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# ANNUAL REPORT

*Racing Toward The Finish Line*

2013



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# The Broad View:

Executive Director Looks Back at the 2012-13 Membership Year  
Michael Ranney, MPA, OPA Executive Director



In this Annual Report issue of the *OPA Review* you will read about the highlights of our 2012-13 year from many different perspectives. From all perspectives, OPA has had an excellent year.

As we began the year we took to heart our new Strategic Plan with clear goals, concise metrics and a renewed sense of purpose. Committees continually referred to the plan in their meetings and we worked to modify reporting formats so they could show progress toward accomplishing goals. The Executive Committee's monthly meetings focused on plan implementation and the results we were achieving. Board meetings included time to discuss the plan, progress and to consider strategies for achieving greater collaboration among committees. As we head toward the beginning of year number two of the plan, I feel very good about what we have done and that we have defined some problem areas that we need to address. The Board is fully committed to the goals in the plan and leadership is making sure we keep our attention focused on them.

As we began the year a new staff member joined our ranks. We shifted responsibilities and titles to be sure our office was organized and staffed appropriately for our role in implementing the Strategic Plan.

- Joan Bowman, MS, joined the staff as our Director of Membership and Education. Our intent is to build a larger relevant online CE portfolio to meet the needs of our membership and we'd welcome your ideas and proposals for programs you could present. Our Education Committee has reviewed and updated our education program standards. We look to do more educational programming in collaboration with other entities, such as our DSM-5 workshop in June that was done with *The National Psychologist*. As a service to our members we developed webinars on PQRS and the new CPT codes which were well received. This coming year will be a transitional year for our annual Convention as we move from a fall convention to a spring convention. We will have

our fall Convention October 30 to November 1 and a spring mini-convention April 24 and 25, 2014. The Convention in 2015 will be in the spring. Membership continues to hold steady.

- Denise Brenner, MBA, became Director of Finance and Operations. She continues to maintain our financial records and work to improve our membership database records. She works closely with the Finance Committee on financial reporting and budgeting. She tracks our contracts and timelines for renewal. She directs staff preparations for our annual financial audit.
- Beth Wherley continues as our Director of Mandatory Continuing Education. Her workload is always heavy but as we move into the second year of the biennium, the volume of her work increases significantly.
- Heather Gilbert is now Director of Communications and Marketing. Her role includes social media, website, publications, press releases, brochures, branding and marketing OPA and psychology. This year our website continued to improve and we rolled out our fabulous new logo.
- Bobbie Celeste, PhD, our Director of Professional Affairs continues to do Project FAIR/Insurance advocacy and helps with our legislative and executive branch advocacy. This year's Legislative Day was the best one yet, with terrific attendance from OPA members and participation by a significant number of legislators.

From my perspective, the work of our Early Career Psychologist (ECP) Committee under the leadership of Josh Shuman, PsyD was a significant highlight of the year. You ECP folks out there reading this owe Josh a great deal. There was no ECP Committee and he created one and charted a course to advocate for early career psychologists in Ohio. The Committee developed a survey that produced data that gave us a much clearer picture of what an ECP looks like. Josh advocated for reduced dues for ECP members and kept after us until we agreed to discount dues for the first year to \$100. He wanted more, I know, but current financial considerations made this the best compromise. He has helped us schedule ECP-centric workshops on the Thursday of our Convention, which is the day we have the newly licensed psychologist and member milestone

# Our Staff



Denise Brenner



Heather Gilbert



Beth Wherley



Bobbie Celeste



Joan Bowman

recognition reception. Josh is aging out of the ECP ranks this coming year. The committee will continue in the able hands of Kathleen Hutchinson, PhD, who has already demonstrated her commitment to continuing advocacy on behalf of the ECPs of Ohio.

This has been a frustrating year on the insurance front. Dr. Bobbie Celeste has done everything she could to represent our members on so many fronts. She has worked closely with APA on many of these issues, since some of the issues can best be addressed at the national level. The APA Practice Organization staff in the Legal and Regulatory Affairs Office have been extremely helpful, particularly Alan Nessman. I could fill this whole column with highlights of the issues Bobbie has been working on. From Medicare, to Humana, to parity issues, to Cigna, to Anthem, to Medical Mutual, to the Ohio Department of Insurance, to Medicaid, to BWC, to health and behavior codes, to PQRS and more...Bobbie has been fighting hard for Ohio psychologists.

On the advocacy front, Brad Potts, PhD, and the Advocacy Committee which he chairs have been fantastic. We continue to work to build our Advocacy Network, seeking to have at least one "key" psychologist in each Ohio Senate district. Work on the legislation to update the Psychology Law (HB83) got us through the Ohio House with a nearly unanimous vote and now we wait for the Senate to finish the budget so it can focus on this non-controversial bill. Our efforts to pass a demonstration project for appropriately trained psychologists to prescribe within the Ohio

Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections are continuing but we may be shifting course slightly. PAC donations continue to be vital to the visibility of psychology in the political arena.

OPA continues to be on the cutting edge when it comes to work on telepsychology. Our Communication and Technology committee is now developing a list of the competencies needed for safe and effective telepsychology.

This year OPA created a Governance Structure Task Force to look at our Board and committee structure. Back in 2001-2002 we went through a process of restructuring the Board of Directors. This included a significant reduction in the size of the Board. Trends in the governance and management of professional associations are moving toward even smaller, competency based boards that are creating efficiencies through greater use of technology. We were ahead of these trends in 2001 when we made the changes to our Board. The Task Force is assessing how our current structure is working and if any changes should be considered. They planned several conference call forums to get member input.

People often ask how OPA does it? Part of the answer, from my perspective, is an effective professional staff with low turnover that provides continuity and consistency through a wide range of member services. The other half of the answer is a committed and dedicated Board and effective leaders. With those two factors OPA will continue to thrive and serve Ohio psychology well.

# President's Message

Jim Broyles, PhD, OPA President



My year has passed so quickly. I assumed my duties as president in September, and it seems I have experienced non-stop activity since. As I think back over the accomplishments of the year, quite a number come to mind. As my predecessor, John Rudisill pointed out in his report last year, I feel I can lay claim to very little of

the credit for these accomplishments. Most of the progress I can report on regarding important issues can be attributed to our committees, our Board, a number of special work groups and task forces and especially our hard working staff.

Those of you who have been following my writing as president throughout the year know that a main focus for me has been our Strategic Plan. When I took office, that plan had already been developed and adopted by the Board, and it was left to me to oversee the implementation process. This has probably been my most significant challenge as our main leader, and I can report I believe we have begun this somewhat daunting task. On one hand, the plan itself gives clear direction to the entire association, but on the other hand the activities the plan calls for are very different from the association structures and processes from the past. This difference creates a degree uncertainty and ambiguity as we consider the changes which are required. So my summary report to you regarding our Strategic Plan is that I feel good about what we have accomplished, but there is still much to be done.

In addition to the Strategic Plan work, there have been a number of other accomplishments. Two task forces were established and have been working to address important needs for the association. The first of these is our Governance Structure Task Force, headed by our President-elect, Dr. Kathy Ashton. The purpose of this task force has been to gather information for the OPA Board of Directors regarding possible changes to our current governance. Many of our association leaders began discussing the possibility of changes to our governance structure this past fall

in reaction change trends occurring with APA and other non-profit organizations. As our board began to consider the possibility of making change, they requested more information. Specifically, they asked for examples of models of alternative governance structure. The charge of this task force has been to develop suggested models for the board to review. The Task Force has been accomplishing this goal through careful research, discussion and deliberation. While this task force has already delivered some preliminary results to the board, at some point next year they will be making a more detailed presentation of their ideas and suggestions. Our hope is that at this point the Board will have enough understanding to be able to make an informed decision about whether any changes in our current governance structure are warranted. I am very appreciative of this group and the progress they have made thus far.

A second task force is the one whose purpose is to help address the concern about bullying emerging in our society. In recent years tragic events have focused the public's attention on this phenomenon. We have become increasingly aware of how commonly bullying occurs and the various forms it takes. More importantly, we have become aware of the negative impact of bullying on individuals, particularly our young people. Our association's task force, which has been regularly meeting throughout the current year, was charged with the task of giving direction to the association and psychologists in general. The group has been developing ideas on what OPA and individual psychologists can do to address this issue. It has been working closely with the Ohio School Psychologists Association and will be providing a position statement for our Board to approve, likely at some point next year.

Other larger accomplishments and progress our association has made are too numerous for me to mention here. They are, however, described in more detail throughout this report. I encourage all members to review the articles of this report which document these accomplishments. They will give a good picture of the breadth and depth of the activity occurring on behalf of Ohio psychologists. I encourage all members to not only get familiar with the work of our association, but also to consider what they may be able to do to contribute to that work. One immediate suggestion which comes to mind is one that has the potential to strengthen our association in so many ways, yet at the same time can be accomplished by all members without much effort. Specifically, I am suggesting that all OPA members reach out to at least one nonmember Ohio psychologist and encourage them to join. In doing this, consider that most of



solving, advocacy with state agencies (Ohio Board of Psychology, Ohio Department of Mental Health, Ohio Department of Alcohol and Drug Addiction Services), legislative advocacy, listservs for sharing information and ideas and peer consultation groups around the state. I thank every member who takes this idea seriously and uses this list as talking points to have at least one conversation.

Thank you for reading this message, considering my ideas now and throughout

our research in this area reveals that a primary reason for not joining is lack of awareness of the benefits of our association. Consider that if every person who is reading this article had at least one conversation with a nonmember psychologist, the impact would be quite significant for the entire association. Many Ohio psychologists are not aware that OPA offers: a discount on MCE registration, discounts on OPA continuing education programs, free review of MCE courses to determine if they qualify for credit, insurance advocacy and problem

the year, and having this connection with your association. Please take some time, look through this report, appreciate the work of OPA and its many contributing members, and consider ways you can be a part of or continue to be a part of our efforts.

*-Jim Broyles, PhD, OPA President*

# Membership: The Gateway to OPA



In spite of continuing economic challenges facing our friends and colleagues, OPA is continuing to make good progress toward our membership goals. Each year, our primary focus is on the recruitment, reinstatement and retention of members

throughout their professional lifespan. This year, these membership goals were framed within the context of the OPA Strategic Plan and the specific responsibilities of the membership committee. *Please note: All membership figures are current as of August 26, 2013. Final figures will be available at the end of the 2012-2013 membership year (August 31, 2013).*

**OPA Strategic Plan Goal #5: Support the personal and professional lives of psychologists throughout their lifespan, from student status through retirement.**

## **Recruitment, Reinstatement and Retention Goals:**

**Recruit 225 new and reinstated OPA members.**

**Current progress: 229 (102%)**

Each year, OPA Membership Committee members call psychologists who have not renewed their membership for the current year. Our intent is to better understand why they have not renewed and how OPA might better serve their needs. Data collected over the past several years is consistent. Many continue to experience financial challenges and are unable to afford OPA dues at this time. Some have requested consideration under OPA's hardship policy while others who do not qualify for special consideration have indicated their intent to rejoin OPA as soon as their finances improve. This year's goal reflects an increase of 50 new and reinstated members from last year (22 percent increase). To date, we have already surpassed last year's goal.

**Recruit 32 new ECP members for 350 total. Current progress: 62 new (195%) and 331 total (95%)**



**Recruit 18 new full student members for 180 total. Current progress: 103 new (572%) and 170 total (94%)**  
 Our student and Early Career Psychologists (ECPs) are the future of psychology in Ohio. An important part of the Strategic Plan is to expand efforts to inform graduate students and ECPs regarding the benefits of an OPA membership, increase opportunities for engagement within OPA and provide programs and services that are relevant to the needs of graduate students and ECPs. OPA has benefited significantly from the dynamic leadership in both OPAGS and the ECP committee, resulting in no small part to significantly surpassing this year's membership goals! For more information on the specific accomplishments of OPAGS and the ECP committee, please refer to their annual reports, also included in this publication.

This year, the ECP Committee, Membership Committee, Finance Committee and OPA staff collaborated to examine the current ECP dues structure. A proposal was made and supported by the Board to make a modest change to the ECP dues, resulting in a slight increase in the discount offered to ECPs in their first year of membership. A major initiative for the upcoming year is to expand how OPA can inform and educate all Ohio graduate students in psychology and ECPs about OPA. While recruitment is important, we need to ensure that members are aware of the resources and benefits of OPA and view them as relevant to their current and future professional needs and goals.

**Recruit 74 new full members for 1520 total. Current progress: 120 new (162% and 1437 total (95%).**  
 In the fall of 2013, we will again kick-off the "New Member Challenge." This annual initiative challenges OPA Board members to contact non-member psychologists to discuss the programs, services and benefits of OPA. In addition to increasing our general membership, our hope is to increase membership among underrepresented groups and geographic regions so that OPA can better serve the diverse needs of psychologists throughout Ohio.

**Contain growth of Emeritus members to 150 total. Current progress: 22 new and 178 total (119%).**  
 With the aging of psychologists nationally and in Ohio, many of our members report being in a period of transition as they move toward retirement or semi-retirement. Many of our colleagues welcome the beginning of this new chapter in their lives. However, many others face difficult issues, including reduced income, loss of professional identity and loss of social support. Programs and services offered to address some of these concerns include:

- A tired dues system for members who meet emeritus status criteria
- Affiliate membership for those who are not licensed and are no longer practicing psychology in Ohio
- Involvement in PROs (psychologists retired in Ohio)
- Educational programs focusing on retirement issues (legal and ethical considerations when closing a private practice, for example)

## Other Membership Committee Initiatives

### Health Insurance

Whenever we have surveyed the OPA membership about services and benefits they would like OPA to offer, health insurance is always first on the list. Despite our recent setback in acquiring health insurance (insufficient number of health insurance applications from members to allow us to move forward), we are continuing to explore other health insurance options. We'll keep you posted!

### Membership 4-1-1

This initiative, implemented in 2012, highlights the most commonly asked questions asked by members about OPA. The articles, published in the OPA Review, have focused on the new OPA website, how to consult with a member of the Ethics Committee, membership dues and introducing Joan Bowman, Director of Membership. Our most recent Membership 4-1-1 article highlighting the benefits associated with your OPA membership can be found in this publication.

### Future Committee Initiatives

In the upcoming year, the OPA Membership Committee will be undertaking additional initiatives, including:

- Engagement of retired and semi-retired members, ECPs, graduate students
- Increasing diversity of members
- Increasing the perceived relevance of OPA to psychologists across the continuum of specializations (including academic, forensic, child) and work settings (including colleges and universities, medical, public sector, business, industrial/organizational, independent practice)
- Assessing member satisfaction

If any of these initiatives or goals sound interesting to you, please consider joining the Membership Committee. Please feel free to contact me to express an interest or to discuss any questions you may have about the OPA Membership Committee.

*Peg Richards Mosher, PhD*  
 Chair, OPA Membership Committee  
 mmrpsych@aol.com

### OPA Membership Committee

Peg Richards Mosher, PhD, Chair  
 Christine Agaibi, MA  
 Kevin Arnold, PhD  
 Joan Bowman, MS  
 Denise Brenner, MBA  
 Heather Gilbert, BA  
 Robin Graff-Reed, PhD  
 Ashley Murray, BA  
 Michael Ranney, MPA

# Membership 4-1-1

Ever wonder what are the most frequently asked membership-related questions of the central office staff? According to Denise Brenner, Director of Operations and Joan Bowman, Director of Member Services, the most common questions are:

- Where can I find \_\_\_ (fill-in-the-blank) on the OPA website? *See 2012 March/April Review*
- How can I contact someone on the OPA Ethics Committee for a consultation? *See 2012 May/June OP Update*
- Where do my dues dollars go? *See 2012 Annual Report*
- What do I get for my dues? What benefits are included with my membership?
- How do I access, navigate and manage OPA listservs? How do I update my address, post to the listserv, or access listserv archives?
- What is the difference between OPA membership and OPA MCE tracking? Why does OPA have the

“authority” on the MCE approval process?

