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What a year! So many things stand out for me.

On the staffing front we lost Heather Gilbert, Jim Sulzer and Joan Bowman this year as they moved on to other opportunities. We appreciate all that they did for us during their tenure with OPA. Our staff turnover is always so low so losing three people in just over a year was a shock.

Our first hire was Karen Hardin in the Communication and Marketing position, which soon became the Communication and Education position as we shifted roles somewhat. Karen has found ways to save us money and is helping to make us more efficient with a new website, which will roll out very soon. David Savoia is our new Finance and Operations Director. It took time to find David, and he has really been a good fit. Carolyn Green is our most recent addition in the redefined role of Director of Membership and Office Administration. She has hit the ground running helping us through convention and getting ready for the start of the new fiscal year. Bobbie Celeste is retiring at the end of 2016 so more changes are in the works. Our plan after Bobbie leaves is to go back to a contract lobbyist and return the Director of Professional Affairs position to a one day a week role. Beth Wherley (MCE) and I aren’t going anywhere anytime soon! We’ve got a great team!

Apparently when we interviewed David Savoia, we neglected to mention that we needed to move our office temporarily. He was shocked when he came in on his first day to find us on the second floor of our building and the contents of his office all in boxes. You see our building was sold, and the new owners needed to undertake asbestos abatement. So, we had to move to temporary space for about two months while they worked on the third floor. Of course, we had to move back to the third floor the weekend after convention and just days before Legislative Day. We were all pretty stressed out. We took the opportunity to extend our lease, get additional office space, new carpeting and fresh paint. In the process of moving we cleaned house, so we now have things in good order and our office looks great.

Our convention this year was highly successful. We were fortunate to get Dr. Jana Martin to take the place of Dr. Steven Walfish, who was to have been our Keynote Speaker. We were all saddened to learn that Dr. Walfish passed away the day before the convention started. Our thoughts go out to his family. Dr. Martin used a great deal of Dr. Walfish’s research in her presentations relating to the Future Frontiers of Psychology. We had great attendance. It is always so nice to see the people who come to our conventions. What a great time to catch up and meet new people. This year we had some awesome entertainment by Anna and The Consequences (torchy, jazzy, blues) that got a few people dancing. Congratulations to Dr. Bobbie Celeste, who received OPA’s Distinguished Service Award!

It has been quite a year for Bobbie. At APA’s State Leadership Conference she received the coveted State Leader Award... recognition well deserved.

Speaking of the State Leadership Conference, OPA once again took a strong delegation. This is such an incredible way to help us develop our leaders. Our delegation was actively networking with colleagues from other state associations, attending association management programs and learning about advocacy at the federal level. And of the six psychologically healthy workplace national award winners, three were Ohio companies that we nominated.

Our own Leadership Development Academy (LDA) has proven to be a significant improvement on its predecessor the one-day Leadership Forum. LDA fellows applied for the opportunity to spend a year building leadership skills and learning about OPA. Participants attended the Board Retreat,
several Board meetings and Legislative Day. Each participant is undertaking a project and as these are completed they will have a significant positive impact on OPA. The LDA is the brainchild of Dr. Peg Mosher, who assembled a fabulous faculty and team of mentors to work with the LDA fellows. Watch for news about LDA-II coming soon. We earned a national award from APA’s Division 31 for this program.

The Governance Structure Task Force has nearly completed its work. Revised By-Laws are being discussed around the state, as we shrink our Board to be more efficient and more focused on policy. The smaller Board, elected by the membership, will meet more frequently to be sure that OPA continues to be a leader among the state psychological associations, on behalf of our members and for Ohio psychologists. This has been a long and winding road resulting in a strong plan endorsed by the OPA Board.

This has been a year in which our Insurance Committee, chaired by Jim Broyles has been very active and involved in CPT coding issues that have impacted many of you. We’ve joined forces with the Counselors and Social Workers who are experiencing the same problems and are working closely with APAPO’s Legal and Regulatory Affairs office to try to resolve these and other issues.

Our Advocacy Committee has also been very busy. Dr. Brad Potts has overseen yet another fabulous Legislative Day, working with the planning committee chaired by Dr. Angela Ray. On the legislative front the bill designed to regulate how insurers manage prior authorizations (SB129) has passed both the Senate and House in amended versions. You’ll read about a long list of bills we are following and working on, including SB300, which allows psychologists with extra training to prescribe psychotropic medications. SB300 has had sponsor and proponent testimony and an interested party meeting is being organized to be held in June. It has strong support.

A grant from APAPO/CAPP has helped us with some of our legislative work this year, principally directed at helping us advocate for SB129. Sadly, because of the decline in APAPO membership and its financial problems, there will be no legislative grants next year.

Our membership numbers are holding steady, our convention was successful, and the financial outlook for this year is good. The budgets for the next two years are balanced. OPA continues to work hard for our members. If you aren’t a member, consider joining us!
This past year, the Ohio Psychological Association Board of Directors held a Board retreat in September 2015, followed by six Board meetings between October 2015 and June 2016. As President of OPA, I have been proud to Chair those meetings and to witness first-hand the great work OPA does—not just during Board meetings, but all year long. In this publication, you will have the opportunity to read the Annual Reports of many of our Committee Chairs. Here, I will briefly summarize some of the highlights.

The mission of OPA is: “To advance the creation, communication and application of psychological knowledge to benefit society and to improve people’s lives in Ohio.” One way to do that, of course, is through educational efforts. Our Education Committee, as it has done for years, put on an excellent three-day convention in April 2016. It was very well attended and received high praise. A number of OPA members were recognized and received awards for their great service. While the Convention is a perennial educational highlight, OPA is actively involved in a number of educational opportunities. In addition to a number of free-standing workshops and webinars, OPA members were the beneficiaries of these OPA educational events: the Ohio Psychological Association Graduate Students (OPAGS) Spring Workshop on 4-2-16; OPA Legislative Day and the Legislative Black Caucus Breakfast on 5-18-16; and the Midwest Multi-State Health Care Summit on Alternative Practice Models and Integrated Care in Chicago on 6-24-16. Additionally, the OPA Diversity Committee is planning a Multi-Cultural Conference for November 2016.

One of the visions of OPA is, “Making psychology more visible to the citizens of Ohio by providing psychological resources, scientific knowledge, public education and referrals.” Perhaps more than any other year in its past, OPA has been actively involved in taking positions on social responsibility and disseminating them to the public. The Board, through various resolutions, has affirmed Black Lives Matter, Conversion Therapy is dangerous and should be prohibited, and that we stand with the North Carolina Psychological Association in its opposition to North Carolina House Bill 2 (the “Bathroom Bill”). OPA further issued resolutions following the attacks in Paris and Orlando, following the suicide death of MarShawn McCarrel, and on issues pertaining to gun violence and mental illness and so-called “conscience clauses.” Our OPA Committee of the Year—the Diversity Committee, along with its LGBT Sub-Committee—initiated much of the work on these statements, though the final product was the result of efforts from many. OPA can stand proud behind these resolutions, satisfied that we are an organization who takes social responsibility, science and education, and professional affairs serious.

Over the course of the year, OPA’s Governance Model Development Task Force continued work that is now 4 years in the making. The 2015-2016 year was a productive one. In the past year, the task force proposed various models, one of which was adopted as a concept around which new by-
laws could be drafted. The Task Force went on and drafted the bylaw changes, presented them, and got them approved by the Board for presentation to and a vote by the membership. Regional meetings have been occurring to further educate the membership about the new governance model recommendations. The Governance Model Development Task Force has completed its work and will be replaced by a Governance Transition Task Force.

As you read the included annual reports from the various committees of OPA, I urge you to join me in reaching out to our many Committee Chairs and numerous committee members and thanking them for their service to OPA and for making the field better. Each Committee Chair and all committee members do a lot in their own right. I’ve been especially impressed with the cross-committee collaborations that have occurred this year—the Public Sector Issues Committee collaborating with the Advocacy Committee, the Insurance Committee and the Advocacy Committee having a joint meeting, and the ECPs working with the Professional Practice Committee to name a few. These committees are in tune with what is going on in the field and what the needs of our members are. The Insurance Committee, Professional Practice Committee, OPAGS, Marketing Committee, and Communications Committee are all working on or have developed toolkits and/or practice forms to assist OPA members.

While OPA has been and continues to lead the way, there is still much to be done. When I see Dr. Swales as our incoming President and Dr. Lewis as our incoming President-Elect, I can’t help but be optimistic for the future of the organization. Their leadership, no doubt, will take us to new levels. And OPA just completed its first year of the Leadership Development Academy (LDA)—an outgrowth of OPA’s past Leadership Forums. The LDA will continue again next year before going on a planned every other year cycle. This year-long program intentionally solicits diverse prospective organizational leaders, exposes them to various aspects of OPA governance, and provides leadership opportunities.

Finally, as my Presidency year in OPA draws to a close, I want to offer a special thanks to all OPA members who have shared their many great ideas. I want to thank the many members who contribute time and money, as well. And I want to thank the staff of OPA. David Savoia (Director of Finance and Operations) and Carolyn Green (Director of Membership and Administration) are relatively new, though they have quickly gotten up to speed on all things OPA. Beth Wherley (Director of Mandatory Continuing Education), Karen Hardin (Director of Communications & Education), and Dr. Bobbie Celeste (our award-winning Director of Professional Affairs) have continued all of their great work under the leadership of Michael Ranney, our Executive Director. Despite personnel changes and office moves that added to the hectic schedule of a “normal” OPA year, the staff of OPA have continued their exemplary performance. I encourage you to take the opportunity to thank them for all they do—while much of it is “behind the scenes”—they truly do the lion’s share of what gets done!

I have appreciated the opportunity to serve the members and the organization as the 2015-2016 OPA President. OPA is leading the way!

**WE are OPA. Together we are making a difference!**
A Brief History
OPA is undergoing a proposed change to its governance structure. Then president Jim Broyles formed the OPA Governance Structure Task Force in December 2012 to examine OPA governance structure, assess for effectiveness, and propose changes if necessary. The task force was chaired by Kathleen Ashton and included David Hayes, Cathy McDaniels Wilson, Sandy Shullman, Michael Ranney, and Mary Miller Lewis.

The Task Force met regularly and held discussions with the OPA Board of Directors about its progress. They did extensive research that was presented to the OPA Board, who agreed with the need for at least some change. Along the way, the task force did a member survey, held membership town hall meetings, and reviewed governance change in other organizations and best practices. The next step was to work with the OPA Board on a group of agreed upon principles.

Principles
The Board structure should:
• Cultivate leadership at all stages, including ECPs and within committees
• Increase communication and meaningful discussion among leadership, committees, staff, and members
• Include shifting fiduciary responsibility from the full board to a smaller board (i.e., an expanded EC) and separate the role of committee chair from board member. Consider forming a separate “council-like” group of committee chairs/task force leaders
• Support OPA’s strategic plan
• Include increased use of technology to maximize inclusion of psychologists around the state, improve efficiency, and improve communication
• Increase engagement at the leadership, committee and member levels
• Support the maximum effectiveness of staff
• Specifically attend to issues of diversity and inclusiveness

After the principles were agreed upon, a new task force was formed to develop a specific model for change. The Governance Model Development Task Force formed Fall 2014 and was charged to develop a model for OPA governance that addresses or fulfills the principles for governance approved by the Board.

