of the Spring 2004 Consolidated Board and Committee meetings for review. APA boards and committees provided suggestions for modifications and those modifications have been incorporated into a revised version of the *Draft Report* which will be submitted to BAPPI at its March 2004 meeting.

Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs

The APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA) seeks "to expand the roles of culturally diverse peoples in the profession of psychology." During the past six months, OEMA engaged in activities related to six major initiative areas: (a) governance support, (b) communications, (c)

minority recruitment, retention and training, (d) psychology in ethnic minority serving institutions, (e) psychology and racism, and (f) special projects. The following are highlights of OEMA's efforts in each of these areas during the past six months.

Governance Support

OEMA provided assistance to the following groups.

- APA Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA) -- staffed its October 2004 meeting and coordinated the administration of its Jeffrey Tanaka Memorial Dissertation Award.
- Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training in Psychology Task Force (CEMRRAT2) – staffed its annual meeting.
- APA President's Task Force on Enhancing Diversity in APA (TFED) -- staffed its January 2005 meeting.
- Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Issues (CNPAAEMI), which consists of the presidents (or their designees) of APA, Division 45, and the four national ethnic minority psychological associations -- staffed its August 2004 meeting at the APA Convention and its January 2005 meeting at the National Multicultural Conference and Summit in Hollywood, CA.

Communications

- Edited and disseminated semiannual issues of its newsjournal, *The Communiqué*, to over 5800 individuals, departments/programs/schools of psychology, and public officials and policymakers.
- 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 2600 psychologists of color, which serves as the repository of data for OEMA's *Directory of Ethnic Minority Professionals in Psychology* and Job Bank.
- Continued to redesign and expand the OEMA web site

Minority Recruitment, Retention, and Training Initiatives

- CEMRRAT Implementation Grants Fund, which was funded by APA for \$70,000 (including staff costs) in FY2004 and for \$100,000 in 2005 -- administered the award of 15 grants totaling \$50,000 in FY2004 for activities in support of the CEMRRAT Plan; solicited applicants for 2005 grants.
- CEMRRAT2 Task Force -- continued to analyze data and draft a comprehensive progress report on the current status and impact of the 1997 CEMRRAT Plan, including developing a third wave electronic survey to divisions, state and provincial psychological associations, and APA boards, committees, and directorates regarding activities since 2002 in support of the CEMRRAT plan.
- APA Suinn Award for Excellence in Minority Graduate Education, which is presented annually to three graduate departments/programs of psychology judged to exhibit

excellence in their retention, training and graduation of ethnic minority students -- continued to provide administrative support.

- CEMRRAT2 Textbook Initiative Work Group – launched the final product, a booklet titled *Toward an inclusive psychology: Infusing the introductory psychology textbook with diversity content* at the 2004 APA Convention and disseminated over 3000 copies.
- The APA/NIGMS Project, which involves 14 institutions in recruitment, retention, and training activities to increase the number of ethnic minorities in the biomedical areas of psychology -- secured a 3-year funding renewal for \$1.6 million from NIGMS and continued to engage in continual update of project outcome data.
- Diversity Project 2000 and Beyond (DP2KB), which is a mentoring and professional development program for students of color at community colleges interested in pursuing careers in psychology -- provided partial funding and logistical support for DP2KB Summer Institute at the 2004 APA Convention.
- Early career retention efforts in collaboration with the APA Membership Office, identified and sent emails to more than 2500 ethnic minority advanced graduate students, congratulating them on their achievements and informing them of the various OEMA resources (including its newsletter) that can contribute to their professional development.

Psychology in Ethnic Minority Serving Institutions (PEMSI). This OEMA 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 activities include the following.