Our Membership 4-1-1 column addresses each of these questions throughout the membership year. If you have missed an earlier column, refer to the questions above and the corresponding *OPA Review* issue in which the column was published.

This month’s Membership 4-1-1 will focus on *the benefits associated with your OPA membership*. In these challenging economic times, most of us are assessing the relative value of the goods and services we purchase. Often, we are forced to make tough decisions when financial resources are limited. We recognize that you may have many choices among professional associations seeking your membership. Our goal is to ensure that your OPA membership meets your professional needs, is comprehensive in its scope and includes many value-added benefits.



## **DID YOU KNOW? Your membership includes:**

- Exclusive and discounted access to credit card merchant services, billing services, collection agencies, identity theft protection, personal/business banking, encrypted email services and more
- Discounts on educational opportunities, the required mandatory continuing education tracking services and membership dues for early career psychologists (ECPs) up to year 7
- Subscription to OPA print and electronic publications
- Participation on multiple email listservs that allow you to network and consult with colleagues
- Consultation with a member of the OPA Ethics Committee regarding ethical concerns or questions
- Consultation with OPA Director of Professional Affairs regarding professional concerns and issues
- Assistance in building your client base through the online Psychologist Referral Program
- Participation in the Mentoring Program which can match you with other professionals to provide guidance and consultation
- Opportunities for networking, peer consultation and mentoring at workshops, the annual convention, OPA events and on the OPA listservs
- Opportunities for leadership experience and development through participation OPA governance
- Opportunities to meet your legislators and learn how to effectively advocate for psychology at the annual Legislative Day

The OPA staff, Board of Directors and Membership Committee work diligently to offer a wide range of both tangible and intangible benefits that we believe provides an added value to your OPA membership.

For more information about your OPA membership, please contact the OPA central office or the chair of the Membership Committee. Contact information may be found on the OPA website: [www.ohpsych.org](http://www.ohpsych.org).

This is the fourth in a series of articles by the OPA Membership Committee to answer questions you may have regarding your membership in the Ohio Psychological Association.

# Welcome to the following new and reinstated OPA members!

Approved by the OPA Board of Directors on June 8, 2013:

Mary Ball, PhD	Irina T. Duff MS	LaTasha A. Macklin (reinstatement)
Adam D. Borland PsyD	Qijuan Fang MS	Michael B. Purdum PhD
Karen Bretz PhD	Dick A. Genardi PhD (reinstatement)	Timothy P. Shea PsyD
Rebecca W. Clarke BA	Liesl L. Glover MS	Christine S. Smithies PhD (reinstatement)
Sheila S. Cohen PhD (reinstatement)	Conrad P. Gratz PhD	
Justin A. Dewberry PsyD	Mary E. Hildenbrand PhD	
	Victoria Love MS	

## OPA Finance Committee: Striving for Balance

We began this year with the understanding that the budget deficit projected was an investment in the future of OPA as we hired an additional staff member and temporarily employed an experienced lobbyist to advance the political interests of Ohio psychologists. As a result we had some unique challenges but I'm pleased to say that the Finance Committee was able to effectively monitor our progress toward our financial goals, develop a plan for increasing our non-dues revenue and fulfill our obligation to OPA's membership.

The Finance Committee met monthly to keep a close eye on our budget and track our income and expenses. OPA staff were able to do an admirable job this year keeping expenses below budget and at the time of this writing they were able to save the organization approximately \$8,000 in operating expenses alone. During the committee meetings we also had discussions about the way in which the organization budgets for investment income. Because OPA has a relatively conservative investment strategy our income on investment is usually positive, however if the market does better (or worse) than expected it can impact our budget and either produce a budget shortfall or leave money on the table that could have been used to advance the goals of the organization. Denise Brenner was able to solve this problem for us by proposing a new method of budgeting for investment income. She proposed that we budget only on interest income, which is relatively predictable, and create a list of contingent expenses that can be funded based on how the investment income is doing. The Finance



Committee recommended this to the Board who ultimately approved this approach for the 2013-14 and 2014-2015 budgets.

We also worked closely with the Membership Committee and the Early Career Psychologist Committee on restructuring dues for ECPs. Given the current budget deficit it was important to the Finance Committee that we find a structure that was budget neutral and although we ultimately opted to increase the discount for first year psychologists by \$50, we were able to find ways to offset this loss because of OPA's strong commitment to responding to the needs of Early Career Psychologists.

Another major task of the Finance Committee this year was to find ways to increase our non-dues revenue. The committee had several brainstorming meetings involving several committees. One idea that was discussed was to develop a consultation service for OPA that would ultimately link up communities, corporations and others with the services psychologists provide. Vanessa Jensen outlined a proposal that will continue to be developed in 2013-2014 with a plan to begin the following fiscal year.

Although this has been a challenging year for the Finance Committee, we have been working diligently to advance the financial goals of the organization. I am extremely grateful for the dedication of the OPA staff and the committee members work this year. As a result we will continue to develop ideas to increase our non-dues revenue, we were able to assist the ECP's in their dues restructuring idea and ultimately produced a balanced budget for 2013-2014 and 2014-2015.

-Nate Tomcik, PhD, OPA Finance Officer

# Now is Your Time: ECPC



Dr. Shuman speaks at the Newly Licensed Dinner.



Dr. Shuman talks with early career psychologists at the 2012 OPA Convention.

The Early Career Psychologists Committee (ECPC) has had an exciting and action-packed first full year within OPA! Since this time last year, we have: deployed a Needs Assessment, advocated for and attained lower dues for newly licensed OPA members, become more involved with OPAGS, added several new ECP leaders to the committee and are about to successfully transition to new ECPC leadership. Whew!

First, I want review the purpose and goals of the Needs Assessment. We (the ECP Committee) realized that, in order to better serve existing members, as well as understand how to recruit new members, we needed to understand their professional needs and ask them how OPA can best serve them. While the survey revealed many interesting and useful results, the two that stood out most were that over 62 percent of respondents felt uninformed as to the plethora of services OPA offers its members, and that a majority thought that the cost of an early career membership was too high. We analyzed the total results and concluded that the OPA would benefit from: 1) lowering dues costs; 2) reaching out more to graduate programs and graduate students; and, 3) perhaps most importantly, marketing its amazing membership benefits more assertively to both nonmembers and current members.

I am happy to announce that the ECPC has worked diligently, and successfully, on the first two goals in the past year. We collaborated with several committees, as well as presented at several Board meetings, all of which resulted in a new dues structure wherein a newly licensed psychologist can join OPA for just \$100 for their first year, a 33 percent decrease compared to their current dues cost! In addition, in February, Kim Burkhart and I were invited to present at the OPAGS spring conference about what it was like to transition from graduate student to early career psychologist. Then, in March, Rahema Rodgers, Kati Hutchinson, and I, along with OPAGS chair Ashley Murray, were invited to present to Wright State University SOPP's first year students about the same topic, which led to several new OPAGS memberships.

By definition, the ECPC will have frequent member turnover. As I will no longer be an ECP by September 2013, two personal goals of mine were to step down as chair with a functioning committee in place and to have a smooth transition to new leadership. So, I am pleased to announce that both goals have been met and I am especially happy to introduce the new ECPC chair: Dr. Kati Hutchinson!

Additional current members are: Drs. Andrea Bischoff, Justin Bunn, Kim Burkhart, Katie Golden, Jennica Karpinski, David Kotarsky, and Rahema Rodgers. Past contributing members include: Drs. Aaron Vaughn and Amy Rouse.

We look forward to another great year serving OPA and its members! Now is your time to get involved, learn (or hone) your leadership skills and have fun! If you're interested, please don't hesitate to contact me: joshshuman23@hotmail.com.

Thank you!

– Josh Shuman, PsyD

## Mark Your Calendar!

OPA's 2013 Convention: *Psychology's Role in Integrated Health Care*

October 30-November 1, 2013, Quest Conference Center, Columbus

Featuring:

Keynote Speaker Katherine Nordal, PhD, Executive Director of APA's Practice Directorate  
*Health Care Reform 2013: Implications for Professional Practice*

Plenary Speaker Ben Miller, PsyD, Director of the Office of Integrated Health Care Research  
and Policy at the University of Colorado  
*Fighting Fragmentation in Health Care: An Opportunity for Psychology*

Register today at [www.ohpsych.org](http://www.ohpsych.org)

# Diversity Connections

The state of Ohio is often described as a microcosm of the U.S. population. This certainly holds true for the members of the Diversity Committee and our outreach to psychologists and students from all backgrounds and ethnicity. The Diversity Committee is also dedicated to ensuring that all individuals we serve are treated with respect and understanding. This year, the committee was successful in obtaining passage by the OPA Board of official definitions of the terms "diversity" and "cultural competence." These definitions recognize the importance and our ethical responsibility as psychologists to engage in the continuous learning, awareness and skills needed to understand the unique beliefs, abilities, customs and traditions of all Ohioans. The recognition, respect and understanding of our clients from diverse backgrounds help us develop more effective programs and provide better clinical services.

events brought out students and psychologists from diverse backgrounds to talk about issues affecting their clinical practice, their academic endeavors and their clients. These informal brunches have been an excellent way to meet other psychologists and to learn what OPA is doing to promote psychology, diversity and multiculturalism. There will be a brunch for the Toledo area in the fall.

Lastly, the annual breakfast meeting with members of the Diversity Committee and the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus (OLBC) was held at OPA's Legislative Day. This third breakfast meeting was very well attended by racial/ethnic minority psychologists from all over the state of Ohio and by various state representatives including Senator Charleta Tavares of Columbus, Senator Edna Brown of Toledo, Representative Roland Winburn of Dayton and a legislative aide to Representative Vernon Sykes of Akron. Much discussion occurred about how to advocate for our patients and the field of psychology. All who attended agreed for the need to maintain collaboration between the Diversity Committee and the OLBC to ensure that constituents from minority backgrounds and the interests of ethnic/racial minority psychologists are heard.

*-Wanda McEntyre, PhD, ABPP, Chair*

**Stay connected with the Diversity Committee.  
Follow us on Twitter @ohiodiversity.**

#### OPA Diversity Committee:

Wanda McEntyre, PhD, ABPP, Chair  
Christine Agaibi, MA  
Gary Carrington, PhD  
Colin Christensen, PhD  
Jennifer Franklin, PhD  
Shelly Jebens, PsyD  
Rachel, Juran, MA  
Cathy McDaniels-Wilson, PhD, ABPP  
Christina Rideout, PhD  
Lynne Rustad, PhD  
Jonathon Shelton, PsyD  
Jin Hui Wang, PsyD  
Michael Ranney, MPA, OPA Executive Director



*Attendees introduce themselves at the Multicultural Conference.*

The Diversity Committee awarded the sixth annual Michael Sullivan Award for student research focused on diversity/multiculturalism. The two graduate student

recipients were from California this year. David J. Lick from UCLA, a second year student submitted a proposal for his research project entitled "Recalibrating Gender Perception: Adaptation Aftereffects as a Method for Reducing Prejudice Against Gender-Atypical Women." Jin Kim from University of California-Davis, a fourth year student submitted a proposal entitled "Counseling Utilization by Asian American College Students." The Diversity Committee reviewed 20 applications this year and each award winner received \$500 from the Foundation for Psychology in Ohio. The bestowing of this yearly award helps to engage students and to promote research on diversity and multiculturalism.

In our continuing effort to connect with students and psychologists from diverse backgrounds throughout Ohio, the committee held two informal brunches this past year. three informal brunches this past year in the Cleveland area, Wright State University and Columbus area. These

## LGBT Subcommittee of the Diversity Committee

The LGBT Subcommittee has been involved in many projects over the year.

One large project was assisting the Diversity Committee to plan the biennial Multicultural Conference. The chosen speaker was Dr. Beverly Greene and the topic was "Multiple Marginalization and Intersections of Identity: Addressing Conflicts among Sexual Orientation, Gender Diversity, Religious/Spiritual and Ethno-Cultural Identities in Clinical Practice."

The committee planned a workshop for June, entitled "Transgender Perspectives: The Psychological, Medical, Legal, and Personal Implications of Transition," with a full day of speakers from many professional backgrounds with much experience working with transgendered people. The workshop, held in Cleveland had over 50 attendees, including students, psychologists, counselors and social workers.

The committee has been a part of supporting anti-bullying initiatives and legislation. The committee has been exploring ways to increase LGBT awareness and especially bullying as it affects those identified as LGBT.



*The Transgender workshop had over 50 attendees.*

# OPA Puts Education First

Education Committee

The Ohio Psychological Association is the premier provider for continuing psychological education in Ohio. This past year OPA has expanded its alternative delivery options for continuing education by offering synchronous and asynchronous webinars. The Education Committee invites OPA members to develop webinars – and will be glad to help with planning and producing your webinar. No prior experience is needed; it's easy.

The OPA Fall Convention, which will be held at the Quest Conference Center in Columbus October 30 to November 1, has taken shape. Forty-four conference proposals were submitted for consideration, resulting in an especially high quality of education topics related to this year's theme, *Psychology's Role in Integrated Health Care*. The conference will feature a keynote address by Katherine Nordal, executive director of APA's Practice Directorate.

The annual OPA Convention will transition from the fall to the spring. In 2013, the three-day convention will be held October 30 to November 1. In spring 2014, a two-day convention will be held on April 24 and April 25, the theme for which will be *Evolving Healthcare Structures: Psychology's Place at the Table*. Thereafter, the convention will be annually held each spring.

On the recommendation of the Education Committee and in collaboration with the Mandatory Continuing Education Committee, the OPA Board adopted new standards for continuing education. These standards, which closely are aligned with APA's requirements for sponsors of continuing education, ensure that formal learning activities: 1) are relevant to psychological practice, education and science, 2) enable psychologists to keep pace with emerging issues and technologies; and 3) allow psychologists to maintain, develop and increase competencies in order to improve services to the public and enhance contributions to the profession. Those offering continuing education additionally will be required to

describe any commercial support for the program. The new standards also offer a statement on the alternative delivery of education programs (e.g., distance education, asynchronous delivery through a learning management system, and webinars). The standards are available on OPA's website, [www.ohpsych.org](http://www.ohpsych.org).

- Richard Ashbrook, PhD, Chair



Members of the Education and Early Career Committees met to plan the 2013 Convention.

## Education Committee Members:

Richard Ashbrook, PhD, Chair  
Robin Arthur, PsyD  
Jerome Gabis, PsyD  
Cathy Gaw, PsyD  
Jon Thomas, PhD  
Steven Byer (OPAGS)  
Ethan Schafer, PhD  
Joan Bowman (OPA)  
Heather Gilbert (OPA)

# OPA's 2012 Committee of the Year!

Mandatory Continuing Education Committee

The Mandatory Continuing Education Committee (MCE) was awarded OPA's Committee of the Year at the 2012 Fall Convention, for our dedication to ensuring that Ohio psychologists are earning high quality continuing education hours. This year was an especially meaningful time to receive this award, as we had just survived the end of another licensing biennium, were working with a new process for MCE registration through the Ohio Psychology Licensing Board, and experienced the loss of our long-time committee member, Dr. Henry Leland.