Fall & Winter 2014: Developed rough model ideas. Sought Board member and OPA member input on components of models. Sought input from OPA staff members. Further developed models and presented 3 possible models to the Board. Received the Board’s input.

Spring 2015: OPA member input was gathered through an online survey, tabling at OPA convention, and open online town hall meetings. With input from OPA members and from the Board, we further developed one model. Summer 2015: At the Board meeting in June 2015, the task force shared a revised model and discussed significant components of Member Engagement and Diversity.

Fall 2015: The task force and OPA Board worked together to address concerns and refine the model.

Spring 2016: The final model was approved by the OPA Board. OPA bylaws were reviewed and proposed revisions to implement the new model were written. Town hall meetings were held regionally to help members understand the new model.

Summer 2016: OPA Members will have the opportunity to vote on bylaws changes to implement the new model.

Model Overview
There are three significant changes with the new model.

1. The structure is changing so that there will now be 3 levels of leadership:
   • the 11-12 member Board of Directors will include the Presidential Trio, Finance Officer, Council Rep, and OPAGS Chair, as well as 5 Vice Presidents over different areas like Professional Practice, Communications, and Diversity
   • the Vice Presidents will chair Leadership Teams of Committee Chairs and Regional Representatives
   • the Committee Chairs will facilitate the work of their Committees
   - This structure provides a leadership pipeline, and each leader works to develop the leadership potential of people on their Committee or Leadership Team

2. There will now be an Assembly meeting twice each year with all leaders and members invited:
   • One of these meetings will be in person and the other probably on-line.
   • We will discuss current issues facing Ohio psychologists and advise the Board of Directors about what we think is needed now for Ohio psychologists and the public.
3. The Board will also attend very intentionally to diversity.
   - Each year, the Board will look at who is on the Board and what is needed.
   - They will look at diversity broadly defined: race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, work setting, region, skill sets like marketing or fund-raising. And they’ll invite leaders to run for office or do more to cultivate diverse leaders.

We hope this new model will create space for new and diverse leaders and for more member and leader engagement.

The next step is you! Members will have the opportunity to vote on the bylaw changes to implement the changes to governance structure. The task force is excited to have the culmination of four years of research, careful examination by the task force and OPA Board, and input from membership to bring this new governance model. We believe that the new model will increase effectiveness of the OPA board and staff, position OPA to move into the future effectively, and provide great partnerships with membership and leadership to increase communication and engagement.

For more information about the Model Development, including membership survey results, background information, and minutes, go to www.ohpsych.org

2016-2017 OPA Slate of Committee Chairs

Join us at OPA’s Annual Membership Meeting - September 16, 2016

The Ohio Psychological Association (OPA) Board of Directors will hold its Annual Membership Meeting on Friday, September 16 at 7 p.m. at the Crown Plaza Dublin, 600 Metro Place North, Dublin to elect the new OPA Board of Directors.

At 5:30 p.m., there will be a reception immediately followed by dinner to which OPA members are invited. Cost for the dinner is $45 and reservations must be made by September 10. Contact Carolyn Green at cgreen@ohpsych.org or by calling 614.224.0034 to reserve your spot.

The recommended slate of committee chairs (voting members of the board) for the 2016-2017 membership year is proposed as follows:

Standing Committee Chairs:
- Communication and Technology: Dr. Marc Dielman
- Diversity: Dr. Gary Carrington
- Education: Dr. Jerome Gabis
- Ethics: Dr. Elizabeth Swenson
- Membership: Dr. Peg Richards Mosher
- Professional Practice: Dr. Patrick Palmieri
- Committee on Social Responsibility: Dr. Amy Untied
- Public Sector Issues: Dr. Dawn Graham
- Science: TBD
- Early Career Psychologists: Dr. Milo Wilson
- OPAGS: Ashely Debeljak

Regional Representatives:
- Akron Area Professional Psychologists: Dr. Colin Christensen
- Cincinnati Academy of Professional Psychologists: Dr. Sarah Greenwell
- Central Ohio Psychological Association: TBD
- Cleveland Psychological Association: Dr. Cathy Gaw
- Dayton Area Psychological Association: Jon Cleveland, PhD
- Toledo Area Academy of Professional Psychologists: Dr. Mark Babula

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  - Psychologists for Social Responsibility
  - Texas Psychological Association

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Leadership Development Academy (LDA)

Investing in the Future Leaders of OPA

Background
In 2007, the Leadership Forum was created by Dr. Cathy McDaniels-Wilson during her term as OPA President. The intent was to create a structured program that would encourage and develop potential OPA leaders. The Leadership Forum sought to engage individuals both from within and outside of OPA. The structure was a 1 day program which included an invited speaker who was recognized as a local, regional and/or national leader. Typically, the presentation would be followed by a panel of OPA leaders discussing their leadership paths and their individual challenges and successes as business, community and association leaders.

While the Leadership Forum has been very informative, thought provoking and well attended over the past 7 years, it seemed that its fullest potential was not being met as a 1 day program. Participants were learning a lot about leadership in general, but not as much about becoming a leader in OPA. Out of this seed grew the idea of the OPA Leadership Development Academy.

The OPA Leadership Development Academy

The mission of the OPA Leadership Development Academy is to develop and nurture an active pipeline of future OPA leaders which reflects the broad diversity of psychologists in Ohio.

The purpose of the Leadership Development Academy is to provide opportunities for emerging leaders to develop a deeper understanding of their individual leadership style, to learn how to be an effective leader in a professional association, to expand their engagement, experience and mentoring with OPA leaders, to enhance their leadership skills and to learn about significant leadership challenges in OPA.

Participants:
We welcome anyone interested in developing their leadership potential. To ensure diversity, priority will be given to ECPs, mid-career psychologists, cultural and ethnic minorities and other underrepresented groups, including LGBTQ and persons with disabilities.

2015 – 2016 Inaugural Year:
In our inaugural year of the Leadership Development Academy (LDA) we accepted a total of 11 applicants (fellows) for a ten-month leadership program. The program includes a focus on content, assessment and process. Readings and discussion included adaptive leadership, articulating purpose and leadership and diversity. All fellows were given an assessment tool, the FIRO-B which measures interpersonal needs along three dimensions: inclusion, control and affection. Fellows also attended OPA Board meetings to observe leadership in action. In order to understand the importance of advocacy in psychology, fellows also attended Legislative Day. They learned about current legislative issues affecting psychologists and most had the opportunity to meet with their legislator or legislative aide. As a part of their LDA experience, all fellows worked with their mentors to develop a project based on their leadership goals and interests. The following is a brief description of each project, written by each LDA fellow.

LDA Fellow: GARY E. CARRINGTON, PHD
Mentor: Wanda McEntyre, PhD ABPP
Project: Webinar on Understanding and Demystifying Racial Microaggressions

Project Description: The webinar will explore racial microaggressions which have been defined as brief and commonplace daily, verbal, behavioral, or environmental indignities, intentional or unintentional that communicate hostile, derogatory, or negative racial slights, and insults toward people of color (Sue, Capodilupo, Torino, Bucceri, Holder, Nadal, & Esquilin, 2007). Racial microaggressions are a type of perceived racism that negatively impacts the health and well-being of people of color, and describe a dynamic interplay between perpetrator and recipient that operate to create psychological dilemmas. The webinar will explore racial microaggressions in the life experiences of African Americans and discuss five domains that represent the way microaggressions are articulated. In addition, coping mechanisms used by people of color to stave off the negative effects of microaggressions will be discussed, along with increasing awareness of how microaggressions are expressed. A taxonomy of three identified forms and nine categories with distinct themes will be reviewed. Barriers to clinical practice along with examples of racial trauma will be discussed in the webinar.

Peg Richards Mosher, PhD
Chair, Leadership Development Task Force

Investing in the Future Leaders of OPA
LDA Fellow: ANGELA L. HARRIS, PSYD  
Mentor: Katharine Hahn Oh, PhD  
Project: Promoting the Benefits of OPA to graduate and undergraduate students

Project Description: On Wednesday, March 23rd, Ohio University welcomed OPA President, Dr. Bob Stinson, and OPA Diversity Chair, Dr. Gary Carrington, to speak to both undergraduate and graduate psychology and counseling students about the benefits of joining OPA. Dr. Stinson informed the students about professional development opportunities in OPA, OPA scholarships, and the OPA convention. Dr. Carrington highlighted the Diversity Committee, the committee’s diversity initiatives and encouraged students to get involved. Dr. Harris provided information about OPAGS , OU’s OPAGS representative, and the Leadership Development Academy. One student won a free gift certificate and three students won free OPA memberships which were paid for by OU’s Psychology and Social Work Clinic.

LDA Fellow: AMBER A. HEWITT, PHD  
Mentor: Cathy McDaniels-Wilson, PhD  
Project: The role of psychology in the infant mortality crisis

Project Description: Infant mortality rates in Ohio are staggering. Psychologists are often absent from the dialogue on how to address the problem. For my project, literature and recent legislation on infant mortality were studied and reviewed. From this research, recommendations about how psychologists can help tackle infant mortality were presented at OPA’s Legislative Day.

LDA Fellow: JENNIFER LAMANNA, PHD  
Mentor: Bobbie Celeste, PhD  
Project: Marketing OPA-BWC: Strategic Early Intervention Program (SEIP)

Project Description: Dr. Lamanna joined the OPA Bureau of Worker’s Compensation (BWC) Reform Task Force and participated in activities designed to market the Task Force’s Strategic Early Intervention Program (SEIP) for injured workers to employers. These activities included phone conferences with BWC administration, writing articles on the SEIP for BWC publications, and collecting data on employer perceptions of early intervention for injured workers.

LDA Fellow: ANGELA N. R. MILLER, PHD, MPH  
Mentor: Kathy Ashton, PhD, ABPP  
Project: Quantifying mental health provider distribution across the state

Project Description: It is becoming increasingly difficult to find outpatient psychiatric care for our patients. This LDA project sought to explore this issue by quantifying mental health provider distribution across the state and examine that distribution relative to population counts and known estimates of the prevalence of mental illness. Snapshots of the findings were utilized to generate infographics for Legislative Day 2016.
LDA Fellow: **JENNIFER PHILLIPS, PHD**  
Mentor: Peg Richards Mosher, PhD  
**Project: The LDA Experience: Fellow and Faculty**

**Project Description:** As this was the inaugural year of the Leadership Development Academy, the goal of this project was to assess the experiences of both the LDA Fellows and Faculty. In an effort to help shape future LDA classes, the data will be presented in a manuscript that can be used in whole or in part to help market the program to both future fellows and faculty.

