



State, Provincial & Territorial Affairs

DIVISION 31

American Psychological Association Division Annual Report 2012 Annual Report

The Division of State, Provincial and Territorial Psychological Association Affairs

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Division 31 has continued to focus on its special project to assist SPTAs who are interested in pursuing sequence of training changes in their state licensure laws. The project is aimed at providing guidance to SPTAs in order to achieve consistency and uniformity in definitions and requirements across states in establishing basic readiness for independent practice. Division 31 has thus far consulted with nine SPTAs.

Division 31 has placed its work on hold, involving the Ethics Education Project, a collaboration with the APA Ethics Office. At present the Task Force has completed design and structure of a website that turned out to be too expensive and cumbersome to pursue. Instead, the Division 31 Community site will establish a separate Community for each SPTA. Each jurisdiction will be able to create a repository of professional practice information, including: (1) codes of ethics and professional conduct; (2) licensure and credentialing resources and model acts; (3) laws, regulations, policies, and guidelines; (4) continuing education opportunities; and (5) and resources for teaching and training. The website will also provide links to each SPTA website, licensure act, and psychology board. Information in each jurisdiction related to scope of practice, privileged communication and limits on such, cross jurisdictional practice, duty to protect/warn, age of consent, etc. will also be linked. In order to ready each of the Division 31 APA Communities for each SPTA, Division 31 will first populate each jurisdiction with the work of the Electronic Health Record (EHR) project, a CODAPAR funded project.

Division 31 and Division 42 received a CODAPAR grant to create a specific digest of the laws of each State, and then create State specific electronic health record (EHR) templates to be made available to all APA member psychologists within your State. Please do read the grant proposal at:

<http://www.apadivisions.org/division-31/news-events/interdivisional-grant-program.pdf> . We now have distilled and digested all of the State's laws about record keeping and have created State specific EHR templates that comply with the laws and our APA ethical standards (all materials for each of the 50 States are in various points of review by either the Div. 31/42 Task Force of the SPTAs). Each SPTA's ethics/legal leaders among the SPTA's member psychologists have been encouraged to review and provide suggestions as to how the digest or templates can be improved. The State's digest and templates will be posted at the Division 31 Community website, under the State's name, so that all APA members will have access to your State's materials about EHRs. Please see the following website address for the great State of Washington as an example of how your site's material will look:

<http://www.apacommunities.org/groups/division-31-ethics-resources-for-washington-state>. Please note that not only do the EHR templates meet the letter of the law and ethical standards but also the templates have “drop down menus” that are both sufficient and elegant. Our EHR Task Force identified the key aspects of a good psychological EHR that MDs and other health care professionals would expect in integrated health care records from their psychology partners. Also, the EHR templates focus psychologists on meeting the legal requirements of each State's law-- and limit the unnecessary, and often harmful detail, that psychologists often include in their records.

Division 31 has obtained ongoing funding and institutionalization of its biannual Diversity Leadership Development Workshop. Scheduled again for 2013, the day-long workshop is designed to develop leaders of ethnic minority origin in SPTAs. In 2010, Division 31 initiated tracking of the impact of the workshop by determining how many participants have achieved leadership positions in their SPTAs, as well as focused on development of sustained funding for the event. A list of all the leaders who benefitted from the workshop can be found at: <http://www.apadivisions.org/division-31/awards/leadership-development/index.aspx> .Almost to a person, every leader has continued to move forward into SPTA and APA leadership positions.

PLANNED INITIATIVES

Our planned initiatives for the past year and upcoming year are described below. Along with the development of our website (unique hits have increased from 100 per month when hosted at old website to 1200 per month when hosted at the APA site), our initiatives, including social media use, have been responsible for a huge growth in membership. At the end of 2012, 701 members of various types belonged to Division 31. The last time Division 31 had more than 701 members was in 1981 (728 members, and we beat 1982's,

661 number of members). The membership number steadily declined from 1981 until 2010 when we hit the nadir of 375:

HEALTH CARE REFORM

Our Health Care Reform Task Force has focused upon conveying just-in-time information about the changes being developed and implemented through the Affordable Care Act (ACA). These postings are published on the Task Force's blog, LinkedIn site, Tweeter site, and RSSed to other APA sites (e.g., the Practice Directorate has developed a small APA Community for State Health Care Reform postings) <http://www.apacommunities.org/groups/state-health-care-reform>). Our postings are quite well respected and counted upon by our readership to help keeping Psychology at the tables of power during the implementation of the ACA within each State. Our postings can be viewed at: <http://www.apadivisions.org/division-31/news-events/blog/health-care/index.aspx>

DIVERSITY

Division 31 continues to support a Diversity Delegate to attend the APAPO State Leadership Conference, did so once again in 2012. We also sponsored a special diversity leadership training session the day before the State Leadership Conference. From a pool of applicants, we selected 8 psychologists of color from a range of SPTAs to spend a day at the APA building receiving intensive training in leadership skills. Former Division 31 President, Jennifer Kelly was awarded a CEMMRAT grant which will provide sufficient funding to allow us to continue to provide this workshop in odd-numbered years as we have done for its first two periods of time.

Division 31 continues to sponsor an annual SPTA Diversity Award which is presented at the APAPO State Leadership Conference. In 2011 the ninth annual SPTA Diversity Award was presented to the Illinois State Psychological Association.

STUDENTS AND EARLY CAREER PSYCHOLOGISTS

Division 31 continues to have designated student and ECP representation on its board. We have also increased our use of social networking as a way to appeal more strongly to these groups. Our membership initiatives have centered on students and ECPs. Our student leaders have set up their own SPTAstudentleader listserv, and a blog space (<http://www.apadivisions.org/division-31/news-events/blog/student/index.aspx>). Our ECP's have an active blog focused upon their issues: (<http://www.apadivisions.org/division-31/news-events/blog/early-career/index.aspx>).

MENTORING

Division 31 continues its Mentoring Program to assist SPTA leaders move into APA governance. In an effort to strengthen this program, we have continued the initiative to match ECPs with senior psychologists in their state in order to learn about how to develop into effective advocates and move into SPTA and APA leadership positions. The mentoring program is described on our website, too (<http://www.apadivisions.org/division-31/leadership/mentoring/index.aspx>).

OFFICERS

Please find the **2013 Division 31 Board of Directors and Other Appointed Positions** at:

<http://www.apadivisions.org/division31/leadership/board/index.aspx>

Respectfully submitted:

Andy Benjamin, 2012 Div. 31 President