Public Interest Directorate  
Report to the Council of Representatives  
August 2010 - February 2011  

Gwendolyn P. Keita, PhD  
Executive Director  

Public Interest Directorate Mission  
Fulfill APA’s commitment to apply the science and practice of psychology to the fundamental problems of human welfare and social justice and the promotion of equitable and just treatment of all segments of society through education, training, and public policy.  

Public Interest Executive Office  
http://www.apa.org/pi/  

Work, Stress, and Health Office  
http://www.apa.org/pi/work/  

- Since 1989, APA’s work, stress, and health initiative, in collaboration with the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and more recently with the Society for Occupational Health Psychology (SOHP), has convened eight conferences on work, stress, and health.  
- Planning is underway for the ninth conference, Work, Stress, and Health 2011: Work and Well-Being in an Economic Context, to be held May 19-22, 2011, in Orlando, Florida. The conference call for proposals was published and disseminated widely in early April 2010, with a submission deadline of October 15, 2010. Over 500 proposals were received in response, and distributed for peer review. The program planning committee met in January 2011 to make final accept/reject decisions and create the program. Official registration information is currently being prepared.  

Presidential Task Force on Preventing Discrimination and Promoting Diversity  
The APA Presidential Task Force on Preventing Discrimination and Promoting Diversity was established by 2011 APA President Melba Vasquez, PhD to identify and promote interventions that prevent and counteract the deleterious effects of bias, prejudice, and discrimination and encourage and support inclusion, respect, and appreciation of diversity. The task force is developing a report emphasizing the psychological science related to discrimination and diversity, with a focus on socially marginalized and discriminated groups, and the myriad benefits to all when the potential, capacity, and talent of all members of society are optimally developed. The report will also address how prejudice, discrimination, and bias affect both targets and perpetrators. The task
force met for the first time October 1-3, 2010, and will hold one additional meeting April 30-May 1, 2011.

**APA Public Interest Awards**

The PI Executive Office administers the APA Public Interest Awards. The 2011 award recipients will be honored at the APA/APF Awards Ceremony during the 2011 APA Annual Convention in Washington, DC on Friday, August 5.

- Roxane Cohen Silver, PhD is recipient of the *Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest Senior Career Award*, which recognizes an individual that earned his or her doctorate degree more than 15 years prior to the date of the nomination.
- Edward Delgado-Romero, PhD is recipient of the *Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest Early Career Award*, which recognizes an individual that earned his or her doctorate degree 15 or fewer years prior to the date of the nomination.
- Richard Rogers, PhD, ABPP is recipient of the *APA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Research in Public Policy*, which honors a psychologist who has made a distinguished empirical and/or theoretical contribution to research in public policy, either through a single extraordinary achievement or a lifetime of work dedicated to informing public policy through psychological understanding.

**2011 APA Convention**

The Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI) identified the overall theme for BAPPI programming for 2011 as “Living the Vision: Collaborating for the Public Interest.” With this theme in mind, all eight Public Interest governance programs will be represented throughout the convention, and Executive Office staff and other PI office and program staff supported governance efforts to develop relevant and critical programming within this theme.

**Outreach, Education, and Resources**

The Executive Office oversees directorate-wide communication initiatives. For 2011, PI transitioned *In the Public Interest* from a bimonthly to a monthly e-newsletter, released new marketing pieces for the directorate, worked with directorate staff in successfully increasing traffic to PI web pages, is developing interactive “e-cards” in collaboration with ITS and webstaff to increase awareness of PI-related information, and is working to expand APAMonitor coverage of P-related activities and issues.

**Green Door Transitional Employee**

For more than 10 years, the Public Interest Directorate provided a transitional employment position for clients of Green Door -- a local community program that prepared women and men with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, and other mental illnesses
to work and live independently in the Washington, DC area. Unfortunately, in December 2010, after 30+ years of service, the Green Door Clubhouse closed, and the services to the clubhouse members were no longer funded. Fortunately, the Green Door transitional employee who started in the Public Interest Directorate in September proved to be a strong asset to the Directorate and was hired in a temporary part-time position within Public Interest.

**Governance Support: Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest**

The PI Executive Office provided staff support to the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI) for the conduct of work via email and conference call and for the October 22-24, 2010 consolidated meetings.

BAPPI members in 2011 include Douglas C. Haldeman, PhD (Chair); Asuncion Miteria Austria, PhD; Y. Barry Chung, PhD; Joan S. Meier, JD (Public Member); J. Douglas McDonald, PhD; Linda R. Mona, PhD; Allen M. Omoto, PhD; Luis A. Vargas, PhD; Karen F. Wyche, PhD; and Antonette M. Zeiss, PhD.

**Public Interest Government Relations Office (PI-GRO)**

http://www.apa.org/about/gr/pi/index.aspx

The APA Public Interest Government Relations Office (PI-GRO) promotes psychology in the public interest primarily through work with Congress and the Obama administration. PI-GRO prepares legislative background materials, statutory provisions, and formal comments on proposed legislation and regulations, and mobilizes the APA membership for grassroots advocacy efforts. PI-GRO staff also identifies and invites psychologists to testify at congressional hearings and briefings and to represent the association on federal agency advisory councils and at executive branch meetings. Additionally, PI-GRO staff administers the APA Congressional Fellowship Program, which provides psychologists with an invaluable year-long experience on Capitol Hill, and hosts the Public Policy Internship Program, which provides an opportunity for psychology graduate students to work alongside the PI-GRO staff at APA.

**Aging**

*Geriatric Health Workforce.* As part of health reform, PI-GRO successfully worked to include psychologists among the professional disciplines eligible for important federal geriatric health professions education and training programs. Following passage of this new law, PI-GRO and Education GRO worked with the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to ensure appropriate implementation of these new provisions. In September 2010, HRSA announced the 2010 grantees for the Geriatric Academic Career Awards (GACAs), which included the first ever psychologist. Previously, these awards were only available to physicians. On both September 21 and October 21, PI-GRO worked as a member of the Eldercare Workforce Alliance (EWA) to coordinate two federal advocacy days focused on increasing support for geriatric health professions.
education and training initiatives. Advocates included interdisciplinary teams of health care providers and family caregivers, including several APA members. The advocacy teams met with key congressional offices to urge policymakers to adequately fund and appropriately implement key geriatric workforce provisions that APA and EWA successfully advocated for as part of health reform.

**Children, Youth, and Families**

*Coalition Letter.* On August 7, 2010 PI-GRO provided language for the National Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Coalition’s (NJJDPC) response to a Federal Coordinating Council on Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (FCCJJDP) request for comments on federal juvenile justice policy. PI-GRO’s contribution addressed FCCJJDP’s specific request for information on educational settings and at-risk youth. These comments encouraged stronger federal efforts to promote school mental health, address the needs of LGBT youth, and increase school safety while also decreasing schools’ reliance on zero tolerance discipline.

**Individuals with Disabilities**

*Stigmatization of People with Disabilities.* On September 22, 2010, PI-GRO worked to secure passage of S. 2781, a bill that replaced references in federal law from “mental retardation” to “intellectual disability.” The bill, which was signed into law by President Obama, reflected several years of collaborative grassroots efforts between PI-GRO and Division 33 (Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities) to substitute references to “mentally defective” and “mental retardation” in federal law with language that is less stigmatizing and reflects the current state of knowledge in the fields of mental health and disability.

**Individuals Living with HIV/AIDS**

*White House, Federal Agency, and Congressional Visits.* On December 9-10, 2010, PI-GRO spearheaded meetings between key psychologists and AIDS experts and the White House’s Office of National AIDS Policy, the Department of Health and Human Services, and seven influential congressional offices. The group, which included Committee on Psychology and AIDS (COPA) Chair Scyatta Wallace, PhD, and COPA member Eugene Farber, PhD, used the visits to highlight the empirically based role behavioral sciences are playing in the prevention and treatment of HIV/AIDS in both the clinical and research settings. The visits were timed to influence steps the federal government will take to implement the National HIV/AIDS Strategy, released by the White House in July. APA’s comprehensive recommendations concerning NHAS were drafted by PI-GRO in conjunction with the APA Office on AIDS and COPA and were previously submitted to the White House and HHS leadership in September. These advocacy efforts are detailed in a February 2011 *Monitor on Psychology* article.

**Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Persons**
“Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” On December 22, 2010, President Obama signed H.R. 2965 into law to begin the process of repealing the Defense Department’s policy concerning homosexuality (10 U.S.C. § 654), commonly referred to as “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” The law stipulates that the policy will remain in effect until President Obama, Defense Secretary Robert Gates, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Michael Mullen certify to Congress that policies and procedures are in place to lift the ban without harming military readiness and effectiveness, unit cohesiveness, and recruitment and retention. That certification would be followed by a 60-day wait period. PI-GRO, Science GRO, and the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office have worked collaboratively for many years in support of this initiative and effectively utilized APA’s advocacy network to urge policymakers to end this discriminatory policy.

Racial and Ethnic Minorities

APA Participation at Congressional Minority Caucus Conferences. On September 13, 2010, then APA President-elect Melba Vasquez, at the invitation of Representative Grace Napolitano (D-CA), moderated a symposium at the Annual Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Public Policy Conference entitled Mental Health in the Latino Community: Erasing the Stigma, Breaking the Silence, and Healing the Mind for Better Tomorrows. Other panelists included Henry Acosta, Executive Director of the National Resource Center for Hispanic Mental Health; MaJose Carrasco, Secretary, National Latino Behavioral Health Association; and Pamela Hyde, SAMHSA Administrator. On September 17, 2010, PI-GRO secured the participation of APA member, Dr. Ernestine Briggs-King from Duke University and the National Child Traumatic Stress Network at the Congressional Black Caucus’ Veterans Braintrust event entitled Supporting Our Troops, Preserving Their Families: A Salute to Military Families and Children. The symposium, which occurred as part of the caucus’ annual conference, was convened by Representatives Charles Rangel (D-NY), Corrine Brown (D-FL), and Sanford Bishop, Jr. (D-GA) and featured other notable panelists such as Rev. Jesse Jackson, Rev. Al Sharpton and former Surgeon General David Satcher.

Socioeconomic Status

Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) and Homelessness. On November 29, 2010, APA submitted recommendations to the House Committee on Ways and Means, Subcommittee on Income Security and Family Support, regarding the TANF program. The TANF block grant is one of the primary sources of funding for services designed to help low-income parents succeed in the workplace. Congress recently delayed TANF reauthorization until September 30, 2011. APA will continue to urge policymakers to improve this critical program for those with low SES. On November 29, PI-GRO also sent a letter to the U.S. House of Representatives in support of H. Con. Res. 325, recognizing National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day on December 21, 2010. This important legislation promotes a comprehensive national response to address the causal factors and consequences of extreme poverty; acknowledges those who are currently living on the streets and our nation’s failure to end homelessness; and salutes the dedicated professionals and organizations who provide assistance to people in need.
APA’s letter highlighted the activities of psychologists around homelessness issues, including the recent report of the APA Presidential Task Force on Psychology’s Contribution to End Homelessness.

Women and Their Families

Sexualization of Girls. On September 29, 2010, Senators Kay Hagan (D-NC) and Robert Menendez (D-NJ) introduced the Senate version of the Healthy Media for Youth Act (S. 3852). The legislation is largely based on recommendations from the 2007 APA Sexualization of Girls report, and is identical to the House companion, which creates media literacy and youth empowerment programs; directs research on the role and impact of depictions of girls and women in the media on youth development; and creates a Federal Communications Commission National Taskforce to develop voluntary steps and goals for promoting positive, healthy images of girls and women in media. On October 22, PI-GRO staff attended the SPARK Summit (www.sparksummit.com) at Hunter College in New York City to educate attendees on the Healthy Media for Youth Act and encourage them to urge their members of Congress to cosponsor the legislation. PI-GRO designed a legislative action center booth that resulted in 29 attendees contacting their members of Congress. Many more participants received information on the legislation and APA’s work on the issue. PI-GRO also conducted an advocacy workshop, “Take Back the Power!” for 15 Summit participants, which focused on the dynamics of successful advocacy movements and practical ways attendees could inform policymakers.

Trauma, Violence, and Abuse

Child Abuse and Violence Against Women Reauthorizations. On December 20, 2010, President Obama signed the Child Abuse Prevention and Treatment Act (CAPTA) Reauthorization Act of 2010 (S. 3817) into law. The reauthorization of this important law has been a longstanding priority for PI-GRO. The modest, consensus-oriented bill passed with bipartisan support in the House and Senate and will renew authorized funding for CAPTA’s discretionary programs in addition to community-based prevention grants and state grants. The reauthorization had three goals: to improve data collection in order to enable program operation; to improve systems for training and supporting individuals who identify, prevent, and respond to reports of child maltreatment; and to strengthen coordination among service providers working to address “challenges associated” with child maltreatment, such as domestic violence. PI-GRO continues to work independently, and with violence prevention advocates in support of the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). In particular, PI-GRO is working with partners to draft key provisions in support of scientific research on violence against women and prevention and intervention efforts in the health care setting. In addition, PI-GRO is advocating for attention to the needs of vulnerable populations, including individuals with disabilities; ethnic minorities; children; lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons; immigrants; and military families.

Cross-Cutting Initiatives
**Health Reform Implementation.** PI-GRO continues to work to ensure appropriate and timely implementation of several of the key provisions that APA successfully secured in the new health reform law (P.L. 111-148). These efforts include initiatives to promote integrated interdisciplinary health care; the expansion of prevention and wellness initiatives focused on a variety of areas and populations; the expansion and enhancement of geriatric and pediatric health professions education and training programs; programs to address health disparities; the reauthorization of the *Indian Health Care Improvement Act*; and initiatives to assist states in providing home and community-based services and supports.

**Immigration.** On October 1, 2010, PI-GRO representatives attended the first meeting of the APA Presidential Task Force on Immigration (see Children, Youth, and Families report below). Convened by APA President Melba Vasquez, PhD, the task force is charged with writing a comprehensive report on the psychological ramifications of the immigration experience. PI-GRO staff briefed the Task Force on recent immigration related policy issues and provided guidance regarding how the report might be used to educate and inform policymakers.

**Indian Affairs.** On September 3, 2010, PI-GRO sent letters to the Director of the White House Office of Management and Budget and the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services urging the Obama Administration to support the full funding of new mental and behavioral health programs authorized under health reform in the President’s FY 2012 budget. APA also requested that the Indians into Psychology program be fully funded at $2.7 million. Additionally, PI-GRO representatives met with leading advocacy groups including the National Congress of American Indians and the National Indian Health Board to discuss mutual priorities.

**Military Service Members, Veterans, and their Families.** APA is a longstanding member of the National Alliance for Caregiving (NAC), a leading nonprofit organization on caregiving issues. In November, NAC and United Health Foundation (UHF) released the results of their recent study regarding family caregivers of veterans, one of the first of its kind. PI-GRO staff served on the study’s advisory committee and assisted NAC and UHF in organizing a congressional briefing in November 2010 to release the results of the study to policymakers and the public. To read the report of the study findings, please visit [http://www.caregiving.org/data/2010_Caregivers_of_Veterans_FULLREPORT_WEB_FINAL.pdf](http://www.caregiving.org/data/2010_Caregivers_of_Veterans_FULLREPORT_WEB_FINAL.pdf). PI-GRO is partnering with the University of Utah and its National Center for Veterans Studies to host a Best Practices Conference focused on suicide risk assessment, management, and treatment in active military and veterans populations. The conference will take place in Washington, DC in fall 2011 and will gather a select group of experts to focus on this important issue. Outreach to federal policymakers and stakeholder organizations will also be coordinated, including a congressional briefing.

**APA Congressional Fellowship Program**

The APA Congressional Fellowship Program, now in its 37th year, offers psychologists the rare opportunity to spend one year as a special assistant to a member of Congress or
congressional committee on Capitol Hill. Cheri Hoffman, PhD, is APA’s inaugural Jacquelin Goldman Fellow, serving in the office of Representative Pete Stark (D-CA), and Sandra Wilkniss, PhD, is APA’s Catherine Acuff Fellow, working in the office of Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM). The Fellowship program hosted a number of successful activities at the 2010 APA Convention, including a booth in the employer section of the Exhibit Hall and a symposium, held in collaboration with APA’s Executive Branch Science Fellowship. Applications for the 2011-2012 Fellowship cycle were recently accepted and the selection process is underway.