Accomplishments for the 2012-13 year include:

- Review of over 630 CE courses and CE provider applications at the close of the 2010-12 biennium
- Developing creative ways to reach and inform the psychologists who did not realize that the State Board no longer sends MCE registration (pink forms) through the mail but directs psychologists to register online with OPA MCE
- Provision of an MCE calendar of events on the OPA website
- Coordination with OPA's Education Committee and APA's CE division regarding effective development and evaluation of distance and online learning

At the time of our June 2013 Board meeting, a total of 3,033 psychologists were registered for the 2012-14 biennium. Of

these registered psychologists, only 327 psychologists have completed their required CE hours. We are hopeful that the remaining 2,781 psychologists will complete their required CE sooner than July or August of 2014!

The MCE committee is interested in involving additional members on this committee, especially if you are interested in issues of; diversity and multiculturalism, distance learning, addictions, integrated health and public sector. Please contact our Director, Beth Wherley ([mce@ohpsych.org](mailto:mce@ohpsych.org)), or me ([gawc@ccf.org](mailto:gawc@ccf.org)) with your interest in joining this vibrant and award-winning committee .

Cathy Gaw, PsyD, MCE Committee Chair

## Members:

John Laux, PhD  
Mark Krautheim, PhD  
Richard Sexton, PhD  
Amnon Shai, PhD  
Terry Imar, MA  
Director of OPA- MCE – Ms. Beth Wherley  
Chair – Dr. Cathy Gaw



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*Called in to say she may be a little late*

**12:00PM** Appt with Susan  
*Remember books he borrowed*

Create a Progress Note for your appointment on 9/29.

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My experience with TherapyNotes this past month has been fantastic!

Firstly, the system is easy to navigate, thorough, flexible, and extremely clinically intuitive. Secondly, technical and customer support has been efficient, fast, and very personal. I am leaving another EHR system for TherapyNotes... gladly. I'm very happy that you've created such a quality product. Thank you!

*Dr. Christina Zampitella, FT, Licensed Clinical Psychologist*

Just want to say that I truly love the system!

It takes all the guesswork out of tracking paperwork. Being able to schedule appointments and then have the system take over and track what is due for each client is wonderful.

*Kathleen Bremer, PCC-5*

Many more stories on [TherapyNotes.com](http://TherapyNotes.com)!

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# Insurance Committee: A year of change with more change coming

Teri Role-Warren, PhD



Beginning with the CPT Code changes that rolled out in 2013, the Insurance Committee has faced the first of many upcoming changes for psychologists this year. The committee had goals

to educate and advocate for members about the CPT code changes and its implications. Howard Bonem, PhD, assisted by Bobbie Celeste, PhD, Tami Rynearson, MBA, and myself, led a workshop at the 2012 OPA Convention about what was known at the time about the CPT code crosswalks, as well as presenting about how to be reimbursed by insurance companies. In addition, Bobbie Celeste gave a webinar about CPT code changes that had over 300 participants. The committee monitored the response of insurance companies as the changes took place, and fielded members' concerns. The insurance committee encouraged members to report complaints to OPA, insurance companies and the Ohio Department of Insurance (ODI), as appropriate. At the time of this summary, insurance companies now seem to be reimbursing promptly with the new CPT codes. However, payment for emergency sessions and payment/approval for 90837 (sessions in duration of 53 minutes or longer) are not yet uniformly or predictably paid. The insurance committee is still monitoring these problem areas. Furthermore, reductions in reimbursement seem to continue with Federal Sequestration.

Alan Nessman, senior special counsel of the American Psychological Association joined the Insurance Committee at our May meeting. Nessman does not think there are legal remedies to CPT reimbursement disputes where insurance companies have very tightly written policies and guidelines and they are following them consistently. Instead, he encourages psychologists to redirect our energies toward advocating for a more enforceable and fair federal final rule on parity. The Obama administration has advised parity stakeholder groups that it intends to issue a final rule on mental health parity by the end of 2013. This is an opportunity for psychologists to advocate for themselves regarding insurance reimbursement. The APA Practice Organization is drafting a letter that cites primary parity enforcement and fighting big rate cuts targeting psychologists as evidence that parity enforcement is not working properly. More testimonials and advocacy is encouraged in this effort.

Continuing in the vein of advocacy, Bobbie Celeste and Michael Ranney met with Senator Oelslager, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and State Senator for District 29 regarding contracts between psychologists and insurance company contracts. In February, Insurance Committee representatives Tammy Rynearson, Bobbie Celeste and Ohio psychologist Colin Christianson gave additional input to Senator Oelslager, regarding the Insurance Contract Fairness Legislation he is reintroducing this year (SB 136). The intention of this bill is to increase fairness and transparency in contracts between insurance company and psychologists. It is backed by OPA.

The Insurance Committee is looking for ways to have more leverage with insurance companies. The committee is planning to contact psychological associations from other states about their efforts to influence insurers. Members of the insurance committee are reaching out to contacts at APA, insurance companies and other state psychological associations for successful models.

The Affordable Healthcare Act is likely to bring about multiple changes for psychologists. State and federal healthcare exchanges are set to enroll clients in October 2013. So far, these exchanges have only sent out contracts to providers who are Medicare providers. Delivery models of psychological services may shift in various ways as the Affordable Care Act goes into effect, such as increased emphasis on accountable care organizations (ACO's), capitated reimbursement, and preventive care/wellness models. The insurance committee is seeking to develop a public symposium to include representatives of insurance companies and service providers from group and independent practices to better prepare psychologists for such trends. Jeff Rosenbaum, PhD, is the point person on our committee these issues.

In old business, Ohio was the first state to send a joint letter from APA and OPA to the Lieutenant Governor and the Ohio Department of Insurance regarding Humana/Lifesynch's Drastic fee reduction in 2011, arguing that Humana's policy to dramatically reduce reimbursement rates violated mental health parity and deprived access to mental health providers.

## GOALS FOR NEXT YEAR

- An expanded, 3-hour Howard Bonem workshop reviewing how to get on insurance panels and how to be reimbursed. There will be more time for questions and answers.
- Bobbie Celeste will lead a one hour workshop, updating psychologists and provide a timeline for changes that in DSM-V, ICD-10 and federally mandated changes in HIPAA Privacy Rules and Medicare's PQRS (Physician Quality Reporting System).
- OPA is planning six hour workshop to teach ICD-10 diagnostic codes, which is required to be implemented in October 2014.
- Disseminate more information to members regarding

**Insurance Committee Members**  
Teri Role-Warren, PhD, Chair,  
Mia Biran, PhD  
Howard Bonem, PhD, Co-Chair  
Bobbie Celeste, PhD  
Priscilla Kingston, PhD  
Roxanne Miller, PhD  
Michael Ranney, MPA  
Tami Rynearson, MBA  
Jeff Rosenbaum, PhD  
Amnon Shai, PhD





## Networking and Finding a Home: The Future of Psychology

Working as a psychologist, particularly in individual practice, can be isolating. New services offered by the Ohio Psychological Association can help you to stay connected, develop new therapeutic and consultation skills and be on the cutting edge of health care reform. The OPA Professional Practice Committee is focused on making psychology more visible to the citizens of Ohio and supporting the personal and professional lives of psychologists.

During the past year, we have established Peer Consultation Networks in central Ohio and northeastern Ohio. Peer Consultation Networks are small groups of psychologists that meet informally for discussion and learning around professional issues of greatest concern to psychologists in each region. The Central Ohio Peer Consultation Network (PCN) has met during the past year to discuss DSM-V changes, Acceptance and Commitment Therapy and managing therapeutic ambivalence. The Northeastern Ohio PCN has just formed, but had a good turnout for the first meeting focused on different business/practice models. Thank you to Drs. Laurie Greco and Trysa Shulman for providing their respective expertise on ACT and varied business models! If you are interested in joining the Central Ohio PCN, please contact Nate Tomcik at [ntomcik@gmail.com](mailto:ntomcik@gmail.com). If you would like to join the Northeastern Ohio PCN, you can contact Julie Merrell at [merrelj@ccf.org](mailto:merrelj@ccf.org). We would love to hear from you if you are willing to help start Peer Consultation Networks in southwest, northwest, or southeast Ohio! The PCN's are free to OPA members and are a good way to network and learn from psychologists from a variety of practice settings and training backgrounds.

The Professional Practice Committee is striving to help psychologists keep pace with healthcare transitions such as Patient-Centered Health Care Homes (PCHC). Health care homes are an integrated approach to care in which patients and their caregivers are members of the health-care team seeking to provide access to comprehensive physical health, behavioral health, and supportive community and social

services so patients can receive the right care in the right setting at the right time. Such care coordination has been shown to reduce emergency department visits, unnecessary hospitalizations and readmissions. The Professional Practice Committee has been working to develop resources to assist psychologists to market their skills to primary care specialists and establish coordinated care networks. We have developed a bi-annual newsletter, the Behavioral Health Update, which focuses on specific behavioral health topics essential to the health and well-being of Ohio citizens (e.g. stress management, insomnia). These newsletters are available for purchase via OPA to market your practice to primary care specialists in your region. We have also been busy coordinating a workshop for the OPA Convention on Wednesday, October 30, titled "Interventions in Primary Care: ADHD, Binge Eating & Obesity, Insomnia and Cognitive Function in Older Adults."

Please look in the coming months for the OPA Salary Survey developed by the Professional Practice Committee to examine the salary patterns of psychologists practicing in different settings. This survey will allow us to monitor how national and state policy changes may affect psychologists' bottom line over time. We are very interested in hearing how we can continue to support your professional practice needs in the coming year!

Current Professional Practice Committee members include Sharla Wells-Di Gregorio, PhD (Chair), Laurie Greco, PhD, Courtney Zeune, PsyD, Kelli Riedl, PsyD, Julie Merrell, PhD, Melissa Buelow, PhD and Michael Ranney. If you are interested in joining our committee or have questions about our work, please contact Sharla Wells-Di Gregorio at [sharla.wells@osumc.edu](mailto:sharla.wells@osumc.edu) or (614) 293-8898.

*Sharla Wells-Di Gregorio, PhD, Chair*

# OPA Ethics Committee Offers A Free Member Benefit: Help Protect Yourself Against Lawsuits and Board Complaints

The goal of the OPA Ethics Committee is to advance the knowledge and competency of OPA members regarding the ethical standards for psychologists. The Ethics Committee has five functions:

1. To advance the knowledge and competency of OPA members regarding ethical standards for psychologists;
2. To educate psychologists regarding ethical principles and conduct;
3. To provide guidance to psychologists who have questions regarding their own professional ethics or conduct;
4. To advise the Board of Directors concerning procedures or actions which the Board can or should take to promote the ethical standards of practice of its members; and
5. To interface with the Education Committee to plan continuing education opportunities on topics relevant to the ethical practice of psychology.

A valuable resource available to all OPA members is free consultation with the Ethics Committee. Any OPA member can initiate contact with an Ethics Committee member by telephoning the committee member. When an Ethics Committee member receives a telephone consultation or question, the caller's name and telephone number are requested. Collection of this information permits the Ethics Committee member to contact the caller to provide pertinent follow-up information. The Ethics Committee member documents the nature of the inquiry and disseminates the consultation to other members of the Ethics Committee after redacting the caller's identifying information. In turn, members of the committee provide their perspective to the committee member that received the inquiry. The nature of the consultation also is reviewed at the monthly meeting of the Ethics Committee. If indicated, the Ethics Committee member will contact the caller to offer additional information. Only the committee member with whom a caller speaks knows the identity of the caller.

In the first nine months of OPA's 2013 fiscal year (i.e., from September 2012 through May 2013), the Ethics Committee responded to 36 calls for ethics consults. In addition to responding to consult requests, the OPA Ethics Committee provided a three hour workshop at the 2012 OPA Convention and has proposed another three hour workshop for the 2014 OPA Convention. Upcoming webinars are being planned, too! Moreover, the OPA Colleague Assistance Program (OPA-CAP), a sub-committee of the OPA Ethics Committee, is building a network of providers for the Colleague Assistance Program. If you are interested in learning more about the provider panel and/or joining it, please contact the OPA Central Office. The State Board of Psychology has 39 open cases, investigating complaints against Ohio psychologists. Protect yourself against board complaints and lawsuits. Consult early and often. It's free!

## Ethics Committee Members:

Bob Stinson, PsyD, JD, ABPP, Chair

Richard Ashbrook, PhD

Marianne Bowden, PhD

Terry Imar, MA

Kay Levine, PhD

Kathleen Mack, PsyD

Josh Shuman, PsyD (Early Career Member; Not available for consults)

Elizabeth Swenson, PhD, JD

Brief bios are available on each of the members at <http://www.ohpsych.org/about/governance/committees-task-force-and-affiliates/ethics/>

Full contact information for members of the Ethics Committee is available at <http://www.ohpsych.org/psychologists/my-opa/ethics-consultations/> (log in, then click on Ethics Consultations)

*- Bob Stinson, PsyD, JD, ABPP,*

OPA Ethics Committee Chair

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## The Current Status of RxP in Ohio

State Senators Bill Seitz and Dave Burke, hosted an interested party meeting between OPA, the Ohio Psychiatric Physicians Association, and others on March 20, 2013. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the bill that was introduced which would allow licensed psychologists who have an additional Master's Degree in Psychopharmacology to prescribe psychotropic medications within the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections (ODRC) as part of a demonstration project. Although OPA clearly believes there is a need for these services provided by appropriately trained psychologists, there were questions raised by the opponents about the need, training options, and scope of practice. OPA attendees answered the concerns with evidenced-based data citing the clear and convincing Department of Defense

(DoD) Demonstration Project as well as the successes in New Mexico and Louisiana where prescribing and medical psychologists have been prescribing safely and effectively.

While the ODRC initially considered the demonstration project an exciting option, a change in the ODRC administration led to a current opinion that ODRC is not understaffed and does not need psychologists who prescribe psychotropic medications. Subsequently, ODRC stated there was no need for the demonstration project. That turn in events may seem, on first blush, a defeat for the RxP initiative in Ohio. However, as we debriefed the meeting another, more extensive, option arose.

That option is developing staff positions for medical or prescribing psychologists in Ohio's Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHC). We would still need support from our Senator sponsors and co-sponsors; and we believe we have it. Through discussions with the FQHCs, we believe there is strong support for the RxP initiative. We will continue to work with the FQHCs to develop a plan and

present the outline to Senators Seitz and Burke after the Budget Bill is settled at the end of June.

Stay tuned for further developments.

- *Jerry Strauss, PhD*, Chair, RxP Taskforce

## Social Justice and Responsibility: Psychology at Work



The Committee on Social Responsibility has had a tremendous year of advocating for social justice and responsibility work, and wants to thank all the psychologists who have assisted us in this effort. Some of our brief highlights of the year include the following activities.

In October of this past year, we participated in the Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention Walks in both Columbus and Dayton, and as a group, raised over \$2,000 for the walks. This is the eighth year that the OPA CoSR has participated in the walks, and we'd also like to thank the Central Ohio Psychological Association for their continued support of these efforts.

February is the month we focus on National Eating Disorders Awareness Week, and once again we collaborated with Columbus State Community College to screen the documentary "Someday Melissa." Two OPA psychologists, Drs. Jeannine Tell and Heather Guthrie joined three eating disorders survivors to discuss the documentary and answer participants' questions. It was a highly successful event with over 100 attendees, and we look forward to repeating this event next year.

May is Mental Health Month, and the CoSR assisted with the Public Education Campaign's Mental Health Fair that is held during Legislative Day. We also had an informational booth at the Mental Health Day at the Columbus VA Outpatient Center, where Dr. Helen Rodebaugh and Lyvia Chriki, a fifth year clinical psychology graduate student at The Ohio State University, handed out mental health information and talked with mental health day participants. We also participated in the APA's Mental Health Day Blog Party, publishing two blog posts. One covered the role of well-being, by Mary Lewis, PhD and the other gave information about bullying, by Kimberly Burkhart, PhD

The CoSR is very focused on raising psychologists and public awareness about mental health concerns. In this vein, we publish a monthly "Did You Know" article in the OPA e-newsletter that informs Ohio psychologists about health awareness events relevant to mental health as well as

information that is pertinent to social justice issues. Also, in March, we published a letter to the editor about Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Last, but not least, we continue our "Greater Good" series featuring psychologists who do pro-bono and volunteer work that facilitates social justice and positive emotional health for Ohioans. We will be featuring new psychologists in the upcoming months, so please stay tuned!

