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I have just returned to Tampa after attending the winter meeting of the ABPP Board of Trustees (BOT) in Chapel Hill. I am energized and optimistic as I prepare to take the reins of the organization from Past-President Greg Lee, who led ABPP so ably for the past two years. There are many new developments, and established programs and priorities continue to move forward as well.

**Ongoing Annual Continuing Education Workshop**

This May ABPP will hold its 5th annual continuing education program at the Conrad Hotel in downtown Chicago. Past programs in Portland, San Francisco, Philadelphia, and Boston have been well received and I am confident that the meeting in Chicago will prove no different. This meeting serves many purposes. Of course, it provides an array of top-quality continuing education programs that are offered by our own board certified specialists. This meeting also allows for the constituent ABPP boards to conduct various types of business (ranging from administering oral examinations to holding annual meetings), and we hope that the member boards will make an ongoing effort to establish their presence at this meeting. Further, this program provides an opportunity for ABPP-certified psychologists to touch base with old friends and meet new ones. And perhaps most importantly, it is a mechanism for promoting the value and meaning of ABPP certification to those psychologists who attend the workshops, but have not yet made this important step in their professional development.

**Towards Financial Security**

It is important that ABPP be financially secure. Towards this end I am happy to announce that ABPP is about to make its first deposit into a long-term investment account. This deposit ($200,000) would not have been possible a few years ago given ABPP’s financial picture. But through the hard work of Executive Officer David Cox, the Board of Trustees, and a string of dedicated treasurers, ABPP is now able to take this important step. Moreover, ABPP’s financial picture is that much more positive with the ongoing efforts of the American Board of Professional Psychology Foundation—a separate non-profit, charitable organization that is dedicated to supporting ABPP and its mission.

**Maintenance of Certification**

Most of you are quite familiar with ABPP’s efforts over the past few years to put in place a process by which ABPP-certified psychologists can demonstrate Maintenance of Certification (MOC). The MOC Task Force, which was led by ABPP President-Elect Michael Tansy, continues to make considerable progress in this area and the constituent boards are moving forward as well. Thus, any psychologists gaining certification from ABPP after January 1, 2015 will need to demonstrate maintenance of certification every ten years. Psychologists certified before January 1, 2015 will be provided the opportunity to voluntarily undergo this process. You can read more about this process elsewhere in the ABPP newsletter and website.
The Work of the ABPP Board of Trustees and Central Office

I am consistently gratified by the hard work of those who serve as ABPP trustees. Most are nominated by, and represent constituent boards. Yet, without exception, the trustees consistently demonstrate their commitment to ABPP as a whole. ABPP Central Office has never been more stable or ably staffed. We are very fortunate in this way. As a result of the hard work of our staff we have been able to take on many new tasks. Of particular value is implementation of a new data management system, available to all member boards at no cost. This system will make more cost and time efficient the time and expense related to managing candidates’ applications and practice samples. The American Board of Clinical Psychology (one of the busier boards) has begun using this system and I expect other boards to come on-line shortly.

Re-Energizing the ABPP Website and Newsletter

I think it important that ABPP use whatever resources it has available to maximize communication with board certified specialists, psychologists contemplating board certification, and the public. That is why I plan to place a greater emphasis on the ABPP website, newsletter, and other forms of media during the next two years. Our new newsletter editor, Katherine Jones, has a number of good ideas, including continuing to offer newsletter articles for continuing education credit, and appointing an associate editor to manage ABPP’s social media presence. And remember, there is always room for newsletter submissions from board certified psychologists.

One thing I always do when I get publications from my alma maters is review the section in which alumni report what they have been up to. So, one new newsletter feature I am excited to see develop is a section in which specialists can share news about their professional accomplishments (books, articles, appointments, and the like). Please start thinking about what great things you are doing that you want to share with the rest of us-and the rest of psychology.

Hearing From You

As I suggested above, the ABPP trustees and central office staff work hard and are committed to making ABPP better. I know that many of you have thoughts about how we can do and be better, as well. That is, how we can better serve psychology, board certified specialists, and the public. Please write or call with your ideas, comments, opinions, questions or suggestions (rotto@usf.edu; 813-974-9296).

