

APA Women's Programs Office (WPO)
Division 35 APA Executive Committee (EC) Meeting
January 29-31, 2016

I. Information Item

A. Background: brief overview and purpose of committee

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. The Office works to:

- coordinate APA's efforts to ensure equal opportunities for women psychologists as practitioners, educators, and scientists;
- analyze initiatives and trends affecting women within APA and within psychology;
- eliminate gender bias in research, diagnosis and treatment, and education and training;
- promote the inclusion of women in research studies and encourage the analysis of sex and gender in the conduct and reporting of the results of research;
- improve women's access to health and mental health services and promote the inclusion of psychosocial and behavioral factors in women's health research and practice; and
- monitor the welfare of women as consumers of psychological services, analyze the impact of governmental initiatives on women, and promote the development and application of psychological knowledge.

B. Report on the activities of the committee for current reporting period-- The following report focuses on activities of the Women's Programs Office from August 2015 – December, 2015.

Staffing:

The WPO is staffed by Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD, Senior Director, and Tanya L. Burrwell, Assistant Director. In September, 2015, Ms. Wynter K. Oshiberu resigned from the position of Women's Programs Assistant.

In June 2015, the Women's Programs Office welcomed intern, Hannah Lavoie. Ms. Lavoie is a rising senior at senior this fall at High Point University, pursuing a BA in Psychology and Philosophy. In July 2015, the office welcomed intern Talat 'TJ' Harb. Mr. Harb is a rising senior at James Madison High School in Vienna, VA.

2015 Activities/Initiatives:

Governance Support

WPO provided staff support for the Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP), which met March 27 – 29, and September 27-29, 2015. Committee on Women in Psychology members in 2015 include Jennifer P. Wisdom, PhD, MPH (Chair); Edna M. Esnil, PsyD (Vice Chair); Earlise C. Ward, PhD, LP (2015 Chair-elect); Cheryl L.B. Travis, PhD

(2015 Vice Chair-elect); Alette Coble-Temple, PsyD; and Paola Michelle Contreras, PsyD.

In addition, staff presented interim reports on office activities at the August meetings of the APA Council of Representatives Women's Caucus meeting and the August meetings of the Society for the Psychology of Women. Staff did not attend the 2015 Association for Women in Psychology conference, but plan to attend the meeting in 2016. Staff also actively participated in APA's annual convention in Toronto, chairing symposia, presenting papers, staffing CWP, and hosting coffee hours.

APA Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology (LIWP)

The mission of the APA LIWP is to empower, prepare, and support women psychologists as leaders to promote positive changes in institutional and organizational life and to increase the diversity, number, and effectiveness of women psychologists as leaders. WPO staffs the Executive Committee, as well as the Assessment, Evaluation and Publication Subcommittee, Development Subcommittee, New and Ongoing Initiatives Subcommittee, Program and Faculty Development Subcommittee, and Selection Subcommittee; organizes the monthly conference calls for each committee; manages the APA LIWP applications process; schedules and runs the Webinar backend logistics; maintains regular contact with participants and alumnae; and works to secure financial support for the LIWP.

Webinars:

In January 2015, the APA LIWP presented "Social Media for the Busy Professional," facilitated by Dr. Jessica Henderson Daniel, member of the APA LIWP Executive Committee and Chair of the New and Ongoing Initiatives Subcommittee.

On March 18, 2015, the APA LIWP "Advancing into Academic Administration," facilitated by Dr. Ruth E. Fassinger, member of the APA LIWP Executive Committee and Chair of the Assessment, Evaluation, and Publications Subcommittee.

Class of 2015-2016/Year 8: The 8th Annual APA Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology convened on October 27-29, 2015 at the Kellogg Conference Hotel, Gallaudet University in Washington, DC. Dr. Kimberlyn Leary, advisor to the White House Council on Women and Girls, addressed the Year 8 class.

The EC also voted to expand the eligibility criteria to include all mid-career women psychologists, regardless of employment sector and to increase the program registration fee to \$800.

Class of 2016-2017/Year 9: The Call for Applications will be released the first week of January 2016. The 2016-2017 Call for Applications is open to mid-career women psychologists who work full time in one or more settings, including academic, academic medicine, clinical, consulting, corporate, government, military, non-profit/NGO, or other settings.

Museum Day 2016

The American Psychological Association Women's Programs Office (WPO), the Drs. Nicholas and Dorothy Cummings Center for the History of Psychology at the University of Akron (CHP), and Psychology's Feminist Voices Oral History and Digital Archive Project (PFV) is partnering with the White House Council on Women and Girls and the Smithsonian Affiliates Program to design and implement an interactive exhibit and event for Museum Day, March 12, 2016.

The goal is to use the history of psychology to encourage girls of color to explore careers in the social and behavioral sciences, to engage in the museum experience, and to learn how psychology can be used to improve their daily lives and for social change.

Activities will be presented in the APA Capitol View Conference Center in Washington dc and, will include: 1) a curated interactive exhibit that will immerse museum goers in the histories of women of color in psychology and their legacies for contemporary psychology; 2) a live-streamed interactive discussion with eminent women of color psychologists from all career stages representing psychological science, practice, and policy areas; and, 3) empowering (skills-building) activities for girls from 7th to 12th grades who will be invited to participate in the Museum Day event itself.