The CoSR work is one that allows psychologists to do meaningful, powerful work to bridge the gap between the world of psychological practice and the public awareness of mental health. The work represented in this article is only a small part of what we do in the committee. We are always welcoming new members, especially if you are passionate about an issue related to public awareness or social justice. Feel free to contact me at [marylewisphd@gmail.com](mailto:marylewisphd@gmail.com) for questions or to join the committee.

- *Mary M. Lewis, PhD*, Chair

### Committee Members

Mary Lewis, PhD, Chair  
Michael Ranney, MPA  
Heather Gilbert  
Kathleen Ashton, PhD  
Jim Broyles, PhD  
Amy Saling, MA  
Kimberly Burkhart, PhD  
Christine Agaibi, MA  
Michele Evans, PhD  
Nate Tomick, PhD  
Hether Cook, BA  
Todd Finnerty, PsyD  
Margie Kukor, PhD  
Nicolette Howells, PhD  
Helen Rodebaugh, PhD  
Stephanie Clouse, PhD

# Ohio Worker's Compensation Task Force Activities

The committee's goal continues to be improving psychological services for injured workers in the state of Ohio covered under the Ohio Worker's Compensation system, and improving the overall function of the bureau's work with injured workers by incorporating an integrated bio psychosocial model. Activities over the past year including the following:

- Dr. Schwartz's ongoing attendance and input for the health care quality assurances advisory committee of the bureau. Emphasis has been on movement toward a bio psychosocial model, including early intervention when appropriate for psychologically involved injured workers, psychological screening prior to surgery, and movement away from narcotic treatment for chronic pain and toward an integrated interdisciplinary model.
- Committee members have presented in multiple venues to "players" in the worker's comp system, including managed care organizations, self-insured employers organizations and professional groups.
- Multiple workshops have been given training psychologist to work effectively in the complex and confusing worker's comp system. OPA also co-sponsored a workshop with our input with the Industrial Commission of Ohio, which was extremely well attended. "Town hall" meetings were held at the 2012 Convention and following the Industrial Commission workshop, where OPA members with questions and issues as to the Ohio worker's comp system could give input and have questions addressed.

- Committee members have served as a resource where by members can contact us through the list serve or directly with questions or issues.

Future activities include moving forward with training of psychologists to work within a more aggressive, return to work bio psychosocial model as the bureau moves toward this goal. We will also have input as to chronic care issues for injured workers who have ongoing physical and psychological needs. Dr. Schwartz will serve on a chronic care subcommittee of the bureau to focus on this. The group recently submitted a white paper to the board for final approval, which will summarize our position on both the need for chronic care for injured workers with psychological issues and appropriate guidelines for such care.

- David P. Schwartz, PhD, Chair

## Members

David P. Schwartz, PhD, Chair  
Bobbie Celeste PhD, OPA Representative  
Gary Sipps, PhD  
Kent Eichenauer, PhD  
Denise Raybold, PhD  
Thomas Heitkamper, PhD  
David Aronson, PhD  
Christine Orr, PhD  
Glenn Swimmer, PhD  
Robert Kaplan, PhD

## Telepsychology: The Wave of the Future Those who are not prepared for the future are doomed to be left behind.

### Communications & Technology Committee

#### Committee Goals 2012-2013

1. Develop a proposed curriculum of telepsychology for Ohio psychologists.
  2. Actively educate about and promote the use of telepsychology with OPA members.
  3. Provide editorial resources to OPA publications.
  4. Keep informed about telepsychology laws, regulations and guidelines.
  5. With OPA staff manage the OPA listserv for compliance with rules and guidelines.
  6. Provide information about telepsychology on the OPA listserv and OPA publications.
  7. Advocate for the provision of telepsychology education and training opportunities for Ohio psychologists.
- These goals were met and goal one is a work in progress.

#### Primary Committee Goals 2013-2014

1. Develop a proposed curriculum of telepsychology for Ohio psychologists.
2. Actively educate about and promote the use of telepsychology with OPA members.
3. Provide editorial resources to OPA publications.

4. Keep informed about telepsychology laws, regulations, and guidelines.
5. With OPA staff manage the OPA listserv for compliance with rules and guidelines.
6. Provide information about telepsychology on the OPA listserv and OPA publications.
7. Advocate for the provision of telepsychology education and training opportunities for Ohio psychologists.

#### Presentations:

Audrey Ellenwood, PhD, Lars Brok, MD & Kenneth L. Miller, PhD: "Shake-Up: Enhancing the Therapist's Role, Flexibility, Maneuverability, and Effectiveness," November 16, 2012, Maumee, Ohio

Marc B. Dielman, PhD & Doug Felt, MA: "Asperger's Disorder," April 9, 2013, Lourdes University, Sylvania, Ohio.

#### Articles:

Elhai, J. D., Miller, ME, Ford, J. D., Biehn, T. L., Palmieri, P. A., & Frueh, B. C. (2012). Posttraumatic stress disorder in DSM-5: Estimates of prevalence and symptom structure in a nonclinical sample of college students. *Journal of Anxiety Disorders*, 26, 58-64.

Elhai, J. D., & Naifeh, J. A. (2012). The missing link: A call for more rigorous PTSD assessment procedures. *Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice*, 19, 276-282.

\*Note: Dr. Elhai, an associate professor at the University of Toledo, has also been a part of fifteen other publications this past year.

-Marc Dielman, PhD, Chair

**Committee Members:**

Marc B. Dielman, PhD, Chair  
Audrey Ellenwood, PhD, Co-Chair & Editor  
Ky Heinlein, PhD  
Paule Asch, PhD  
Garry Carrington, PhD  
Cynthia Van Keuren, PsyD  
Christina Goodwin, PhD  
Mark Babula, PsyD  
Jon Elhai, PhD  
Jeanne Jenkins, PhD  
Michael Ranney, MPA  
Heather Gilbert  
Denise Brenner

# Director of Professional Affairs Annual Report

Bobbie L. Celeste, PhD

## What Does a Director of Professional Affairs Do for OPA Psychologists and Students?

- Troubleshoot problems with insurance payments
- Discuss clinical issues, rules and ethics
- Know the latest laws and regulations for psychologists
- Build relationships with policy makers
- Lobby the Legislature and Congress
- Promote psychology to other professionals and the public
- Train members how to advocate for psychology

## Reflections on 2012-2013



### Medicare Woes

It has been a very difficult year for psychologists who depend on any type of insurance payments for their work. Medicare under the administration of CGS has been difficult to work with and anyone going through "recertification" has a story of confusion and delays. Michael Ranney and I have contacted GMS on your behalf and often are able to help members get over the

hurdles. If you are an OPA member with a Medicare or other insurance problem, don't suffer in silence, contact us.

Nationally at the last minute in December, Congress kept psychologists fees from being cut by 26 percent with OPA and APA Practice Organization joining other doctors lobby hard for the maintenance of already too low rates. Thanks to all of you who contacted your Congress members. It does make a difference.

### CPT Confusion

In January, the AMA CPT committee announced the new CPT psychotherapy codes. With many insurers unprepared for the changes, psychologists suffered terrible lag times between when they provided services and when they were paid. It wasn't until April that all insurers seemed to be paying the new CPT codes. Michael Ranney and I were on the phone to many insurance carriers asking when they were going to fix the problems. APA was pushing on the national level.

Getting paid at all for the CPT codes was a hassle, but the problems have been compounded by Medicare's setting lower rates for the new codes and insurers deciding to take advantage of the changes to further lower many of the

new codes or not pay for them at all! The most infuriating policy is those plans that are not paying more for 60 minute sessions than they pay for 45 minute sessions. OPA thinks that these techniques violate the federal parity law, but some insurers are so legally "creative" that they are able to side step the law. I've worked with APA to send complaints, make phone calls and try to gather information from members to stay on top of the facts. Dr. Howard Bonem and I presented a CPT webinar that is still available on the OPA website. Go to the homepage at [www.ohpsych.org](http://www.ohpsych.org) and scroll down to the bottom and click on Continuing Education Opportunities. Once you're there, go to Home Studies and Webinars.

### Fees Falling

These fee cuts are insidious because the insurance companies seem to be in a race to the bottom. Payment cuts are very difficult to fight because there are few laws regulating insurance companies fees and procedures. OPA has worked on three of the bills that have helped, the state mental health parity law, the Prompt Pay law and Insurance Fairness, but we have a long way to go to legally require insurance carriers to be fair and effective. Senator Oelslager should introduce a new bill regarding insurance contracting soon.

With the assistance of APA Practice Organization Legal Office, OPA filed a complaint against Humana after their drastic rate cuts. Unfortunately, the Ohio Department of Insurance has had little response to the complaint. At the same time, Practice Organization is pursuing the complaint at the federal Health and Human Services Department, which is charged with parity enforcement, but they appear to have few staff members to aggressively pursue implementation. A lawsuit is a possibility but is long and expensive and the insurers seem to be willing to pay the settlements, rather than change their policies.

### PQRS Puzzle

This year also brought the need for psychologists who see more than a handful of Medicare patients to consider participating in the Physicians Quality Reporting System. I can answer basic questions on this and will continue to stay up to date for you. The APA Monitor for June has a very informative article and Dr. Alice Randolph presented a free webinar for OPA members. It is still available for members on the OPA website at [www.ohpsych.org](http://www.ohpsych.org) under Continuing Education Opportunities.

### Medicaid Expansion

Since last winter, I have been working hard for Medicaid expansion as a way for more working poor to gain access to



A few photos from Congressional visits during the State Leadership Conference.

mental health services. In addition, Medicaid expansion helps small businesses who pay minimum wage or less, because their employees could qualify for Medicaid and employers would escape the penalty for not-insuring them.

States do not have to expand Medicaid but if they don't many low income workers and their employers will be left in the no-coverage gap. If Medicaid is extended, it's estimated that 275,000 more Ohioans would have health insurance. We participate in two active coalitions to fight for the extension. Our advocacy helped convince the Governor to include Medicaid extension in his budget. Then, after much advocacy in the House, it was dropped from the budget and then the Senate also left it out. In the meantime, several stand alone bills have been introduced, and we will continue to advocate for the 75,000 Ohioans who would get Medicaid insurance for their mental health needs.

#### Congressional Visits

I organized visits to all the Congressional offices to advocate for better fees and access for psychologists and our patients. Teams of OPA officers, diversity delegates and graduate students advocated for psychologists being included in the Medicare definition for "physician" since we are the only doctoral level health care professionals who are not. A large contingent visited Senator Portman and Senator Sherrod Brown. Subsequently, with the continued urging of APA and OPA, Senator Brown introduced the bill in the US Senate. If it becomes law it would help psychologists obtain incentives

for electronic health records and eliminate the requirement that physicians sign-off on certain services such as in partial-hospitalization programs.

#### Legislative Initiates

Our advocacy team continues to work for any bill that increases fairness to psychologists, gives more access for patients to seek treatment, and prevents mental illnesses from starting by ending practices such as human trafficking, bullying, and discrimination. To see the specific bills we have been working on, legislation and our annual Legislative Day at the Ohio Statehouse, see articles by Dr. Brad Potts, OPA Advocacy Chair and Executive Director Michael Ranney. Also see the Bill Box that I prepare on our website, under advocacy on the right hand side after going into the member section (you do not have to be a member to access it).

Stand Together or Fall Alone...join OPA and our advocacy efforts. There is strength in numbers and dollars. When legislators hear from one person, they assume there are many more where they came from! Questions or concerns? Contact me at 614-224-0034 on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Thursdays or at [bceleste@ohpsych.org](mailto:bceleste@ohpsych.org)

- *Bobbie L. Celeste, PhD,*  
Director of Professional Affairs

## NEW: Study Group for the EPPP:

Examination for Professional Practice of Psychology



One of several EPPP meetings this year.

In February, it was my pleasure to initiate the new EPP study group service with the help of Joan Bowman, OPA's Director of Membership and Education and Dr. Katie Hutchinson, incoming chair of the Early Career Psychologist Committee. The group meets monthly and attendance includes those who come to the OPA central office and those who call-in from around the state. More than 35 individuals have participated in at least one of the four meetings. In addition to Dr. Hutchinson, we have had three other psychologists who recently passed the exam share their insights. Dr. Ross and Ms. Chiquana Campbell-Hancock from the State Board of Psychology also attended a session and offered information. It's a positive group that focuses on using your own learning method to study and pass the exam.

If you need motivation, tips and information about sitting for the EPPP exam, please contact me at OPA to learn more. You do not have to be an OPA member to participate, but we encourage membership to support this on-going group.

- *Bobbie Celeste, PhD,* OPA Director of Professional Affairs

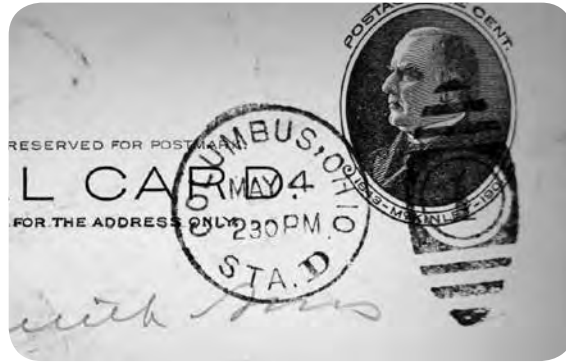
# Bringing Our History to Life

The Oral History Project Task Force grew from the OPA 60th Anniversary Celebration. The committee at the time realized an opportunity to create a longstanding continued project to collect and archive the rich oral history of psychology in Ohio. Currently we have over 25 interviews already completed from key psychologists throughout the state on various topics relating to Ohio psychology. This year the OPA archives were moved from Akron and will now be housed at the Wright State University Library. In cooperation with Wright State, OPA will develop an online presence for the archives and Oral History interviews, creating a lasting searchable database for students, psychologists, historians and the public. The database will include all the historical documentation collected over the years regarding OPA and Ohio psychology. These documents include letters, minutes, pictures and interviews that illustrate the history of Ohio psychology, and OPA specifically. In preparation for the new online archives, the interviews are being transcribed with the generous financial support of the Foundation for Psychology in Ohio. Eventually, the interviews will be organized around significant historical themes (e.g., the History of the Women's Movement in Ohio Psychology and the History of Ohio's Psychology Licensing Law.) Your tax-deductible donations through the Foundation for the continued support of the project are appreciated.

This year new members joined the task force, several new interviews were completed, a display was held at the OPA Convention, themes were developed to organize the project, an orientation packet was developed, releases were developed and sought from interviewees, guidelines were established for the interview process and camera use, funding for transcribing the interviews was obtained and the actual transcription process started, additional materials from OWP were added to the archives, and a

transition was made to the new task force leadership.

Next year, it will be important to complete the transfer of the archives to Wright State, establish the online program, complete additional interviews and market the project so that it will realize its educative potential. The project is intended to implement the Strategic Plan's injunction to increase OPA's visibility.



The opportunity to interview these remarkable psychologists is an awe-inspiring experience. As a personal example, I was extremely fortunate to hear about the remarkable life and contribution (he was a national hero in Lithuania) of Dr. Vytautas Bieliauskas prior to his untimely death this year. Dr. Bieliauskas was an OPA President, a founder of the Ohio Board of Psychology and had a distinguished academic career at Xavier University.