- Promoting Psychological Research And Training On Health Disparities Issues At Minority Serving Institution Grants (ProDIGs), which is funded by the APA's Science Directorate's Academic Enhancement Initiative (\$50,000 per year) and administered by OEMA in collaboration with APA's Minority Fellowship Program – In 2004, five ProDIGs grants were awarded to faculty at Mount St. Mary's College, CUNY, University of Hawaii, Delaware State University and Meharry Medical College; grantees also were funded to attend a 5-day professional development and mentoring institute organized by the MFP Program.
- Survey Of The Status Of Psychology At Ethnic Minority Serving Institutions. An abbreviated introductory survey was mailed to contacts at approximately 315 identified institutions with a current response rate of more than 27%; respondents received a longer survey that solicits detailed information regarding institutional and departmental (psychology) characteristics with a current response rate of more than 23%.
- OEMA Director attended the HBCU College Counseling Center Conference hosted by Morgan State University.

Psychology and Racism Project

- Continue to disseminate resource materials on racism and prejudice.
- Continue to administer the APA National Conversation on Psychology and Racism.
- Continue to provide staff support to the post-conference activities of the 6-member APA delegation to the UN World Conference Against Racism.

Special Projects

- Initiated contracted grantsmanship services in support of a proposed Conference on Psychology, Public Policy and Communities of Color.
- OEMA Director made presentation on diversity issues and strategies at the 2004 Maryland Psychological Association and the 2005 Division Leadership Conference.
- Continued to administer the OEMA Intern Program.

Minority Fellowship Program

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 the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA).

July 2004

July 10th – 11th, the annual summer advisory committee meeting of the Diversity Program in Neuroscience was convened at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA.

July 17th – 21st, the MFP hosted its second annual MFP Psychology Summer Institute at the Phoenix Park Hotel 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 partnered with the APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA) and invited its ProDIGs grant awardees.

July/August 2004

July 27th – August 1st, the MFP participated in events at the Annual APA Convention in Honolulu, HI. On July 27th, the MFP held its annual New Fellows Orientation. The MFP also hosted its annual “New Directions Symposium,” Social Hour/Awards Ceremony at the APA convention in Hawaii, “Special Topic Symposium,” and its first-ever student Poster Session, which was held in conjunction with the Social Hour/Awards Ceremony.

September 2004

The MFP ran announcements in the APA Monitor, of the availability of Fellowships and the January 15, 2005 deadline.

September 17th – 19th, the MFP held its annual fall retreat (advisory committee meeting) at the Excelsior Inn in Eugene, OR. This meeting was used to review all aspects of the MFP operation and to suggest program changes.

October 2004

The MFP ran announcements in the APA Monitor, of the availability of Fellowships and the January 15, 2005 deadline. The MFP sent out promotional material on all of its programs to members of the psychology and neuroscience community. It is anticipated that over 5,000 professionals and students were sent materials.

The Diversity Program in Neuroscience participated in activities at the annual Society for Neuroscience (SfN) conference in San Diego, CA, October 23rd – 27th. October 23rd, the DPN held its annual professional development workshop for all DPN. The DPN, along with other programs funded by NIMH, convened its annual scientific poster session/awards ceremony. October 24th, the DPN hosted its annual SPINES/DPN reunion. October 25th, the DPN hosted its annual breakfast for the university advisors of DPN Fellows. DPN also staffed the DPN recruitment booth in the main hall of the convention center.

December 2004

Kent State University awarded sponsorship to MFP, to hold a psychology forum in Spring 2006.

The MFP submitted a conference grant to NIMH for long-term financial support of its Annual Psychology Summer Institute and awaits confirmation.

Women's Programs Office

Work, Stress, and Health 2006: *Making a Difference in the Workplace:*

The American Psychological Association, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, the National Institute of Justice, and the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research will convene the sixth interdisciplinary conference on occupational stress and health entitled "Work, Stress, and Health 2006: Making a Difference in the Workplace" in Miami, Florida, on March 2-4, 2006.

The Work, Stress, and Health conference series is designed to address the constantly changing nature of work, how it is organized, and its relationship to health and well-being. Numerous topics of interest to industry, employees, and researchers are covered in the series including: new employment contracts; restructuring; long hours of work; work and family; workplace violence; best practices; workforce diversity; the aging workforce; cardiovascular disease and work; disability management; mass disaster and terrorism; and stress prevention programs. Through presentations and other information exchange, the forthcoming conference will provide workers and managers with practical ways to address workplace problems and provide directions for new research to support those practices.

