



AMERICAN
PSYCHOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

*The Division of State,
Provincial & Territorial
Psychological Association Affairs*

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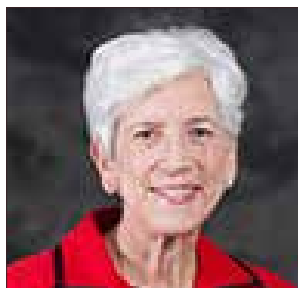
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Focus on

31

Spring 2017 • Volume 49 • Issue 1

President's Report - A Year of Firsts



*by Linda
Knauss,
Ph.D.,
ABPP*

This is a year of firsts. It is the first year

for the Practice Leadership Conference (PLC), formerly the State Leadership Conference. It is also the first year that the Division 31 Board meeting was held in conjunction with this meeting rather than in conjunction with the February Council meeting. Hopefully the Division 31 Midwinter Board meeting can continue to be held with the Practice Leadership Conference so that more Division 31 members can attend the conference.

The PLC focused on practice, politics and policy. Changes to the Affordable Care Act, including the possibility of its repeal was the major issue that attendees addressed in their visits to Capitol Hill. The Division 31 workshop was given by our President-elect Lindsey R. Buckman, Psy.D. and our APA Council Representative, Peter Oppenheimer, Ph.D. They were joined by Alex M. Siegel, JD, Ph.D. from the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards and Deborah Baker, JD from the APA Office of Legal and Regulatory Affairs. They

spoke about the growing deregulation movement. Many states are creating omnibus boards to oversee multiple professions. Although this reduces government bureaucracy and saves money, these boards put the public and the professionals they credential at risk by not being knowledgeable about the specific skills and ethical responsibilities of all of the professions they oversee. The workshop provided advocacy strategies to defend against omnibus board bills in state legislatures. The Division 31 Advocacy Committee, chaired by Linda Campbell, Ph.D. provided an ambitious set of goals for the coming year. These include collaboration with Peter Oppenheimer, Ph.D. on strategies to pass the apportionment bylaws amendment this fall, developing strategies to counter omnibus licensing bills, hosting webinars focused on the EPPP2, and collaborating with other divisions, SPTAs and CESPPA in the area of advocacy to identify and pursue shared goals.

The Diversity Committee, chaired by Adriana Ortega, Ph.D., ABPP provided equally ambitious goals for this year. The committee will continue efforts to secure funding for the Diversity Leadership Training Institute offered biannu-

President's Message

Continued on page 12

Midwinter Meeting of Division 31 Board of Directors



The Division 31 leadership gathered for the Midwinter Board of Directors Meeting. Above, the 217 board gathers: (from left) _____ Linda Knauss, _____, Sally Cameron, _____, _____, _____, _____, _____, Connie Paul and _____. Highlights include honoring Dr. Dinelia Rosa for her leadership in 2016 (right) presented by 2017 President Dr. Linda Knauss. Below, board members get down to business.



"Cherish Your Human Connections" - Become Involved



**Pat DeLeon,
PhD
Former APA
President**

The APA Practice Organization annual State Leadership Conference – this year renamed the Practice Leadership Conference (PLC) – is always one of the highlights of my year. Dan Abrahamson and Susie Lazaroff did an outstanding job. Over 400 enthusiastic colleagues convened in our nation's Capital for the 34th conference; highlighted by the Monday evening recognition of Congressman Tim Murphy's landmark efforts on behalf of our nation's mental health and substance abuse initiatives. APA President Tony Puente and President-Elect Jessica Henderson Daniel were ever-present, with Tony envisioning the Rebirth of APA as he actively engaged with numerous graduate students and Early Career Psychologists. The Plenary Session, featuring former congressional and administration operatives, entitled "Inside the White House and the 2017 Political Landscape" provided fascinating insights into the current political dynamics and an intimate sense of the perhaps unprecedented changes evolving.