The WPO has reached out to the Divisions and Sections and is eager to incorporate their suggestions and contributions into the project.

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. The Task Force was charged with reviewing the state of the literature of theory, research, and practice relevant to the trafficking of women and girls, and producing a report summarizing its findings. The full report, which includes a special section, *What Psychologists Can Do*, as well as the Executive Summary are available on the APA website at <http://www.apa.org/pi/women/programs/trafficking>.

Executive Summaries were distributed to the following events:

- "Arise, Awake, Act against Sex Trafficking" conference at Spelman College in Atlanta
- Stop, Observe, Ask, and Respond (SOAR) to human trafficking Health and Wellness Training

In August 2015, Dr. Miles-Cohen chaired a symposium entitled, "Trafficking of Women and Girls in North America: Perspectives from Canada, Mexico, and the United States, which focused on differences and similarities in the trafficking of women and girls in three North American countries and recommendations for successful prevention efforts and evidence-based strategies to eradicate this international tragedy. One presenter, Dr. Eugenia Villarreal, was not able to attend because of funding challenges. However, Dr. Deborah Hume, co-chair of APA's task force, Deb Sinclair, and Barbara Gosse made presentations.

Additionally, the WPO is also working with a consultant to transcreate the Executive Summary into Spanish. The Spanish language version will be available in Spring 2016.

Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls

The *Report of the APA Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls* was released February 2007. Now in its third printing, WPO has distributed thousands of copies of the report in the US and around the world. The report is available at <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/sexualization.html>.

Both the English and Spanish language tip sheets are available in hardcopy and online at <http://www.apa.org/pi/women/programs/girls/report.aspx?item=2>.

Intimate Partner Violence Brochure

WPO continues to disseminate hard copies of each of the intimate partner violence brochures, which are available on the WPO Web site:

- Violencia en Contra de la Pareja: <http://www.apa.org/topics/violence/violencia-pareja.aspx>
- Intimate Partner Violence: <http://www.apa.org/topics/violence/partner.aspx>.
- Abuse of Women with Disabilities: <http://www.apa.org/topics/violence/women-disabilities.aspx>.
- Abuso de Mujeres con Discapacidad was posted on WPO's Web site at <http://www.apa.org/topics/violence/mujeres-discapacidades.aspx>.

Other WPO Publications:

Post-Partum Depression (PPD) Consumer Brochure

WPO continues to disseminate the PPD consumer brochures. The English, Spanish, Simplified Chinese, and French brochures are available at http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/Postpartum%20Depression%20brochure_2007.pdf.

Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion

The *Report of the Task Force on Mental Health and Abortion* is available at <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo>. A one-page fact sheet for advocacy purposes is available at <http://www.apa.org/about/gr/issues/women/mental-health-and-abortion.aspx>.

Women's Psych-E Archives

Archives of the *Women's Psych-E*, are available at: <http://www.apa.org/pi/women/resources/newsletter/index.aspx>.

2015 APA Convention Events

The WPO hosted/co-hosted the following convention events during the 2015 APA Convention in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Roundtable Discussion: An Insider's Guide to NIH Research and Training

Opportunities: Talk with NIH Staff

Date: Saturday, August 8, 10:00 a.m. -10:50 a.m.

Sponsors: APA Women's Programs Office, Committee on Women in Psychology

APA LIWP Reunion Breakfast

Date: Thursday, August 6, 8:00 a.m. – 9:50 a.m.

Sponsors: APA Women's Programs Office

External Relations

Memberships in Organizations/Coalitions: The WPO is a member of the following organizations and coalitions:

American Association on Health and Disability (*Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD*)

Association of Black Psychologists (*Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD*)

American Psychological Association (*Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD*)

Association for Women in Psychology (*Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD*)

Association for Women in Science (*Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD*)

International Leadership Association (*Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD*)

Institute for Women's Policy Research (*Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD*)

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (*Women's Programs Office*)

National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education (*Women's Programs Office*)

Re: Gender (formerly National Council for Research on Women) (*Women's Programs Office*)

Selected Presentations/Meetings by WPO Staff:

In November 2015, Dr. Shari E. Miles-Cohen attended the Public Interest Leadership Conference, Washington, DC.,

In November 2015, Dr. Shari E. Miles-Cohen and Ms. Tanya Burrwell participated in a day long webinar, "White House Summit on Advancing Equity for Women and Girls of Color."

C. General rationale for any actions and recommendations

The WPO would like to extend a very special thank you to the Society for the Psychology of Women for its continued support of all WPO activities, including the \$4,000 grant to defray the expenses incurred by the APA Leadership Institute for Women in Psychology (LIWP) activities from January through December 2015, and \$1,500 in support of Museum Day 2016 initiative. A proposal for \$20,000 to further support the Museum Day 2016 initiative is currently before the SPW Finance Committee.

Respectfully submitted by Shari E. Miles-Cohen, PhD and Ms. Tanya L. Burrwell.