An Exciting Time To Be President!

by Sallie Hildebrandt, PhD

This is an exciting time to be President of Division 31. I have had the honor of seeing the joint CO-DAPAR with Division 42 create state specific Electronic Health Records templates that meet the laws of each of the U.S. jurisdictions come to fruition. The hard work of Dr. Andy Benjamin, Division 31 immediate Past President, and Dr. Jeffrey Younggren, Division 42 immediate Past President, is now paying off with the recent publication of the templates for EHRs for Washington State. They can be viewed by APA members at http://www.apacommu-nities.org/community/division_31__ state__provincial__%26_territorial__ affairs/washington_state. As of this writing, EHR regulations specific to Alaska, Arizona, Alabama, and Tennessee are being reviewed and will be posted within 30 days at the APA Communities site. Eventually all 50 states’ EHR templates will be posted. We will notify members via the Division 31 list-serv as each state’s EHR templates are posted.

In other news, we have a new editor for our publication, Focus on 31. We have the good fortune to have snagged Zoe Proctor-Weber, Psy.D., Ph.D., a Florida Licensed Psychologist. Dr. Proctor-Weber specializes in Clini-

Nominations Wanted

Nominations are wanted for Division 31 Annual Award of Outstanding Psychologist. Nominations and supporting materials should be sent to Division 31 Awards Chair G. Andrew Benjamin, J.D. Ph.D., ABPP by June 15, 2013, at gabh54@u.washington.edu.

The award for Outstanding Psychologist honors a psychologist whose distinguished contributions might include:

A. Demonstrating outstanding leadership in state, provincial, or territorial psychological associations.
B. Advocating for psychology through state, provincial, or territorial psychological associations.
C. Impacting psychology and our clients through distinguished service.
D. Serving as a role model for active participation in organized psychology.
E. Being a volunteer SPTA member. (Required)

For additional information go to http://www.apadivisions.org/division-31/awards/psychologist/index.aspx. Deadline is June 15, 2013
Division 31 President-elect Candidate Statements

Elena Eisman, Ed.D, ABPP

If elected as your President I would make it my mission to continue helping APA appreciate the crucial role SPTAs play in psychology and in APA’s mission and direction. It’s vital for SPTAs to remain strong and be supported through both APA and APAPO. The challenges faced and lessons learned at the SPTA level are critical to developing national policies on healthcare and psychology training. We need to think about c-3 activities we can promote within APA in the service of preserving and expanding psychology’s role in healthcare. This is a symbiotic process, requiring a very strong SPTA presence. Coming from Massachusetts, a state in the forefront of healthcare reform, I have had the privilege of sharing our advocacy work promoting psychology at other SPTA healthcare summits where I learned about their unique challenges, giving me an appreciation of concerns of SPTAs throughout the country. This appreciation will help me represent all SPTAs within Division 31.

My professional life has been devoted to SPTAs and I would like to continue as Div31 President. I have filled almost every SPTA role starting as a student member through Committee Chair and Board member, President, APA Council Rep and then as the first person to serve as joint DPA/ED staff, the dual job I have held for the last 20 years at the Massachusetts Psychological Association. I have also been active representing SPTA issues on the national level as Chair of the APA State Leadership Conference, Chair of various APA Boards and Committees, APA Division 31 Council Rep for 6 years, and I am currently finishing a term on the APA Board of Directors. These experiences have helped me understand APA and its governance system as well as how to accomplish our goals for Division 31. I would very much appreciate your vote.

Donald McAleer, Psy.D, ABPP

I am both pleased and honored to be nominated for President-elect of Division 31. Please support my candidacy by giving me your number one vote.

Throughout most of my professional career I’ve been deeply involved in state association affairs, most notably as President of the Pennsylvania Psychological Association (PPA), a member of its PAC and Chair of the PAC (2003 – 2007). I’ve recently completed two terms on CoR as the representative from PPA where I also served as the Chair of the State Caucus. Professional awards include: 2009 PPA – Ethics Educators Award, 2009 PPA – Distinguished Service Award, and the 2008 – Karl F. Heiser Presidential Award for Advocacy. I am a fellow of Division 31 and a member of Divisions 12, 40, 42 and 55.