LDA Fellow: **TIFFANY G. PORTER, PSYD**  
Mentor: Cathy McDaniels-Wilson, PhD  
**Project: Military Cultural Competence**

**Project Description:** The Zeitgeist in the field of psychology is moving towards understanding diversity within certain populations. Although the majority of diversity and cultural competency has focused on individuals from certain racial backgrounds and those who identify as LGBTQIAA, military cultural competency looks at the intersection of race, sexual orientation, and the impact of separation and reunions on service members and their dependents. As such, this Leadership Development Academy project will focus on providing a webinar with the aim of increasing civilian practitioners’ competence in military culture.

LDA Fellow: **JOHN TILLEY, PSYD**  
Mentor: Jim Broyles, PhD  
**Project: Prescription Privileges Education**

**Project Description:** The goal of this project was to help educate others on the need and value of Ohio psychologists obtaining prescription privileges and on the current state legislature regarding this issue. Dr. Tilley moderated a panel discussion on prescription privileges for psychologists at the OPA Convention in April and also presented on professional wills and disaster planning for psychologists.

LDA Fellow: **JANICE VIDIC, PHD**  
Mentor: Peg Richards Mosher, PhD  
**Project: Academic Faculty Survey**

**Project Description:** The impetus for this project arose out of questions discussed by the OPA Membership Committee regarding how OPA might better attract and meet the needs of psychologists in academic settings. A survey was designed for psychologists in public higher education institutions to obtain information about their knowledge of and interest in OPA. The survey was sent to approximately 150 psychologists with more than 30 results returned. This information will be used by the Membership Committee to recruit and develop programs of interest for this population.

LDA Fellow: **RITA WOOD, PSYD**  
Mentor: Bobbie Celeste, PhD  
**Project: Legislative Day Health Fair**

**Project Description:** The goal of this LDA project was to organize and manage the Health Fair that was held in conjunction with OPA’s annual Legislative Day. Held on May 18 in the Statehouse Atrium, this year’s Health Fair included seven vendors. Dr. Wood coordinated the vendor representatives and gathered their biographies that were used in a promotional brochure.

As our first leadership academy is nearing completion, we are celebrating a successful program, an exceptional group of LDA fellows and a fabulous faculty of LDA teachers and mentors. Kudos to all!

If you are interested in learning more about the Leadership Development Academy (LDA), please contact Dr. Peg Mosher at mmrpsych@gmail.com. The next LDA class begins this fall.
This has been a busy year for the legislature and the executive branch of Ohio state government, and I have been showing up to let them know that Psychologists are part of the solution!

We have had several big successes in legislation. The Prior Authorization Bill, SB 129 was passed which will give us more clout over the insurers regarding accessibility, timing, and take-backs! It was a long haul with all the medical groups, led by the Ohio State Medical Association, spending hours in “interested party” meetings with the sponsor, Senator Gardner, and the insurance companies. This bill was one of our OPA Legislative Day priorities, and it passed just one week later. Congratulations to all the OPA members who worked on this important bill.

Another success was HB 50 /SB 240 which allows youth who are in foster care, to continue to receive services until age 21 if they meet certain educational or employment criteria. It passed the House and Senate on May 25th. Dr. Suzanne LeSure wrote testimony, and I presented it at the Senate Finance Committee the day before it successfully passed both chambers. This will assist many youth who are “aging out” and otherwise would lose their assistance at a crucial developmental stage.

Another achievement was finding a strong sponsor and co-sponsor for SB 300 which would allow psychologists who obtain special training to prescribe psychotropic medication to their patients. The bill was introduced in the Senate by Sen. Seitz with co-sponsors Patton, Manning, and Tavares. Proponent testimony was provided by me, Dr. Jerry Strauss and Dr. Tom Swales with material included from Dr. Angela Miller. The next step is an “interested party” meeting to see if the psychologists and psychiatrists can agree on a compromise.

EXECUTIVE BRANCH ADVOCACY
The Bureau of Workers’ Compensation: Progress continues to be made regarding offering injured workers early intervention services by using the Health & Behaviors Codes. While not implemented yet, it continues to “have legs” and our goal is to have this accomplished by the end of Governor Kasich’s term. (See the BWC article and LDA articles for more details).

OHIO DEPT. OF REHAB AND CORRECTIONS:
Psychologists continue to struggle with their role at ODRC as the Dept. does not always understand the unique skills that psychologists bring. Michael Ranney and I met with the Medical Director and other high level staff to discuss our concerns, including recruitment, retention, and morale.

MEDICAID: The Ohio Medicaid Department is moving towards putting all persons with Medicaid insurance into managed care organizations. As a result, they have been holding regular meetings with the Behavioral Health Re-Design interested parties. I have been attending and was able to get certain testing codes into the Re-design that were not previously designated by Medicaid as services provided in community mental health centers. Rates for behavioral health services continue to be an area of concern for all the providers. If the Re-design does not make it economically feasible to continue to provide services, some community mental health centers will be forced to make dramatic changes or stop offering services.

On the positive side, there has been willingness from the Department to listen to providers and try to take our input into consideration. One area of possible improvement is adding services that are needed for at risk children and youth, such as respite care, partial hospitalization, and wrap-around care.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICE: A meeting with Dr. Mark Hurst, the medical director, led to continued dialogue regarding psychology’s role in integrated primary care. I serve on the Department’s Clinical Roundtable to offer advice on workforce needs, Medicaid re-design, and need for more inpatient treatment options.

LEGISLATIVE DAY
OPA’s Annual Legislative Day at the Statehouse was another great success. We had graduate students from Akron University, Case Western Reserve, The Ohio State University, and Wright State University participating along with the first-class of OPA’s Leadership Development Academy. Senators and Representatives joined us for the luncheon where Sen. Jones, Dr. Amber Hewitt and Dr. Janece Warfield spoke about Infant Mortality, and awards were presentation to Sen. Janes and Sen. Tavares for their work on lowering infant mortality and increasing cultural competence of providers. SAVE THE DATE: Legislative Day 2017 will be on Wednesday, May 17.

GET INVOLVED: Psychologists and students who would like to make a difference through advocacy for psychologically-informed public policy. Please contact me at bceleste@ohpsych.org or OPA Office at 614.224.0034.

Thank you to Dr. Brad Potts, chair-Advocacy Committee, and to our members for your continued support. OPA is an awesome association that makes all the difference at the Ohio Statehouse!
OPA and the Advocacy Committee continue to work on insurance related issues. The Advocacy Committee and the Insurance Committee, chaired by Dr. Jim Broyles, conducted a joint meeting and discussed ways to work on insurance issues. We discussed short and long-term plans on how the Insurance Committee can most effectively formulate their approach. Our Executive Director, Micael Ranney, also kept us informed of various insurance issues he is addressing. OPA continued to work on Senator Manning’s bill regarding early career psychologists being denied access to insurance panels. All providers currently deny this practice, but OPA continues to monitor this issue. If you are aware of ongoing examples of this practice, please contact the OPA office.

Dr. Cindy Orlasky, the Public Sector Committee chair, brought the HB 50 Foster Care Bill to our attention. This bill would extend benefits to foster children for mental health coverage as they move into early adulthood. The Advocacy Committee unanimously endorsed it, and the bill was added to the bill box on our website. Ohio continues to wrestle with the issue of mental illness and the death penalty. A non-partisan commission, chaired by former Supreme Court Justice Stratton, recommended that those with serious mental illnesses be excluded from this most extreme and irreversible form a punishment. OPA has supported this bill, SB 162. The Committee Chair has stated this is a top priority; however, the persecutors and judges’ associations have opposed the bill, and it is current stalled in committee.

May 18th was OPA Legislative Day at the Statehouse. Dr. Angela Ray and Dr. Rita Wood put on the joint OPA Legislative Day/Health Fair for 2016. This can truly be described as a three ring event at times. Psychologists met with members of the Black Legislative Caucus for Breakfast. Michael Ranney conducted an introductory session for new attendees that we call “Lobbying 101,” and Dr. Ron Ross joined Dr. Mark Babula in a presentation on TelePsychology. During lunch Senator Sharron Jones and Senator Tavares discussed their work on reducing infant mortality and received OPA’s Public Service Award for their efforts. Psychologists then met with senators, representatives and their staff to discuss pending legislation.

A strong new addition to our Advocacy efforts this year has been the addition of Angela Miller as Chair of the Prescriptive Authority Task Force. SB 300, Prescriptive Authority for Psychologists, was introduced in the Senate. Dr. Miller’s background work and data provided meaningful information to help each legislator understand the immediacy of the issue in their district, as reflected by the declining number of prescribers.
Bureau of Workers’ Compensation Task Force

David Schwartz, PhD, Chair

The task force focused on its missions of
1. changing BWC policies to improve access to psychological care for injured workers, and to better integrate behavioral issues into overall management and care
2. increasing awareness and acceptance of the importance of psychological factors in the treatment of injured workers amongst employers and administrators/payers of injured worker benefits
3. providing training and support to Ohio psychologists who provide services within the BWC system

Goal 1: Dr. Schwartz attended and advocated for psychological services at the BWC healthcare quality assurance committee meetings. The Bureau agreed to several policy changes which will be helpful including mandating psychological evaluation prior to spinal surgery, revision of the independent evaluation process to include more input and training for psychologists, and revision of the evaluation instruments to reflect psychological measures with better psychometric qualities. The Bureau also agreed to partner with OPA to provide psychological specific continuing education training for independent evaluators that is now mandated in their new revised system.

Goal 2: It should also be noted that, due to concerns of a lack of progress in implementing the agreed-upon early intervention program, the task force began to focus on more aggressive marketing on the importance of early intervention directly to the “employer side,” with the goal of having businesses and insurance companies request that the early intervention program be provided. Along these lines, presentations were made at the Ohio Safety Congress in March and to a large employer/manufacturers group in Cleveland in April. At the latter presentation, we began collecting data from employers’ about their perception of the importance of psychological factors in regards to injuries and the need for early intervention. Overall, response was extremely positive. We’ve been invited back to give a presentation to chief executive officers of manufacturing companies.

Goal 3: Dr. Schwartz presented at the OPA convention as to the current state of our efforts. We are collaborating with the OPA education committee to develop a 25 hour continuing education WC assessment and treatment certification program for psychologists. This program will include three main modules: 1) current BWC treatment under the existing legal model, 2) the proposed early intervention program will include three main modules: 1) current BWC treatment under the existing legal model, 2) the proposed early intervention program, and 3) training as an evaluator both for BWC independent evaluations and for the upcoming mandatory pre-surgical evaluations.

Committee on Social Responsibility

Amy Untied, PsyD, Chair

In the past year, members of the Ohio Psychological Association volunteered 5,288 hours. That number alone speaks to the compassion and drive of psychologists in Ohio. The Committee on Social Responsibility (CoSR) aims to help increase the visibility of psychology in Ohio by connecting psychologists with opportunities to volunteer and make a difference in the community. CoSR provides psychological resources, scientific knowledge and referrals in addition to advocating for the fair treatment of Ohio residents through education, training and public policy.