The landscape for professional practice is definitely changing: how one will get reimbursed for providing care, the challenges and opportunities of integrated healthcare, the advent of technology -- social media and telehealth -- with the need for licensure mobility, and addressing the culture of business,

law, and medicine. Katherine Nordal's challenge for psychology "to appreciate the importance of being at the table" was most timely. She conceptualized promoting psychologists by advancing the trade of professional psychology – truly a new message for a number of our colleagues – and by contributing to our Political Action Committee (PAC). Today, the psychology PAC ranks 44th among 129 health professional PACs with dentistry, medicine, optometry, nursing, physical therapy, podiatry, social work, and psychiatry significantly ahead of us. The key to our long term survival as an autonomous profession is, and always has been, visionary leadership within our State Associations.

During President Donald Trump's inaugural address at the Joint Session of Congress, he offered a vision for America in which: "(T)he time has come to give Americans the freedom to purchase health insurance across State lines – creating a truly competitive national marketplace that will bring cost way down and provide for better care." Those who have been involved in earlier state association legislation will recall the heroic efforts of former APA Presidents Nick Cummings and Jack Wiggins in the 1970-80s to enact "Freedom of Choice" legislation which ensured that psychological services would be readily available to patients. President Trump further noted: "We should help Americans purchase their own coverage... but it must be the plan they want, not the plan forced on them by the Government." "We should give our great State Governors the resources and flexibility they need with Medicaid to make sure no one is left out."

With flexibility comes the potential for eliminating a wide range of previously mandated health benefits, including those for mental health and substance abuse. Not surprisingly, the GOP crafted healthcare legislation to "Repeal and Replace Obamacare" proposed that beginning in 2020, their plan would eliminate the mandate that Medicaid cover basic mental health and addiction services in those states that expanded their plan – adversely impacting 1.3 million Americans. Their initial effort begins with Medicaid with further legislative proposals anticipated later on this Congress. Theoretically, as psychology becomes more intimately integrated within the nation's overall healthcare system – as has been increasing the case within the public sector especially within the VA and DoD -- there will be little need for mandating our services. However, if psychology is not at the table as Katherine urges, "we may be on the menu." "Your relationships with friends and family."

Aloha.

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Advocating for Essential Benefits



*by Cynthia
Sturm,
Ph.D
Federal
Advocacy
Coordinator*

The charged political climate in Washington, DC created a dramatic backdrop for the 2017 Practice Leadership Conference, “**Practice, Politics and Policy**,” held March 4-7. APA Executive Director for Professional Practice, Katherine Nordal, PhD, welcomed 400 state psychology leaders to the Capitol. Invited speakers addressed ways to be an effective advocate for psychology at the legislative level as well as in organizational settings within health care. Multiple workshops provided updates on current trends in healthcare, legal and regulatory issues, as well as valuable time for honing skills in grassroots advocacy, and networking among state leaders.

Sustaining the Affordable Care Act: The night before our Hill visits the American Health Care Act was introduced by Rep. Greg Walden (R-OR), through the Energy and Commerce Committee. Of critical concern was the proposal

to drop the Essential Benefits mandate for insurers (including mental health and substance abuse) and the reduction of Medicaid benefits. As we arrived on the Hill Tuesday March 8, the legislative offices were abuzz. Staffers were scrambling in response to the minute-to-minute needs for information during the process of intense legislative negotiations.

As of now, the ACA will continue, along with the Essential Health Benefits mandate. However, continued vigilance and advocacy for mental health and substance abuse benefits is “essential”. We can expect continued efforts to repeal and replace the ACA, and challenges to parity for mental health benefits.

Medicare Mental Health Access Act (HR 1143/S 448): The “ask” was for co-sponsors of the bill to include psychologists in the “physician definition” under Medicare. Psychologists are the only doctoral level provider not included. While many of us treat Medicare patients independently in private sector settings, there are still “oversight” requirements for Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and other settings that means physicians must sign off on psychologists’

work, increasing costs and decreasing access for recipients, especially in rural settings.

Check out the APA Center for Psychology and Health! At our Division 31 Mid-winter meeting Dr. Elena Eisman gave an update on the Center for Psychology and Health created in 2013. The site, www.apa.org/health/, offers a wealth of practice information including Integrated Care and Health Psychology CE and videos, quick links to Professional Practice Guidelines, Clinical Guidelines and direct access to 700 articles.