Office on Aging
http://www.apa.org/pi/aging

The Office on Aging is the focal point for APA activities pertaining to aging. The office promotes the application of psychological knowledge to issues affecting the health and well-being of older adults; provides consultation and information to APA entities, psychologists, other professionals, policymakers, and the public; and establishes linkages with health and aging organizations to work cooperatively to address the needs and support the strengths of older adults, their families, and their caregivers.

APA 2010 Presidential Task Force on Caregivers

The office provided staff support to the 2010 Presidential Task Force on Caregivers convened by then APA President Carol Goodheart, EdD. The Task Force’s principle product is the Family Caregiver Briefcase for Psychologists (http://www.apa.org/pi/about/publications/caregivers/index.aspx).

The Briefcase includes over 160 web pages of resources psychologists can use to assist family caregivers through individual and organizational practice, research, teaching, advocacy, and community service. It is also useful for all professionals who work with family caregivers, psychologists facing caregiving challenges within their own families, and caregivers themselves. Components include:

- Caregiving facts
- Strategies for reaching family caregivers
- Research opportunities and considerations
- Caregiving interventions
- Assessment tools
- Variations in practice for diverse groups
- Teaching about Caregiving
- Advocacy on behalf of family caregivers
- Roles for and profiles of psychologists who work with family caregivers
- Resources

Caregiving was also a central theme of the 2010 convention. The Task Force presented “Serving Family Caregivers in Your Community: Opportunities, Roles, and Resources for Psychologists.” APA divisions sponsored 22 symposia and poster sessions in support
of this initiative. The task force will also offer a 2011 continuing education workshop, “Practice Opportunities for Working with Family Caregivers.” Presidential Task Force members are Andrea Patenaude, PhD (Chair), Martha Crowther, PhD, MPH, Timothy Elliott PhD, ABPP, William Haley, PhD, Barry Jacobs, PsyD, and Sara Honn Qualls, PhD.

**Task Force to Update the Guidelines for the Evaluation of Dementia and Age-Related Cognitive Change**

The task force has completed its update of the 1998 guidelines to incorporate recent advances in psychological science and practice. If adopted by Council in February, the guidelines will be shared with divisions and state psychological associations via list serves and member publications and published in the *American Psychologist*. The guidelines will also be disseminated broadly to professional organizations and government agencies including the National Institute on Aging and the DSM-V Neurocognitive Disorders Work Group. Task force members are Glenn Smith, PhD (Chair), Cameron Camp, PhD, Susan Cooley, PhD, Hector Gonzalez, PhD, Paula Hartman-Stein, PhD, Asenath LaRue, PhD, Nancy Pachana, PhD, and Antonette Zeiss, PhD.

**APA/ABA Assessment of Capacity in Older Adults Project**

The office continues broad dissemination of the successful handbook series, *Assessment of Older Adults with Diminished Capacity* for psychologists (2008), judges (2006), and lawyers (2005) ([http://www.apa.org/pi/aging/programs/assessment/index.aspx](http://www.apa.org/pi/aging/programs/assessment/index.aspx)). Combined, these handbooks attracted over 12,000 “hits” on the office website in 2010. Current efforts focus on organizations such as the American Psychiatric Association, Gerontological Society of America, and National Association of Social Workers, all of whom have promoted the usefulness of the handbooks to their constituencies. At the 2010 convention, a new, half-day continuing education workshop, *Psychological Assessment of Decision-Making Capacity of Older Adults*, drew upon the Handbook for Psychologists to provide a theoretical framework and practical information regarding how to design and conduct capacity examinations for older adults in a variety of settings and how to work effectively with lawyers and courts.

**Integrated Health Care for an Aging Population (IHAP) Initiative**

The office continues to promote implementation of this model of care via dissemination of *Blueprint for Change: Integrated Health Care for an Aging Population* (2008) [http://www.apa.org/pi/aging/programs/integrated/index.aspx](http://www.apa.org/pi/aging/programs/integrated/index.aspx) and targeted fact sheets. Reports that summarize integrated care models in primary care and home-based efforts with older adults and the role of psychologists in these models are in development. For APA’s 2011 convention, the office and Committee on Aging developed a symposium entitled “Successful Models of Integrated Care: Psychological Programs that Address Health Care Disparities,” cosponsored BAPPI and its Committees on Socioeconomic
Status, Ethnic Minority Affairs, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Concerns, as well as the Committee on Rural Health.

Eldercare Workforce Alliance

APA is an active member and hosts meetings of the Eldercare Workforce Alliance (EWA), a national alliance of 29 professional and direct care workforce and consumer organizations convened to resolve the geriatric health workforce shortage and promote the adoption of interdisciplinary models of care (www.eldercareworkforce.org). APA and EWA successfully advocated to expand Geriatric Health Professions Education and Training opportunities at the Health Resources and Services Administration to include psychologists, along with other health care providers. Previously, medicine was the only eligible profession. Office on Aging Director, Deborah DiGilio, MPH, serves on the Alliance’s Coordinating Council.

National Coalition on Mental Health and Aging

APA is the organizational home and one of the 60 members of NCMHA, which provides opportunities for professional, consumer and government organizations to work together towards improving the availability and quality of mental health services for older Americans. The office provides staff support to the Coalition, and Director Deborah Digilio is on NCMHA’s Executive Committee. APA was instrumental in formulating the 2010 priorities of this group. (www.nchma.org). In September, NCMHA submitted comments to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) requesting systematic consideration of the special needs of older adults in all areas of its Strategic Initiatives.

Governance Support: Committee on Aging (CONA)

The Office on Aging provides staff support for APA’s Committee on Aging. Committee on Aging 2011 members include Sara Honn Qualls, PhD (Chair); Patricia A. Areán, PhD; Adam M. Brickman, PhD; Kelly O’Shea Carney, PhD, CMC; Neil H. Charness, PhD; and Manfred Diehl, PhD.

The successful, all-day, preconvention workshop What Psychologists Should Know about Working with Older Adults was offered a third time at the 2010 APA convention. Its goal is to increase the competencies of licensed psychologists interested in work with older adults.

The annual CONA Conversation Hour focused on recent reports and press related to the early diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease and on the necessity of a response from psychology on the critical role of psychological science and practice in the assessment and diagnosis of dementia and cognitive change and its treatment. CONA is developing a draft response for input by APA groups, which will ultimately be distributed to media, other organizations, and policymakers.
Office on AIDS

HIV Office for Psychology Education (HOPE) Program

In October 2009, the APA Office on AIDS was awarded $858,615 from the Center for Mental Health Services (CMHS) of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) to continue the HIV Office for Psychology Education (HOPE) Program (http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/programs/hope/index.aspx) for another 5 years. During the past 6 months, program staff oversaw the development of three continuing education courses, which will be hosted on the APA Office for Continuing Education website. Staff members have updated HOPE Program training materials and recruited new trainers, who will be oriented to the program through a new online, train-the-trainer (TOT) course. Since its inception in 1991, the HOPE Program has trained more than 28,500 mental health providers.

Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer (BSSV) Program

The Behavioral and Social Science Volunteer (BSSV) (http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/programs/bssv/index.aspx) is a national HIV prevention technical assistance program for community-based organizations (CBOs). In September 2009, the BSSV Program was awarded funding under a cooperative agreement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for another 4.5 years. During the past 6 months, staff members participated in several 3- to 4-day trainings of facilitator sessions sponsored by CDC on various evidenced-based interventions (EBIs). After receiving training, staff members then developed and delivered three online trainings for over 60 behavioral and social scientist volunteers (BSSVs) on three EBIs sponsored by CDC: Sisters Informing Sisters on Topics About AIDS, Many Men Many Voices, and Healthy Relationships. BSSV Program staff also presented at two major conferences in Washington, DC. Additionally, program staff members continue to respond to capacity-building assistance (CBA) requests from CBOs in the areas of program evaluation and selecting, adapting, and implementing EBIs. Since its inception, over 700 organizations have been served by BSSVs.

