

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 2 & 4, 2016

APPROVED MINUTES

Board Members Present: Susan H. McDaniel, PhD, ABPP; Barry S. Anton, PhD, ABPP; Antonio E. Puente, PhD; Jennifer F. Kelly, PhD, ABPP; Bonnie Markham, PhD, PsyD; Cynthia D. Belar, PhD, ABPP; Linda F. Campbell, PhD; Helen L. Coons, PhD, ABPP; Christine M. Jehu, PhD; Richard M. McGraw, PhD; Diana L. Prescott, PhD; Sandra L. Shullman, PhD; Frank C. Worrell, PhD

Council Leadership Team Observer Present: Jean Lau Chin, EdD and Douglas C. Haldeman, PhD

I. MINUTES OF MEETING

A.(1) The Board voted to approve the minutes of its following 2016 meetings: April 1 & 2, June 10-12. The Board voted to approve the minutes of its following 2016 conference calls: March 2, March 15, April 19. The Board voted to approve the actions taken by unanimous written consent between its February 18, 2016, meeting and June 10-12, 2016, meeting.

II. ELECTIONS, AWARDS, MEMBERSHIP AND HUMAN RESOURCES

A.(2) The Board voted to recommend that Council approve forwarding the following Bylaw amendment to the Membership for a vote (underlined material to be added):

ARTICLE II

Membership

16. Friends of Psychology shall be individuals who are interested in the mission of APA, advancement of psychology as a science and as a profession to improve human welfare. They shall have such privileges as may be granted by Council, including special rates for subscriptions and publications. Friends of Psychology is open to individuals who are not eligible for other APA membership categories. They will not be Members of the Association and shall not represent themselves as such.

(Current section 16 would become section 17 and subsequent sections would be renumbered.)

The Board voted to recommend that Council approve amending APA's Association Rules as follows to become effective if and when the above Bylaws changes are approved by the Membership (underlined material to be added):

10-17. FRIENDS OF PSYCHOLOGY MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY

10-17.1 Applications from persons desiring to become Friend of Psychology may be accepted at any time by the chief staff officer, who shall have discretion in determining what form of evidence is sufficient to meet the requirements for this application.

Friends of Psychology may subscribe to any of the journals published by the Association or purchase other APA publications at reduced rates that may be equal to or higher than those charged to members.

B. In executive session, the Board voted to recommend that Council elect the 71 members listed to Fellow status, on the nomination of the indicated divisions and on the recommendation of the Fellows Committee and the Board of Directors.

V. DIVISIONS AND STATE AND PROVINCIAL AND TERRITORIAL ASSOCIATIONS

A.(3) The Board voted to accept the 2015 Division Annual Reports.

VI. ORGANIZATION OF APA

A.(4) The Board voted to recommend that Council reject the following motion due to inaccuracies in its content and the consequent legal risk:

That Council adopts as APA policy the following Resolution on APA Apology to War-on-Terror Victims of Torture and Abuse:

Preamble

APA apologizes to War-on-Terror victims of U.S. Government- sponsored torture and abuse for facilitating the presence of psychologists in abusive national security settings; APA's facilitation included changes in its ethics code and professional guidelines (the PENS Report) that allowed psychologists to continue participation in such settings without sanction. APA apologizes for its promulgation of a series of aspirational anti-torture policies devoid of implementable components, thus effectively abdicating responsibility for the conduct of psychologists in national security settings.