A conference Call for Papers has been produced and distributed widely, with a deadline of May 1, 2005 for presentation proposals. For more information, call 202-336-6124, or visit <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/workstresshealth.html>.

Governance Support: Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP): WPO continued to provide staff support to CWP, which monitors all aspects of psychology that affect women within the

profession and as consumers of psychological services. Minutes from the 2004 CWP meetings can be viewed on-line at <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/fallminutes04.html> and <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/springminutes04.html>.

Governance Support: Task Force on Urban Psychology:

In February 2003, the Board of Directors and Council of Representatives sunset the Committee on Urban Initiatives and established the Task Force on Urban Psychology. WPO staff provides staff support to this Task Force. The final report, to be submitted to February 2005 Council, will highlight psychology's contributions to addressing critical urban issues, such as the diversity of urban populations, intergroup relations, poverty, crime and violence, homelessness, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, health and mental health, impact of the physical environment, families and neighborhoods, urban education and school reform, and employment. The report also discusses methodological issues for urban populations and outlines opportunities for psychologists in these arenas. Task Force members also presented at a symposium at the 2004 APA Convention in Honolulu, focusing on the aspects of urban psychology explored in the report.

WPO Publishes Electronic Newsletter: WOMEN'S PSYCH-E :

Women's Psych-E, which premiered in January 2002, is WPO's monthly electronic newsletter. *Psych-E* is written by WPO staff, and focuses on 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. The newsletter has proven to be informative and useful to readers. The newsletter currently has close to 400 subscribers. WPO welcomes all interested individuals who would like to receive a subscription (at no charge) to contact Gabriele Clune at gclune@apa.org. Past issues are available on the WPO website at <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/wpopsyche.html>

HIV/AIDS Prevention Small Grant:

WPO provides support for the Division 35, Section on the Psychology of Black Women's, "2005 HIV/AIDS PREVENTION SMALL GRANT" -- For Prevention/Intervention Research or Curriculum Materials Designed to Prevent or Reduce HIV Infection Among Black Women and Female Teenagers. For more information please visit the WPO website at www.apa.org/pi/wpo.

Resources for Students: WPO Publications and Surveys:

The Directory of Selected Scholarship, Fellowship, and Other Financial Aid Opportunities for Women and Ethnic Minorities in Psychology and Related Fields. This document is currently under revision.

Graduate Faculty Interested in the Psychology of Women, a survey of doctoral and master's graduate departments of psychology about activities relevant to women and/or women's issues in psychology. This document has been revised and will be available on-line January 2005.

Surviving and Thriving in Academia: A Guide for Women and Ethnic Minorities, addresses critical issues facing women and ethnic minorities pursuing careers in academia. This guide is available at <http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/surviving/>.

Data on the Status of Women: Women in the APA:

As part of its mission to monitor the participation and status of women as leaders in all areas within the field of psychology, WPO produces and regularly updates *Women in the American Psychological Association*. This document is scheduled for revision in 2005.

Representing APA and Psychology: Developing and Maintaining Partnerships with Other Groups:

In an effort to respond to all areas identified in the WPO mission, mechanisms have been established to enable continuous monitoring of developments that impact, or have the potential to affect, the lives of women from various perspectives. This is accomplished through surveys, participation in national level planning groups, representation on national boards and task forces, attendance at conferences and meetings, review of literature, and myriad activities to establish and maintain linkages with professional and federal agencies with whom we share common interests and goals.

WPO staff monitor a wide array of resources:

WPO staff track research, practice, education and training, and policy information and activities related to several key issues, including advancing women's careers and women in leadership; women's health and mental health; violence toward women; reproductive health; work, stress, and health and related issues of women and work; urban issues; and poverty, focusing in particular on the impact of poverty on mental health and on effective strategies to address these problems.

Federal Policy Affecting Women: Working with APA's Public Policy Office:

WPO continues to work with APA's Public Policy Office, tracking developing federal legislation on poverty, gender equity in education, violence against women, and depression and women's health.