Internet-based Education Program on End-of-Life Issues

The APA Office on AIDS and its small business collaborator, eNursing LLC, received $850,000 from the Small Business Innovations Research (SBIR) Program of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to develop and test a 10-module, internet-based, continuing education program to train psychologists and other mental health providers about working with people near the end of life. The Office on AIDS and the APA Continuing Education Program launched the end-of-life training program on the APA website in August 2009. The program is currently being actively marketed to APA members and other relevant constituencies (http://search.apa.org/continuing_education?query=&facet=ceformat:End-of-life%20issues%20and%20care&sort=title)
Cyber Mentor Program

In March of 2008, the Office on AIDS received $734,000 to provide 3 years of funding support for a new program called the CyberMentors: A Sustainable Model for Developing Minority HIV Researchers (http://www.apa.org/pi/aids/programs/cyber/index.aspx). This innovative and sustainable research mentorship program prepares researchers who have not yet received RO1 level funding, and who are either from underrepresented groups and/or are interested in HIV/AIDS research with racial and ethnic groups that are overrepresented with HIV/AIDS, to develop successful independent careers in HIV/AIDS research. The 2-year long mentorship program utilizes state of the art distance learning technologies (e.g., webcasts, online classrooms, etc.) to teach mentees how to (1) develop and implement a career development plan focused on building the strengths of the mentee to conduct independent research and (2) develop and submit a high quality research funding application to NIH. The Cyber Mentors Program staff and members of the APA Ad Hoc Committee on Psychology and AIDS (COPA) have successfully fielded three rounds of recruitment and selection of mentees and volunteer mentors. The Cyber Mentors Program is in its final year of funding. On January 7, 2011 the Cyber Mentors Program staff prepared and successfully submitted a renewal application to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) to continue and expand the current program for another 3 years.

HIV/AIDS Community Day – 2011 APA Convention, Washington, DC

Members of the Ad Hoc Committee on Psychology and AIDS (COPA), staff of the APA Office on AIDS, staff of the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), and representatives from university and community-based organizations in metropolitan Washington are currently planning a 1-day conference the day before the 2011 APA Convention. Front-line providers, prevention scientists, and community leaders will attend the planned conference to discuss ways of transferring evidence-based family prevention programs to curb the spread of the disease in the Washington, DC area.

Governance Support: Committee on Psychology and AIDS

The Office on AIDS provided staff support for the Committee on Psychology and AIDS. Committee on Psychology and AIDS members in 2011 include Scyatta A. Wallace, PhD (Chair); Mariana Cherner, PhD; Eugene W. Farber, PhD; Perry Halkitis, PhD; Marguerita Lightfoot, PhD; Willo Pequegnat, PhD; and Richard J. Wolitski, PhD.

Office on Children, Youth, and Families
http://www.apa.org/pi/families/index.aspx

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.
After 25 years of service to APA, Office Director Mary Campbell is retiring, effective February 2011. Ms. Campbell’s long and successful career at APA, as Director of the office and as staff liaison for APA’s Committee on Children, Youth, and Families and numerous task forces and working groups, has incorporated tremendous contributions to APA, Public Interest, the Office on Children, Youth, and Families, as well as the many other groups and individuals interested in issues related to children, youth, and families. Her wisdom, judgment, breadth of knowledge and expertise, and commitment to make the world a better place have made a positive difference in the lives of children, youth, and families, and she will indeed be missed.

**APA Presidential Task Force on Immigration**

Established by APA President, Melba Vasquez, PhD, the APA Presidential Task Force on Immigration will develop an evidence-based report that addresses the psychological factors related to the experience of immigration, with particular attention to the mental and behavioral health needs of immigrants across the lifespan and the effects of acculturation, prejudice/discrimination, and immigration policy on individuals, families, and society. Task Force members are Carola Suarez-Orozco, PhD (Chair); Dina Birman, PhD; J. Manuel Casas, PhD; Nadine Nakamura, PhD; Pratyusha Tummala-Narra, PhD; and Michael Zaraté, PhD. The Task Force met in September 2010 and completed a first draft in January 2011.

**Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families Who Are Refugees from Armed Conflict Residing in the United States**

The Board of Directors established the Task Force on the Psychosocial Effects of War on Children and Families Who Are Refugees from Armed Conflict Residing in the United States in February 2008. The task force was charged with developing a report to assist psychologists meet the challenges of working with children and families who are refugees from armed conflicts residing in the United States:

- Reviewing the research on the psychosocial effects of war on children and families;
- Identifying areas of needed culturally and developmentally appropriate research; and
- Developing recommendations for culturally and developmentally appropriate practice and programs.

2008 APA President Alan E. Kazdin, PhD, appointed the following individuals as task force members: Katherine Porterfield, PhD (Chair); Adeyinka Akinsulure-Smith, PhD; Molly Benson, PhD; Theresa Betancourt, ScD; B. Heidi Ellis, PhD; Maryam Kia-Keating, PhD; and Kenneth Miller, PhD. The Task Force’s report, titled *Resiliency and Recovery after War: Refugee Children and Families in the United States*, was received by the Council of Representatives meeting in August 2010.


The Update for Mental Health Professionals Working with Refugee Children and Families was also printed and disseminated and is available at: http://www.apa.org/pubs/info/reports/refugees-health-professionals.pdf.

Print copies can be obtained by emailing achatman@apa.org.

**Acting Boldly to Change Diet and Exercise for Kids (ABCDE)**

In February 2009, the Committee on Children, Youth, and Families originated the APA Resolution on Promotion of Healthy Active Lifestyles and Prevention of Obesity and Unhealthy Weight Control Behaviors in Children and Youth, adopted by Council in February 2009. ([http://www.apa.org/about/governance/council/policy/chapter-12b.aspx#active-lifestyle](http://www.apa.org/about/governance/council/policy/chapter-12b.aspx#active-lifestyle))

Based on the resolution, the office developed *Acting Boldly to Change Diet and Exercise (ABCDE) for Kids* to help parents and caregivers encourage healthier eating and physical activity in children and youth. *ABCDE* provides an online overview of the importance of good nutrition and exercise for children ([http://www.apa.org/topics/children/healthy-eating.aspx](http://www.apa.org/topics/children/healthy-eating.aspx)) and a downloadable tip sheet for parents/caregivers with a tear-off card containing healthy food shopping and physical activity checklists ([http://www.apa.org/topics/children/healthy-eating-tips.pdf](http://www.apa.org/topics/children/healthy-eating-tips.pdf)).

**18th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect**

APA accepted the Office of Child Abuse and Neglect’s invitation to become a cosponsor for the 18th National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect. The National Conference on Child Abuse and Neglect (NCCAN) is under the aegis of the Children's Bureau and its Office on Child Abuse and Neglect (OCAN). OCAN is housed in the Administration for Children and Families. The conference will be held April 16–20, 2012, in Washington, DC. The audience typically includes 2,000 plus leaders, policymakers, researchers, and practitioners in child welfare. (conference information at [http://www.pal-tech.com/web/OCAN/index.cfm?p=1](http://www.pal-tech.com/web/OCAN/index.cfm?p=1))

APA will be recognized at the conference as a lead organization dedicated to shaping public policy, research, and best practice in preventing and responding to child maltreatment through this partnership with the Children's Bureau and Office on Child Abuse and Neglect. Cosponsorship also provides a forum to network with federal partners and other national organizations to shape the only federally sponsored national conference on child abuse and neglect.

NCCAN has been held biennially since 1976 and APA cosponsored the 11th - 17th National Conferences. The 18th National Conference is especially significant because 2012 marks the 100th anniversary of the Children’s Bureau, which is the oldest Federal agency responsible for administering federal child welfare programs. NCCAN has a long-
standing national reputation in providing training and technical assistance for policy makers, practitioners and researchers.

2010 APF Annette Urso Rickel Dissertation Award for Public Policy

Each year the Committee on Children, Youth, and Families works with the American Psychological Foundation (APF) to administer the Annette Urso Rickel Dissertation Award for Public Policy. (http://www.apa.org/apf/funding/rickel.aspx) Leandra Godoy was the winner of the 2010 Annette Urso Rickel Dissertation Award.

APF provides financial support for innovative research and programs that enhance the power of psychology to elevate the human condition and advance human potential both now and in generations to come.

The APF Annette Urso Rickel Foundation Dissertation Award for Public Policy supports dissertation research on public policy, which has the potential to improve services for children and families facing psychosocial issues.