Advocacy: What works? Personally contact your legislators and build relationships. Individualize your e-mails. Make a specific “ask”, and describe your reasoning. Tell your personal stories related to the bill. If possible, provide information on the impact of a bill on the district.

Use the APA Legislative Action Center at <http://capwiz.com/apapractice/home/>.

Do you know a member of Congress? If you have a connection and would be willing to contact him or her to advocate for psychology please contact me csturmphd@me.com.

Visit the

[Division 31 web site](#)

for current information for SPTAs and blogs

for a variety of communities.

SPTA Diversity Updates



*by Jennifer Kelly,
PhD*

ALASKA

As part of the website being revised, APA has its own diversity page; it highlights the diversity among our members. In 2017, we are planning our Diversity Training; coordinating our training with the STPA's annual membership meeting. During the meeting we plan to present our Cultural Humanitarian Award.

ARKANSAS

The Diversity Committee in collaboration with various community organizations hosted four gatherings, which provided an opportunity for discussions about diversity. In September 2016, ArPA in collaboration with the Mexican Consulate, Ventanilla de Salud and Arkansas Hispanic Health Coalition, hosted an event, "Adapting to Life in Arkansas: Discussion with Local Professionals." Topics discussed in Spanish included acculturation, mental health, education, legal issues, and Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. Participants included various Latino professionals and community members, as well as the Mexican Consular. The ArPA Diversity Committee organized a meeting with Little Rock's Racial and Cultural Diversity Commission, Little Rock's Race Relations Taskforce in August 2016. The focus of the meeting was on issues related to police shootings, training of police officers, and the relationship between the community and police officers. In October 2016, the ArPA Diversity Committee

presented on ArPA Diversity Committee events at the University of Central Arkansas Psychology and Counseling Diversity Summit.

CONNECTICUT

We negotiated and partnered with two community mental health agencies in urban centers to provide greater education, training and career path opportunities for ethnic and linguistic minority psychology graduate students to treat and serve underserved multicultural urban families in an integrated behavioral/mental health model. We developed a Bilingual/Multilingual Directory, through the effort of the EDTF University of Hartford Ambassador to provide culturally competent bilingual and multilingual mental health services to communities in the state. We awarded 13 EDTF Mentoring Scholarships to both undergraduate and graduate students training in psychology. The mentoring scholarships afforded them with the opportunity to attend the annual CPA Convention 2016, provide networking opportunities, offer education, training, supervision and opportunities to present at conferences on various topics at the state and national levels.

HAWAII

The Hawaii Psychological Association led by the Diversity Committee held a Diversity Workshop for the year 2016. Wei-Jen Huang presented "Emotional Intelligence and Relationship Enhancement with Asian populations."

INDIANA

The Diversity Committee continued to partner with student interns at St. Vincent's Hospital to provide monthly article summaries on topics of diversity. These summaries were submitted to IPA's Communications Commit-

tee, which were then distributed periodically to IPA's membership through IPA's "PsychBytes" e-mails that are sent out weekly. The Diversity Award continues to be a component of the IPA Fall Conference. This year, there was also a session during the conference on microaggressions.

KENTUCKY

The KPA Board approved adding a permanent Diversity Interest Section Representative seat on the board. There have been listserv dialogues and contributions at board meetings. These topics have included recent immigration issues, racial justice and the murder of Black people, and LGBT issues following the Pulse Night Club massacre. KPA's recent 2016 Annual Convention marked the sixth consecutive year that the Association brought in a nationally recognized speaker to address cultural competency and diversity issues; Dr. Arthur C. Evans was our keynote speaker. We hosted a panel of Black psychologists in KY to discuss "Racial Trauma among African Americans."

MARYLAND

MPA established the Grady Dale Award for Outstanding Contributions to Diversity in Psychology. The first recipient was 2016 APA Diversity State Leadership Conference Diversity Liaison, Jessica Floyd Alexander, Psy.D. To increase the diversity of MPA membership, the Diversity Committee will continue its partnership with the Early Career Psychologist Committee and Maryland School Psychology Association.