Finally, Growing ABPP

My primary goal during my tenure as President of the ABPP Board of Trustees is to grow this organization. Over the past few years ABPP has seen an increase in the number of applicants, candidates, and board certified psychologists as a result of the hard work of many. This is a trend it is important to continue.

When I came into office I made the simple pledge to myself that, at every professional presentation I offer during the next two years, I will make a special effort to reference ABPP, its value to me, and its value to the public and psychologists who have yet to seek board certification—quickly followed by an invitation to meet with anyone who wants to talk about these matters in more detail. Last week I gave a 3-hour presentation on informed consent in medical settings to staff psychologists at a local medical center. And, as a result of my pledge, I have a lunch appointment with two young, energetic rehabilitation psychology postdoctoral fellows in about 30 minutes, so that is all for now. I will keep you informed of my progress.
Executive Officer Update

By David R. Cox, PhD, ABPP

ABPP Specialists – an amazing group of people

I am constantly struck by the quality and commitment of our ABPP specialists. At the various meetings I attend I always look around the room and/or review the roster of those in attendance to determine who is, and who is not, ABPP board certified. My experience is that there is an increasing presence of ABPP specialists among those in leadership roles. Many thanks go to you who serve in these capacities, but also to those of you who are “in the trenches” reviewing credentials, practice samples and conducting examinations. Each of you is a major contributor to the advancement of specialty practice in psychology. Thanks!

Of note also is that fact that ABPP has played a role – I am not quite sure how directly – in APA leadership at the president level of late. Note that the last 5 individuals elected to serve as president of APA are ABPP. Congratulations to Barry Anton, the ABPP most recently elected as APA president-elect!

There have been some close elections in recent years, and although I have no way of knowing for certain how much it weighs in, since ABPP has begun requesting comment from the candidates and publishing their responses, each president-elect has been ABPP board certified. As that commercial referencing superstition says, “it is only weird if it doesn’t work”. For those of you who have been voting, keep it up!

Liaison Activities

A routine part of my role is serving as a liaison to many committees and organizations. These include the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards (ASPPB), Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) and the American Psychological Association. Within APA, I attend the Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice (CAPP) and Board of Professional Affairs (BPA), the APA State Leadership Conference and Education Directorate’s Education Leadership Conference. Building on the relationships established by serving in this capacity facilitates much of the progress as is described herein. At the Education Leadership Conference, APPIC asked that I again provide a workshop on ABPP board certification at their meeting next spring (I presented at the last APPIC meeting also).

Workshops - moving to May, going online

The ABPP Summer Workshop Series has taken a new identity with a move to May….beginning in 2014, the workshops will be the ABPP Annual Conference and Workshops. It is our hope that the annual event will continue to draw not just those interested in attending the top notch workshops that occur, but also include more concurrent events such as specialty examinations, board and committee meetings and opportunities for cross-specialty interaction. The ABPP Board of Trustees held its first meeting of 2013 in conjunction with the July 2013 conference, and will again hold a meeting concurrent with the 2014 Conference and Workshops. In 2014, the location will be the Conrad Hilton Hotel in Chicago; in 2015 the meetings will be held in San Diego at the Omni Hotel.

Four of the ABPP July 2013 Summer Workshops were video recorded by the APA Office of Continuing Education. Those recordings are being distributed via the APA Office of CE and are online at http://www.apa.org/ed/ce/index.aspx. This arrangement provided APA the opportunity to record some of the outstanding ABPP presentations, it cost ABPP nothing and ABPP will share in the profits. Perhaps more importantly, it provides access to several of the workshops to those of you would could not make it to the conference!
Mayo Clinic Update

In October, the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN had me present to discuss ABPP board certification with many of their psychologists. We had 25 or 30 individuals present, some already ABPP, others not yet. The organization has grown by incorporating some satellite clinics, and it was staff from many of these sites that attended the workshop. It was a very enjoyable experience and thanks go to Drs. Barbara Bruce, Richard Seime and others who organized and assisted with the event. In part due to the interest expressed, ABPP will include a practice sample preparation workshop in May 2014 at our meetings in Chicago. For those of you who may not be aware of this, the Mayo Clinic requires that psychologists become ABPP board certified if they are not at the time of hire; a practice that is admirable.