Public Interest Public Policy Office

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 regulation, as well as 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 policy initiatives since July of 2004 in each of the areas represented by APA's Public Interest Directorate and includes some of those anticipated through February of this year. Major achievements during this period include an additional \$1 million in funding for the Minority Fellowship Program and enactment of the Garrett Lee Smith Memorial Act, which includes provisions of the PPO-drafted and supported "Campus Care and Counseling Act" to increase behavioral and mental health services on college campuses and prevent suicide.

- **Aging.** In October, PPO staff and APA's Aging Issues Officer met with the executive director of the *White House Conference on Aging* (to be held October 23-26, 2005). In

subsequent conversations with conference staff, APA staff continues to stress the need to include mental and behavioral health in the conference agenda and recommendations. APA presented testimony at a “listening session,” in September as a representative of the National Coalition on Mental Health and Aging and in writing for APA, and will host a coalition listening session on January 24. PPO and the Office on Aging are also advocating for APA and individual psychologists to be appointed to the White House Conference Advisory Committee and as conference delegates.

- **Children, Youth, and Families.** In September, PPO staff organized advocacy training for the APA Committee on Children, Youth, and Families and their liaisons. Following the session, members visited their U.S. Representative’s office to advocate for the *Keeping Families Together Act* to address the tragedy of parents having to relinquish legal custody of their children to obtain mental health services for them. On February 10, PPO staff will conduct an advocacy training for five of APA’s child-related divisions, which will also include visits to congressional offices.
- **Individuals with Disabilities.** PPO staff worked closely with staff from the Practice Directorate to influence and monitor changes in the bill to reauthorize the *Individuals with Disabilities Education Act*. Staff reaffirmed APA’s position concerning the recognition of psychologists’ ability to diagnose disabilities, the discipline and funding provisions, and other issues, which were favorably addressed in the bill, which was signed by President Bush on December 3.
- **Ethnic Minorities.** During the Congressional Black Caucus Legislative Conference in September, APA launched the *National Coalition on Health and Behavior* (with the National Association of Social Workers) to advocate for the role of behavior in eliminating racial and ethnic health disparities. PPO staff conducted outreach to potential coalition partners, including the Black Psychiatrists Caucus of the National Medical Association, and distributed the briefing paper, “Support for Behavioral and Social Science Research Needed to Eliminate Health Disparities.”
- **Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Persons.** In July, PPO staff developed a briefing paper, in consultation with the APA Working Group on Same Sex Families and Relationships, which was distributed to Congress to inform debate on the Federal Marriage Amendment, the proposed constitutional amendment to establish marriage as consisting “only of the union of a man and a woman.” PPO staff also worked with APA’s Committee on Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns in a coordinated advocacy campaign to educate the home offices of their senators, which included sending out an Action Alert in July urging members to contact Congress to oppose the bill.
- **Persons with HIV/AIDS.** PPO staff is currently working with two HIV/AIDS coalitions on the reauthorization of the Ryan White CARE Act, which is set to expire on September 30. An APA briefing sheet, which highlights the relationship between HIV/AIDS, mental disorders, and substance abuse, was distributed on December 13 at a coalition meeting on the reauthorization with staff of Senator Edward Kennedy (D-MA). In mid-January, PPO staff made hill visits with coalition members to the offices of supportive Senators and those serving on the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions committee. As part of a coalition effort, PPO staff is planning congressional briefings to educate Hill staffers on the current domestic HIV/AIDS situation and the Ryan White CARE Act.

- **Women and their Families.** In the omnibus appropriations bill for fiscal year 2005, programs under the Violence Against Women Act were allocated \$387 million, \$2 million more than the Bush administration's request but \$1 million less than the previous year. This amount included \$187.1 million for grants to combat violence against women, \$9.2 million to combat violence on college campuses, \$4.6 million for the elderly abuse grant program, and \$7.25 million for education and training for disabled female victims.

For more detailed information on these and other initiatives, please visit the PPO Web site at: <http://www.apa.org/ppo/>.