SPTA Diversity Updates
Continued on page 6

SPTA Diversity Updates Continued from page 5

MASSACHUSETTS

In 2016, the MPA Board engaged in a Cultural Competency Training. MPA plans to conduct a diversity audit to better understand the needs of its membership, and to learn how the association can address these needs. The diversity audit can also provide MPA with demographic information, advocacy interests, and needs of the membership in order to further the regional and state legislative agenda of MPA.

MINNESOTA

MPA First Friday Forum trainings and Annual Convention are required to include a diversity component. Black History Month Friday Forum was on an African American mental health issue, followed by an awards ceremony recognizing a Black psychologist who has made a significant contribution to service or research in Black Psychology.

MISSOURI

The MOPA Diversity Committee conducted a professional development workshop at the Annual Conference. Also, there was a workshop in September 2016 on Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services. The 2017 Conference will have diversity and inclusion infused through its theme – “Many Hands, Many Voices, One MOPA.”

MONTANA

MPA organized a one-day educational conference focused on issues of diversity. The panel shared their personal and professional experiences of microaggressions. MPA provided articles for ‘diversity column’ in MPA quarterly newsletter. We coordinated with a Tribal Behavioral Health Program to invite their mental health clinicians to an MPA sponsored 2-day workshop. MPA facilitated an agreement with the

University of Montana to provide 2 Native American upper level psychology graduate students an assistantship opportunity to gain work experience with a Native American population on a reservation.

NEW JERSEY

At the 2016 Fall Conference, CODI hosted a Town Hall on Microaggressions: Why We Need to Listen. NJPA leadership has been working hard at collaborating efforts with leadership in the New Jersey Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi) and the Latino Psychological Association of New Jersey (LPANJ). In September 2016 NJPA hosted and participated in an Undoing Racism Workshop facilitated by The People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond. NJPA invited ABPsi and LPANJ presidents and representatives. The workshop focused on race and racism and how it relates to poverty and class.

NEW YORK

NYPA developed a conference on microaggressions. A total of 11 talks were scheduled for this event. They introduced a motion to NYSPA council that NYSPA issue a statement in opposition of Executive Order related to the travel ban.

OHIO

The annual Legislative Day Black Caucus Breakfast was well attended. Topics of discussion included a presentation on Dealing with Difficult Constituents by Dr. Cathy McDaniels-Wilson. A conference was held for special emphasis on Diversity in clinical settings. Dr. James Dobbins was the keynote speaker who spoke about applying culturally specific applications of family therapy for African-American families in therapy. The Diversity committee was proud recipient of the OPA Committee of the Year. The committee is currently planning a networking luncheon for this coming spring. The goal

is to engage and invite psychologists of diverse ethnic backgrounds to engage with and take a leadership role in OPA.

OKLAHOMA

The Diversity Division hosted two Difficult Dialogues concerning Microaggressions in two different locations of the state. The Diversity Division held a formal dinner in conjunction with OPA’s Annual Conference and the Chair provided a cultural gift both as a thank you and to provide education.

TEXAS

TPA continues to publish articles on diversity related issues in the Texas Psychologist and electronic newsletter. The Diversity Division collaborated with Social Justice Division and provided a cultural diversity PD session at the convention in 2015 and 2016 convention. We have continued the annual student convention diversity award. We have continued Diversity Division social events after our annual meeting at each convention.

Visit the
[Division 31 web site](#)
to see these blogs for a variety of
communities:

[Diversity Task Force](#)
[Early Career Psychologists](#)
[Ethics Education](#)
[Health Care Reform](#)
[Student Task Force](#)

Fellowship in Division 31



**Donald
McAleer
Psy.D.,
ABPP
Div. 31
Fellows
Chair**

The Fellows committee has been quite active during the fall application window, accepting three new candidates for Fellow status. As many of you know, APA has several categories of membership including Associate, Member and Fellow. The category of Fellow “is an honor bestowed upon APA members who have shown evidence of unusual and outstanding contributions or performance in the field of psychology. Fellow status requires that a person’s work has

had a national impact on the field of psychology beyond a local, state or regional level. “

Becoming a Fellow is a multi-stepped process, requiring review and approval at the Division fellows committee, the Division Board, the APA Fellows Committee and ultimately approval by the APA Board of Directors and Council.