Governance Support: Committee on Children, Youth, and Families

The office provides staff support to the Committee on Children, Youth, and Families, which works to assure “…that children, youth, and families receive the full attention of the Association in order that all human resources are actualized…including issues related to gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and disability.”

Committee on Children, Youth, and Families members in 2011 include Jesús Manuel Casas, PhD (Co-Chair); Monica Johnson Mitchell, PhD (Co-Chair); Preston Britner, PhD; Yo (Yolanda) Jackson, PhD; Roseanne L. Flores, PhD; and Patti Johnson, PhD.

Disability Issues in Psychology Office

The Disability Issues in Psychology Office works to eliminate bias against and promote equal opportunity for persons with disabilities in psychology 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; and promotes the development and application of psychological knowledge to address public policy issues concerning people with disabilities.

Proposed APA Guidelines for Assessment and Treatment of Persons with Disabilities

Recommended by the Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology and established by Council, the Task Force on the Proposed APA Guidelines for Assessment and Treatment of Persons with Disabilities has developed a set of guidelines to provide psychologists
with general principles and approaches to (1) working with people with disabilities, including accessibility, communication, and relationship skills; (2) assessment of persons with disabilities, including selection of appropriate measures and adaptation of measures; and (3) treatment and provision of clinical services, including frameworks for disability sensitive and disability affirmative therapy.

The guidelines were approved by APA’s Board of Directors during its August 2010 meeting and will be considered for final approval and adoption by Council during the February 2011 meeting.

Resource Guide for Students with Disabilities, Volume 2

This edition of the student resource guide includes articles developed by members of the Committee Disability Issues in Psychology and program staff. Topics include strategies for students with disabilities to consider in navigating the internship match process, suggestions for honing conflict resolution skills, and important issues to consider for a career in academia. The guide is due for release in February 2011.

On-line Toolkit/CE Modules

This on-line resource will provide training directors and faculty with tools to increase their knowledge of disability issues. These tools will include articles on various aspects of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) and other relevant legislation (FERPA); vignettes and case examples; results of a recent survey on student barriers; compilation of relevant APA articles and in-house resources; exemplary practices; and adaptive technologies. Staff is working with the Continuing Education Office to develop training modules based upon the content.

Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities

As a long-standing member of the Consortium for Citizens with Disabilities (CCD), the Office utilizes psychologists’ research and expertise to promulgate and support specific disability policies and legislation to ensure self-determination, integration, and inclusion of children and adults with physical and mental disabilities. Office Director Anju Khubchandani presently serves on the coalition’s Rights, Health, and International task forces, and monitors disability policy and legislation that may have implications on APA policy initiatives.

Outreach, Education, and Resources

- The office continues to develop and produce a theme-based, newsletter to raise the visibility of disability issues, to increase the understanding of applying psychology to disability, and to provide a forum by which psychologists can share their findings and research. Staff is working to develop its current issue.
The Office Director serves on the Editorial Advisory Board for the Mental and Physical Disability Law Reporter of the American Bar Association, and attends regularly scheduled board meetings in that capacity.

During this reporting period, the Office director met with the leadership of the American Public Health Association’s Committee on Disability Issues to identify several collaborative activities.

**2010 Convention Activities**

The Office coordinated and provided continuous staff support to the Disability Resource Room during the 2010 APA annual convention. Approximately 70 attendees with disabilities utilized the services offered by the resource room, including:

- Loaner wheelchairs and canes
- Sign language interpreters
- 70 volunteers
- Program on diskette
- Computer equipped with vocalization software
- Van service, equipped with a wheelchair lift
- Disability-related information and other written materials

A booklet was prepared and distributed to convention attendees that highlighted disability-related programming at the annual convention.

In collaboration with APA’s Office on Disability Issues, the Committee on Disability issues in Psychology hosted its annual conversation hour/awards ceremony. This well-attended event featured guest speaker Randall Cox, PhD who was also recipient of this year’s *Distinguished Contributions to the Advancement of Disability Issues in Psychology Award*.

**Governance Support: Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology**

The office provided staff support to the APA Committee on Disability issues in Psychology.

Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology members in 2011 include Julie Williams, PsyD, CRC (Chair); Erin Elizabeth Andrews, PsyD; Dolores Cimini, PhD; Kim A. Gorgens, PhD; Barbara Palombi, PhD; and Lawrence Pick, PhD.

**Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs**


The Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA) was established in 1979 “to expand the roles of culturally diverse peoples in the profession of psychology.”
Shortly before the August 2010 Council meeting, Senior Director Dr. Bertha Holliday retired from APA, after more than 16 years of service to the Public Interest Directorate and Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs. Among her many contributions during her tenure at APA, she provided guidance and expertise to the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs, numerous APA task forces, commissions, and working groups, and ad hoc groups such as the Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Interests (CNPAAEMI). Her sustained support for and mission and work of the office and directorate helped to advance the priorities, address the concerns, and identify and meet the needs of culturally diverse people within psychology.

Communications

- Produced and disseminated the August 2010 issue of the OEMA Communiqué Newsjournal, which featured a special section on Indigenous peoples: Promoting psychological healing and well-being and other noteworthy information. Available at: http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/communique/index.aspx

- Conceptualized, solicited articles, and initiated development of the forthcoming Spring 2011 issue of the Communiqué, which will include a special section on the histories and contributions to psychology of the four national ethnic minority psychological associations.

- Continued other ongoing efforts such as (a) maintaining and updating the OEMA database of information on over 3100 psychologists of color; (b) updating and managing the OEMA Website (http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/); (c) coordinating with the Monitor on Psychology staff to develop articles on topics related to ethnic minority concerns, submitting announcements for OEMA related activities and programs in 2011; and responding to inquiries from members and the general public.

Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention, and Training Initiatives

- On behalf of CEMRRAT2 Task Force, coordinated the competition and ultimate selection of the 2010 Suinn Minority Achievement Award for Excellence in Ethnic Minority Recruitment and Training and facilitated the award presentation ceremony. See: http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/recruitment/commission.aspx

- On behalf of CEMA, managed and coordinated the competition and selection process of the 2010 Jeffrey S. Tanaka Memorial Dissertation Award and coordinated its award presentation ceremony. See: http://www.apa.org/about/awards/tanaka-award.aspx
• OEMA engaged in numerous activities related to the planning and on-site management of the 2010 Diversity Project 2KB (DP2KB) 4-day Summer Institute for community college honor students of color interested in pursuing a career in psychology, which will be cosponsored by APA (OEMA and the Education Directorate), NIDA, and Psi Beta Honor Society. See: http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/recruitment/dp2kb.aspx

• Federal funding of the NIGMS funded project on Expanding Minority Biomedical Research Talent in Psychology (the "APA/NIGMS Project"), terminated on July 31, 2009 after providing intensive behavioral and biomedical research mentorships and supportive academic services to more than 700 ethnic minority undergraduate students over a 13 year period. Consequently, efforts focused on completion of a Project Final Report. See: http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/recruitment/nigms.aspx

Psychology in Ethnic Minority Serving Institutions (PEMSI)

This initiative seeks to strengthen relationships between APA and this sector of postsecondary institutions, as well as teaching and research in psychology at these institutions. Related OEMA efforts included:

• OEMA solicited applications, coordinated review and selection, and coordinated grant award processes for the four 2010 awardees of OEMA’s Promoting Psychological Research and Training on Health Disparities Issues (ProDIGs) grants to early career faculty at minority-serving institutions. Four applicants were each awarded approximately $6,500 for research activities preliminary to preparation of a major research/training grant, as well as additional funding of approximately $2,700 to support their mandatory attendance at the 7-day 2010 MFP/PSI professional development institute. See: http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/disparities/index.aspx

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

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

OEMA assistance included the following:

• Management and coordination of follow-up activities and actions resulting from CNPAAEMI’s summer meeting in June, held in conjunction with the APA Division 45 Inaugural Research Conference in Ann Arbor, Michigan.
• Facilitated communication and network development associated with CNPAAEMI’s projects and concerns e.g., voting seats on the APA COR for the four ethnic minority psychological associations, development and funding requests for a Leadership Development Institute, development of an informational brochure on tests and assessment.