Over the past year, CoSR has promoted and coordinated the involvement of psychologists in programs and projects around the state of Ohio. Specifically, committee members have sponsored and co-sponsored teams for NAMI walks and Out of the Darkness Suicide Prevention walks. This is the 11th year that CoSR members have participated in the walks. Additionally, CoSR partnered with the Columbus State Community College to screen the documentary “Someday Melissa.” OPA psychologist Dr. Heather Guthrie participated in a panel discussion to process the documentary and answer participants’ questions. It was a highly successful event with many attendees.

In addition to walks and other outreach events, CoSR members have been actively trying to increase their social media presence. For example, Dr. Mary Lewis created a summary of posts that members could use for Mental Health Month in May. Moreover, members have been actively contributing to a blog that can be viewed at opapic.blogspot.com. CoSR members also continue to contribute monthly “Did You Know” articles for the OPA e-newsletter. The goal of these articles is to inform Ohio psychologists about health awareness events relevant to mental health and provide information that is pertinent to social justice issues.

We are always looking for new members and ideas, so email Dr. Amy Untied at acsaling@gmail.com to get involved.
Communications & Technology Committee

“Technology is Best When It Brings People Together.” - Matt Mullenweg

Marc B. Dielman, PhD, Co-Chair

Primary Committee Goals (2015-2016):
1. Complete a telepsychology informed consent form that could serve as a template for Ohio psychologists who utilize telepsychology. This will be made part of the OPA Practice Toolkit.
2. Develop a webinar on other telepsychology issues, such as psychologists’ use of e-mail.
3. Actively educate about and promote the use of telepsychology with OPA members.
4. Provide editorial review to OPA publications.
5. Keep informed about telepsychology laws, regulations, and guidelines both at the state and national level.
6. Monitor the OPA listserv for compliance with rules and guidelines.
7. Provide information about telepsychology on the OPA listserv and OPA publications.
8. Advocate for telepsychology education and training opportunities for Ohio psychologists.
9. Continue to ensure that this committee is continually guided by the relevant OPA Strategic Goals.

Primary Committee Goals (2016-2017):
1. Develop a webinar around the telepsychology informed consent form.
2. Assist Ken Drude in the development of a webinar addressing such telepsychology issues as email and texting.
3. Actively educate about and promote the use of telepsychology with OPA members.
4. Provide editorial review to OPA publications.
5. Keep informed about telepsychology laws, regulations, and guidelines both at the state and national level.
6. Monitor the OPA listserv for compliance with rules and guidelines.
7. Provide information about telepsychology on the OPA listserv and OPA publications.
8. Advocate telepsychology education and training opportunities for Ohio psychologists.
9. Continue to ensure that this committee is continually guided by the relevant OPA Strategic Goals.
10. Continue to be informed about the PsyPact (Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact) and explore ways to assist in legislation being passed in Ohio regarding implementation of this compact for Ohio.
11. Continue to communicate with legislators regarding any laws that may impact the practice of telepsychology in Ohio.

Presentations and Publications:
- Dielman, M. Presentation at Unison Behavioral Health, Toledo, Ohio, April 2016, on Practicing Solution-Focused Therapy.
- Jon Elhai, an OPA Communication and Technology Committee member and professor of psychology and psychiatry at the University of Toledo, completed twenty-seven papers/presentations during the 2015-2016 membership year.
- Cindy Van Keuren, an OPA Communication and Technology Committee member and psychologist at the Cleveland VA, made more than eight presentations during the 2015-2016 membership year.

Check out OPA’s Telepsychology Online Resources...
Visit www.ohpsych.org for more information
The Diversity Committee was the proud recipient of the OPA Committee of the Year Award at the OPA Convention award banquet.

The committee launched a Diversity Audit for committee members only. The goal of the internal audit is to review areas of relevance as it relates to diversity and to ensure that the direction of the committee is congruent with best practices.

The diversity committee is underway with plans for the Multicultural Conference with a tentative date set for November 2016. We are in the process of finalizing details including keynote speaker, and conference details.

In addition, the annual Ohio Black Legislative Black Caucus OPA Breakfast was held May 18, 2016 at the State House and was well attended with approximately 25 participants. We were excited to have State Senator Cecil Thomas District 9 as our guest speaker, and shared dialogue on issues of diversity. We also discussed ways to deal with difficult constituents, and plan to present to the Ohio Legislature.

Conversation is underway to plan for a Diversity Summer brunch in Southeast Ohio, and look forward to setting a date in the near future.

In closing the Diversity committee is finalizing recording for the Webinar on Understanding and Demystifying Racial Microaggressions and Clinical Implications.

OPA's Finance Committee meets monthly to review financial reports prepared by staff. We carefully monitor income and expenditures and track the actual-to-date against the budget for the period and for the year. Reports are comprehensive and consistently prove to be accurate when scrutinized during our annual audit. The Finance Committee reports to the Board, presenting the detailed financial data and responding to questions. Early in the year, Board members are trained to read financial statements; so that, they are prepared to fulfill their fiduciary responsibility on behalf of the membership.

Similarly, OPA’s budget process begins with each staff person preparing a draft budget for their area. Our Director of Finance and Operations and our Executive Director consolidate these budgets into one balanced two-year budget. We budget for two years; so that, we can see the impact of budget decisions from one year to the next. Each year we update the second year's budget and look out one more year. The Finance Committee and Executive Committee review the staff budget, modify it as needed in consideration of OPA's priorities, and present it to the Board. The Board reviews and approves the budget each June.

Our audit for the period ending August 31, 2015 showed a slight deficit of just over $13,000. Our retained earnings/reserves stand at $149,488. It was a clean audit.

OPA's current fiscal year ends August 31, 2016. We are on track to meet most of our financial goals for the year. Despite a rocky year on Wall Street, OPA's investments are close to meeting our conservative projections. MCE is likely to slightly exceed the goals for the year. Dues are slightly below our goals, and we continue to monitor the status of each dues category. We were delighted that this year's convention generated twice the income we had projected. Standalone workshops and webinars are keeping pace with projections. Our staff continues to do a superb job of holding down expenses, making a significant contribution to OPA's financial well-being.

This year, the Finance Committee reviewed and recommended some changes to OPA's Financial Policies. These were presented to the Board at the April meeting and approved at the June meeting.

OPA is in a healthy financial position. Our staff is fiscally responsible and keeps us within our budget. The Finance Committee, Executive Committee and Board carefully monitor our financial status on a regular basis. Annual financial audits confirm the quality of our financial management and the accuracy of our reports.
OPA members are encouraged to confer with members of the Ethics Committee regarding matters of professional conduct and ethics. The Ethics Committee encourages proactive communication by inviting calls early in the decision process. An OPA member may 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. Callers are reminded to protect the anonymity, privacy and confidentiality of all parties by presenting hypothetical situations and by avoiding inadvertent mention of identifying information. The Ethics Committee member documents the nature of the inquiry and disseminates the consultation to other members of the Ethics Committee minus the caller’s identifying information. In turn, members of the Committee provide their perspective to the Committee member that received the inquiry, who in turn will contact the caller with additional information. At the completion of the consultation, the Ethics Committee member disposes of any identifying information.

The advice or opinions given by the Committee or its members are their own, based upon their experience and the situation as it is described to them. Therefore, neither the Committee nor its members can represent how the Board of Psychology might view or rule upon a particular situation. Please understand that the comments of Ethics Committee members are not intended to represent legal advice. You also are encouraged to confer with an attorney or with your professional liability carrier.

The OPA Ethics Committee and the OPA Colleague Assistance Program Subcommittee invite inquiries from OPA members to join these committees. Interested members are encouraged to visit the OPA webpage and complete the Ethics Committee Interest and Experience Survey.

The Ethics Committee of the Ohio Psychological Association (OPA) has the following 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 OPA members 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.

Criteria for membership on the OPA Ethics Committee includes: a) full membership in OPA, b) a minimum of 10 years of licensure as a psychologist (except for the special Early Career Psychologists positions on the committee) c) no record of disciplinary action or correction order issued by APA, the State Board of Psychology of Ohio or other state, provincial, or territorial psychology licensing board, d) a documented sustained interest and competence in ethical issues, e) evidence of ethical practice, competent professional judgment, and collegiality as informed by an interview with Ethics Committee members and information obtained from collateral sources and professional references, and d) evidence of being able to work on a team as informed by an interview with Ethics Committee members and information obtained from collateral sources and professional references. Up to two Early Career Psychologists, licensed for a minimum of two years but not greater than ten years, may serve on the Committee, though these individuals may not vote or offer consultation on behalf of the Ethics Committee.

The mission of the Ohio Psychological Association – Colleague Assistance Program (OPA-CAP) is to provide Ohio psychologists and OPA members with assistance in accessing services to restore professional functioning and to protect client welfare. In the role of providing psychological care to others, psychologists may themselves become in need of assistance. State law and established ethical standards require psychologists to recognize when one’s objectivity or competency may be impaired. The OPA-CAP aims to assist in prevention and offers treatment of impairment by providing relevant education as well as referrals for treatment to assist in maintaining and/or restoring professional functioning.

The OPA-CAP program is based on principles of self-care, prevention, early intervention and psychological care to Ohio psychologists. We seek to create a climate that normalizes self-care and help-seeking behavior. In doing so, the OPA-CAP program hopes to help stressed/distressed psychologists from becoming impaired and also to link with providers those psychologists who are in need of their own treatment.

If you are interested in serving on the committee, contact the OPA Office.
How many psychologists does it take to change a lightbulb? or plan a convention? or coordinate workshops? We know that the lightbulb has to WANT TO CHANGE, but conventions and workshops don’t just appear out of thin air. They take time, creativity, and commitment from a core of psychologists and OPA staff to pull them together for the good of our OPA member. Thanks to veteran members Kathy Ashton (committee co-chair), Cathy Gaw, Julie Meade, Jon Thomas, and new committee members Laura Burns, Kimberly Bell, Gary Carrington, Todd Finnerty, and Elizabeth James. Karen Hardin of the OPA staff has added her efficient work-flow know-how in shepherding the convention and workshop processes. After this year, Kathy Ashton will no longer represent the Committee at the OPA Board level. Thanks to Kathy for her leadership and commitment to OPA. Our membership goal this year is to select a new chair, and welcome young and diverse psychologists to our ranks.

The goal of the Education Committee is to offer relevant, up-to-date, and diverse educational offerings to help OPA members continue their educational and ethical development and to satisfy continuing education requirements. Convention and workshop revenue contribute to the overall financial solvency of OPA.

Last year, 2015, we offered eight workshops in the summer and fall workshop seasons. In 2016, we will offer nine workshops with a heavy concentration of October offerings, including a day long workshop “Psychology, law enforcement, and the courts: Developing a collaborative approach,” with a panel of expert presenters including police, psychologists, and a judge. Other October workshops address chronic pain and obesity, managing sleep disorders, and facing suicide. Follow-up workshops are also scheduled to address transgender issues, working with the Bureau of Workers Compensation, and developing cognitive-behavioral expertise. A multi-cultural conference is also planned for the fall.