## Task Force Members:

Jim Broyles, PhD, 2013-2014 Chair  
David Hellkamp, PhD  
Gary DeNelsky, PhD  
Todd Finnerty, PsyD  
Cathy Gaw, PsyD  
Dick Rynearson, PhD  
Willie Williams, PhD  
Sally Wilson, PhD  
Jane Woodrow, PhD  
John Rudisill, PhD, Chair  
Joan Bowman  
Denise Brenner  
Heather Gilbert  
Michael Ranney, MPA

-John Rudisill, PhD, Chair

# PROs (Psychologists Retired of Ohio)

OPA continues to work to meet the needs of psychologists at different stages of the profession. The PROs group meets periodically to discuss needs of retired psychologists, to support one another and to hear speakers. If you are interested in learning more about steps to retirement from your private practice, a program of "Strategic Practice Valuation and Exit

Strategy" will be offered at the OPA Convention, 11:15 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. Wednesday, October 30, 2013 in Columbus. If you are interested in finding out more about the PROs or have questions about retirement, please contact me at the OPA office, 614-224-0034 or [bcelest@ohpsych.org](mailto:bcelest@ohpsych.org).



## A Different Voice: Psychology in the Public Sector

*Dr. Buchwalter accepts the Public Sector Psychologist of the Year Award with Drs. Broyles and Rudisill*

The Public Sector Issues (PSI) Committee provides a voice for psychologists and their clients in a variety of sites including community mental health clinics, the military and VA, medical schools and universities, public schools, prisons, state psychiatric hospital and the courts. Representation of these diverse groups within the public sector is accomplished by alerting the OPA Board and other committees to problems requiring their attention, informing and advocating with state legislators on psychology-relevant bills, collaborating with community groups working toward similar goals, providing continuing education that is particularly useful to clinicians in the public sector, and educating the public about the needs of and resources available to public clients.

During the past year, the committee has been actively engaged in advocacy and educational efforts through the OPA Board, Grassroots Advocacy Network and individual contacts with legislators to inform them about psychological concerns and opinions. These efforts have included attention to problems in regulation of Applied Behavioral Analysis for treatment of autism; task force work (in cooperation with the LGBT subcommittee) to assess needs and develop programs to address bullying in the schools (Safe Schools Act); addressing problems in psychologists' reimbursement for treatment of depression in chronically ill injured workers (through the BWC Task Force); and input on new AOT bills designed to clarify use of court-mandated outpatient treatment (in cooperation with NAMI). Ohio's Health Care Transformation has also been a focus as committee members have struggled to understand and monitor new and anticipated changes and convince conservative members of the Ohio House that Medicaid Expansion would benefit both the state and its citizens. A bill (Inmate Health Care) that provides for a model program allowing psychologists to prescribe psychotropic medication in prisons has encountered serious resistance and alternative sites for such a program are being considered.

Educational efforts during the year included OPA Convention workshops addressing diagnosis and treatment of substance abuse (including "designer drugs") and assessment of juvenile sex offenders. BWC Task Force members presented a Convention workshop on assessment of injured workers and discussed their proposal for an early intervention program. They also conducted an open forum for psychologists following a program by the Industrial Commission of Ohio. Two workshops will be presented at the fall 2013 OPA Convention, one on integrated care in the VA system and one on multidisciplinary approaches to opioid addiction. We also plan to add at least one new webinar in the coming year. This format is a good option for folks in agencies that offer limited leave time and funds for travel. We would like to make rural psychology a webinar focus and welcome suggestions for topics (as well as volunteers who would like to present a workshop

in this format.) Please contact the chair if you would like to suggest topics or volunteer.

Recognition of public sector psychologists may be infrequent but is nonetheless important. This year two psychologists were recognized for exceptional service. Susan Buchwalter, PhD, received the committee award for Public Sector Psychologist of the Year for her decades of innovative leadership of The Counseling Center of Wayne and Holmes Counties and her significant contributions to state and national mental health groups. Committee member Cindy Orlasky was recognized as Employee of the Month by the Veterans Administration for her exemplary work in Home Based Primary Care.

The committee welcomes any new members who are committed to improving the care of public sector clients, whether at the individual or system level. Currently, we're especially interested in adding new rural psychologists and would like to fill the position of Rural Health Coordinator, a psychologist who would provide liaison between our state association and the APA Committee on Rural Health. We are also interested in adding prison psychologists, especially in view of funding cuts and other changes in the state prison system, including stress imposed by privatization.

If you would like further information about our committee and might even consider joining us, please check our page on the OPA web site <http://www.ohpsych.org/about/governance/committees-task-force-and-affiliates/psi/> You're also welcome to join our Public Sector Mail Group [http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/PSI\\_Mail\\_Group/](http://health.groups.yahoo.com/group/PSI_Mail_Group/) for updated information and discussion of topics you consider important. (OPA membership is not required.) Other questions? Please contact us.

### **Committee Members:**

Lynne Rustad, PhD (VA (Ret.), GM&S) Chair  
 David Aronson, PhD, FAACP (BWC)  
 Kim Clark, PhD (Prisons)  
 Deborah Devlin, LSW (CMH)  
 Lani Eberlein, PsyD (CMH & Univ.)  
 Fred Frese, PhD (Medical School - SMI)  
 Julie Glista, MA (State Psychiatric Hospital)  
 Bob Goldberg, PhD ABPP (VA Training)  
 Jeremy Kaufman, PsyD (Military)  
 Jim Moore (CMH)  
 Cindy Orlasky, PhD (VA Home-based Care)  
 Jennifer Reese, PhD (Juvenile Justice)  
 Mary Ann Teitelbaum, PhD (Schools - OSPA Rep)  
 Jon Thomas, PhD (Medical School - Family Med.)  
 Bethany Young-Lundquist, PhD (Courts)

– *Lynne C. Rustad, PhD*, Chair  
 rustadlc@mac.com, (216) 659-5092



# TAAPP Onto Local Resources

The Toledo Area Academy of Professional Psychologists (TAAPP) provided services to local psychologists and clients in the past year, and seeks to collaborate with other organizations to expand our impact in the upcoming year.

The updated TAAPP website provided a fresh look and continued to be a beneficial resource to the community in northwest Ohio. The included psychologist directory allows members to describe their practice so that potential clients and colleagues are aware of their interests and areas of expertise. The website provides information about the board members and archives of *The Communicator*, the newsletter distributed by TAAPP. The website, accessible at <http://taapp.info/index.html>, also provides a calendar of Mandatory Continuing Education events hosted by TAAPP. Each biennium TAAPP seeks to provide opportunities for psychologists to meet MCE requirements by providing high quality, interesting, local and affordable seminars and workshops.

During this past year, the presentations included "Left Meets Right: Cognitive and Clinical Implications of Interhemispheric Integration." Stephen Christman, PhD discussed research showing that concepts such as right handed and left handed are outdated. Current understanding suggests that looking at degree rather than direction is more useful, and has relevance for interhemispheric interaction. He also discussed bilateral eye movements and the implications for Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR).

TAAPP's own Carol Smith, PhD presented "Perspectives on Domestic Violence." There are over 16,000 Toledo area calls to 911 for domestic violence annually. Her presentation focused on assessment and treatment of domestic violence and the issues surrounding it.

Audrey Ellenwood, PhD of TAAPP, in collaboration with Kenneth Miller, PhD, and Lars Brok, MD presented "Shake-Up: Enhancing Therapist's role Flexibility, Maneuverability, and Effectiveness in the Therapeutic Session." This was based on the book "Shake UP" by Drs. Ellenwood and Brok and included participation by the attendees.

TAAPP is reaching out to students. A free workshop was offered for students to promote increased involvement. TAAPP also began communication with OPAGS in a process that will hopefully provide continued outreach to graduate students at local universities.

In the upcoming year members of OPA will present as part of TAAPP's MCE events, and Ron Ross will present on ethics.


TAAPP continues to offer its members representation in OPA. The OPA representative regularly attends OPA meetings in Columbus, providing a voice for psychologists

in Northwest Ohio and communication between the organizations. *The Communicator* includes valuable information and updates, as well as free advertising. The formal and informal events allow for socialization and networking.

## The board members who have made this year so successful have included:

President Marc Dielman, PhD  
President-Elect Audrey Ellenwood, PhD  
MCE Chair David Connell, PhD  
Secretary Carol Smith, PhD  
Treasurer Andrew Martin, PsyD  
OPA Representative Dennis Kogut, PhD  
Member-at-large, Joelle Floriana, PhD

- Mark Babula, PsyD



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# Cleveland Psychological Association

I have been honored to serve as the OPA representative from CPA for 2012-2013. As such, I get to share with OPA the wonderful things that are going on in the psychological community in Cleveland, and help communicate back to Cleveland important happenings in OPA. CPA was represented in a number of OPA functions this year including hosting a table at the fall Convention where people could learn more about CPA, greeting newly licensed Cleveland area psychologists at the Swearing In Ceremony, donating for prizes and providing judges for the State Science Fair, and representing our region at the OPA Legislative Day in May. In addition, OPA's Michael Ranney and Bobbie Celeste presented a CE program for CPA on May 6, titled "State of Ohio." CPA also helped coordinate a student information session February 4 under the leadership of OPAGS President Ashley Murray and promoted the Northeast Ohio Peer Consultation meeting for OPA Professional Practice Committee.

We are very proud of our strong regional psychological association which continues to hold excellent cost-effective CE opportunities, provide a referral service for finding psychologists in the Cleveland area and help psychologists in Cleveland network in the community. Highlights of CPA's year included a student poster session with 14 area undergraduates and graduate students presenting psychological research. CPA was also represented by psychologists Nancy Duff Boehm, Cathy Gaw, Nikki Wagner, Gary Carrington, and student Wendy Kellon at the Cleveland Clinic Minority Men's Health Fair and Cleveland YMCA Healthy Kids Day.

From an administrative standpoint, CPA is working hard to maintain and grow its membership. The needs of members have led to the successful revision of our bylaws in the past year as well as focus on a sustainable budget, offering longer but fewer CE programs during the membership year. CPA members are still able to easily fulfill the State Board CE requirements by attending CPA meetings over the biennium.

CPA continues to work toward "going green" and sustainability. We continue to offer online membership renewal, deliver our newsletters and program information in an online format, and members can register for programs online.

As I move into the presidential year, the role of CPA representative will be taken over by Dr. Cathy Gaw, who has ably represented our area in past years. I am excited that she will be continuing the connection between these two fine organizations.

If you are interested in becoming a member of CPA, joining is easy! Take a look at our website [www.clevelandpsychology.org](http://www.clevelandpsychology.org) and browse our blog and newsletter. We would love to have you join our community and become an active member of CPA!

Best,

*Kathleen Ashton, PhD*

Cleveland Regional Representative to OPA

---

## Professional Organizations Staying Relevant

The Cincinnati Academy of Professional Psychologists (CAPP) began the year with new board members, as long time board members Kathleen Mack, PsyD, Richard Sears, PsyD and Hilary Wishnick PhD exited their positions. We welcomed Jim Diehl, PhD, Jack Peltz, PhD and Meera Murthi, PhD into the programs, membership/marketing and webmaster positions.

In reviewing this past year, CAPP happily continued its mission to providing quality continuing education to its members. CAPP has hosted several dinner meetings for CE credit throughout the year. In November, Dr. Tracy McDonough from the College of Mt. St. Joseph's gave an excellent presentation on her recent project developing a video series chronicling the life of patients with schizophrenia. Members were moved by Tracy's project and the honest glimpse into the lives of the individuals enrolled in her project. Then in February, Jonathan Steinberg, PhD presented on "Motivational Interviewing" where we all enjoyed practicing interviewing skills on our colleagues. Our spring workshop featuring Bill Eddy, LISW, Esq. from the High Conflict Institute in San Diego, CA focused on "Working with High Conflict Families in Divorce" and then in May, Charles Brady, PhD from the Lindner Center of Hope

returned to speak about obsessive-compulsive disorder.

This year CAPP identified two targeted areas of growth: an expansion of our bylaws to accept student affiliates and academic psychologists and continued growth of our CAPP website. Both were seen as necessary revisions or updates in order to continue CAPP's mission of staying relevant to the practice of psychology in Cincinnati and in the electronic era. As many professional organizations today experience, both goals have presented challenges and opportunities. CAPP was historically developed for licensed private practitioners to have an organization in Cincinnati that supported its members through continuing education, peer networking, consultation, and community involvement. Last year it became apparent that CAPP's membership has wonderful experienced members on the verge of retirement with fewer early career psychologists, and no students, in CAPP to share their wisdom with. To broaden our scope and to make a greater contribution to the indoctrination of future psychologists, the CAPP board developed a survey to poll the membership to obtain their thoughts on including graduate students and academic psychologists as affiliate members. We are currently reviewing the results of the survey in hopes of making changes to the bylaws by next year. We are

looking forward to reaching out to local universities for students and faculty to enrich CAPP.

CAPP continues to be committed to professional and community outreach. In doing so, we were happy to make a contribution to OPA's annual Science Day and OPA Project Fair. Our annual booth at Mental Health Day on the Square in Cincinnati was successful along with our "CAPP" caps! Our webdiva, Dr. Murthi, has worked diligently to increase the number of individual psychologist's pictures on the CAPP website. The number of visits to the website continues to grow. We hope to begin loading dinner meeting pictures soon.

CAPP will start off the 2013-2014 year with presenter Lyndsey Barnett, HIPAA specialist at Graydonhead Legal Counsel. She will speak at the CAPP dinner meeting to discuss what psychologists need to do to be HIPAA compliant under the new requirements. Then in September, Kathleen Mack, PsyD and Debjani Sinha, PhD will return for our bi-annual ethics workshop.

Please feel free to contact any of our board members for more information about CAPP. Check out our website for quarterly newsletters and dinner meeting events at [www.cappnet.org](http://www.cappnet.org)

President: Steve Sparks, PhD  
Past-president: Sharon Phillips, PsyD  
President-elect and Ethics: Debjani Sinha, PhD  
Marketing/Membership: Jack Peltz, PhD  
OPA Representative: Sarah Greenwell, PsyD  
Treasurer: Cory Yaeger, PhD  
Webmaster: Meera Murthi, PhD  
Insurance/Managed Care: Terri Role-Warren, PsyD  
Programs: Jim Diehl, PhD

- Sarah Greenwell, PsyD  
CAPP Representative to OPA  
[sarah.greenwell@cchmc.org](mailto:sarah.greenwell@cchmc.org)

## All in a Day's Work:

### Psychology in the Workplace Network Committee Honors Ohio's Best Workplaces!

Job stress, work-life balance and on the job injuries remain important concerns among America's working adults, making the importance of healthy and supportive workplaces more critical than ever. OPA's Psychology in the Workplace Network is committed to identifying and honoring those businesses and organizations who lead the way in providing compassionate, empowering and innovative programs and services to their employees.

In 2012, OPA's Psychology in the Workplace Network announced two state winners of the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards, the Cleveland Clinic Mellen Center for MS and the Cleveland Center for Eating Disorders. We were happy to host representatives from our winning organizations at the awards luncheon, held during OPA's Convention.

In addition to sponsoring the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Awards luncheon, representatives from the PWN committee presented a workshop titled "Helping Workplaces Thrive in the 21st Century: From 9 to 5 to a 24/7 World." Committee members Dennis Doverspike and Robin Graff-Reed presented attendees with information about the value, purpose and practice of promoting psychology in the workplace and consulting to businesses.

Immediately following the state award selection, we nominated both our winners for the national level awards. In January we received the news that the Cleveland Clinic Mellen Center for MS had been selected for a national Best Practice Award! We were pleased to host representatives from CCMC at the award ceremony and reception at the State Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C. in March.

