



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

February PHONE CONFERENCE

February 2, 2005

Present: Jeff Baker, Barbara Cubic, Barry Hong, Cheryl King, Jerry Leventhal, Lynn Peterson, Ron Rozensky, Rick Seime, Steve Tovian, Danny Wedding, and Carl Zimet.

Open Section

A. Review of agenda and general announcements

Prior to beginning the teleconference roll call was taken and Dr. Leventhal discussed the planned agenda.

Dr. Leventhal discussed the fact that AMSP was asked to join other organizations in endorsing a letter sent by AAMC in support of increased medical research funding. In line with e-mails from Board members, Dr. Leventhal announced that he had requested that AMSP be listed as a co-signing organization. Dr. Hong reminded the Board of the importance of being active as an organization with the AAMC in general as our visibility within AAMC strengthens AMSP's ability to fulfill its mission.

B. Report from Administrative Officer

To date, 120 individuals have paid dues for 2005. A reminder e-mail was sent by Ms. Peterson to non-payors (e-mailed 2 days ago, 2 replies to date [one renewed and one did not]). The Board discussed the importance of making sure that non payors are aware that they will not receive JCPMS to give them an additional incentive to stay in the organization. Ms. Peterson indicated that back copies of the journal can be sent to those who join late with out excessive difficulty.

C. Fiscal Issues

Dr. Tovian sent a financial report to the Board via e-mail prior to tonight's call. To date, of the 120 individuals that paid dues for 2005, 96 paid by check and 24 paid on line by using credit cards. AMSP's assets include \$1,294.53 in savings and \$13,442.52 in checking and there are presently no outstanding bills. The dues increase enacted in 2004 appears to be strengthening the Association's financial position, and renewals are running ahead of the same time last year.

Dr. Seime reminded the Board of the Simon Bud Orgel Fund and Dr. Leventhal indicated that two individuals have made donations to this fund. Dr. Leventhal will forward thank you letters to these individuals for their tax records.

Dr. Rozensky encouraged the Board to prepare a plan for explaining to members how dues will be utilized if a shift to an electronic journal is feasible. The Board decided to table discussion until more information is available about whether Springer will follow through on commitments that Kluwer made to AMSP.

D. Revised Bylaws

As the recommended bylaw amendments were overwhelmingly approved by the voting members Dr. Seime has prepared revised bylaws. Ms Peterson agreed to review the new bylaws and compare them to the existing bylaws to ensure accuracy. Dr. Baker will have them posted on the website as a PDF file.

E. Web Site

Dr. Leventhal reminded the Board of the importance of regularly reviewing the website for accuracy and updates to help Dr. Baker maintain it. Drs. Seime and Wedding indicated they would review the web site and send suggestions to Dr. Baker.

F. 2005 Member Survey

Dr. Leventhal discussed the benefits of the recent member survey. He asked the Board to discuss how often members should be surveyed and how to use the surveys to meet the needs of the organization. The Board tended to favor a plan for biennial surveys, but also liked the concept of conducting surveys for special purposes. For example, Dr. Seime discussed the possibility of using a survey this year to get ideas about how best to plan the upcoming AMSP conference (e.g. preferred dates, formats, and topics). Dr. Tovian also pointed out that general surveys might be timed to match changes in presidencies.

G. Awards Committee

Dr. Zimet stated that he will discuss this topic in depth at the annual Board meeting in Alexandria, Virginia. He would like for the committee to consist of at least two Board members and two general members. Dr. Cubic volunteered to be on the committee and Dr. Zimet asked for other Board members to consider participating. He will ask for an additional volunteer when the Board meets.

H. On-line Directory

The Board commended Ms. Peterson and Dr. Leventhal on their preparation of the on-line directory. Sections will also be added which provide a geographic breakdown by states and cities to make the directory even more user friendly.

I. History of AMSP

Drs. Carr and Silver have continued to work on the history of AMSP. They have made a recommendation that the organization create a mechanism which allows for the activities of the organization to be summarized and archived annually. Dr. Leventhal discussed how the organization provides a summary report to Division 12 and that this report, along with supplemental material, might provide the details a future historian would need. Ms. Peterson discussed the resources that APA has to archive data and stated that she would forward information about these services for the Board to consider.

J. AMSP Board Meeting at the Mid-winter Meetings in Alexandria, Virginia

The AMSP Board meeting will be from 8 a.m.-12 noon on Saturday, February 12, 2005 and will be extended from 1-3:30 p.m. if necessary. The meeting will be in Room, Snowden 1. Anticipated attendees will be Drs. Baker, Cubic, Hong, King, Leventhal, Rozensky, Seime, and Zimet. As all attendees have funding from APA or other organizations, with the exception of Dr. Cubic. It was decided that AMSP would only need to fund the travel costs for her. At the annual Board meeting discussions will occur about how AMSP can create a formula for funding future travel costs incurred on behalf of the organization given the limited finances available for these activities.

K. JCPMS

AMSP/JCPMS/Springer Relationship

Dr. Rozensky continues to correspond with the Springer representative about the journal by e-mail and will speak verbally to the representative on February 7. He is optimistic about the likelihood that Springer will follow through with agreements made between Kluwer and AMSP, including transitioning to an electronic journal and making JCPMS the official journal of AMSP.

Special Issue of JCPMS for AMSP

Dr. Leventhal indicated that the special issue of JCPMS dedicated to AMSP is “moving along.” He continues to edit manuscripts and correspond with authors as needed to make sure that the process progresses. Dr. Rozensky reminded the Board that the June JCPMS volume is set and that he must have the manuscripts in March in order to meet the deadline for them to appear in the September journal.

Clinical Case Section for JCPMS

Dr. Hong indicated that at the annual Board meeting he will provide a draft to Dr. Rozensky and the Board of a plan for how to begin incorporating this new section into JCPMS.

Student Membership

Interactions with a recent new student member has alerted the Board that the benefits of student membership aren't clearly described. The Board initiated a discussion about what benefits AMSP can offer to student members and tabled this to the agenda for the annual meeting. All Board members agreed that the Board wanted to be thoughtful about how to offer incentives for students to join.

L. Special Interest Groups

Dr. Leventhal indicated that he has not yet sent out an announcement regarding AMSP establishing special interest groups. He asked the Board to consider ways to attract members to SIGs (e.g. SIGs on postdoctoral issues, providers of student mental health services in AHCs). Board members discussed the unique aspects of AMSP which could foster these SIGs (i.e. importance of seeing AMSP as an organization that cuts across areas and can serve in advocacy and informational roles given its representation on AAMC and CCTC).

M. Elections

A call for nominations was sent to the membership. The Board discussed ways to insure that a number of qualified candidates end up on the slate.

N. Upcoming AMSP Conference

Board members felt that drug companies would likely be a better source than NIH from which to obtain funds in support of the conference. The topic will be discussed further at the mid-winter Board Meeting.

O. New Member Packets

This topic was tabled to the annual Board Meeting.

Next Board meeting will be on February 12, 2005 from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in Alexandria, Virginia during the APA mid-winter meeting. Next phone conference will be on Wednesday, February 23, 2005 at 5 p.m. EST.

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