This year’s convention, “The Future Frontiers of Psychology,” drew over 300 psychologists who attended 24 workshops. We were grateful to Dr. Jana Martin of the APA Insurance Trust who presented in the place of keynote speaker and workshop leader, Dr. Steve Walfish, who had been scheduled but became gravely ill and sadly expired on April 29. Ninety percent of convention goers gave “Excellent” reviews of workshops and presenters. Almost everyone appreciated the convention venue at the Quest Center. Next year, we will change lodging arrangements to the Hampton Inn due to their better customer service. We will also recruit more workshop proposals addressing issues relating to children’s mental health. The theme of the April 26-28, 2017 convention is “Ohio Psychology: The strength to lead, connect, and heal.”

This year, we also rolled out two specialty training tracks in response to the OPA Board’s direction, one in cognitive-behavioral psychology headed up by Dr. Kevin Arnold, and the other in serving as a panel member with the Ohio Bureau of Workers’ Compensation headed up by Dr. David Schwartz. Each track requires 24 hours of workshop time completed over three years resulting in a certificate of training presented by OPA. The specialty tracks were adopted after conducting a survey of OPA members who also expressed interests in developing forensic and child specialty tracks. Another priority will be to develop several webinars for OPA’s continuing education library.

These are very interesting times in Psychology. The Education Committee appreciates the opportunity to help OPA members develop their roles wherever they practice.

New Webinars Coming Soon... Visit www.ohpsych.org for more information
Check Out the Upcoming Continuing Education Calendar

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPENS SOON!
Visit www.ohpsych.org to register or to find complete course descriptions, learning objectives and speaker information.

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 20</td>
<td>Managing Sleep Disorders - (3 CE)</td>
<td>Columbus</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>Application of Basic Behaviorism as the Cornerstones of CBT - (3 CE)</td>
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<td>October 1</td>
<td>OPA’s BWC Specialty Track Session: Evaluation Module – (6 CE)</td>
<td>Toledo</td>
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<td>October 7</td>
<td>Psychology, Law Enforcement &amp; Courts: Developing a Collaborative Approach – (6 CE)</td>
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<td>October 15</td>
<td>Facing Suicide: Applying What We Know to Assessment, Prevention and Intervention with the Suicidal Client - (6 CE Ethics)</td>
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<td>October 21</td>
<td>Pain Psychology 101: Essential skills for the behavioral health provider – (3CE)</td>
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<td>October 21</td>
<td>Obesity and Eating Disorders – (3CE)</td>
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<td>October 28-29</td>
<td>The Union of Psychology and Spirituality Retreat: Meditation and Mindfulness: Applications for Psychotherapy and Self-Care - (11 CE)</td>
<td>Deer Creek State Park Conference Center</td>
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<td>November 4</td>
<td>Multicultural Diversity and Ethical Clinical Practice for African Americans - (6CE Ethics)</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<td>November TBD</td>
<td>Understanding and Affirming Our Gender Nonconforming Youth - (CE Ethics Pending. Follow-up to the OPA Fall 2016 Transgender Session)</td>
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OPA Union of Psychology and Spirituality Retreat

**Meditation and Mindfulness: Applications for Psychotherapy and Self-Care**  
**October 28-29, 2016 | Deer Creek State Park Conference Center**

This Retreat is offered for psychologists and other mental health professionals interested in gaining skills and experience in meditation and mindfulness practices and in learning ways to utilize such practices in their clinical work. Extending over one and a half days, the Retreat consists of a series of mindfulness exercises, meditations and discussions of clinical applications including the following sessions:

- The Utility of Meditation and Mindfulness Practices
- Committing to Self-Care - all levels
- Application of Meditation/Mindfulness Techniques to the Therapy Process
- Practice in application of meditative/mindfulness techniques.

The Retreat format emphasizes active participation and discussion with less formal lecture. The program is designed to accommodate participants with little knowledge of mindfulness and meditation as well as participants who make these practices a central part of their work and lives. Attendees are strongly urged to stay overnight to fully immerse themselves in the experience. There will be plenty of opportunity to take advantage of the collective wisdom of all of the retreat participants, as well as to practice applying meditation/mindfulness strategies.
Insurance Committee

Billing Insurance: A World of Red Tape and Confusion
Jim Broyles, PhD, Chair

This title describes what so many psychologists encounter when they enter the world of individual and small group practice. On one hand, having some knowledge of the health insurance world is essential for so many practicing psychologists, but on the other hand, it is an area in which we receive very little formal training. The cumbersome process of interacting with the health insurance industry can be daunting even for the most experienced psychologist. Often, even after the practitioner feels he or she is relatively successful at navigating this world, a new development or requirement by an organization or the industry can throw everyone into a tailspin. OPA’s insurance committee was established to help everyone’s efforts in this area. Our team meets monthly to review concerns experienced by members and help troubleshoot solutions. In the past year, we have intended a new direction: to be less reactive and more proactive in our approach.

One example of this intention is our newly forming Insurance Issues Coalition. Many OPA members have experienced concerns recently with having certain CPT codes being denied by insurance companies or essentially made inaccessible by some procedural means. Other issues have been at the forefront of insurance concerns for some time such as diagnoses which are not covered. In an effort to apply our new, more proactive approach to these problems, we reached out to the counselor and social worker professional associations. In responding to questions we posed, they were able to determine that many of their members were experiencing similar problems. A new group has been formed from these conversations identified so far as the Insurance Issues Coalition. This group includes representatives from the National Association of Social Workers Ohio Chapter and the Ohio Counseling Association. Other relevant groups may join us in the future. The intention of the group is to identify common areas of concern experienced by our respective groups in interacting with Ohio’s insurance providers and to speak to these entities with a collective voice about our mutual needs.

A second example of our new efforts comes in the form our newly developing Audit Toolkit. The past year has seen more requests for client records from insurance companies than we have seen in some time. Many psychologists experience anxiety and confusion about how to respond to such requests. What does the law require? What are my ethical obligations? What are the record keeping expectations from the requesting organization? The Insurance Committee finds itself responding to such questions on a regular basis. The idea has emerged from our group to create a toolkit which will provide our most up to date understanding of the answers to these questions and recommended best practices in this area. This Audit Toolkit would be a resource for our members to help guide them on record keeping and responding to various kinds of requests.

Mandatory Continuing Education Committee

The End of a Biennium: Mandatory Continuing Education
Cathy Gaw, PsyD, Chair

This has been a busy year for the MCE Director and members of the MCE committee. In addition to the usual work of reviewing applications for those who would like to be an MCE provider and submissions of single course reviews, this committee has paid special attention to the manner in which the American Psychological Association and other professional organizations have been managing their evaluations of distance/on-line learning. And, with clinical psychologists becoming more integrated into a variety of professional teams, this committee has been also challenged to work on discerning the boundary between post-graduate psychology learning/training and what may be necessary for one’s job, but not necessarily psychological in nature. Our committee works to maintain membership that is diverse in terms of geographical location, cultural background and areas of specialization in order to fairly evaluate submissions sent for MCE credit. The MCE website contains all the information one needs to acquire, complete and submit MCE submissions as well as a transcript for each psychologist registered with MCE. The end of the biennium approaches at the end of August 2016, after which time we welcome all interested parties to apply for a position on this committee!

To date, we have 3224 psychologists registered with MCE, 1197 of whom have completed their mandatory hours. Many thanks to those of you who have already completed and submitted your hours! The committee and director are preparing for a busy last 3 months as we anticipate that the remaining 2027 psychologists will have some submissions for us to review.
Our Members are the Heartbeat of OPA
Peg Richards Mosher, PhD, Chair

Our members are indeed the heartbeat of OPA. Whether you are a graduate student, an ECP, mid-career or later-career psychologist or retired, you are the impetus behind what we do. Without you, we would not be the OPA we are now.

The primary goal of the membership committee is the recruitment, reinstatement and retention of members throughout their professional lifespan. This, however, is only one dimension of our mission. According to the OPA Strategic Plan Goal #5, the membership committee (in collaboration with other committees) is committed to “supporting the personal and professional lives of psychologists throughout their lifespan, from student status through retirement.” As you read this issue of the Annual Report, you’ll see how the collective effort of OPA reaches out to address the needs of and provide support to psychologists in Ohio.

What about the membership committee? OPA membership has remained relatively stable across several years. This is especially noteworthy since most other professional associations are experiencing a decline in membership. One reason is that there are an increasing number of professional organizations, often representing sub-specialties in psychology or related fields, who are also soliciting Ohio psychologists. Many psychologists are placed in a position where they need to choose which organization best suits their needs. While this is not currently a significant issue for OPA, we are concerned about another issue facing most associations: we are growing older! Each year we have an increase in the number of psychologists who are semi- or completely retired. This reality underscores the need for OPA to address the benefits and services relative to our retirees in a relevant and meaningful way.

We recognize that members have varying professional needs based on their individual circumstances, where they are in their career, their area of specialization, their workplace identity and changes affecting the practice of psychology. With this reality in mind, the membership committee routinely evaluates the benefits and services we provide and investigates new membership “perks” that may be of value to our members.

We have heard feedback that our membership application is confusing. Specifically, some have assumed that they must be licensed to be a full member of OPA. This is incorrect! The application is currently being revised and will be available in the near future. Another source of confusion and frustration for many has been the website. We are delighted to announce that our new web site will be ready to roll this summer!

We are also in the process of changing the membership year from one that currently begins on September 1 and ends on August 31. We have heard from members that having so many bills due in the early Fall (membership dues, license renewal, children starting back to school, etc) creates a financial burden. We also know that some members prefer to join or renew their membership in conjunction with a certain OPA event (workshop, convention). So, we will be instituting a revolving membership renewal system. Regardless of when you join or renew, your membership will be active for one year from that date.

We are awaiting the results of a survey of psychology faculty in Ohio public colleges and universities. This is a project of Janice Vidic, PhD, one of our fellows in the OPA Leadership Development Academy (LDA). Our hope is to better understand the interests and needs of our academic colleagues. You may read more about the LDA and the projects of our fellows in this publication beginning on page 11.

In the upcoming year, the OPA membership committee will focus on the following initiatives:

- Increase engagement of all members across the professional lifespan;
- Increase the diversity of our membership;
- Increase the perceived relevance of OPA to psychologists across the continuum of specializations (including academia, forensic, child), work settings (including colleges/ universities, medical, public sector, business, industrial/organizational, independent practice) and geographic location (especially rural and other underserved areas);
- Educate members and non-members regarding the value-added benefits and services offered by OPA.

... the Membership Committee is committed to “supporting the personal and professional lives of psychologists throughout their lifespan, from student status through retirement.”