This spring, we have resumed our efforts to solicit applicants for the 2013 PHWA awards and already have several applications in process! We plan to assign committee members to personally "shepherd" these businesses through

the application process as needed.

The PHWA committee has set some lofty goals for the 2013 award year. We hope to expand our committee's scope by providing additional resources and information to Ohio's businesses through enhanced website offerings as well as workshops and consulting referrals. In addition, we'd like to provide resources and support to consulting and I/O psychologists in Ohio, and plan to collaborate with APA's Division 13 to identify potential members. All of this is in the early planning stages.

As always, we could not accomplish our goals without the commitment and hard work of our committee members. We welcome anyone interested in promoting psychology in the workplace while having fun!

- Robin L. Graff-Reed, PhD, Chair  
[graffrl@yahoo.com](mailto:graffrl@yahoo.com)

#### 2013 Committee Members:

Robin Graff-Reed, PhD, Committee Chair  
Dennis Doverspike, PhD  
Heather Gilbert, OPA Director of Communications and Marketing  
Les Netland, PhD  
Sherry Martindell, PhD  
Michael Ranney, MPA, OPA Executive Director  
Richard Rynearson, PhD  
Craig Travis, PhD  
Amy Sullivan, PsyD  
Mark Whitmore, PhD  
Andrew Passen, PhD  
Logan Rife, student member  
Zach Bruback, student member

# DAPA: In and Around Dayton

The Dayton Area Psychological Association has been meeting the strategic goal of making psychology more visible in the community by actively reaching out and networking. This networking approach has led the DAPA Board of Directors deep into community events, not just as passive sponsors, instead as active participants. For the second year in a row, DAPA participated in the 5K



Run/Walk for Autism Awareness sponsored by the Dayton Chapter of the Autism Society of America. Members have also participated in the second annual Food Bank Project launched by Marci Gunn, PhD (Pictured Kenneth Drude & Marci Gunn at the Autism Walk)

Inclusion and recruitment efforts led to a partnership with the Wright State University, School of Professional



Psychology and has yielded, yet another amazingly motivated and enthusiastic student member to the DAPA Board. Rebecca Clarke, a native of Dayton and graduate of Chaminade-Julienne High School, is the 2013 SOPP student representative. Upon her assignment to the post, she eagerly recruited a team of judges from amongst her peers at Wright State. The team participated in the regional and state science fairs with OPA Representative, Rose Mary Shaw, PsyD. These events are not only enjoyable, but they demonstrate the heart of community spirit and volunteerism. This year marks the fourth year of DAPA sponsorship and judging at Regional and State Science Days.



The changing of the guard was one of honor and appreciation. Brigitte Beale, the recent DAPA student representative, was honored on April 27, 2013 by the African American Women in Professional Psychology at a Rites of Passage Ceremony. As a demonstration of DAPA's appreciation for all of her service, Dennis O'Grady, PsyD, the current DAPA president, attended the event.



Dennis O'Grady and his daughter also participated in the Autism 5K Walk/Run. This fall, O'Grady will launch his daughter off to college as she begins her educational pursuits toward a career in psychology.

Networking amongst professionals and community members was also elevated to the state of the art media technology with the launching of the new DAPA website and logo. Niki Blust, PsyD spent well over a year researching and developing the final product that was launched in May. Visit us at [daytonpsych.org](http://daytonpsych.org).



Professional member development has historically been at the core of the DAPA mission. The aim is to acknowledge local professional talent while providing expert high quality CE presentations. This year DAPA ends its CE year with a presentation from staff at the local Kettering Health Network.

"Assessment and Treatment of Sleep Disorders Across the Lifespan" will be presented by nationally acclaimed researchers Michael Bonnet PhD, Donna Arand PhD



and their Behavioral Sleep Medicine Specialist, Rose Mary Shaw PsyD. September 20, 2013 (1- 4:15 p.m.) at the Ellis Institute, WSU.

The DAPA Board remains dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in and around Dayton.

President: Dennis O'Grady  
 Newsletter Editor: Kenneth Drude  
 President Elect: Rose Mary Shaw  
 Webpage Chair Nicole Blust  
 Secretary / Treasure: Marcy Gunn  
 Program Chair: Steve Hall  
 Student Rep: Rebecca Clarke

*-Rose Mary Shaw, PsyD*



## COPA: The Voice for Psychology in Central Ohio

COPA has had another exciting and productive year, especially in the areas of continuing education, networking and community outreach. COPA has continued its commitment to offer relevant and cost-effective CE Programs. This year, COPA and National Association of Social Workers (Ohio chapter) are cosponsoring the workshop series: Responding to Community Trauma and Violence. The four-part series focuses on:

- **Threat Assessment:** Presented by Terry Kukor, PhD on May 3, 2013
- **Legal and Ethical Aspects of Disaster Mental Health:** Presented by Bob Stinson, PsyD, JD, ABPP and Kay Levine, PhD on June 28, 2013
- **Response to Trauma and Violence:** Presented by Marjorie Kukor, PhD and Valerie Cole, PhD on October 11, 2013
- **Self-Care: Issues for Responders and Communities:** Presented by Kay Levine, PhD, Marjorie Kukor, PhD and Jim Adams, CBHE on November 15, 2013

In addition, COPA will be cosponsoring a workshop with the Colleague Assistance Program (CAP) on September 20, 2013.

So that more graduate students are able to attend CE programs sponsored by COPA, students who assist with program registration are entitled to have the registration fee for that program waived.

At the 2012 convention, COPA partnered with the OPA Foundation to host the wine tasting and professional networking fundraising event. The event was well attended and provided a great opportunity to meet new colleagues and reconnect with old friends, see the photos above.

An integral aspect of COPA's identity is our commitment to professional and community outreach. COPA sponsored two graduate students in central Ohio to attend OPA's Legislative Day on May 22, 2013. In addition to obtaining invaluable advocacy experience, each student also received a free membership to COPA. In recognition of our friend and colleague, the late Henry Leland, PhD, and his life-long commitment to advocacy, one of these scholarships will be designated the Dr. Henry Leland Scholarship beginning in 2014.

COPA again participated in the judging of the Regional Science Day on March 16, 2013 and State Science Day on

May 11, 2013 and sponsored two awards for outstanding behavioral health projects. COPA continues to support two fundraisers: NAMI Walks in June and the Out of Darkness Walk in October. COPA is also proud to continue our support of Project FAIR.

It is with deep gratitude that we thank central Ohio for your support of COPA. If you are interested in becoming more involved, please be our guest for lunch at our monthly Board meetings. We meet on the third Monday of each month from 11:45 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. at Florentine's Italian Restaurant, 907 W. Broad Street. This is a great way to learn more about COPA and become an integral part of addressing the needs of psychologists in central Ohio. If you have any questions or are interested in becoming involved with COPA, please contact any of our current board members:

President: Marjorie Kukor, PhD,  
Marjorie.kukor@mha.ohio.gov

Past-President: Aracelis Rivera, PsyD,  
arc1217@aol.com

Secretary: Lisa Gordish, PsyD,  
Lisa.Gordish@mha.ohio.gov

OPA Representative: Peg Richards Mosher, PhD,  
mmrpsych@aol.com

We look forward to hearing from you! For more information about COPA, check out our website: [copaonline.org](http://copaonline.org).

Respectfully submitted,

*- Peg Richards Mosher, PhD*

### COPA Board Members:

Marjorie Kukor, PhD, President  
Aracelis Rivera, PsyD, Past-President  
Lisa Gordish, PsyD, Secretary  
Peg Richards Mosher, PhD, COPA Representative to OPA  
Joan Bowman, MS, OPA Director of Membership  
Pam Deuser, PhD  
Jim Raia, PhD, Public Sector Representative  
Michael Ranney, MPA, OPA Executive Director  
Bob Stinson, PsyD, JD, ABBP

# AAPP Hosts a Broad Array of Speakers

The Akron Area Professional Psychologists (AAPP) were fortunate to have a number of excellent speakers this year. Belinda Gore, PhD, broke in the new membership year with her fascinating presentation entitled "Use of the Enneagram in Psychotherapy and Coaching." Dr. Gore was an engaging speaker who helped us to learn about a valuable tool for psychologists.

Benito Antognoli, David Umbaugh, and Michael Brown were our next presenters. On December 7, 2012, they taught the psychologists in attendance about the "Collaborative Divorce Process." This was a very useful presentation that helped psychologists understand ways in which we can collaborate with other professionals in ways other than our traditional roles such as therapist or assessor. Many thanks to the team of Antognoli, Umbaugh, and Brown for giving such an enlightening talk.

Patrick Palmieri, PhD, Director of the Center for the Treatment and Study of Traumatic Stress at Summa Health System's Saint Thomas Hospital, opened the spring presentation season with his presentation, "Assessment and Treatment of PTSD." Dr. Palmieri updated us on DSM-V changes for the diagnostic criteria for PTSD and discussed some interesting new ways to treat the disorder.

Our new vice president, Christine Agaibi, MA, presented the flip side of PTSD with her talk, "Understanding the

Complexity of Resilience and Utilizing it in Professional Practice" on April 26. This is an area of personal passion for Ms. Agaibi; she is currently in the process of completing her dissertation on this vital topic. We are grateful both for her presence on our board and her excellent talk on the concept.

As alluded to earlier, AAPP made some changes to our executive board. Our beloved president, Jane Eckert, PhD, stepped down and was replaced by Colin Christensen, PhD. Christine Agaibi, MA, is our new vice president and Joel Mowrey, PhD, continues in his vital role of secretary/treasurer.

AAPP express our sincere gratitude to our presenters over the past year. They did a great job of keeping us informed and updated about the current practice of psychology. We look forward to our new slate of presenters for the upcoming year, including Jane Eckert, PhD with "Mindfulness-Based Cognitive Therapy," Michael Ranney, MPA, and Bobbie Celeste, PhD presenting "Future Trends for the Practice of Psychology in the State of Ohio," and David Baker, PhD, with a Center for the History of Psychology tour.

- Colin Christensen, PhD

## GRADUATE PROGRAMS IN PSYCHOLOGY

*"This was the right program at the right time, taught by committed professional practitioners in the most supportive of environments. Not a day passes that I don't use something I learned in the program." -Meryl French, alumna*



### DOCTOR OF PSYCHOLOGY (Psy.D.) with a Concentration in Clinical Psychology

- Practitioner-scholar model
- Focus on diversity and social relevance
- **NEW!** ASPPB/National Register Designation

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- Fulfills state counseling licensure requirements
- **NEW!** Certificate in Alcohol & Drug Abuse Counseling

APPLY FOR WINTER 2014

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# Ohio Women in Psychology (OWP):

## Expansion Beyond Our Home and into the Future

As another year comes to a close with the Ohio Women in Psychology (OWP), we can reflect on the last year's progress as well as look ahead to the future of our organization. As of January 1, 2013, Christine E. Agaibi's, MA (PhD Candidate) term ended as President of OWP and she has now become OWP's Communications Chair and Past President. Our new current President is Cathy McDaniels Wilson, PhD. Dr. McDaniels Wilson plans to continue initiatives started by previous presidents as well as implement new initiatives to expand the progress of OWP.

Dr. McDaniels Wilson is continuing to publish our quarterly newsletter Perspectives. As of the writing of this review, one newsletter has been published and another one is in press. Dr. McDaniels Wilson is also working to increase discussion about membership benefits and to enhance benefits of women in psychology throughout Ohio. Some of the current benefits of being members of OWP include:

- Supporting women in psychology in their professional endeavors and increasing awareness of women's needs, perspectives and contributions
- Representing the interests of women to other professional associations
- Advocacy centering around women's interest in psychology
- Recognizing women's achievements and unique contributions to psychology
- Providing a scholarship for students conducting research in women's issues
- Presenting a lifetime achievement award for women who have dedicated their career in psychology to enhancing women's issues
- Providing a platform for growth
- Networking and leadership development and providing educational activities through OWP or in co-sponsorship with other groups such as OPA.

Dr. McDaniels Wilson is also working to enhance the membership of OWP and is collaborated with several OWP

members to put together a program for the 2013 OPA Convention. This has been done in the past successfully with OWP hosting a positive psychology program at the OPA Convention in 2011. Additionally, OWP will be working the Association for Women in Psychology (AWP) to assist in planning of the AWP conference in Columbus, Ohio in March of 2014. OWP also hopes to continue remaining active through discussions on its listserv and through its monthly conference call meetings. OWP also continues to try to meet in person several times throughout the year.

Finally, OWP would like to take a moment to remember Dr. Cherie Bagley who passed away earlier this year. Dr. Bagley was a cheerful and enthusiastic Past-President of OWP (2008-2010) and was a psychologist at the Cleveland VA. She put her heart into all the work that she did including that which she did for OPA, and OWP. She was a mentor and a leader and she will be greatly missed. OWP extends its deepest condolences to Dr. Bagley's family, friends and to all those that knew and worked with her.

As this year draws to a close, we look at how far we have come and we look forward to our future within this organization. OWP is home for so many women in psychology and this rich camaraderie brings tremendous value to our organization. Our members have advocated for psychology at the state and national level and continue to work tirelessly to enhance the lives of women in psychology. We look forward increasing our membership so we can continue to exchange ideas and expand and enhance our focus on women's issues. We also look forward to creating programming, articles, discussions and advocacy centralized around women's issues throughout the coming year and beyond.

– *Christine E. Agaibi, MA*

PhD Candidate

Counseling Psychology The University of Akron

Communications Chair OWP, cagaibi1@yahoo.com

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## The Foundation For Psychology In Ohio Promoting Community Health

The Foundation for Psychology in Ohio (PSYOHIO) strives to promote healthy communities in Ohio. PSYOHIO seeks to create, support and encourage activities of a psychological nature that promote community health. It seeks to support individuals and organizations which promote community health through psychological means. It is the charitable arm of OPA and as such gifts, grants, contributions and bequests to it are tax deductible.

PSYOHIO continues to support the Michael Sullivan Diversity Scholarship, named for Dr. Michael Sullivan, former Assistant Executive Director for state advocacy for the APA Practice Directorate/Practice Organization. Dr. Sullivan was instrumental in establishing APA's Diversity initiative and his friends and colleagues from APA, the states, provinces and territories established this fund to recognize his contribution to diversity at the time of his retirement. The fund gives grants to support research on diversity related topics. This was the sixth year scholarships have been awarded and this year's winners were:

Jin Kim is a graduate student at the University of California, Davis. Her research is looking at disparities in mental health treatment, access, utilization and outcomes in ethnic minority populations, particularly Asian Americans.

David Lick, a student at the University of California, Los Angeles, whose research integrates methods from various disciplines to better understand prejudice against members of stigmatized groups.

OPA continues to judge posters exhibited at the Ohio Science Fair that deal with Behavioral Science. This year our 20 judges examined 150 posters and selected winners to receive cash prizes in grades five through 12. Students at the Ohio Science Fair are among the best young scientists in Ohio.

The top posters by graduate and undergraduate at the OPA Convention are awarded cash prizes from PSYOHIO. This is a great way to encourage important psychological research.

Another important project of the Foundation is an effort to establish a consortium and create internships for Ohio graduate students. Our student members have shared with us the difficulty they face because of the shortage of internship opportunities to enable them to complete their studies.

PSYOHIO has taken the lead in supporting our Multicultural Conference, which is currently held every two years. A grant from the Alcohol, Drug and Mental Health Board (ADAMH) of Franklin County enabled us to provide scholarships for students to hear Dr. Beverly Green's presentation about individuals who come from minority populations in the United States and who are also Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgendered. This program was very well received and highly rated.