APA Council of Representatives adopts APA accredited stance; ABPP urged to follow

The APA Council of Representatives voted at the last APA Annual Convention to adopt a resolution calling for psychologists to train in APA accredited programs (or programs accredited by an accrediting body that is recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education for the accreditation of professional psychology education and training; at this time, the only such entity is APA) effective 2018. The Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) programs has done so, adopting a resolution that will take effect in 2018 as well. These moves set the stage for jurisdictional licensing boards to potentially follow suit.

This may have implications for ABPP as well. I would encourage our organization to consider setting a similar regulation in place; for example, applicants graduating in 2018 or later be required to have attended an APA accredited program if the training program is in the U.S. Graduates from non-U.S. institutions would be considered on a case by case basis, as is presently the case.

One rationale that was used in making this change is that psychology is the only doctoral level health care profession that permits licensing from unaccredited institutions. As well, relative to ABPP, many jurisdictions (approximately 36) provide psychologists who are ABPP board certified a facilitated route to licensure, thus increasing mobility. ABPP would want to maintain that benefit for our ABPP specialists. Related to that, is the following:

ABPP impact on licensing

Early in 2014, we will post a newly updated web page that covers the impact of having an ABPP in each of the U.S. jurisdictions. Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Andrew Benjamin and his staff, we have had each state’s licensing law reviewed for issues related to ABPP. The document is in its final review and editing stages prior to being posted. I anticipate having this ready early in 2014.

APA Council on Recognition of Specialties and Proficiencies in Professional Psychology (CRSPPP) actions and ABPP

ABPP and CRSPPP have an interest, as do other organizations, in attempting to get the profession of psychology “on the same page” with respect to what constitutes a specialty, as well as a subspecialty (given ABPP’s progress on that front). The two organizations formally communicate with reference to definitions of specialty and agree, in concept if not exact language, on the verbiage used to define a specialty. CRSPPP has expressed an interest in the ABPP language for subspecialty, and with the advent of the first ABPP subspecialty (Pediatric Neuropsychology) upon us (being reviewed at this December 2013 meeting of the BOT), I suspect we will engage in yet more ABPP/CRSPPP interaction as the two groups help to further define the field.
This past year saw a fair amount of activity within CRSPPP that has impact on ABPP. Not the least of this was that ABPP became the first, and only, credentialing and board certification organization recognized by CRSPPP! This is big news, and I think reflects well on the efforts that we have made to work in a collaborative fashion with APA, CRSPPP and others to establish and promote specialty standards of competence in our field.

CRSPPP also newly recognized the specialties of Police and Public Safety Psychology and Sleep Psychology, and renewed the recognition of School Psychology. Three other ABPP specialties, Clinical Psychology, Group Psychology and Rehabilitation Psychology submitted materials to CRSPPP. Group Psychology is considering how best to proceed in its efforts. Clinical Psychology and Rehabilitation Psychology received feedback and are in the process of resubmitting revised/edited applications.

As you may recall, Police and Public Safety Psychology had been accepted as an ABPP specialty, with direction to apply to CRSPPP for specialty recognition. Congratulations to that group of dedicated specialists who completed the CRSPPP application and successfully attained CRSPPP recognition as a specialty.

Sleep Psychology, recognized as a specialty by CRSPPP this year, has indicated its intention of applying for ABPP specialty board affiliation. The letter of interest from the group of psychologists, many of whom have already been board certified through the American Board of Sleep Medicine's process (which is no longer an option for psychologists) and are members of the Society of Behavioral Sleep Medicine (SBSM). The letter of interest re: application for ABPP affiliation is being put forward as sponsored by SBSM, with the support of the AASM and American Academy of Sleep Medicine (AASM). The letter of interest was reviewed at the December 2013 ABPP Board of Trustees meeting and Sleep Psychology was encouraged to submit the full application for affiliation. Provided that is received, it will be reviewed at the May 2014 meeting in Chicago.