I believe as a Division we need to advocate both internally and externally. As APA pursues reorganization, we need to advocate for the role of state issues so the voice of the states is not lost. States are at the forefront of the implementation of APA policy and must remain a strong voice in the process. Externally, state associations struggle for relevance and membership. We must advocate for our profession with legislators, with young professionals and students to contribute to their organizations and with our current members to enhance their voice and influence. Please give me your vote for President-elect.

Bruce Nystrom, PhD

I am running for President-elect of Division 31. Although I have not served on the Board of Division 31 in the past, I have quite a bit of experience with the Kansas Psychological Association (KPA). I served as President of the KPA in 1991 and 1998 and have served on several committees since then. Beginning in 2001, I have served as the Federal Advocacy Coordinator for the KPA. I have attended the State Leadership Conference since 1990 and currently serve on the Committee of State Leaders. Over the years I have seen several significant changes occur for psychological associations but also have seen several areas where they have remained constant.

I understand the great importance of effective advocacy for psychological associations. Traditionally, advocacy efforts have been directed toward national level issues where we have experienced several victories and have also learned some valuable lessons. As our profession continues to grow, greater importance has been placed upon effective advocacy at the state level. This is where our practice laws are written and enforced and where participation in programs such as the Affordable Care Act are being focused. Several states have, or will face serious threats to their scope of practice laws from other professions. I am aware that some state associations are more active in their state level advocacy than others.

As President of Division 31, I would propose to sponsor training programs for effective state advocacy and establish an exchange where Candidate Statements Continued from page 6
by Sally Singer
Horwatt, PhD, MS Clin Psychopharm

I have received the draft of the year-end 2012 financial statements from Division Accounting and have reconciled them with my data. When the final consolidated reports for the year are finished at the end of January, we can expect, easily, to carry forward our various goals in the up-coming year. I will leave it to the committee chairs to clarify these goals.

Because our reserves have produced a fairly substantial unrealized capital gain, and because of the possible sequester, the executive committee has moved our reserves out of the Vanguard stock and long term bond funds into Vanguard short-term Treasury or money market funds.

Overall, it appears that Division 31 is well set to carry forward its various missions for the upcoming year.

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### Division 31 Winter Meeting Board Highlighted in Photos

Division 31 President Sallie Hildebrandt, PhD, presided over her first meeting. The board meeting took place Feb. 21 at the APA Building in Washington, DC. The major item of business was strategic planning.

APA staffers Eddy Ameen and Nabil El-Ghouroury discussed student issues with the Div 31 Board.

As one of her first duties, Division 31 President Sallie Hildebrandt, PhD, honored Past President Andy Benjamin, JD, PhD, for his service to Division 31.

Others attending the Division 31 board meeting included, from left, President-elect Angela Herzog, Student Representative Greg Wilson, Secretary Erica Wise and Past President Andy Benjamin.
Being Responsive to Societal Change

by Pat DeLeon, PhD
Former APA President

Former APA President Ron Fox recently addressed our health policy class at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences (USUHS). Responding to a question regarding the future of professional psychology, given the apparent ever increasing interest in master’s level practitioners, the former Dean was quite optimistic. He proffered that the “tools” psychology is teaching its future generations will be very valuable. The challenge will be developing effective venues to utilize these skills beyond boutique practices where, for example, those specializing in serving children will undoubtedly always be able to find concerned “loved ones” willing to pay for quality care. Ron emphasized the importance in today’s health care environment of psychology’s practitioners being able to work collaboratively within medical systems, which the President’s recently enacted Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (ACA) would undoubtedly consider providing “integrated” patient-centered care.