• Coordinated the competition process and selection of CNPAAEMI’s 2011 Henry Tomes Awards for Distinguished Contributions to Ethnic Minority Psychology – one award for Distinguished Lifetime Contributions and one award to an Emerging Leader. See: http://www.apa.org/about/awards/pubint-tomes.aspx

Governance Support: Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs

OEMA provided continuing staff support to the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), including (a) providing staffing assistance in support of proposal development and securing of hours for its 2010 convention programs; (b) announcement of 2010 call for nominations for both CEMA and its dissertation award; (c) coordinating CEMA’s review and comment on various proposals, and (d) staffing its Fall 2010 meeting, including agenda book development and coordinating related follow-up actions. Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs members in 2011 include Miguel E. Gallardo, PsyD (Chair); Kevin Cokley, PhD; Iva GreyWolf, PhD; Helen A. Neville, PhD; Derald Wing Sue, PhD; and Pratyusha "Usha" Tummala-Narra, PhD. For more information: http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/committee/index.aspx

OEMA also provided staffing to the Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training in Psychology II Task Force (CEMRRAT2 TF). Efforts included: (a) coordinating the development of its 2011 convention program on human resources development to address health disparities; and (b) planning for its 2011 annual meeting including agenda book development and related activities. For more information: http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/recruitment/commission.aspx

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office (LGBTCO) works to advance psychology as a means of improving the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people, as a means of increasing understanding of gender identity and sexual orientation as aspects of human diversity, and as a means of reducing stigma, prejudice, discrimination, and violence toward LGBT people. The office provides support and guidance to all aspects of APA governance on issues related to its mission and products and services to the APA membership and others seeking psychological resources to promote beneficial change in society for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people.

Amicus Briefs
In September, a Florida intermediate appellate court affirmed the invalidation of the Florida gay adoption ban, 3-0. The decision quotes APA's brief in footnote 10. In December, APA filed a brief with the 9th Circuit Court in Schwarzeegger v. Perry, which pertains to the repeal of California’s Proposition 8 that placed a ban on same-sex marriage in the state’s constitution.

**Repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell”**

Early in November the office worked with the GRO to distribute an action alert among APA members and divisions calling upon them to contact their members of Congress and ask them to act on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and the repeal of “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” during the Lame Duck session.

**Media**

In November, Office Director Dr. Clinton Anderson gave an interview to Philadelphia's NPR radio station on the topic of “reparative therapy.”

**Publications**


**Web**

In February a new page was added to the LGBTCO content titled *Promoting Good Practices for Mental Health Facilities in Working with LGBT Clients with Serious Mental Illness*.

**Healthy Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Students Project**

APA’s Healthy LGB Students Project (www.apa.org/pi/lgbt/programs/hlgbsp/index.aspx) is funded by the Division of Adolescent and School Health of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to prevent HIV infection among youth, particularly young African-American and Latino men who are attracted to men. The centerpiece of the project is a day-long professional development workshop for school counselors, nurses, social workers, and psychologists to improve school climates and provide effective HIV prevention services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and questioning (LGBQ) students. The workshop curriculum has been newly updated and revised to reflect current data, research, and professional development theories and practices; and features skills-building on motivational interviewing strategies and methods.
In May 2010, the project conducted workshops for more than 200 high school counselors of the School District of Philadelphia. The workshop was also recently conducted in New Jersey, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and South Carolina. The project is planning a major training-of-trainers event in February 2011 for state and local agencies funded by CDC-DASH to provide effective HIV prevention.

**Network for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns and Transgender Issues in Psychology**

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns Office provided staff support to the International Network for Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns and Transgender Issues in Psychology. [http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbt/resources/international.aspx](http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbt/resources/international.aspx)

The Network has two major foci: (1) increasing programming in international psychological congresses—the International Congress of Applied Psychology (Melbourne 2010) and the International Congress of Psychology (Capetown 2012), and (2) policy advocacy.

The program of the 27th International Congress of Psychology (ICAP) in Melbourne, Australia, included an identified LGBT stream with symposia, papers, and discussion sessions, and was identified by keywords in the call for submissions and in the program. Dr. Anderson provided opening remarks for a symposium titled *Going Global with Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues: How Psychology Can Contribute*. The General Assembly of the International Union of Psychological Science, held during the Congress, endorsed a change to its statutes that explicitly calls for the inclusion of sexual orientation as a “protected” category in policies on the universality of science and the free circulation of scientists. ([IUPSYS at http://www.iupsys.net/](http://www.iupsys.net/) for more information)

Current policy initiatives are focused on building upon the International Union of Psychology Science antidiscrimination policy among its members, and the homosexuality-related diagnoses in the World Health Organization’s ICD. Additionally, the office worked with Network Representatives of the Psychological Society of South Africa to produce an Open Statement opposing their government’s vote in a committee of the United Nations General Assembly that removed the term “sexual orientation” from a resolution condemning extrajudicial, summary, and arbitrary executions and other killings. When the resolution came to a vote of the full General Assembly, the South African government reversed itself and supported an amendment to reinstate the term.

**International Statistical Classification of Diseases and Related Health Problems (ICD) Workgroup**

Since ICD-9, positive changes have occurred in the perceptions and legal status of homosexuality in many societies worldwide. Nevertheless, persons with nonheterosexual sexual orientation identities and/or behavior are still subject to societal stigma and discrimination that harm their health. The homosexuality-related diagnoses in ICD-9 are historically rooted in and support continuing unscientific stigmatization of homosexuality.
by health professions. Because stigmatization continues, these diagnoses are likely to be used to diagnose homosexuality despite its accompanying caution. Further, use of these diagnoses may impede appropriate treatment of underlying disorders (e.g., Major Depression).

The LGBTCO has submitted recommendations to the World Health Organization to delete three homosexuality-related diagnoses to better reflect current scientific knowledge, current practice, and changes in the social understanding or view of homosexuality.

**Michigan Project for Informed Public Policy**

The Michigan Project for Informed Public Policy (MPIPP), a project of the Michigan Psychological Foundation funded by the Arcus Foundation, organizes social scientists, mental health experts, and medical professionals in Michigan to convey accurate information about lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues to the public, the media, legislators, courts, and other policymakers. LGBTCO provides consultation to this project, as part of efforts to implement the APA Resolution on Opposing Discriminatory Legislation and Initiatives in Michigan Aimed at Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Persons (2007). [http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbt/programs/michigan-inform.aspx](http://www.apa.org/pi/lgbt/programs/michigan-inform.aspx)

**Governance Support: Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns and Other Groups**

The office also provided support for the Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns. Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns 2011 members include Michael Mobley, PhD (Chair); Angela D. Ferguson, PhD; Ellyn Kaschak, PhD; Vic Muñoz, EdD; Kevin Nadal, PhD; and Parrish L. Paul, PhD, HSP.


The LGBTCO also maintained liaison relationships with APA divisions and affiliated state, provincial, and territorial psychological associations that have an interest in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues.

**2010 Convention**

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgender Concerns Office coordinated the convention programs on marriage equality for same-sex couples that were jointly sponsored by APA President Carol Goodheart, Division 9, Division 44, the Divisions for Social Justice, the Committee on Legal Issues, and the Membership Board and collaborated with the Public Interest Government Relations Office and the Public Affairs Office on a grassroots advocacy campaign urging members of Congress to support marriage equality legislation, in which over 760 messages were sent to Capitol Hill by convention-goers and others.
Minority Fellowship Program
http://www.apa.org/pi/mfp

The Minority Fellowship Program is an innovative, comprehensive, and coordinated training and career development program that promotes psychology and behavioral outcomes of ethnic minority and other underserved communities. Its principle aim is to play a key part in efforts to reduce health disparities by providing financial support, professional development activities, and professional guidance to doctoral students and professionals in psychology. The MFP currently administers the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellowship, Psychology Summer Institute, and the Recovery to Practice initiative.

Selection of New and Continuing Fellows

In January of 2011, the MFP received over 200 applications for its Mental Health & Substance Abuse Services (MHSAS) fellowship programs (predoctoral and postdoctoral). These applications are being prepared for review by the MHSAS Training Advisory Committee in March. In addition, nearly 30 currently funded Fellows have submitted annual progress reports for review. The currently funded MHSAS Fellows can be found at http://www.apa.org/pi/mfp/psychology/services-bios.aspx.