Peg Mosher, PhD (Chair)

Janice Vidic, PhD

Carolyn Green, BA
Karen Hardin, BA

OPA MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:

Cathy Gaw, PsyD
Peg Mosher, PhD (Chair)

Janice Vidic, PhD

OPA Staff:
Carolyn Green, BA
Karen Hardin, BA

Feel free to contact the OPA office for more information.
Marketing Task Force

What Sets Us Apart?
Jim Broyles, PhD, Chair

For the past two years, I have been working with OPA’s Marketing Task Force. The purpose of that group has been to address the requirements of our association’s current strategic plan which asks us to “Make psychology more visible to the citizens of Ohio . . .” During my tenure as leader of this group, I have learned quite a bit about marketing. Much of this has come from consultation we are receiving from The Ohio State University. OSU’s Fisher College of Business has provided regular, ongoing consultation through a fellowship established with OPA. Each year, an MBA student is assigned to work with our Marketing Task Force to provide leadership, education, and other support to guide our association’s efforts to market and brand our profession. Given that so many psychologists have little training in business and marketing, we have found this help to be invaluable.

An example of this help came in the form of information gathering efforts from past consultant, Philip Chang. As a Fisher School MBA student, Philip was presented with the question: What sets psychologists apart? The answer to this question would help brand our public image. In a world where psychologists are so readily viewed as interchangeable with other mental health professionals, such effort at creating a more distinctive image seems essential. Philip was able to create and execute a marketing survey which helped us better understand how the more general public sees us. A few key ideas summarize his findings.

First, psychologists are viewed as better at diagnosis. It is the general opinion of most people that psychologists possess a high degree of skill with precisely identifying an individual’s problem. Second, psychologists are seen as having a better understanding of appropriate treatment. Most people feel that psychologists have the training necessary to provide more specialized and individualized treatment. Third, psychologists are viewed as having a higher degree of scientific expertise. Many people see psychologists as having a better grounding in the use of scientific approach, which can lead to more effective services. It is easy to see how our Marketing Task Force will be using these findings to affect the image of what we do in the public’s eye. If our marketing efforts emphasize or even enhance current public understanding of what distinguishes our profession in the mental health field, we are well on our way to creating a “brand” for our profession.

OPA ORAL HISTORY PROJECT COMMITTEE:

Kathy Ashton, PhD
Gary DeNelsky, PhD
Cathy Gaw, PsyD
Peg Mosher, PhD (Chair)
Cindy Orlasky, PhD
Dick Rynearson, PhD
Sally Wilson, PhD

OPA Staff:
Michael Ranney, MPA
Carolyn Green, BA
Karen Hardin, BA

The Oral History Project grew out of the 60th anniversary of OPA in 2010. As a part of this celebration, key OPA leaders (past and present) were interviewed about their experiences and perspectives regarding OPA and the development of the profession of psychology in Ohio. The resulting interviews were quite compelling and deemed an invaluable educational and historical resource. It was from this seed that the OPA Oral History Project was born.

Currently, we have 52 completed interviews with a wide variety of OPA leaders, including past-presidents, officers, influential members and other professionals who have worked closely with OPA. Interview topics include diversity and psychology in Ohio, the emergence of women in governance in OPA and APA, the future of psychology, the 60th anniversary celebration of OPA, prescriptive authority, graduate students, relationships with Ohio colleges and universities and perspectives on psychology in general.

The goal of the Oral History Project is to make these and future interviews accessible to all who may be interested in the oral history of psychology in Ohio. Some interviews are available on social media and we hope to be able to post abbreviated interviews on the new OPA website. We are also working with Wright State University to create a searchable data base.

Oral History Project Committee

Honoring, Celebrating and Learning from our Past as We Move into our Future
Peg Richards Mosher, PhD, Chair

For a sample of the interviews, visit www.ohpsych.org

If you are interested in becoming involved with the Oral History Project, including serving on our committee, sharing stories about your involvement with OPA or in professional psychology in Ohio, or if you’re interested in interviewing others, please contact the OPA Office.
Working on Issues that Matter to You:

- Advocacy efforts to preserve prior authorization payments (SB129) supported by APA grant.
- Senator Manning joins OPA to end discrimination by insurance companies against new psychologists who apply to be in-network providers.
- OPA fights for improved delivery and payment methods as part of the Medicaid Behavioral Health Redesign.
- Telepsychology consent forms and best practice guidelines have been developed following the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT) recommendations.
- A prescription privileges bill for State Board certified psychologists who have completed a master’s degree in psychopharmacology, demonstrated clinical experience, and passed a national psychopharmacology exam for psychologists will be introduced this session.
- SB 162 would eliminate the death penalty for prisoners who were severely mentally ill at the time of the crime.

- A relationship and ongoing discussion with the Ohio Infant Mortality Commission regarding contributing psychological factors continues to be fostered.
- BWC with strong support from OPA is working towards adding early behavioral health intervention services for injured workers.
- Insurance Committee developed resources & training for ICD-10-CM transition.
- Independent return to play decisions by qualified neuropsychologists was strongly supported by OPA advocacy efforts.
- Sustainable funding for increased internship sites for psychology graduate students continues to be a top priority.
- Psychology interns under general supervision can now serve Medicaid patients. Thanks to OPA’s advocacy, trainees who are working under supervision for licensure, can assess and treat patients with Medicaid insurance.

Learn about the legislative issues that OPA is following!

Visit OPA’s Bill Box at www.ohpsych.org
Professional Practice Committee

How Will Your Practice Change Over the Next Five Years?
Tom Swales, PhD, Chair

The Professional Practice Committee is trying to help psychologists answer this question, and provide information, expertise, and support as psychologists try to answer this question.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS FOR 2015-2016:

- Created a marketing brochure for OPA psychologists entitled: “Stress and Your Health.”

- Conducted a day long program on the Business of Psychology at the OPA Convention which included presentations by:
  - Brandon Kozar, PsyD, MBA; a graduate of the Wright State combined PhD/MBA program, presented on basic business principles every psychologist should know.
  - Jeanette Biermann, PhD, MBA, psychologist and former business consultant, and Kevin Arnold, PhD – Director of the Center for Cognitive Behavioral Therapy in Columbus, who is creating a management services organization for psychologists, presented on alternative business practice models for psychologists.
  - Jim Broyles, PhD presented on marketing your practice. All workshop attendees were provided with a customized copy of the Professional Practice Committee Stress and Your Health, with their picture and contact information included on the brochure.

- John Tilley, PhD presented on what you plan for but hope never happens: disaster planning and professional wills.

- Nav Kang, PsyD, Rachel Tangen, PhD and Julie Rish, PhD presented on salary negotiation and the gender gap in psychology. The gender gap exists in pay. Salary negotiation is key to closing the gap.

- Tom Swales, PhD and Jason Lawrence, MA presented on psychotherapy outcome tools and the use of medical informatics in designing and maintaining an electronic health record for behavioral health providers.

INITIATIVES FOR 2016-2017:

- Expand mentoring program. MaryAnne Orcutt, PhD will be joining the committee as Co-Chair for the mentorship program. Mentorship at any transitional stage of a career can be beneficial, and members who took advantage of the mentorship program have had uniformly positive feedback.

- Expand practice consultation services. OPA has a Professional Practice Toolkit, which reviews all of the basics of what you were never taught in grad school: the business of establishing a practice. We will also create a business partnership to provide business consulting services to our members.

- Increase collaboration with other OPA committees. Silos are great for farmers, but not so great for organizations organized around committees. For example, we will collaborate with Jim Broyles, PhD and the Marketing Task Force to expand support services for OPA members.
PSYOHIO: Foundation for Psychology in Ohio

Cathy McDaniels Wilson, PhD, Chair

The Foundation for Psychology in Ohio (PSYOHIO) is the non-profit, charitable 501(c)(3) arm of the Ohio Psychological Association (OPA). It seeks to advance the creation, communication and application of psychological knowledge to benefit society and to improve people’s lives in Ohio. PSYOHIO helps OPA fulfill its mission through philanthropic giving and programs that support and advance its causes.

PSYOHIO MISSION: The mission of the Foundation for Psychology in Ohio is to promote healthy communities in throughout Ohio. We do this by supporting educational programs that increase access to and awareness of psychology; and philanthropic efforts and initiatives that promote psychology.

OUR VISION: PSYOHIO envisions a day when good health in Ohio is synonymous with good psychological health for all Ohioans.

OUR VALUES: Equal access to health and wellness resources for all Ohioans - The Foundation for Psychology in Ohio believes that “good health” is synonymous with “good psychological health” and access to psychologists, who are highly-qualified mental professionals, makes this possible.

DID YOU KNOW? There is a serious shortage of mental health treatment options available to meet the ever increasing need, and Ohio is among the worst states in providing these resources.

• Ohio ranks 42 out of 50 on access to behavioral health with no treatment for 32% of adults age 18 and older with a past mental illness who reported a perceived need for treatment/counseling.
• 43% of Ohioans 12 and older needed but did not receive treatment for illicit drug use in the past year. (Health Policy Institute of Ohio)

Psychologists are on the front lines of the crisis, providing mental health services in a variety of settings from private practice to community mental health to veteran services. They are also working in academic settings, advancing research about mental illness. Unfortunately, while the numbers of psychologists is remaining steady, the representation of diverse communities within psychology is not reflecting the diversity of the patients served. According to the American Psychological Association...

“The percentage of clinical psychologists who belong to a racial or ethnic minority group rose modestly from the 1970s to 2010 but remains under 10%. The percentage of non-White first-year graduate students in psychology is higher (28%) but still not representative of racial and ethnic minority populations in the United States. Minority faculty in psychology are especially scarce.”

Diverse representation in the field of psychology “may help bridge interpersonal barriers to care” for minority patients and ultimately improve health outcomes.

TWO PRIMARY PURPOSES: Promoting and supporting educational programs that increase access to well-trained psychologists, create an awareness of what psychologists do, and decrease stigma about mental illness by:

• Disseminating information regarding psychology and behavioral health to the public and to mental health professionals;
• Developing and presenting educational or scientific exhibits and presentations on psychology for the benefit of the public;
• Developing an archive of the history of psychology in Ohio and the national impact Ohio psychologists have had.
• Increasing the availability of internships for graduate students studying psychology.

Philanthropic programs that encourage and reward psychologists, researchers and students who are committed to carrying on the work of psychology and broadening its scope and impact. Granting scholarships in psychology and broadening its scope and impact.

PSYHO: FOUNDATION FOR PSYCHOLOGY IN OHIO

Jim Broyles, PhD
Mr. William Denihan
Michele Evans, PhD
Cathy Gaw, PsyD
Helen Rodebaugh, PhD
Cathy McDaniels Wilson, PhD (Chair)

OPA Staff:
Michael Ranney, MPA
Job stress, work/life balance, and on-the-job injuries remain major concerns among America’s working adults. But research shows that organizations CAN create a workplace that fosters employee well-being while enhancing organizational performance. 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 the fall of 2015, OPA’s Psychology in the Workplace Network announced the state winners of the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award. This year, we once again presented the Award to leaders and staff at Certified Angus Beef in Wooster, OH. Immediately following the state award selection, we nominated our 2014 and 2015 winners for the national level awards.

