



## **Association of Medical School Psychologists**

*The Voice of Psychology in Medical Schools and Academic Health Centers*

### **Section VIII, Society of Clinical Psychology/Division 12 of APA**

### **MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER PHONE CONFERENCE**

**October 27, 2004**

**Present:** Jeff Baker, Barbara Cubic, Cheryl King, Jerry Leventhal, Lynn Peterson, Ron Rozensky, Richard Seime, and Carl Zimet

#### **Open Section**

#### **A. Review of agenda**

Prior to beginning the teleconference role call was taken and Dr. Leventhal discussed the planned agenda. Dr. Leventhal also welcomed our new, ex-officio member, Ron Rozensky, editor of JCPMS.

#### **B. Report from Administrative Officer**

Ms. Peterson indicated that she sent out 161 renewal letters. To date 12 individuals have renewed/joined for 2005. Four of these are new members and will need new member packets and six individuals paid by credit card. Ms. Peterson also reported that she had forwarded the funds to Dr. Tovian for those individuals paying by credit card to AMSP in 2004. Ms. Peterson also indicated that paying members are receiving electronic acknowledgement of their paid dues when feasible and that post cards are sent as needed.

#### **C. Fiscal Issues**

Dr. Tovian was not available to be on tonight's teleconference call. In e-mail communication earlier to the Board Dr. Tovian reported that he is working on the taxes and budget for next year and noted no major problems in the Treasury. He also indicated that the Board needed to address one member's desire to pay a "lifetime" membership fee and list serve comments about the dues increase.

The Board also discussed and approved the idea of having a Treasurer's Report posted regularly on the website in addition to the minutes which are posted monthly.

#### **D. Status of Policies and Procedures Manual and Monthly Minutes**

Dr. Cubic reported that she had not forwarded the manual to Dr. Baker because several sections remain incomplete. To move things forward Dr. Leventhal suggested that the draft version be re-emailed to all Board members and placed on the "board only" portion of the website until others have the opportunity to make their contributions.

Drs. Cubic and Leventhal acknowledged that the minutes have not been sent out in a timely fashion for the last two teleconferences and this will be addressed.

#### **E. 2005 Directory**

To date Ms. Peterson has received only two updated membership forms. The Board wishes to create an up-to-date, accurate membership directory for 2005. A decision was made that the best way to do this would be to update our current directory and then place the draft on the website. Once on the website membership will be encouraged to regularly review the directory for accuracy.

**F. AMSP/JCPMS/Kluwer Relationship**

Dr. Ron Rozensky, editor of JCPMS, indicated that there are administrative changes at Kluwer in regards to the JCPMS. At this point he is unclear as to Kluwer's follow-up regarding recent discussions about JCPMS becoming the official journal of AMSP. Dr. Rozensky also reminded the Board that Kluwer is seeking a new editor for the journal and if the Board would like to make recommendations to do so.

**G. On-line Discussion about Salary Data**

The Board discussed the interest shown by AMSP members recently regarding the salaries and funding structure for psychologists in academic health centers. Dr. Leventhal also indicated that he has proposed to Jessica Kohut of the APA Office of Research that we post the salary survey data on the AMSP website when it is complete.

**H. Programming for APA in 2005**

Dr. King talked with John Hunsley of Division 12 about whether AMSP could participate in a cross cutting presentation but this is not practical given APA's requirements for this time of presentation. We can however co-list our programs with other groups if they are interested, which is easier to accomplish and could have the benefit of increasing attendance at AMSP sessions at APA 2005.

AMSP will likely have three hours of programming at APA. Given recent exchanges on the list serve the Board discussed whether to allocate an hour of programming to a symposium on how psychologists are funded in medical schools. Discussion also ensued about whether it might be feasible to have a dean or provost from an institution participate in this presentation to discuss their view. The Board supported this idea but it was pointed out that AMSP does not currently have a budget to support any of the expenses this person might incur. The idea of seeing if there were an individual at an institution in DC was discussed as a possible way to have the administrator's perspective be represented without undue financial costs.

Dr. King will send an e-mail out on the list serve to solicit input from the membership about how best to utilize AMSP program hours to talk about the topic of salaries and funding arrangements, as well as other possible topics for other programming (e.g. presentations on the new health behavior codes, geriatrics, child).

**I. Consultation Program**

Dr. King indicated that she has not received any formal requests for the consultation program and indicated that many of these mentoring relationships are established informally. Given the recently list serve exchanges about salaries, funding structures and workload, Dr. Seime pointed out how isolated many psychologists in academic health centers may feel. Dr. King indicated that she would send out an e-mail to the membership reminding them of the consultation program.

**K. Planning for an upcoming AMSP conference**

Dr. Seime indicated that “the time is ripe” for our national conference. He indicated that Jack Carr is actively investigating the option of Seattle as a venue for the conference. The possibility of having the conference in Gainesville, Florida is also still open, though access by air is more problematic for that site. The potential of having a joint conference is also being explored. Dr. Seime also discussed how the issues recently discussed on the list serve about salaries and how academic health centers fund psychologists could be discussed in part at a national conference.

Dr. King indicated that if we could get a more specific proposal prepared by the Mid-Winter APA meetings we could see if other divisions might be interested in co-sponsoring a conference. The goal was set to have a concrete proposal for the AMSP Board to discuss at the Mid-Winter meetings regardless of whether it would be shared with other divisions to move this project forward.

#### **L. History of AMSP**

Drs. Jack Carr and Reuben Silver have been invited to join our next teleconference to discuss their work on updating the written history of AMSP. Dr. Rozensky also discussed that there have been some historical articles published to date about AMSP which may be a resource to them. He indicated that Drs. Carr and Silver could also submit their text for possible publication in JCPMS.

#### **M. Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**

Discussion ensued about how to enhance the benefits of being in AMSP and ways to grow membership. Special interest groups were discussed as a viable way of involving members around topics of interest. The Board supported the idea suggested by Dr. Crossen of the membership to have a SIG on psychologists serving as student mental health counselors for academic health centers.

#### **N. Elections**

With an upcoming slate needed for elections the Board’s discussion continued about how to maintain continuity best on the board while allowing for new membership and new ideas. The idea of having some of the offices staggered was re-discussed. The concept of switching to 3 year terms was also discussed.

Drs. King, Leventhal and Seime will work together to prepare a statement to the membership about the Board’s rationale for suggesting 3 year, staggered terms for Board members. The membership will then be asked to vote on this issue by making a change to the bylaws reflecting the altered terms. Within this correspondence the membership will also be advised that the Board has determined that the term “mail” in our bylaws includes “electronic mail.”

Following this vote on the bylaws a call for nominations will be sent for the positions of President-Elect, Treasurer, and Delegate-at-large if the staggered terms are accepted. If the staggered terms are not accepted then a full slate will be submitted.

**Next telephone conference call will be determined by e-mail. The call will combine the calls slated for November and December as the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of these months fall near holidays.**

***Respectfully submitted:***  
***Barbara Cubic, Ph.D., AMSP Secretary***