Recovery to Practice Activities

The MFP held conference calls with psychologists, consumers of mental health services, and family members of consumers to discuss the state of mental health recovery in psychology. The office also conducted literature, conference, and web searches to gather data. After analyzing the data that was collected, the MFP submitted a draft situational analysis report to SAMHSA in January. The final report will be submitted in February.

New Funding Opportunity

The MFP submitted a proposal in response to a Request for Applications entitled “Seeding National Mentoring Networks to Enhance Diversity of the Mental Health Research Workforce,” a U24 cooperative agreement sponsored by NIMH. The purpose of the Diversity Research Network proposed by APA is to facilitate the successful management of transitioning postdoctoral trainees and junior academics to the next career stage, the advancement of protégés toward research independence, the enhancement of protégés’ leadership and mentoring skills, and the development of scientific advances in the understanding and treatment of mental illness.

Events at the 2010 Annual APA Convention

From August 11-15, 2010, the MFP sponsored events at the annual APA Convention in San Diego, CA. MFP’s activities began with its two-day Professional Development Workshop for new Fellows. Thirteen new Fellows received orientation on APA, MFP, and SAMHSA; were introduced to the greater MFP community; and participated in
various workshops and a site visit to the Naval Medical Center in San Diego. The MFP also hosted its annual “New Directions Symposium,” where four Fellows who have recently graduated presented their dissertation research. Our office cosponsored CEMA’s Town Hall Meeting on “The State of Ethnic Minority Affairs in Psychology.” MFP also held its annual Achievement Awards, Poster Session, and Social Hour at the APA Convention. The new Fellows were introduced to the MFP family, and awards were presented to Armando Piña, Frederick Leong, and Faye Belgrave (http://www.apa.org/pi/mfp/psychology/convention-awards.aspx). In addition, we hosted a breakfast where our Fellows and alumni could continue to network and discuss MFP’s future in a more intimate setting. Finally, a breakfast was hosted for advisors of MFP Fellows to discuss program activities, their roles as advisors, and the funding climate.

August 11, in conjunction with the Practice Directorate, MFP hosted a reception for the executive directors (EDs) of State, Provincial, and Territorial Psychological Associations. Approximately 20 EDs were introduced to the Recovery to Practice initiative and heard from a consumer of mental health services regarding her journey to recovery. The EDs were encouraged to begin spreading the message of recovery to their members.

Advisory Committee Meetings

The MHSAS Training Advisory Committee (TAC) held its annual retreat October 1-3, 2010, to discuss MFP policy and to plan for future years. This year’s retreat was hosted by TAC member La Pearl Logan Winfrey at Wright State University in Dayton, OH. The TAC roster and short biographies can be found at http://www.apa.org/pi/mfp/committees/psychology.aspx.

The Recovery Advisory Committee (RAC) held its first in-person meeting November 10-11 at APA headquarters in Washington, DC. The members assessed the state of mental health recovery in psychology, outlined the vision for the Recovery to Practice initiative at APA, and outlined a situational analysis report to be submitted to SAMHSA in January, 2011. The RAC roster and short biographies can be found at http://www.apa.org/pi/mfp/committees/recovery-advisory-committee.aspx.

MFP Program Promotion

In conjunction with the events at the convention, MFP produced Variability, its newsletter for psychology. This newsletter is distributed to the MFP community, applicants, federal agencies, and others who are interested in ethnic minority training issues. The summer 2010 issue of Variability can be found at http://www.apa.org/pi/mfp/psychology/variability/2010/08/summer.pdf.

In October, the MFP reviewed its promotional materials, website, and applications and made changes consistent with program and funding priorities. These materials were distributed to members of the psychology community. This entails sending electronic messages to listservs and setting up links to the MFP websites from other websites. The office sent materials to an estimated over 5,000 professionals and students.
Office on Socioeconomic Status
www.apa.org/pi/ses/

The Office on Socioeconomic Status (OSES) directs, oversees, facilitates, and promotes psychology’s contribution to the understanding of SES in the lives and well-being of the poor. OSES develops and facilitates relationships and activities to advance psychology as a major force in research, policy, and advocacy related to SES through various activities and programs. OSES manages and supports the activities of the Committee on Socioeconomic Status (CSES).

Presidential Task Force on Psychology’s Contribution to End Homelessness

Staffed by OSES, the 2009 Presidential Task Force on Psychology’s Contribution to End Homelessness was commissioned by James Bray, PhD, during his tenure as APA’s president and charged to identify and address the psychosocial factors and conditions associated with homelessness and define the role of psychologists in ending homelessness. The task force produced a report summarizing the current literature to support recommendations to advance research, training, practice, and policy efforts on homelessness. The report was received by the Council of Representatives in February 2010 and is available at www.apa.org/pi/ses.

During this reporting period, the task force proposed revisions to the 1990 APA Resolution on Homelessness, citing more current research to aid the Public Interest Government Relations Office in influencing relevant legislation and government funding and programming. The revised Resolution on Homelessness was adopted by the Council of Representatives in August 2010 and is available at www.apa.org/pi/ses.

CSES Leadership Awards

The CSES Leadership Awards recognize the outstanding achievements of psychologists and friends of psychology who have made significant contributions to the understanding of socioeconomic status and the lives and wellbeing of the poor.

Recipients of the 2010 CSES Leadership Awards included:
- Nancy Adler, PhD (Distinguished)
- Edith Chen, PhD (Emerging)
- Larry Graff of the Center for Social Advocacy (Organizational)

The awards were presented during the SES Network Meeting at the 2010 APA Convention.

August 2010 OSES Convention Programming

The following 2010 APA Convention Activities were (co)supported by OSES:
• Annual SES Network Meeting & CSES Awards Presentations.
• SES Convention Program Highlights
• Pre-Convention Workshop; Measuring Socioeconomic Status and Social Class in Psychological Research.
• Symposium; Engaging Schools and Communities: Advancing Behavioral, Physical, and Public Health.
• Symposium; A New Look at Homelessness: Research, Policy, and Funding.
• Symposium; Health Disparities Among Women: Social Science and Social Justice Perspectives.
• Symposium; APA’s Socioeconomic Status Related Cancer Disparities Program (SESRCD).

**CDC-funded Socioeconomic Status Related Cancer Disparities Program (SESRCD)**

In August 2010 APA’s Office on Socioeconomic Status entered into year 3 of a 5-year awarded cooperative agreement from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Division of Cancer Prevention and Control to implement the Socioeconomic Status Related Cancer Disparities Program (SESRCD). SESRCD aims to strengthen the capacity of community cancer-serving organizations and stakeholders to utilize evidence-based strategies to improve or initiate cancer prevention, early-detection, and survivorship activities for socioeconomically disadvantaged populations. SESRCD has worked steadily to implement the goals and objectives of the grant during this reporting period to include:

• On August 13, 2010, SESRD hosted a three-person symposium entitled, *Psychology’s Role in Reducing Cancer Health Disparities*, at the APA Convention in San Diego. The symposium increased the program’s presence at the national conference and provided a platform to increase health disparity awareness in cancer care to the mental health community.

• From August 2010 to January 2011, SESRCD successfully conducted three Professional Development Training Resource (PDTR) workshops to cancer-serving professionals and stakeholders in Dallas, TX; San Diego, CA; and Springfield, IL. This interactive, full-day workshop, designed to increase cancer serving professionals’ intentions to act on, or advocate, for the initiation and improvement of programs and services for socioeconomically disadvantaged populations, was conducted with the assistance of local SESRCD Behavioral and Social Science Volunteers (BSSV) and local/state health department personnel.

• Participants in PDTR workshops are eligible to apply for SESRCD mini-grant funding, and between August 2010 and January 2011, SESRCD awarded six mini-grants of up to $5,000 each to community-based organizations to support individual or collaborative activities targeting cancer prevention, early detection and/or survivorship in underserved populations. Organizations receiving SESRCD mini-grant funding during this time are the Collette Coyne Memorial Melanoma Foundation, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of Long Island, Asian Breast Health Outreach Project, Cancer Research Foundation of North Texas, Center for Community Health University of North Texas, Kommah Serah Inflammatory
Breast Cancer Foundation, Vista Community Clinic California, and the YWCA of Orange County.