From a health policy perspective, there is considerable interest in utilizing the skills of alternative providers. In the Department of Defense, for example, Behavioral Health Technicians (BHTs) have had impressive success in providing treatment for patients with behavioral health problems such as substance abuse, sexual assault and domestic violence, social issues, and posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD). These practitioners collect the required data from clients and are responsible for unit training on various behavioral health topics. Under the supervision of a licensed provider (including mental health nurses), the enlisted BHTs conduct initial interviews, perform assessments, provide follow-up care, administer psychological tests, assess patient response to rehabilitation or treatment, co-facilitate group therapy sessions, and perform Combat and Operational Stress Control (COSC) functions. Perhaps most surprising for USUHS students was the realization of how much independent work the BHTs perform while deployed. Due to the lack of licensed mental health providers, they work alone for weeks or months at a deployed site where they conduct the initial assessment, create a treatment plan, conduct individual or group therapy, and even make medication recommendations. They work under the auspice of the behavioral health provider assigned to that camp or region through a precept method. The Army and Navy currently employ approximately 1200 BHTs between them.

Earlier this year the U.S. Senate conducted a hearing “Assessing the State of America’s Mental Health System.” SAMHSA Administrator Pamela Hyde noted that behavioral health is essential to an individual’s overall health and that the ACA will provide one of the largest expansions of mental health and substance abuse coverage in a generation by extending health coverage to over 30 million Americans, including an estimated 6-10 million with mental illness. She pointed out that Medicaid is the largest payer of mental health services, with the ACA extending Medicaid coverage to as many as 17 million additional individuals and their families. And, she expressed her willingness to take a leadership role in funding “Mental Health First Aid” training for teachers. Project AWARE proposes $15 million for training teachers and other adults who interact with youth to detect and respond to “mental illness,” including how to encourage adolescents and families experiencing these problems to seek treatment.

Another witness expressed considerable enthusiasm for this initiative, describing it as evidence-based practice that represents early intervention and early detection that -- if implemented broadly enough -- could permit America’s community mental health providers to help millions in distress. The 12 hour training was described as somewhat similar to first aid classes taught by the Red Cross for physical health conditions. The importance of having a diverse array of training audiences is the key to the program’s public health approach. In Colorado, instructors have conducted Societal Change Continued on page 6
issues will be represented should the Moderate or Clean Slate Change be adopted. Many SPTA Council representatives strongly voiced their concerns about representation and anxiously await further information as we continue to discuss the GGP through virtual meetings prior to August and at the August Council meeting.

Overall, the APA financial status is on sound footing. Council members heard many reports on the outstanding and innovative activities currently taking place within APA on behalf of its membership as well as the public-at-large, including a new APA Center for Psychology and Health; Gun Violence Prevention actions; updates on Treatment Guidelines and the Implementation of the Internship Stimulus Package; the incredibly successful products in APA’s Investment Business Plan; updates on the various APAPO activities that directly benefit C6 members; the current status of APA’s lawsuits; and continuation of the Good Governance Project.

Council members also participated in a Diversity Training Program that addressed effectiveness of diversity training.

Of the few agenda items discussed, Council approved the budget, as well as the following:

- The creation of a new and centralized data collection and reporting structure to manage information on ECPs and reporting needs as identified by APA boards and committee.
- Regional Psychological Associations to gain observer status on Council without vote or APA funding.
- Additional funding for the APA/ASPPB/APAIT Joint Task Force for the development of telepsychology guidelines.
- Funding for a Task Force to develop a new policy on the prediction and prevention of gun violence.

For the complete, unabridged version of this Council Report, please visit the Division 31 listserv at DIV31@lists.apa.org posted on March 4, 2013.

President’s Message

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tical Neuropsychology. She currently works at the 4th largest VA medical facility in the country (Bay Pines VA) as a clinical neuropsychologist and is Director of Training for their large, APA accredited Psychology Internship program. She is active within the Florida Psychological Association (FPA), serving on their Executive Committee and Board of Directors as Treasurer, with multiple legislative, division and committee appointments. In 2012 she was the recipient of multiple awards including the APA, Division 18 Early Career Contribution Award in recognition for accomplishments and contributions to the field of Public Service Psychology; the FPA Award for Outstanding Contributions to Psychology in advocacy efforts and contributions to membership and neuropsychology; the FPA Award for Distinguished Psychologist and the APA Award for State, Provincial, or Territorial Association (SPTA) delegation of Early Career Psychologist to attend the State Leadership Conference (SLC) in Washington, D.C. We are in the process of moving to an electronic publication of Focus on 31. Please notify the 31 Executive Director Dr. Connie Paul at tpamember@juno.com should you wish to continue to receive a print edition.