In January, we received the news that we had not one, but THREE national winners from Ohio! Certified Angus Beef, Grants Plus, and the Chillicothe and Ross County Library had all been selected as PHWA winners! We were pleased to host representatives from these organizations at the award ceremony and reception at the State Leadership Conference in Washington DC in February.

This spring we were once again happy to host our winning organizations at the OPA Annual Convention. In addition to sponsoring the Psychologically Healthy Workplace Award luncheon, representatives from the PWN committee presented a workshop titled “Here Today, Here Tomorrow: A Bright Future for Psychologically Healthy Organizations and the Psychologists Who Support Them.” Committee members presented convention-goers with information about the value, purpose, and practice of promoting psychology in the workplace and consulting to businesses.

After an exciting winter and spring, we have resumed our efforts to solicit applicants for the next PHWA awards; applications are open now! Because the OPA Annual Convention is now held in April, we’ll take this opportunity to adjust our award season so we can honor our winners at the 2017 Spring Convention.

The PWN committee has set some lofty goals for the coming 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. 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, both those who have participated since the Ohio PWN’s early days, to several new additions to the team. We welcome anyone interested in promoting psychology in the workplace while having fun! If you are interested in joining the committee, please contact the OPA office.
Transition Time for the Public Sector Committee
Cindy Orlaksky, PhD, Chair

The Public Sector Issues Committee was successful in recruiting several new members this year who represent new sectors and have become active members of the Committee. A succession plan was also implemented with previous Chair, Cindy Orlaksky, agreeing to head the Committee for one year with the agreement that new member, Dawn Graham, an academic and clinical psychologist at Ohio University, would take the lead in 2016. This plan is moving along well and the Committee had a mid-year face-to-face several hour meeting to facilitate this transition.

The Committee is assigned to three OPA strategic goals: advocacy, promoting psychology, and increasing income streams for OPA, and has discussed action plans in each of these areas at each monthly conference call. Highlights include:

• Organizing a workshop for mental health professionals, law enforcement and the courts to be held in October - effort led by committee member, Jon Thomas
• Encouraging the Advocacy Committee to add the foster care extension bill to their list of bills to follow
• Writing letters regarding other legislation of interest to OPA
• Participating as an exhibitor at Legislative Day
• Testifying in support of SB162 - by committee member, Fred Frese
• Participating in at least one NAMI walk with identification as psychologists to enhance our image in the community

The Committee has embraced the idea that committees should collaborate with each other and has members that also serve on the Advocacy Committee, the Education Committee, Marketing Task Force, and as Chair of a Regional Association.

Future plans of the Committee include an attempt to digitize minutes from the inception of the Committee in 1991 to make information available to new members and for reference, and exploration of having a Facebook page to be able to interact in another manner with psychologists with interests aligned with the Committee. We welcome new members, or “followers” - contact the OPA Office if you are interested.

Ohio Psychological Association Staff

Meet Our Team of Experts... We’re Here to Serve You

MICHAEL RANNEY, MPA
OPA Executive Director
Contact Michael about... insurance issues, OPA Political Action Committee (PAC), Project FAIR (Focused Advocacy Insurance Reform) and the Foundation for Psychology in Ohio in Ohio.

BOBBIE CELESTE, PHD
OPA Director of Professional Affairs
Contact Bobbie about... advocacy issues and general psychology questions.

CAROLYN IAMS GREEN, BA
OPA Director of Membership
Contact Carolyn about... OPA membership recruitment and retention, member benefits, listservs, OPA home study courses and registration for all OPA events.

KAREN HARDIN, BA
OPA Director of Communications and Education
Contact Karen about... OPA publications and e-newsletters, advertising, website, event/ workshop planning and the annual convention.

DAVID SAVOIA, BS
OPA Director of Finance and Operations
Contact David about... accounts receivable and payable, check or credit card payments, pledges, IT vendors and the OPA Poster Session.

BETH WHERLEY, BA
OPA OPA-MCE
Contact Beth about... tracking continuing education credits and registering with OPA MCE.

Call Us Today at 614.224.0034 or 800.783.1983
Science Committee

Science: The Second Leg of Psychology
Mary Miller Lewis, PhD, ABPP, Chair

“There are three legs of psychology: Practice, science and advocacy.”
- Bobbie Celeste, PhD

The science committee, while a small committee, is a crucial one for OPA. This was a building year for the Science Committee, focusing on reviewing and revising goals, and exploring the next direction for the committee. We had two primary activities this year, first reviewing and judging posters at the Ohio Psychological Association Convention in April. In May, members of the Science Committee assisted in judging at State Science Day at the OSU Campus. Thanks to Amy Bruno (School Psychologist), Andrea Tamplin, Anne Thomas, Elizabeth Swenson, John Marazita, Kim Metz, Kristie Payment, Colleen Stevenson, Cathy McDaniels Wilson and daughter, David Hayes, Deanna Barthlow-Potkanowicz, Jim Broyles, Jeff Markino-Shivers, Maddy Steward, Keri Dana, Mary Lewis, Nancy Plassman, Paula Schear, Pam Deusser, Rose Shaw and intern-Tesla, and Linda Siroskey-Sabdo for judging posters. We judged over 150 posters for the OPA Behavioral Science award, for a total of $1675 in prizes. It was inspirational to see all the young budding scientists!

Our future goals include re-instating the Small College Roundtable, which was highly successful in past years. We would like to recruit more OPA members from academia, and believe a clearer membership form and direct marketing to colleges will be useful. We would like to develop a “science” block of CE presentations for the OPA convention to focus on research and science-based work from academics that is relevant to clinicians. We will continue to review research requests for the OPA listserv, assist with OPA poster judging and State Science Day. Finally, we will continue to find ways to foster the science-practice-advocacy bridge for psychology.

OPA Staff:
Michael Ranney, MPA
Moving into 2016: Wait... What year is it?
Sarah Greenwell, PsyD

The Cincinnati Academy of Professional Psychology (CAPP) is proud to celebrate its 35th Anniversary in 2016: CAPP was created in 1981 to advance the profession of psychology in the Greater Cincinnati area. As our website states... Our goals are to promote human welfare through the application of psychological science, to increase public awareness of psychology, to encourage the highest levels of ethical standards in the practice of psychology, and to promote the exchange of information and ideas among members. While our mission remains the same, there is no doubt that CAPP, as well as other regional organizations as a whole, have had to adjust to new circumstances and challenges in order to remain relevant to the community, helpful to the membership and financially solvent.

One of the most exciting changes this year has been our new website. We launched the new CAPP website in April and are so excited to now offer online billing for membership and CEUs, a member’s only section and profile that CAPP members can update independently, at any time, to advance the marketing of their practice. Through the website, the CAPP board has also become more transparent to its membership, as Board meetings and minutes are posted to the website, along with our quarterly newsletter. Of course, turning 35 also prompted the CAPP Board to look at the archives and learn about our past from its very first president and current board member, Dr. Gary Schneider. He wrote an interesting account of what drove a group of nine psychologists in the Cincinnati area to develop a new professional organization, including the influence from the introduction of “managed care.” Dr. Schneider’s History of CAPP is posted on the new website at www.cappnet.org.

A substantial benefit of CAPP membership is access to high-quality, continuing education credits to meet licensure requirements every two years at a low cost to CAPP members. Throughout the year CAPP hosts dinner meetings and workshops for CE credit that are consistent with the need of the psychological community in the Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky area. This past December, CAPP hosted a dinner meeting with Dr. Lorene Walter, a psychiatrist at The Lindner Center of Hope. This was a sold out event for CAPP and speaks to the high interest psychologists continue to have regarding psychotropic medication for patients. In February, CAPP welcomed Dr. Renae Reinardy. Dr. Reinardy is a well-known psychologist who specializes in obsessive compulsive and other related disorders, such as hoarding. She has been interviewed on Good Morning America, the Joy Behar Show, Dateline NBC, and was part of the A&E show, Hoarders. Her dinner presentation on cognitive behavioral treatment of hoarding disorder was so popular that she was invited back to present at CAPP’s full-day fall workshop in 2017. Details will be posted on the new website so stay tuned!

Next year, CAPP will begin with a September dinner meeting welcoming Dr. Kathleen Chard of the Cincinnati VA. Dr. Chard is co-author of Cognitive Processing Therapy (CPT) for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder. She will be presenting updates on PTSD diagnostic criteria from the DSM 5, as well as treatment for PTSD. Our fall workshop on October 7, 2016 focuses on Alternative Treatments to Pain Management Using Hypnosis. CAPP is thrilled that this event is being co-sponsored by the Cincinnati Society of Clinical Hypnosis. In 2017, the CAPP Spring workshop will be devoted to Eating Disorders treatment.

An article about CAPP would be remiss if it did not mention another important benefit of CAPP membership: the professional and social networking. CAPP receives calls from the community on a weekly basis asking for names of providers of psychological services or speakers that can present on a variety of psychological topics. CAPP is happy to direct consumers to CAPP members who specialize in specific areas. In addition, the CAPP Social Committee had a wonderful 2nd annual social event at Crossgate Lanes Bowling in November where a group of CAPP members demonstrated their athletic, or not so athletic prowess, with dinner afterwards. CAPP was also happy to be a sponsor for the NAMI Northern Kentucky’s annual Steps Against Stigma Walk. Finally, the CAPP Social Committee has planned a summer family picnic on August 28, 2016, which will be a great time for established and new members to get together in a fun and relaxing atmosphere.

If you practice in the Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky area and would like to join our group to meet new psychologists, socialize, network, or just want to obtain all your continuing education credits close to home, we are welcoming new members. Please feel free to contact any of our Board members for more information about CAPP. You can also check out our new website for quarterly newsletters, social events, dinner meeting and CEU announcements, or join CAPP online today at www.cappnet.org.
Dayton Area Psychological Association

Community Matters

Rose Mary Shaw, PsyD

This year we have seen strife and unrest in communities across America and the world. We have heard the calls for justice and tolerance, coming from citizens across race, gender, sexual orientation, disability and religion. As I contemplate the impact of this unrest, I am driven to consider the role of psychology in this ever-changing world. I am reminded of some insightful words from a wise woman, Dr. Sandra L. Shullman. During an address 5-6 years ago, to a group of newly licensed psychologists, she said (and I paraphrase), if we are to be effective practitioners, we must step out of the comfort of the four walls of our office and understand the world around us. She urged us to listen to the news, to take time to see and understand the context in which our clients are living. Thus, we can truly join with them and understand their strife; this is truly informed empathy. As we define our role as psychologists, we can stand firm in our identity as trained scientists and observant behaviorist. Who is better trained than psychologists to understand issues of diversity, mental functioning, social behavior and resilience from an empirically based perspective. But, let us not forget our most important traits that we bring to the table, our humanity and compassion. It is our informed empathy that can bridge and open communication in the communities we serve.