The American Board of Geropsychology (ABGero) continues to move toward full affiliation with ABPP. The board members of ABGero and 9 additional psychologists have been examined and passed the examination. ABGero has plans to conduct additional examinations at the 2014 ABPP Conference and Workshops, and hopes to achieve full affiliation status with ABPP by this time next year; 21 additional examinations need to be conducted in order to do so.

Although there has not been any further formal action, I was also contacted by representatives of groups interested in a possible specialty board of Sports and Performance Psychology and Addiction Psychology. Both parties were informed of the means of initiating the affiliation process by way of a letter of interest, and provided some initial details about how affiliation occurs. We shall wait and see if these groups proceed.

**Central Office Staffing Addition Approved**

At its December 2013 meeting, the BOT approved addition of another full time staff member for the Central Office. ABPP has been operating with four (4) staff members in CO for many years (it has been that way my complete tenure with ABPP, since 2006). However, we have added the Summer Conference and Workshops, taken on 2 new specialty board (with more knocking on the door), created a new web site (that needs revision) and database, and are now adding more functional technology by way of Sharepoint. We have hired Kathy Holland, who joined the staff February 18. She will be learning to handle essential office tasks including responding to calls and emails, processing applications and facilitating the credentials review process. Please join us in welcoming Kathy to ABPP CO!

With Kathy's presence, a variety of tasks will be redistributed within Central Office in order to provide for employee growth into areas of interest to the employee as well as manage tasks that are needed presently and/or are areas of expected growth. With this reconfiguration of tasks, each of the existing staff members will have done all of the CO clerical/administrative tasks, so back up is readily available across staff. The current CO staff is excited about these changes; and we hope your experience in the coming months is smooth and that we can more readily tackle some of the tasks that at times get backlogged. As always, contact us with any questions or concerns.
Sharepoint Technology Rollout

ABPP Central Office and the American Board of Clinical Psychology have engaged in a trial run of the use of Sharepoint for the process of credential review. Dr. Vicki Ingram, the 2013 ABCP credential reviewer, has worked with us to review the system. She and I presented a briefing for the ABPP BOT at the December 2013 meeting explaining the use of the system for credentials review. We will then proceed to begin a roll out for the rest of the specialty boards in 2014. Our goal will be to have many of the specialty boards moved to this process by midyear, perhaps earlier.

In short, the process permits us to establish a site wherein the credential reviewer logs in and immediately sees any and all applications pending review. Following the generic review process, the “review leader” field in the database is changed to the name of the credential reviewer for that specialty board. When that individual logs on, the names of the applicants pending review and electronic files are readily accessible on that site for the reviewer, who reviews the applications and then posts the results in the data section of the applicants being reviewed. In so doing, Central Office is notified that the file has been reviewed and can proceed with the appropriate notifications.

The Sharepoint system is very robust, is HIPAA compliant and holds great potential for our use; the next step will be to utilize it (for those boards that care to do so) for review of electronically submitted practice samples. We will also begin using it for ABPP committees, workgroups and such, as we can post documents, discussions, calendars, task assignments and more.