For the past few years OPA has been working to establish an oral history archive of videotaped interviews of leading Ohio psychologists discussing their work in Ohio. Ohio has a rich history of people who have contributed to major

developments in our field. We are now preparing to make these videos available on line through Wright State University. The Foundation is supporting the creation of transcripts of the interviews we have conducted to complete the archive. If you have suggestions of Ohio /former Ohio psychologists that we should interview please send them to [mranney@ohpsych.org](mailto:mranney@ohpsych.org).

PSYOHIO continues to strive to develop more student scholarship funds, educational programming about psychology and mental health and community based programming that promotes health.

Consider a donation to PSYOHIO to support this program. Send us suggestions about other ways PSYOHIO can have an impact. Acknowledge mentors with gifts in their honor or make memorial gifts to recognize deceased colleagues. As you develop your financial plans, please don't forget to include PSYOHIO in your estate plan.



This has been a very exciting and productive year for the Ohio Psychological Association for Graduate Students. OPAGS started the 2012-2013 year with a new board filled with motivated students wanting to help improve the organization and continue to further the goals of OPA. One of our main goals this year was to enhance the organization by better meeting the needs of students. This was achieved by assessing the needs of graduate students throughout Ohio and developing and implementing strategies to increase student involvement. Through these efforts approximately 100 new students joined OPAGS this year. Highlights are discussed below:

Throughout the year, under the direction of the OPAGS Membership and Communications Chair, increased focus was placed on building a stronger relationship with campus representatives. OPAGS worked diligently to develop a comprehensive up-to-date list of campus representatives at all universities throughout Ohio. This enabled OPAGS to disseminate information to campus representatives following every board meeting. As the year progressed, it became apparent that there was a communication gap between OPAGS and campus representatives; therefore, a meeting was dedicated to discuss goals and recruitment strategies. While there was limited involvement in this effort, this was a step in

the right direction and in the upcoming year this will be an area of continued focus.

In addition the main event OPAGS coordinated this year was the OPAGS Spring Workshop. The workshop was held at The Ohio State University and focused solely on the internship process. This year there was a significant increase in student attendance with approximately 60 students attending the conference. Presentations included: An Overview of the Internship Process, Discussion with Internship Directors, The Internship Imbalance at a National Level and Life after Internship. Throughout the workshop students were able to connect with other graduate students, interns, early career psychologists and internship directors across the state. OPAGS looks forward to hosting another valuable conference next year.

Other exciting events where OPAGS members were present and represented students included the APA State Leadership Conference and OPA Legislative Day. Specifically, we had a large number of graduate students and interns in attendance at the OPA Legislative Day, and we hope to continue having a large student presence in the future. Both of these events provided in-depth leadership and advocacy training. Students were also given the unique opportunity to meet with senators



and representatives and advocate for upcoming issues that will benefit the field of psychology.

Lastly, this year OPAGS was focused on determining the needs of graduate students in Ohio and continuing to improve the organization. An OPAGS need assessment was sent to both OPAGS members and non-OPAGS members. The results of the survey indicated that increasing student awareness of the benefits of OPAGS and increasing events targeted to graduate students need to continue to be a goal in future years. New members have been elected to the OPAGS board and we look forward to another successful year.

– Ashley Murray

OPAGS Chair, Murray.99@wright.edu

**OPAGS Board Members:**

Chair: Ashley Murray, Wright State University  
Chair-Elect: Terri Pelley, University of Cincinnati  
Diversity Chair: Rachel Juran, Xavier University  
Membership & Communications Chair: Demaree Bruck, University of Cincinnati  
Continuing Education Chair: Steven Beyer, Akron University  
Advocacy Chair: Amanda Trice, Xavier University

Find us on Facebook: [facebook.com/ohiopsychologicalassociationofgraduatestudents](https://www.facebook.com/ohiopsychologicalassociationofgraduatestudents)

## Identify and Testify! Branding and Marketing OPA

OPA has identified itself! We have a consensually validated self-identity. Our new logo, developed primarily through the good works of Dr. Kathy Ashton and Heather Gilbert, represents a rich list of brand qualities related to core values and services including:

- Credibility
- Advocacy
- Integration and diversity
- Career and personal growth
- Reaching out to the next generation
- Professionalism

### Education

- A “go to” for resources and expertise for consumers and practitioners
- The voice for our profession in Ohio
- Valuable services in support of members’ professional practices
- Future goal setting
- Benefits of membership in OPA

We are happy that when someone asks: “What is OPA all about?” In advocacy work, in professional development, and in public education, all of us can—with pride—now be on the same page.

The process of rebranding and development of brand qualities completed, the next logical step is the externally oriented process of marketing, getting the word out, “testifying,” so to speak. The goal of the Marketing Task Force (Drs. Dwyer, Rudisill, Broyles, Ashton, and Arnold and Mr. Ranney and Ms. Gilbert) is to use OPA resources in conjunction with marketing experts to:

**“Make psychology more visible to the citizens of Ohio by providing psychological resources, scientific know ledge, public education and referrals.”**

This goal has associated with it three strategic objectives (Not an exhaustive list of substrategies):

- Use strategies and support from the business sector: drawing on marketing of collaborations with other agencies and business, using expertise from graduate programs in marketing, hiring a marketing firm, etc.
- Enhance image of psychologists by intentional publicizing of our services, encouraging pro bono work, helping members develop marketing strategies for their practices, etc.

- Develop public education programs and opportunities such as public forums, developing our website, using social networks, providing psycho-educational training to a variety of consumers, consultancies, testimony to legislatures and a speaker’s bureau, etc.

To date, our new website has improved immeasurably. Accompanied by our new banner, our online and in print periodicals are more extensive and have been received positively. Our work in advocacy and public education provide sources of information sought by consumers and OPA members alike. And finally, the value of the annual convention in consort with our education initiatives (e.g., workshops, webinars) as a means of spreading the word cannot be emphasized enough. Bravo to all.



Hence, for 2013-2014, the following objectives are recommended. Attention is needed in the development of relationships with marketing experts to train us, and who can carry out some of the evaluative research required to get the word out effectively. A second need is to move ahead with recruiting members from other OPA BOD committees to create a team of people who, due to the overlap of the charges of their committees of origin with the charge of the marketing task force, will provide creative solutions and person hours needed for the telling the OPA story. This will require a moderate change in budget allocations and time expenditures from the newly recruited group. I am optimistic; however, if we do these things we will accomplish number three of our Strategic Plan.

– Michael D. Dwyer, PhD



Heather Gilbert, Director of Communications and Marketing accepts the award of behalf of OPA.

## OPA: A New Plan, A New Brand

By now, we hope you're used to our new OPA logo. The launch of our new logo was part of the ongoing growth of the association with our Strategic Plan.

This is a very exciting time at OPA and a perfect time to evaluate our brand to ensure it represented where we are going as an organization. The redesign was a long process of careful consideration, thank you for all your positive feedback. As you know, OPA is recognized as one of preeminent state psychological associations. Our hope is that this new logo will continue to help OPA stand out as a leader. Changing a logo is a process that involves many steps so in the upcoming months you will continue to see updates in our materials with the new logo. If you have any questions, please contact Heather Gilbert, Director of Communications and Marketing.

You may recall last spring we launched a redesign of ohpsych.org. This April, OPA was awarded the Award of Excellence in External Non-Profit Websites by the Central Ohio Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America. We will continue to make improvements to the site and again thank you for all of your feedback.

A few other exciting developments surrounding our brand include our expanded use of social media. Each week we share information for members, consumers, students and nonmembers on our various social media properties. Join the conversation with OPA on LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook and Pinterest.

## Holding up the Sky when It's Falling on Others

### Disaster Response Network

Have you ever read about a disaster or horrible event and found yourself wanting to do something: go help, or talk to others about how to manage the emotional reactions of the situation? The Disaster Response Network (DRN) may be the group you need to put those thoughts into action. The DRN is a national pro-bono network of psychologists and other mental health professionals who receive Red Cross sanctioned training and then volunteer for disasters to provide assistance to responders, relief workers, victims and their families after disasters and other traumatic incidents.

Although the DRN works closely with the American Red Cross, we also work with other organizations. This year, we opened our group to other disciplines. In addition to responding to disasters, the DRN is involved in organizing, recruiting, training and maintaining volunteer level of expertise in disaster response.

What has the Ohio DRN done this year?

Since September, we have been working on building our numbers and getting more exposure in both professional and local communities. We have partnered with the National Association of Social Workers Ohio Chapter and the Ohio School Psychologists Association, and now have representatives from those organizations on our coordinating committee. We are working on getting representatives from the Ohio Counselor Association and nursing.

**In addition, our volunteers have:**

- Been available for follow up calls after events including Hurricane Sandy, Newtown school shootings, Boston Marathon bombings and the Moore, OK tornadoes
- Presented the Foundations of Disaster Mental Health training at OPA's 2012 Convention

Hosted a DRN Table at OPA's 2012 Convention

- Taught the required training course (Foundations of Disaster Mental Health – FDMH) and other courses in their communities

- Submitted articles for OPA publications
- Joined in local and county disaster exercises

**Plans for the coming year:**

- Continue to get more psychologists and other mental health professionals trained in disaster response
- Increase the number of psychologists signed up for the DRN
- Visit the Disaster training site in Dayton (Calamity Ville)
- Offer more trainings, upcoming dates for the FDMH class include August 24

Coordinate with other committees and agencies to develop a public education program for disaster related topics

If you are interested in getting trained in mental health disaster response, please contact Marjorie Kukor at mbkukor@att.net. We welcome new committee members and those who may just want to be on the list for information, or to be contacted for possible assistance when there is a disaster-related need.

**Committee members:**

Marjorie Kukor, PhD, DRN Coordinator  
 Jim Broyles, PhD  
 Katherine Fernandez, PsyD  
 Todd Finnerty, PsyD  
 Brian Hill  
 Jeremy Kaufman, PsyD  
 Christine Kidwell, PhD  
 Jeanne Lemkaku  
 Susan LeSure, PhD  
 Kay Levine, PhD  
 Frank Maher, MS  
 Jeff Marinko-Shrivers, PhD  
 Michael Ranney, MPA  
 Danielle Smith, MSW

# Psychological Science in Ohio

What is new, fun and challenging in the world of science? The fascinating answer is that psychology and other disciplines, driven by research results, are weaving scientific discoveries into a tapestry that reflects the integration of many disparate fields. On a theoretical, basic research level, psychology and biology, chemistry, and mathematics are flowing together into cohesive explanatory field theories. On an applied level, psychology and medicine, psychology and sociology, and psychology and anthropology, that is, interdisciplinary teams of social and physiological practitioners are answering pressing epidemiological, ecological and technological questions. The silos are disappearing only to be replaced by new multidisciplinary perspectives that are leaving us with a more comprehensive view of nomothetic and ideographic changes in the natural history of developing humans.

In this light the tasks of the Science Committee needs now to be one of keeping this process of interdisciplinary evolution in the forefront of the minds of both our members and our consumers. The goals of our training programs, mentorship, advocacy activities, and general contributions to the health of our culture will be modified by these research based discoveries. As Science chair, much of my time is taken up in keeping abreast of whether or not these changes are included in the curricula from high school to graduate school. Moreover, making the process even more mind boggling, standards of scientific education, training, and organizational change must be done with special and increasing attention to multicultural sensitivity.

This year, the Science Committee (Drs. Marazita, Metz, Shaw, Esty, Dwyer and Ms. Brenner) has been involved in practical tasks such as helping to recruit judges for the state science

fair in May, peer reviewing posters submissions for the fall conference and peer reviewing requests for use of the OPA listserv for survey research. Related to the latter, we have reviewed and carefully broadcasted criteria for permission to use the listserv. Discussion about the methodological issues of survey research has begun. We invite more member input regarding these matters. A second issue has to do, simply, with whether or not the listserv should even be used for research. We look forward to further discussion of this matter as well.

## Suggested goals for the 2013 – 2014 year include:

- An assessment of the extent to which psychology curricula reflect the evolution of multidisciplinary science. To what degree, for example, do our syllabi include content that reflect evolving trends?
- Create a modality that systematically reports significant, paradigmatic changes. This information should also be integrated into marketing and public education initiatives
- Recruitment of new members to the committee
- A continuance of oversight of the use of the listserv for research purposes
- A continuance of peer reviewing posters
- A stepping up of involvement of Small College Roundtable members in providing judges for the state wide science fair, in brainstorming ways in which OPA can contribute to bridging, where needed, the gap between scientists and practitioners and in assessing the quality of educational curricula on high school, undergraduate and graduate levels of education.

*-Mike D. Dwyer, PhD*

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## OPA Advocacy Committee: A bird of a different feather!

Several years ago, I worked in downtown Columbus when they reintroduced Peregrine Falcon's nesting on the 41st Floor ledge, atop the Rhodes Tower. Now there are forty-eight such sites around the state. However, it is the first one that I most resemble today with its bird's eye view of the Ohio Statehouse with its classical Greek columns made of Ohio limestone.

We never know how many attempts they must make, while diving from their penthouse in order to insure their survival. From their perch, they scan the scene below from the river up to the Statehouse for possible prey; a sparrow, maybe a Robin, a new black fedora. We too scan the horizon, looking for signs, issues and opportunities. And like our friend, we often must make many tries before we return victorious to our nest. To us, the comings and goings of the building his perch overlooks are essential to understand. And this year, Bobbie Celeste and Michael Ranney, our lobbyist Penny Tipps, and the OPA Advocacy Committee set about circling, tracking, nudging and guiding issues critical to our field. From our perch, this is what occurred this year:

- The Psychology Board Bill passed through the House of Representatives last year with no opposition and is being reintroduced this year after the budget is passed this June.
- Prescriptive Authority is undergoing a revision due to a lack of interest on the part of the Ohio Department of Corrections and a significant interest from the Association of Federally Qualified Health Centers.
- Autism coverage moved to the front of the line Governor

Kasich's Executive Order. This moved a key issue, while creating a regulatory one for OPA and the Ohio Psychology Board, to insure Applied Behavioral Analyst's receive appropriate state oversight.

- Court ordered outpatient treatment has been a major push from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) this year. OPA and many other interest groups have been very involved fine tuning this critical piece of legislation.
- Interest in sports-related head injuries lead legislators to pass a concussion bill this year. This introduced us to Dr. Tim Wynkoop and OPA to insure the role of psychologist. Although the final bill was not what we wanted we continue to monitor this issue.
- Health and Behavioral Codes for the billing of Medical Psychology are currently covered by most private insurance, but not covered by Medicaid. Dr. Christine Woods and Bobbie Celeste wrote an article for the Ohio Psychologist about this issue.
- Medicaid Expansion could represent the largest increase in public funding for mental health in the last 40 years. Governor Kasich and the Ohio Chamber of Commerce have called for expansion and many interested parties and psychologists around the state have been contacting their elected officials to express their support. Although it was taken out of the state budget, OPA and many groups are still working to insure this expansion happens! Contact Bobbie Celeste to join the effort.

Legislative Day, the premier event for the Advocacy Committee was wonderful success! It took place again at the beautiful Ohio Statehouse Atrium, where we were joined by members of Ohio Black Legislative Caucus for Breakfast, a health fair, several speakers, Legislator's and their staff and the largest number of participants to date.

Advocacy Committee is a forum for action, consultation and coordination. Please come join us sometime...because from the high glass windows and skylights of the Statehouse Atrium you may see the Peregrine...majestically studying the world below.

