



## ***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 May Phone Conference**

Wednesday, May 25, 2005

**Present:** Jeff Baker, Barry Hong, Cheryl King, Jerry Leventhal, Lynn Peterson, Rick Seime, Steve Tovian, and Danny Wedding

**Absent:** Barbara Cubic, Ron Rozensky, Carl Zimet

#### **A. Board Election**

AMSP Web Master Dr. Baker reported a 45% return rate to date for the Zoomerang on-line ballot, which is a good return rate for elections. It was noted that APA gets less than a 25% voting rate. In addition to the message that initiated the vote, two additional notices have gone out to e-mail addresses from which no ballot has been received. The Board was satisfied that members have been given ample notification and opportunities to cast their ballots. Voting ends June 17, and candidates and members will be notified of the election results.

Steps for engaging newly elected Board members were discussed. They will include inviting them to the Board meeting at APA 2005, and inviting them to participate in Board conference calls as soon as election results are announced. They will be asked to sit in on these meetings but will not be entitled to vote until they take office. The Board e-mail list will be expanded to include them as well. Incoming Board members could also be invited to participate in activities such as conference planning. Efforts to keep non-winning candidates engaged in Association activities will also be considered.

#### **B. Name Change for AMSP**

Results from the tally of the Board vote on possible new Association names compiled and distributed by Dr. Leventhal were reviewed. Three names topped the list as follows.

1. Association of Medical Setting Psychologists (AMSP)  
3 first place votes; 3 second place votes; 1 third place vote
2. Association of Academic Medical Setting Psychologists (AAMSP)  
3 first place votes; 2 second place votes
3. Association of Academic Health Center Psychologists (AAHCP)  
1 first place vote; 4 third place votes

The advantages and disadvantages of various names were discussed. Suggestions that received few votes but differed only slightly from more preferred names were also discussed. Several key points shaped the discussion, namely, [1] the word "setting" is not typically used in professional association names; [2] the word "psychologist" should appear at the beginning of the new name, not the end; and [3] it is not necessary to select a name that retains the AMSP acronym or something close to it, but the new acronym should have a nice ring to it. The final choice was Association of Psychologists in Academic Health Centers, or APAHC, to be pronounced "a'pac."

Several further steps were agreed to, including a check with Drs. Zimet and Cubic to confirm their agreement with the final choice. Additionally, Dr. Wedding has a staff member who will assist with revising the AMSP logo. Dr. Leventhal will draft a message to the membership in preparation for a vote to change the Association's bylaws before the proposed new name can become official. The message will indicate that the proposed new name reflects a consensus among Board members that the new name will broaden the scope of the Association's membership because it is more inclusive than the current name. The announcement will invite on-line discussion by the membership in which Board members will actively participate to explain why the APAHC label will benefit the Association and encourage people to join. The draft announcement will be reviewed by the Board before going out on the Association's listserv.

**C. National Conference**

Dr. Leventhal announced that the contract with the Alexandria Hilton Old Town hotel is now signed and official. It was agreed that a brief announcement about the third AMSP national conference should be sent to the listserv indicating the dates and location and asking members to hold the date. It was noted that locating the conference in the Washington, DC area will make it relatively easy to obtain high level participation by speakers from AAMC, APA, and NIH. Drs. Hong and Seime will check on possible presenters from APA and NIH. Dr. King will see about possible presenters from APA. It was agreed that we'd need to have a program chair and an arrangements chair. Dr. Seime is willing to serve as Co-chair of a program committee. He has distributed by E-mail a plan for the conference to other Board members and asks for feedback and comments. It was suggested that we should draw on Association members who have been Robert Wood Johnson Fellows in our programming. Dr. Leventhal has previously announced that the APA Office of Accreditation has agreed to offer training for accreditation site visitors. It was noted that pre-conference activity by ABPP would be a strong draw and increase attendance. For example, ABPP might offer examinations for Board certification in the clinical, health, or child areas. Dr. Leventhal will contact ABPP Executive Director Russ Bent to see what steps would be necessary to make such arrangements.

**D. Special Interest Groups (SIGs)**

Board members reaffirmed that the to develop of Special Interest Groups within AMSP was worth trying.

**The next phone conference will be on Wednesday, June 22, 2005 at 5 p.m. EST.**

**Minutes prepared by:**

Gerald Leventhal, Ph.D., AMSP President