As the process is typically finalized during the fall convention, it would be premature to mention them by name. I will say, however, that this year’s group represents a strong slate of individuals who have made significant contributions to the development of exemplary programs; leadership in organized psychology; publication or dissemination of information; and national policy development or political action. I

certainly look forward to keeping the division membership apprised of their progress in this endeavor.

So what about the next round? Could you be Division 31’s next Fellow candidate? The process requires: 1) A completed Fellow application. 2) A statement of your accomplishments. 3) A copy of your updated Vita and 4) Support letters from three Fellows, two of whom are Fellows of Division 31.

The portal below will again open in August 2017 and there will be further reminders along the way. Please consider becoming a Fellow of Division 31. Please visit the Fellows page at <http://www.apa.org/membership/fellows/index.aspx> for more information on the process or feel free to email me at donpsyd@aol.com.

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 Dinelia Rosa, PhD by June 1, 2017, at dr494@tc.columbia.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.aspx>

Deadline is June 1, 2017.



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PLC Awards Presented During Conference in Washington



Outstanding SPTA Staff Member

Lisa Willner, Kentucky Psychological Association (left)

APAGS Award

California Psychological Association (below left)

Outstanding ECP

Indiana Psychological Association (below right)

Diversity Award

California Psychological Association (bottom left)

Outstanding SPTA

Pennsylvania (bottom right)



Division 31 - Council Report

by Peter M. Oppenheimer, Ph.D. Council Representative

The APA Council of Representatives met February 24 and

25, 2017, in Washington, DC. One item is of particular importance to our SPTAs and our SPTA members: the Council passed a motion to modify the APA Bylaws (<http://www.apa.org/about/governance/bylaws/index.aspx>) that if approved by the membership will ensure that each and every SPTA and division has voting representation on the Council. Since the Council was established in 1946 the method by which APA allocates votes has never ensured that all divisions and SPTAs have at least one vote. APA uses the Apportionment Ballot that is sent to all APA members each fall to determine the composition of the Council.

APA's constituencies come in many sizes. There are small SPTAs and some small Divisions. The STAs represent the interests of all psychologists within their state, province or territory. Their involvement in state and federal advocacy is essential to addressing the needs of our entire membership. Some important legislative initiatives have succeeded in the small states (i.e. prescription privileges), and small states have defended our profession from harmful legislation and policy as well. SPTAs provide local services to their members that APA and other nationally based groups cannot. The plan we have today is the 2001 "Modified Wildcard Plan". It was implemented in 2003. Briefly Article V Section 6 says:

- First apportionment votes are

divided by the totals for divisions and SPTAs.

- The 162 seats are divided into the two pools (divisions and SPTAs) based on the total of votes in each category.

- Seats are then allocated based on the number of each pool. If there are sufficient number of seats, each group is allocated one seat. If there are additional seats they are allocated according to the formula stated in Section 6.

- There is no guarantee that every Division or SPTA will get a vote. If there are insufficient seats allocated based on the Apportionment Ballot seats are given in rank order to the groups with the greater number of votes.

In 2010 the Caucus of State Provincial and Territorial Representatives (CSTPR) moved an item forward that would ensure that every division and STPA was allocated a seat.. The item passed the Council by more than a 2 to 1 majority. To change the APA Bylaws a vote of the membership is required. The changed must be approved by 2/3 of the voting members. Unfortunately the Item was approved by only 57% of the members, and it was not adopted.

Now the system has failed. Until this year the SPTA pool was large enough to allocate at least one seat to each SPTA. But this year (Legislative Year 2018) the SPTA pool got only 36.3% of the vote. Thus, the SPTA with the least apportionment votes, the Association of Virgin Islands Psychologists, has lost it's seat for the coming year.

Representatives Chester Copemann (USVI), Kenneth Bohm (MO) and I sponsored a New Business Item to reintroduce the 2010 proposal. The

proposal is to change the language of the Bylaws so that if either the SPTA or the Division pool does not have sufficient votes to allocate at least one vote to each group with that pool, a vote or votes would be transferred from the other pool to enable each group to have a vote. The remaining seats would then be distributed by the existing formula. This is the minimal change needed to solve the problem.