*-Brad Potts, PhD*

**Committee Members:** Amanda Trice, MA, Angela Ray, PhD, Ashley Murray, BA, Kathy Ashton, PhD, Bobbie Celeste, PhD, Brian O'Reilly, PhD, Kurt Brickner, PsyM, Ken Covey, PhD, Chuck Gerlach, PhD, Katie Golden, PhD, Dan Davis, PhD, Emily Breightner, Gary Carrington, PhD, Cathy Gaw, PsyD, Jerry Strauss, PhD, Jane Woodrow, PhD, Jennifer Daniel, BA, Jennifer Knetig, PhD, Shannon Johnson, PsyD, David Hayes, PhD, Kate Hibbard, MA, Kevin Arnold, PhD, Kate Hutchinson, PhD, Kim Burkhart, PhD, Michael Ranney, MPA, Michelle Evans, PhD, Nate Tomcik, PhD, Penny Tipps, Rita Ketterman, Bob Hammond, PsyD, Tim Shea, PsyD, Tim Wynkoop, PhD, Victoria Armstrong, PhD, Kristine Woods, PsyD, Zac Bruback, BA and Cathy McDaniels-Wilson, PhD.

## Federal Advocacy Report

### Medicare physician definition legislation introduced in the Senate by Ohio's Senator Sherrod Brown

By APA Practice Organization Government Relations Staff

On May 23, Senator Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, introduced a bill to include psychologists in the Medicare physician definition. S. 1064 would amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to treat clinical psychologists as physicians for the purposes of furnishing clinical psychologist services under the Medicare program. Sen. Brown's bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Finance, where it awaits further review and approval.

Sen. Brown's bill is the companion bill to HR 794, introduced in the House by Rep. Janice Schakowsky, D-Ill., on Feb. 15, 2013. HR 794 has been referred to the Subcommittee on Health of both the House Energy and Commerce Committee and the House Ways and Means Committee, where it also awaits further review and approval before being sent back to the full committees.

The Brown and Schakowsky bills will allow psychologists to be treated like all other non-physician providers (e.g. dentists, chiropractors, optometrists) already included in the Medicare physician definition, thereby ending unnecessary physician supervision without increasing Medicare costs.

This overdue change would help clarify clinical oversight for hospital patients under the care of psychologists and reduce the administrative burden on hospital staff. In another example, psychologists run partial hospital programs in the private health system today — overseeing, supervising and providing treatment — yet Medicare requires that such services must be prescribed by a physician, provided under a written treatment plan established and periodically reviewed by a physician, and furnished while under the care of a physician. If these physician barriers are removed, beneficiaries will have better access to needed partial hospital services.

You can help raise awareness about the importance of this legislation through social media. Extend your support for the bill on any of your social media accounts, such as Facebook, LinkedIn or Twitter. On Twitter, use the hashtag #psychaccess and Sen. Brown's Twitter handle, @SenSherrodBrown. Follow @APAPractice and @ohpsychasn on Twitter for updates on the legislation and messages to share.

Questions? Want to become involved? Contact Dr David Hayes, OPA's Federal Advocacy Coordinator at hayesdl@sbcglobal.net or 614-888-8784.

## Who should the Political Action Committee support in 2013?

Thanks to you, since 2005 there has been over \$120,000 contributed to the Ohio Psychological Association Political Action Committee (OPA-PAC). This represents over 2,624 donations, most of which come in small amounts under \$100, given by psychologists who contribute on a regular basis. People tend to cycle in and out of contributing to OPA-PAC, our best years for contributions were associated with election campaign of Ted Strickland, PhD, and our battles with Anthem and other insurers. We update the OPA newsletter regularly with the names of those who give, and publish in the newsletter the names of all of the legislators that the OPA-PAC contributed to on a yearly basis. What is missing in the list is why we made the contribution.

The decision to support a candidate with a financial contribution is made by the OPA-PAC membership in order to support the legislative agenda of the Ohio Psychological Association. We work closely with our lobbyist Penny Tipps, Advocacy Committee chairperson Brad Potts, PhD, Director of Professional Affairs Dr. Bobbie Celeste and Executive Director Michael Ranney to identify the candidates, based upon legislators leadership role, legislative priorities and personality. We made contributions to individuals who were solid

supporters of mental health legislation. Although it was their support for mental health legislation that was the common factor, otherwise they were a group as diverse as Ohio psychologists. They included both democrats and republicans; chairpersons and committee members; and experienced and first term legislators, representing both rural (e.g. Southern Ohio) and urban (e.g. Cincinnati) Ohio. These legislators are also champions of the non-discrimination, the environment, and special populations such as children, elderly, autistic, abused and neglected.

The members of the OPA-PAC donate their valuable time to raise the funds necessary for psychologists to be part of the complicated legislative process.

Committee members include: Tom Swales, PhD (Chair - Cleveland), Tiffany Porter, PhD (Cleveland), Cheryl Blankenship, PhD (Canton), LaPearl Logan Winfrey, PhD (Dayton), Gerald Strauss, PhD (Cleveland), Patrick White, PhD (Cleveland), Jason Lawrence, (Cleveland), Jim Broyles, PhD (Columbus), Denise Brenner, MBA, Bobbie Celeste, PhD and Michael Ranney, MPA.

So who will the OPA-PAC support in 2014? The bottom line is this is up to you. We welcome any member of the Ohio Psychological Association to recommend any legislator for support. We depend upon you making a contribution, especially when we ask you for your support. Please give. We hope to

see you at the OPA-PAC luncheon at Convention on October 31, 2013.

-Thomas P. Swales, PhD Chair, OPA-PAC

## To Apologize is Good Practice

James Daniel Barna, PhD, JD & Lisa Barnard, RPh

*OPA invites its members to submit articles for any publication. If interested, please contact Director of Communications and Marketing, hgilbert@ohpsych.org.*

The Ohio legislature enacted an "apology" statute, effective on September 13, 2004, that said,

"any and all statements, affirmations, gestures, or conduct expressing apology, sympathy, commiseration, condolence, compassion, or a general sense of benevolence that are made by a health care provider or an employee of a health care provider to the alleged victim, a relative of the alleged victim, or a representative of the alleged victim, and that relate to the discomfort, pain, suffering, injury, or death of the alleged victim as the result of the unanticipated outcome of medical care are inadmissible as evidence of an admission of liability or as evidence as an admission against interest."

Nearly nine years later the Ohio Supreme Court issued a unanimous decision which interpreted the Ohio "apology" statute. The court ruled that Ohio's "apology" statute prevented the admission of all behavioral forms of an apology

by a health care provider in any malpractice suit filed after September 13, 2004.

The above two paragraphs without psychobabble or legalese should be adequate to guide the clinical practice of Ohio psychologists. For the more detailed minded, the Ohio "apology" statute can be found in the Ohio Revised Code at 2317.43, with the above quoted paragraph in subsection A. The underlying medical/legal events involving J. Johnson and R. Smith began in April 2001 and ended with the Ohio Supreme Court decision on April 23, 2013. The Ohio Supreme Court decision is cited as Estate of Johnson V. Randall Smith, Inc., Slip Opinion No. 2013-Ohio-1501 until that opinion has been reviewed for any errors and then published in an advance sheet of the Ohio Official Reports.

Both authors are Ohio health care providers in Huber Heights, Ohio. James Daniel Barna, PhD, JD is an Ohio licensed psychologist who practices as a forensic clinical psychologist. Lisa Barnard, RPh is an Ohio licensed pharmacist who practice in a nation chain's local retail store.

## Notice Of Special Members Meeting Of The Ohio Psychological Association

The Ohio Psychological Association (OPA) Board of Directors has called a special meeting of the members of OPA for Friday, September 20 at 5 p.m. at the Westin Hotel, 310 S. High St., Columbus to elect the new OPA Board of Directors.

Under the Code of Regulations of the Ohio Psychological Association, the Board of Directors must be elected by the membership.

At 6 p.m., there will be a dinner to which OPA members are invited. Cost for the dinner is \$35 and reservations must be made by September 12. Contact Joan Bowman at 614.224.0034 or email jbowman@ohpsych.org to reserve your spot.

### 2013-2014 OPA Committee Chairs

The recommended slate of committee chairs for the 2012-2013 membership year is proposed as follows:

Finance Officer: Dr. Nate Tomcik

### Standing Committee Chairs (Voting members of the Board)

Communication/Technology: Dr. Marc Dielman  
Diversity: Dr. Wanda McEntyre  
Education: Josh Shuman, PsyD  
Ethics: Dr. Bob Stinson  
Insurance: Howard Bonem, PhD  
Membership: Dr. Peg Mosher  
Professional Practice: Dr. Courtney Zeune  
Committee on Social Responsibility: Dr. Mary Miller Lewis  
Public Sector Issues: Dr. Lynne Rustad  
Science: Dr. Mike Dwyer

### Regional Representatives (Voting Members of the Board)

Akron Area Professional Psychologists: Dr. Colin Christensen  
Cincinnati Academy of Professional Psychologists: Dr. Sarah Greenwell  
Central Ohio Psychological Association: Margie Kukor, PhD  
Cleveland Psychological Association: Dr. Cathy Gaw  
Dayton Area Psychological Association: Dr. Rose Mary Shaw  
Toledo Area Academy of Professional Psychologists: Drs. Dennis Kogut & Mark Babula

### Other Appointments (Non-Voting)

OP Editor: Dr. Audrey Ellenwood  
Advocacy: Dr. Brad Potts  
MCE Chair: Dr. Cathy Gaw  
Personnel: Dr. Lynn Rapin  
Policies & Procedures: Dr. David Hayes  
Business of Practice: Dr. Robin Graff Reed  
Colleague Assistance: Dr. Michael Schafer  
Disaster Response Network: Dr. Margie Kukor  
LGBT Subcommittee: Dr. Jim Brush  
Public Education: Dr. Todd Finnerty  
RxP Task Force: Dr. Jerry Strauss  
BWC Task Force: Dr. David Schwartz  
Oral History Project: Dr. Jim Broyles  
Awards: Dr. Jim Broyles  
PAC: Dr. Tom Swales  
FAC: Dr. David Hayes  
Ohio School Psychologists Liaison: Dr. Erich Merkle  
OWP: Dr. Helen Rodebaugh and Christine Agaibi  
Parliamentarian: Dr. David Hayes  
Liaison to the Board of Psychology: Dr. David Hayes  
Foundation Chair: Dr. Kevin Arnold

## In Memoriam

**Vytautas J. Bieliauskas, PhD, ABPP**, beloved husband for 67 years of Danute G. Bieliauskas, father of Linas, Diana, Aldona and Cornelius (Sally Schrand), grandfather of Nina, Anton (Shannon Pavlich), Mantas, Nida, Hana, Abe and Jonas, and brother of Aldona Laukaitis died on Thursday, April 25, at the age of 92.

Dr. Bieliauskas was a University of Munich psychology professor and provided documentation to Lithuanian refugees flooding Germany so they could reside there safely.

Those who knew the retired Xavier University psychology professor said his role with the World War II resistance, and efforts to assist Xavier students and his homeland, showed his lifelong dedication to others. He chaired Xavier's psychology department from 1959 to 1978.

Mr. Bieliauskas was certified by the American Board of Professional Psychology in clinical and family psychology. He was head of the Ohio State Board of Psychology; arranged sensitivity training for Cincinnati police after the 1967 and 1968 riots; and published more than 100 articles in English, French, German and Lithuanian.

He also worked tirelessly to help restore Lithuania's independence. He was Lithuanian World Community president from 1988 to 1992, when the Soviet Union fell apart and Lithuania declared its independence.

Donations may be made to The Bieliauskas Fund, Psychology Department, Xavier University, 3800 Victory Parkway, Cincinnati, OH 45207-5430 or The Baltic Jesuit Advancement Project, 1380 Castlewood Drive, Lemont, IL 60439-6732.

**Rev. Mario Ongaro, 'Fr. Mario'**, age 86 years, a Comboni Missionary, died peacefully at Hospice of Cincinnati in Anderson Twp on Sunday, Dec. 16, 2012. Fr. Mario, a native of Italy, came to the United States as a student in 1947. He did his priestly studies at Mt. St. Mary's of the West and was ordained a priest in 1951. He spent most of his life in the Greater Cincinnati area, first as an educator at Sacred Heart Seminary then performing his priestly ministry in and around Cincinnati. He was an OPA Life Member. He leaves behind his religious community and many devoted friends.

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Have you been featured in the news lately? Let us know! Don't miss your opportunity to share your research, presentations and published materials. Please submit your 50-100 word submission for Members in the News or Psych Talk to Heather Gilbert at [hgilbert@ohpsych.org](mailto:hgilbert@ohpsych.org).

## Members in the News



**Dr. Dan Davis** was interviewed by the "Dayton Daily News" following the escape of the three Cleveland kidnapping victims. He was featured alongside other experts who agreed treatment and counseling can help crime victims recover.

**Dr. Todd Finnerty** was interviewed by "The Columbus Dispatch" on two occasions. One article covered the changes in the DSM-V and another featured the habits of coffee drinkers.

**Dr. Bob Stinson** was a featured guest on Good Day Columbus on two occasions. He discussed sex addictions and the Ariel Castro case.

**Dr. Rita Wood** was interviewed by WBNS-10TV (Columbus) regarding reporting rape in a story on a new bill proposed to eliminate the time limit on reporting the crime.

## Psych Talk



**Kenneth Drude, PhD** co-presented a presentation, "What We Know About Private Payers and Telehealth: A survey Experience of the Telemental Health and Business and Finance SIGS" at the American Telemedicine Association (ATA) meetings in Austin, Texas on May 7, 2013. The presentation described the findings of a national study of experiences ATA members are having in getting reimbursed for telehealth services by private insurance companies.

**William C. Wester, II, EdD, ABPP, ABPH** presented a workshop in March on Hypnosis and Habit Disorders at the national convention of the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis in Louisville, Ky. He recently presented a talk to the Cincinnati Women's Club on the work he has done in law enforcement with the topic of Solving Crimes with Hypnosis. Dr. Wester's last publication was Therapeutic Hypnosis with Children and Adolescents (with Laurence Sugarman, MD, ABMH), 2009. The second edition of this book will be published in November (2013) by Crown House Publishing (a leading publisher of clinical hypnosis books). Dr. Sugarman will become the first author on this book.

## As Seen on the Listserv

Have you been keeping up with the OPA listservs? Here a few highlights...

"I deeply appreciate all who responded to my request for a referral for a client in the Hamilton County area. I've passed along the info.

The kind and prompt responses of colleagues shows again the tremendous value of OPA!" Dan Davis, PhD

"OPA's work in the state is resolving issues like use of interns under Medicaid and helping the Dept of Insurance enforce compliance issues with carriers." Kevin Arnold, PhD

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Psychologist with 3+ years post licensure experience for a large practice in Newark, Ohio, with an established referral base. Custody or disability evaluation a plus. Practice psychology in a relaxed, professional atmosphere. Email Vita to: [psychconsult@windstream.net](mailto:psychconsult@windstream.net), [www.psychologicalconsultants.net](http://www.psychologicalconsultants.net).

Columbus small group practice seeking licensed psychologists with child and family experience and expertise to work as independent contractors full- or part-time. Please contact Susan Weltner-Brunton, PhD at 614-754-7648 or [drsusan@swbphd.com](mailto:drsusan@swbphd.com).

Office rental or purchase opportunity: Rent space (full time or shared) or purchase ownership in an established professional building; terrific Kenwood location close to I-71 and Kenwood Towne Centre; collegial atmosphere; excellent potential; for referrals, secretarial services available. Contact: Gary Schneider, PhD, Tom Kalin, PhD, Leslie Swift PhD, 513-791-8849

Caring for Your Gay Teen is a book in e-book format offering information and gentle support to parents of non-heteronormative teens. It is a product of 30 years of clinical experience working with adolescents, many of whom struggle with issues regarding sexuality and sexual identity. It is also informed by the personal experiences of the author with the adolescent journey of gay family members and their friends. This work is priced very low for maximum distribution to families who might benefit from it. Invite parents who face this challenge with their own children to purchase a download of this helpful resource at [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com).



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