President’s Message

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Healthcare Reform Task Force Update

by Leslie Riley, PsyD

Given the major changes anticipated within our health care system over the next two years, psychologists must be informed of these changes and their effects on professional practice. Division 31 has responded to the need for a dynamic, ongoing discussion about healthcare reform issues as they unfold. One of the main goals of the HCRTF of 2012 was to blog regularly about healthcare reform issues pertinent to psychologists in myriad settings. Our blog has at least one entry per month, with many more to come. On the Division 31 website (http://www.apadivisions.org/division-31/news-events/blog/health-care/index.aspx), interested readers can read blog entries concerning a wide range of topics, from state to federal health care reform issues. There has never been a more dynamic time in health care. It is imperative that psychologists have a place the table of health care reform, on both state and local levels. In the HCRTF blog, psychologists have reported on the benefits of integrated care, the changes in payment structure in various states’ pilot projects, mental health parity, reimbursement, technological advancements and integrated health, emergency department diversions through integrated care, Medicare providers and the Physician Quality Reporting System, videoconferencing, and state health insurance exchanges.

Division 31 HCRTF is also tracking the outcomes of healthcare summits that are occurring throughout the country. To address the need to provide SPTAs with tools for how to participate in or conduct a summit in their own state, the HCRTF is offering a symposium on this topic at the APA summer convention in Hawaii. If you are planning on attending the APA convention, be sure to attend what promises to be an informative two hour CE program on state healthcare summits. Psychologists from New York, Massachusetts, North Carolina, Colorado, and California, and Dr. Katherine Nordal from APAPO will discuss their SPTA’s role in health care summits in their states. The program discussant, Dr. Sallie Hildebrandt, will also discuss private practice issues related to healthcare reform from her perspective after the California Multi-Disciplinary Health Care Summit in the summer of 2012.

If you have any information to share with members of Division 31 related to healthcare reform in your state, please submit blog entries to Dr. Leslie Riley, Chair of the Division 31 HCRTF at leslie_riley1@yahoo.com. Through communication and sharing of information, psychologists can shape healthcare reform to improve public health nationwide.

President’s Message

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Lastly, I’d like to remind you to visit our website to review Div 31 Blogs for the latest news, member happenings and resources at http://www.apadivisions.org/division-31/news-events/blog/index.aspx. The Health Care Reform Task Force Blog has been especially active. In addition, Division leaders will be active at State Leadership Conference as the Division is co-sponsoring Integrated Care in Hospital Setting which will feature Dr. Robin Henderson from Oregon.

Societal Change

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training with the State Sheriff’s Association and the Colorado Department of Corrections, with the goal of training all of the State’s corrections and parole officers. A number of the Governor’s Cabinet and Department Heads have received the training and plans are underway to train all rabbis in the Denver Metropolitan area, as well as various school district and higher education personnel. The unfortunate Aurora shooting

Candidate Statements

Continued from page 2

effective techniques for state advocacy could be shared between associations. Effective advocacy can also serve to strengthen membership in state associations and strengthen revenues for associations at a time when traditional revenue sources no longer provide adequate support.
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Division 31 State Leadership Conference in Pictures

Several Division 31 members were honored during APA’s State Leadership Conference. Clockwise from upper left, New Hampshire Psych Assoc. received the Outstanding SPTA award; the Committee of the Advancement of Professional Practice and the Committee of State Leaders honored Terry Koller, PhD of Illinois with the State Leadership Award presented by Dr. Patricia Farrell; Carilyn Ellis accepted the APAGS Award on behalf of the Oregon Psychological Association; President Dr. Felicia Smith accept the Diversity Award on behalf of the Kentucky Psychological Association; and Michele McKinnie, PsyD, PC, accepted the award for outstanding association staff member for Michael Butz, PhD, of Montana. We congratulate all our winners.

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