We were able to get the item added to the agenda (no small feat) on Friday, and then debated and voted by the Council on Saturday. The motion passed 139 to 17. I was moved by the statements many Council members made in support of the motion. As in 2010 we will have a membership vote to approve the Bylaws change. That vote will occur at the same time as the LY2019 Apportionment Ballot. Voting will start November 1. If we are going to resolve this issue once and for all, we need to win the Bylaws vote, and we need the support our SPTA leaders to do that. We will use our listserv to send messages prior to and during the vote urging our SPTA members to unite in voting for support of this Bylaws change and to vote their Apportionment Votes in support of their SPTA. Please forward these messages on your SPTA listserv and other relevant lists. Please also talk to your members about this important change. This year it is the USVI. More states could lose their votes in the future. If APA is to serve the diversity of its membership then all recognized constituencies must be included in governance. Our many voices can only be heard if we are all participants in the discussion, and we will not be able to tap our multitude of talents if we are not all included in the work of the Association.

Two-time Psychologist of the Year Retires from Univ. Tenn.

Lance T. Laurence, Ph.D., Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville retires from UT in May 2017. Dr. Laurence has taught courses in Clinical Psychopathology, Psychological Assessment, Peer Mentoring, and Ethical and Legal and Professional Practice Issues for the doctoral program in Clinical Psychology for the past 36 years. He has also provided clinical supervision for doctoral students since 1981 and served as the Director of the Psychological Clinic from 2002-2016. The provision of clinical services at the Psychological Clinic grew during his tenure as Director of the Psychological Clinic, eventually resulting in the creation of the University's new Psychological Clinic now housed at the UT Conference Center.

In addition to his work at UT, Dr. Laurence has maintained an ac-

tive role in state and national psychology associations including the American Psychological Association, the Tennessee Psychology Association, and the Knoxville Area Psychological Association. He is a Past President of KAPA and twice President of TPA. For over two decades he served as the Director of Legislative and Professional Affairs for TPA where he oversaw legislative and professional practice issues for Psychology in Tennessee. He created and served as Treasurer for psychology's political action committee, the Tennessee Committee for the Advancement of Psychology.

Dr. Laurence has been awarded numerous local, state and national awards recognizing his advocacy for mental health care and for the profession of psychology including UT's Faculty Appreciation Award for Graduate Teaching and Re-

search, a Lifetime Distinguished Psychologist Award from the Tennessee Psychological Association, the Karl Heiser Presidential Award from the American Psychological Association, APA's Division 31 Outstanding Psychologist in a State Award, the President's Award from APA and others. Under the Clinton Administration, he served as a member of the White House Health Review Advisory Committee where he was the sole Psychologist member of that committee attempting health care reform.

Dr. Laurence will continue to conduct his independent practice in clinical psychology. Since 1983 he has provided diagnostic and treatment services for children, adolescents, adults, couples, and for issues related to psychoeducational and forensic problems.

Visit the
[Division 31 web site](#)
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for SPTAs and blogs for a
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ally at the PLC; reach out to SPTAs to provide support to Diversity Committee chairs in each state, communicate with SPTAs about ways in which each organization is coping with the nation's political climate and states' legislation regarding LGBT rights, travel ban/immigration reform, consciousness legislation, etc., and post diversity initiatives on the web site and list serve.

The Division also established a Regulatory Task Force co-chaired by

Drs. Buckman and Oppenheimer. The purpose of the task force would be to address issues related to the various regulatory and practice changes across the country such as inter-jurisdictional practice especially related to telepsychology and masters practice. The Division 31 Board also voted to change the Student and ECP Task Force to a committee as it has become an integral part of the Division structure.

We are waiting for the final approval of the new Division 31 Ethics list

serve from the APA Office of General Counsel. This will provide the opportunity for SPTA Ethics Committee chairs to communicate about common issues and dilemmas as well as to prepare for the revision of the APA Ethics Code.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the APA Annual Convention in August in Washington, DC. In the meantime, please visit the Division 31 website for updated information, read our blogs, discuss concerns on the list serve, and follow us on twitter.

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