- During this time period, six professional matches were established between cancer-serving organizations requesting free capacity-building assistance and SESRCD BSSVs. Matches were selected by SESRCD staff based on the specific needs of the organization’s request and the BSSV’s subject matter expertise.

**Governance Support: Committee on Socioeconomic Status**

OSES provided staff support for the Committee on Socioeconomic Status (CSES), which met September 24-26, 2010 in Washington, DC. In January 2011 CSES welcomed two new members of CSES: Salvador Macias, III, PhD, Professor at University of South Carolina Sumter; and Laura Smith, PhD, Assistant Professor at Teachers College. They join the current committee members [Martha E. Wadsworth, PhD (Chair); Hector M. González, PhD; Irene López PhD; and Faye Reimers, PhD] for a term extending from January 2011 until December 2013.

**Violence Prevention Office**

www.apa.org/pi/preventviolence/
actagainstviolence.apa.org/

The Violence Prevention Office is the focal point for APA activities related to violence and injury prevention. The office provides training and technical assistance, and disseminates information on topics associated with child maltreatment, media violence, youth violence, and intimate partner violence. It is the coordination point for the APA ACT/ Raising Safe Kids program, the initiative designed to disseminate research-based psychological knowledge and skills to educate families and communities to create violence-free environments for children and youth.

**Evaluation Study of ACT Raising Safe Kids Program**

The 3-year effectiveness evaluation study of the ACT Raising Safe Kids Program conducted by a research team from the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, led by Dr. Sharon Portwood and funded by CDC was concluded during this period. The final report was released in December, and an article in the *Monitor on Psychology* December issue highlighted the study findings, which include:

- The ACT program is a promising primary prevention intervention that can be implemented at relatively low cost as part of a community’s public health approach to reduce child abuse and neglect;
- Participants reported that participation in the ACT program 8 sessions helped them become better parents, to control their anger, to learn and implement better parenting and discipline strategies, and to acknowledge developmentally appropriate behaviors for their children;
- Results from the evaluation indicate that parents participating in the program demonstrated several changes indicative of more effective parenting. There are
statistically significant measures of decline of use of harsh verbal and physical
discipline; increase in nurturing behavior; and increase in social support from
friends.

The research team will prepare articles to be submitted to appropriate journals.

2-Year $249,000 grant from the DOJ/Office for Victims of Crime

A 2-year $249,000 grant from the DOJ/Office for Victims of Crime was awarded to the
Violence Prevention Office in September to develop, implement, and evaluate a national
sequential training program to train providers of services for children and adolescents
victimized by violence and crime. The purpose of the Effective Providers Program is to
increase service providers’ awareness and knowledge about the impact of violence and
trauma on children and adolescents and of effective trauma-focused, culturally sensitive,
developmentally appropriate, evidence-based interventions. Online and in-person
workshops will be developed. To accomplish the project goals and objectives, the office
is partnering with two national organizations and will have assistance from APA
members and others who are renowned experts on topics related to violence,
victimizations, and treatment.

Women’s Programs Office

The Women's Programs Office (WPO) works to improve the health, education, well-
being, and status of women psychologists and consumers of psychological services. WPO
activities span the science, practice, education, and policy arenas.

Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology (LIWP)

On August 10–11, 2010, the WPO and CWP convened the third annual CWP Leadership
Institute for Women in Psychology (LIWP), which was expanded to a second day, in San
Diego. The 2010-2011 LIWP focused on the leadership training needs of 25 midcareer
women member psychologists holding the rank of Associate Professor or above in
academic and academic medical settings. WPO was especially pleased that Dr. Pamela
T. Reid, President, Saint Joseph College, addressed this LIWP class.

Related for LIWP participants included “Working with You is Killing Me,” with Drs.
Karen Wyche and Susan McDaniel as presenters; and “Becoming an APA Leader,” with
Drs. Nadine Kaslow and Nancy Moore as presenters.

Planning is underway for the fourth annual LIWP scheduled for August 2-3, 2011, which
will focus on the leadership and training needs of midcareer women psychologists in
academic/academic medical and clinical and consulting settings.

In January, the Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology Fund was formally
established with the American Psychological Fund (APF). This fund will support the
APA Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology, which aims to provide women psychologists with the tools necessary to move into senior leadership positions in the different professional settings where psychologists work, by providing operating support and also scholarships for a select number LIWP participants who exhibit outstanding leadership qualities. For additional information, please contact Dr. Shari Miles-Cohen at smiles@apa.org or Ms. Kari Hill at khill@apa.org.


**SPARK Summit: Challenging the Sexualization of Girls and Women**

Following a May 2010 convening meeting, which was supported with funding from the NoVo Foundation, the “SPARK Summit: Challenging the Sexualization of Girls and Women” was held at Hunter College in New York City on October 22, 2010. The summit brought together girls, women, and media professionals, thought leaders, funders, researchers, and activists – and served as a national call to action and campaign for change. An interactive website was developed to support and amplify the summit’s ongoing impact. For more information, follow activities on Twitter: @SPARKsummit or contact Dr. Shari Miles-Cohen at smiles@apa.org.

**Post Partum Depression Consumer Brochure**

WPO has disseminated more than 4,000 PPD consumer brochures, in response to requests from a variety of providers and organizations ranging from social work graduate students and clinical psychologists who own private practices to small direct service support centers and emergency triage centers across the United States. English, Spanish, and simplified Chinese-language brochures are available at http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/Postpartum%20Depression%20brochure_2007.pdf.

The French translation has been completed. WPO is working to finalize the layout and design of the brochure. The French-language brochure is expected February 2011.

**Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) Working Group**

The United States is one of just seven countries that has not ratified the United Nations Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), which affirms principles of fundamental human rights and equality for women around the world. APA has been strongly advocating with the executive branch for U.S. ratification for over 10 years.
APA recently joined the CEDAW Working Group. WPO Senior Director Dr. Shari Miles-Cohen represents APA in this national coalition of 125-plus member organizations. WPO continues to educate members about CEDAW and explore methods for increasing awareness about global issues at the state and local levels. In November 2010, Dr. Gwendolyn P. Keita, Executive Director of the APA Public Interest Directorate testified on the ratification of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Dr. Keita’s full testimony is available at http://www.apa.org/pi/women/resources/newsletter/2010/12/keita-testimony.aspx.

**Women’s Psych-E**

WPO staff continues to write and disseminate *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. (To subscribe, send an email to the editor, Ms. Kari Hill at Khill@apa.org.) Recent issues are available at http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/wpopsyche.html.

**Trafficking of Women and Girls**

In October 2010, the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI) approved a request from CWP to establish an APA Task Force on Trafficking of Women and Girls. A call for nominations was disseminated in November; CWP will review nominations at their March 2011 meeting. The WPO and CWP also submitted a proposal to the U.S. State Department seeking funding support for the task force, and will continue to seek outside funding to support this initiative.

**Intimate Partner Violence**

WPO staff is working with CWP to develop a consumer-friendly brochure and/or factsheet highlighting the mental health consequences of intimate partner violence including information on prevalence, screening/recognizing the signs, and local and national resources.

**Conference on Women with Disabilities**

The WPO and Office on Disability Issues in Psychology (ODIP) are collaborating on development of a 2-day national conference highlighting special issues concerning women with disabilities, including health disparities, disease prevention, health promotion and maintenance, health conditions, reproductive health, psychological health, abuse, access to care and services, and health equity. This 2-day conference will target a national multidisciplinary cadre of psychologists and other health care professionals and consumers who are committed to the improved health outcomes for women and girls with disabilities.
Women in the American Psychological Association

WPO has begun preparing the 2011 edition of *Women in the American Psychological Association*, 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 2011 edition will provide data in a more user friendly format and will include downloadable fact sheets.

Governance Support: Committee on Women in Psychology

WPO provided staff support for September 24-26, 2010 meeting of the Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP). In addition, the WPO continues to provide staff support for the follow-up activities related to the Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion, the Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls, and the CWP Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology (LIWP).

Committee on Women in Psychology members in 2011 include Nancy M. Sidun, PsyD, ABPP, ATR (Chair); Kathy A. McCloskey, PhD, PsyD, ABPP (Vice Chair); Joan Chrisler, PhD; Cynthia de las Fuentes, PhD; Ramani Durvasula, PhD; and Sandra L. Shullman, PhD.