The Dayton Area Psychological Association (DAPA) made great strides in 2012-16 toward understanding our local community. Efforts started in our own backyard when DAPA expanded CEU training to be more relevant across the board, bringing together psychologist from the ranks of the military, veteran’s centers, school psychologist, health psychologists, academicians, private practitioners and students. These seminars quickly became active forums for the sharing of ideals and perspectives. The conversations and friendships formed impact the quality and depth of services provided to our consumers who more often than not cross the boundaries of service needs (I.e. a veteran enrolled in college that has both health and psychological needs). DAPA reached out directly to understand the local community through sponsorship and attendance at events. DAPA continues to encourage future psychologist by judging regional and statewide science fairs. Our newest involvement comes in the development of a Psyching Team for the USAF Marathon. DAPA also attended forums addressing the Black Lives Matter movement and the impact on our community. The immediate needs of our community were brought back to the CEU training table when Dr. Gordon Goodman, Social Psychology, presented an evidence based, interactive lecture, Explicit and Implicit Biases: Understanding their Origins, Why They Persist, and How to Combat Them. This lecture, along with emersion in local events, served to broaden perspectives and build informed empathy.

Dr. Shullman was absolutely correct when she urged psychologists to understand the community and constituents they serve. In our ever-changing, fast paced, social, political environment, it is imperative to remain relevant, informed and functional in our roles as psychologists and scientist. Community does matter.

Cleveland Psychological Association

Cathy Gaw, PsyD

Cleveland continues to rock an active and robust regional association that has fulfilled our commitment to offer; an array of interesting CE workshops to satisfy the full licensure requirement for the biennium, personal mentoring, annual poster session for students in psychology, and opportunities for active involvement in local social and mental health issues throughout this year. A number of our members have been actively involved on the Ohio Psychological Association Board and in the leadership of the American Psychological Association over the years, making CPA a great place from which to jump into larger pools of influence in our profession! This year, CPA again sponsored 2 graduate students’ participation in OPA’s Legislative Day. And the CPA Board voted to make an annual contribution to the Foundation for Psychology in Ohio’s Science Day Awards in recognition of the professionals who contributed their time and expertise to CPA’s workshop presentations.

The Cleveland Psychological Association has appreciated and enjoyed participating actively as a regional association of OPA and is eagerly anticipating the new opportunities offered by the proposed governance model changes. Best wishes OPA for an exciting year ahead!
Akron Area Professional Psychologists

AAPP Continues to Meet the Needs of Northeast Ohio Psychologists

Colin Christensen, PhD

The Akron Area Professional Psychologists (AAPP) enjoyed another solid year of strong distinguished speakers. Dr. Charles Waehler of The University of Akron kicked off the proceedings with an invigorating talk entitled, “What Do I Say? The Therapist’s Guide to Answering Client Questions.”

Thomas O’Reilly, MS, PCC, added to the momentum with his presentation, “Crushing the Opioid/Heroin Epidemic?” Mr. O’Reilly helped to shed light on some of the causes of this devastating statewide problem. He also shared some of the latest research on how communities are addressing this concern.

Akron psychologists were treated to the nationally renowned speaker, Barry Goldstein, JD, talking about “Using Cutting Edge Domestic Violence Research to Protect Children.” Dr. Goldstein updated attendees about the latest research on domestic violence. More importantly, he shared how to apply this research to our daily work with children and adolescents.

The University of Akron contributed another member to AAPP’s strong roster of speakers when Dr. Amber Hewitt shared her lecture entitled, “Gender-Racial Identity Development Theory.” Dr. Hewitt did an excellent job of sharing the most recent literature on this important topic while helping relate it to the personal lives of psychologists in attendance.

Lastly, AAPP continued its biannual tradition of having a three hour ethics presentation at the University of Akron when Glennon J. Karr, LLC Attorney at Law, spoke about “9 Major Practice Problem Areas for Mental Health Professionals.” As is his custom, Mr. Karr alternately scared and educated attendees about risks mental health professionals face in the current climate.

AAPP is grateful for our members and speakers who make it all possible.

Toledo Area Academy of Professional Psychologists

Toledo Psychologists Do More Than Listen and Nod

Mark Babula, PsyD

The Toledo Area Academy of Professional Psychologists (TAAPP) is actively promoting the well-being of psychologists and clients in our region. The 2015-2016 year has been one of networking and communication. TAAPP continues to publish The Communicator, our periodic newsletter. Digital copies of The Communicator as well as updates and details on local psychologists are available at http://taapp.info/. Our web and social media presence has grown with the establishment of the TAAPP Facebook page. It can be found by searching for “TAAPP Toledo.”

We hosted formal and informal events. TAAPP members meet in the evenings of the second Thursday of the month. It is an opportunity for psychologists to meet, interact, network, and have some fun. At times, a one hour continuing education opportunity is offered. Recently, a financial adviser joined us to discuss retirement planning. We hope to include more discussions and presentations that are useful to local psychologists, beyond typical continuing education offerings. These less formal gatherings are open to TAAPP members, interested potential members, and students. Locations are announced on the Facebook page.

As a regional association, we continue to meet the needs of our membership by offering formal continuing education workshops. This past year these workshops included Will Sherry, Director of the University of Michigan Spectrum Center, presenting on LGBT issues; Kamala London, Ph.D., Associate Professor with the University of Toledo Department of Psychology, presenting on autobiographical memory and suggestibility in children; Jon Elhai, Ph.D., Professor with the University of Toledo Department of Psychology, presenting on the impact of computer technology on human behavior, and Mary Haines, Ph.D. and David Connell, Ph.D. presenting topics related to cognitive disorders typically affecting the geriatric population. Next year, we hope to address veteran’s issues, pain management, cutting edge treatments, and human trafficking.

Members of TAAPP also collected contributions and participated in NAMI walks, helping to raise money and awareness related to mental health issues and ending stigma.

TAAPP is always welcoming new members.
As the 2015-16 academic year came to a close, your school psychologist colleagues in the Ohio School Psychologists Association (OSPA) celebrated another successful year both with respect to our educational work and our Association. Overall, OSPA’s membership numbers have continued to hover around 1,000 members of the approximate 1,200 school psychologists in Ohio. The Association also has remained financially responsible and member-focused, improving our online web presence, including providing online mandatory professional education and professional development opportunities for the first time in the Association’s history.

Each year, OSPA holds two annual conferences, occurring in November and April, at the Columbus Polaris Hilton. This year, OSPA’s fall conference covered the challenging social-emotional topics of providing universal screening for behavioral needs as well as school-based anxiety disorders with Drs. Katie Elkund, Stephen Kilgus, and Mark Reinecke. During spring, OSPA provided evidence-based interventions for reading disabilities with Drs. Richard Wagner, Katherine Stahl, and Adrea Tuckenmiller from the Florida Center on Reading Disabilities. These conferences topically vary between assessment, educational, and social-emotional domains by the conference, typically hosting between 200-500 attendees. As always, non-OSPA members are cordially invited to attend our conferences, as OSPA is a State Board of Psychology MCE provider to any licensed psychologist or school psychologist.

Legislatively, the most significant update is the passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), which is the reauthorization of No Child Left Behind. Among many changes that will affect school-based psychological practitioners will be the emphasis on school-based mental health, school climate, and the movement to a “smart and balanced” approach to achievement assessment. OSPA Executive Board members, in collaboration with numerous Ohio educational stakeholder groups, continue to outreach with the Ohio Department of Education (ODE) towards Ohio’s impending implementation of the new educational statutory requirements.

Today, Ohio school psychology is facing significant vacancies across the state. OSPA, in collaboration with ODE and various administrative groups, have met, polled our respective memberships, and began to develop shared action plans to ensure these unserved positions begin to find suitable personnel. Issues ranging from significant salary variations, contractual term differences, to role and function demands appear to be separating many of the positions with rural and some suburban public school districts struggling to find school psychologists. Current data reveal over 50 vacancies across the state currently with upwards of 150 projected in the next five-year period. Given these data, Ohio school psychology training programs are looking at options to increase their student cohorts along with encouraging school districts to carefully consider their compensation packages when vetting prospective new school psychologists. Nonetheless, school psychology remains a potent specialty within psychology courtesy of strong career outlooks across available positions, compensation, and general quality of work environment as reported both through the Bureau of Labor Statistics and recent US News and World Reports rankings of social service positions.

OSPA has enjoyed several opportunities for collaboration with the Ohio Psychological Association throughout the past year. Efforts ranging from supporting Equality Ohio’s consortium of behavioral health providers towards eschewing conversion therapies to Ohio Medicaid Reform to ensure school psychologists remain as authorized providers have been salient points of collaboration. OPA and OSPA have strengthened their organizational relationships through their shared liaisons, who act as conduits of information between both Associations as well as participate in each group’s executive leadership efforts. As we look ahead towards the summer months, where some OSPA members will enjoy summer recess respite, OSPA and OPA leaders will be meeting to further our Associations’ collaboration to serve the best interests of our clientele and Ohio psychology. Resultantly, this is an exciting and dynamic time between both Associations!
Ohio Women in Psychology (OWP) is an affiliate association of the Ohio Psychological Association that was formed during a time when women were the minority in the profession of psychology. At that time, OWP served as a meeting place for female psychologists to: network, provide/seek mentoring, support female graduate students’ research, create professional workshops meaningful to female psychologists, and to share support as we moved through the developmental stages of our work and our lives. Today, women are no longer the minority in the field of psychology and networking can be achieved in a variety of ways through technology. However, OWP is committed to providing a vibrant and significant association for female psychologists.

Early in 2016, OWP sent out a survey to OWP members and all licensed female psychologists in Ohio to ask about; the level of specific aspects contributing to satisfaction within their current professional situations, and programming/support that is currently meaningful to them. We received a robust response from psychologists ranging from early career to retiree status, who contributed a rich array of suggestions and ideas. We have completed our overview analysis of the data and are now entering into a more focused level of analysis in order to improve our reach and purpose.

At the same time this year, we have offered our annual graduate student scholarship and sponsored a stimulating and enriching workshop, Uncovering Individual and Collective Power for Positive Change presented by Suzanne Roberts, Principal, Master Somatic Leadership Coach. And we were proud to present the OWP Lifetime Achievement Award at OPA’s Annual Convention to Bobbie Celeste, Ph.D. for her many and meaningful contributions to psychologists in Ohio and to OWP during her career. OWP saw a significant increase in membership at the Convention and we are looking forward to applying this renewed energy and interest toward a meaningful future. Come join us!

2016 OPA Award Winners

The Ohio Psychological Association’s Annual Awards Luncheon was held on April 30, 2016 as part of the annual convention. The following individuals were honored.

- Past President Plaque: Peg Richards Mosher, PhD
- Distinguished Service Award: Bobbie Celeste, PhD
- Distinguished Psychologist Award: Jim Raia, PhD
- Public Sector Psychologists of the Year: Gerald Strauss, PhD
- OPA Media Award: The Columbus Dispatch
- Lifetime Achievement by a Psychologist: Robert Goldberg, PhD
- President’s Award: David Hayes, PhD
- OPA Committee of the Year: Diversity Committee
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