Resolution on APA Apology to War-on-Terror Victims of Torture and Abuse

WHEREAS during American wars and international conflicts since World War II the U.S. has been signatory to various treaties and understandings with other nations through United Nations mandates that forbid torture and other forms of brutality and dehumanization of war prisoners or combatants, with no deviation from mandates allowed (United Nations, 1948, 1984, 1994);

WHEREAS all officers, employees, and other parties acting as agents of the U.S. government (including active duty personnel, civilian contractors, and paid consultants) who assist the U.S. military and intelligence services in war and peace are required to comply with all pertinent laws and treaties of the United States governing detention and interrogation, as outlined in Executive Order 13491 (Obama, 2009);

WHEREAS after the attack on America in September 11, 2001, in Afghanistan, Iraq, Guantanamo Bay Detention Center in Cuba, and other detention sites, a number of detainees were subjected to systematic torture and abuse and other forms of brutality and

dehumanization. Various sources have described the direct or indirect involvement of U.S. psychologists in such torture (Bloch & Marks, 2005; Hoffman, Carter, Lopez, Benzmillier, Guo, Latifi, & Craig, 2015; Miles, 2006; Office of the Inspector General, 2004; Risen, 2014; Sands, 2009; U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, 2014);

WHEREAS APA, as the largest scientific and professional association in the United States representing psychology, has become, and regards itself as, the voice of psychology through its dissemination of core ethical principles, credentialing of graduate and internship programs in psychology, periodic assessment of the validity of psychological subspecialties, publication of peer-reviewed books and journals, determination of professional writing style, therefore symbolically representing all U.S. psychologists, whether or not APA members;

WHEREAS APA denied member's calls for investigation of psychologists' involvement in torture as part of interrogation and detention, and of the plight of the victims (APA, 2005); further, APA failed to deter its members' (a) legitimization of the abusive interrogation and detention program, and (b) attacks on members who opposed APA legitimization;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the APA apologizes to War-on-Terror victims of U.S. Government-sponsored torture and abuse for promulgating a series of aspirational anti-torture policies with no implementable components, thus effectively abdicating responsibility for the conduct of psychologists in national security settings.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the APA Board of Directors will send this apology to the Center for Constitutional Rights, Reprieve, Guantanamo Bay Bar Association, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the International Committee of the Red Cross.

References

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- American Psychological Association (2015, July 10). *APA apologizes for "deeply disturbing" findings and organizational failures*; Announces initial policy and procedural actions to correct shortcomings. Available: <http://www.apa.org/news/press/releases/2015/07/independent-review-release.aspx>
- American Psychological Association Council of Representatives (2015, August 7). *Resolution to amend the 2006 and 2013 Council resolutions to clarify the roles of psychologists related to interrogation and detainee welfare in national security settings, to further implement the 2008 petition resolution, and to safeguard against acts of torture and cruel, inhuman, or degrading training or punishments in all settings*. NBI #23B. Available: <http://www.apa.org/independent-review/psychologists-interrogation.pdf>
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- U.S. Senate Select Committee on Intelligence (2014, December 3). Committee study of the Central Intelligence Agency's Detention and Interrogation Program. Executive Summary. Available: <http://www.intelligence.senate.gov/study2014/executive-summary.pdf>

B.(5) The Board voted to recommend that Council refer the item “Transparency of Decisions” to the Work Group to Review Organizational Policies and Procedures.

C. The Board discussed the evaluation of the trial delegation of authority to the Board and agreed that it is premature to evaluate the following delegated areas: 1) the hiring, supervising and support of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and 2) internally focused policy development. With regard to the delegation of the hiring, evaluating and support of the CEO, it was noted that Norman Anderson, PhD, was not evaluated in his last year of service as CEO; Interim CEO Dr. Belar will not be evaluated and the next CEO will be confirmed by Council as was the practice prior to the trial delegation. With regard to the delegation of internally focused policy development, it was noted that Bylaw and Rule changes are needed to give the Board the authority for internally focused policy (e.g. membership classes, divisions) and those have not yet been developed or considered. The Board will discuss the trial delegation at a future meeting of the Board.

IX. EDUCATIONAL AFFAIRS

A.(6) The Board received an update on the Office of Continuing Education Sponsor Approval Online Application System.

B. The Board met with members of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB) and the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students to discuss ASPPB's development of a second examination, Examination for Professional Practice in Psychology Step 2, for psychology licensure to assess clinical competency.