A note of thanks

I want to thank all of you who have been so helpful in the 2013 year. Many of you may not be aware, others are, that on top of some other very challenging issues, in June I came down with Lyme Disease. I was terribly ill early on, having experienced significant hearing and visual impairments, and initially was sleeping nearly 20 hours per day. Thankfully, my physicians and I were able to determine the diagnosis shortly after the onset of symptoms and began treatment within 3 days. I understand, from my review of available information, that I was very unique and fortunate to be able to determine the etiology of my symptoms so rapidly. Thankfully, despite “pushing through” the Summer Workshops and APA Convention, I am nearly fully recovered, although I continue with some hearing loss and other (relatively mild) symptoms. I consider myself very blessed to have the friends and colleagues that I do, and appreciate the support, concern, understanding and assistance that has been present throughout.
The Council of Presidents of Psychology Specialty Academies (CPPSA) continues to focus on issues related to the new options for Academies - to be internal, external, or merged with their examining boards. Originally, six of the academies identified themselves as external - Clinical, Clinical Neuropsychology, Counseling, Couple & Family, Forensic, and Rehabilitation. Four of the academies classified themselves as internal - Clinical Health, Clinical Child & Adolescent, School, and Police & Public Safety. And three of the academies identified as merged - Cognitive & Behavioral, Group, and Psychoanalysis. Since these initial designations, one of the internal Academies has withdrawn from CPPSA, and one merged group has “eliminated” their Academy. It is expected that over the course of the next year, additional adjustments will be made. Regardless of status and anticipated changes in status, all groups are urged to continue to join in or monitor the CPPSA phone meetings. Academies are also reminded that May 1 is the deadline for returning signed affiliation agreements to Central Office.

Currently, CPPSA is in the process of a major self examination. This assessment has been stimulated by the above changes and considering purpose, activities, and dues.

The other major focus for CPPSA has been financial (no different than in other kinds of unions!). For the time being, CPPSA has waived dues for Academies that do not collect dues from members. We have also developed a plan for using the savings that has accumulated in the CPPSA account. The plan includes offering grants to Academies for the promotion of board certification. Grants might also be used for infrastructure development that would render promotion activities more effective. We are also looking for a method of sharing “useful Academy practices” and archiving them for future use.

A small, but productive annual meeting was held in conjunction with APA this past summer. It was good to see people in that more convivial Hawaiian atmosphere! Our next phone meeting will take place in the coming weeks. Please watch for the e-mail announcement.
I hope this issue of The Specialist finds each of you in good health and spirits, with great professional prospects in the year ahead! While I don’t believe in New Year’s resolutions, I am an advocate of setting goals in every aspect of life. One of my goals last year was to identify a new and creative way to contribute to the profession that has served me so well over the years. When the position of editor of The Specialist opened, so did my opportunity to serve. I want to thank the previous editor, Bob Hill, and the Board of Trustees for entrusting me with The Specialist.

In this issue you will find engaging and informative submissions from several of the boards and academies. In addition, you will find the latest updates from The ABPP Foundation and the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Work Group.

While The Specialist will continue to keep you abreast of news and updates from the Board of Trustees, the specialty boards and academies, and the Foundation, I would also like to invite you, the specialists, to make submissions to the newsletter. We are very interested in your publications, awards, career moves, and other professional activities. If you have an article to be considered for publication in The Specialist, please make your submission. You may also look forward to an increased social media presence for ABPP, as we seek to better communicate with you, as well as, to the public. Should you have any questions, concerns, or comments about an ABPP related issue, please make use of Letters to the Editor. We want to hear from you.

Once again, I am looking forward to my duties as editor, and hope that you will continue to support The Specialist as the voice of ABPP.

Katherine S. Jones, PhD, ABPP

Specialist submission guidelines are as follows:

- The theme and content of submitted articles should be consistent with ABPP interests and issues: specialization, credentialing, board certification, identification and development of specialty areas, etc., or to the specific interests of ABPP-certified Specialists. Articles with content of more general interest, or unrelated to the above topics, should be submitted elsewhere. Questions regarding suitability for the Specialist and other questions may be directed to the Editor, Dr. Jones at thespecialist@abpp.org.

- The BOT, Editor, or Communications Committee may initiate requests for submissions on particular themes and topics, for inclusion in special sections of grouped articles.

- The BOT, Editor, or Communications Committee may solicit or invite contributions from individuals and organizations.

- Submissions may be of any length, but are typically between 5 – 15 pages of word processed text.

- Submissions may be in any manuscript style appropriate to the content. APA Publications Manual style need not be followed.

- Submissions should be made by e-mail attachment in Word to the Editor’s attention at thespecialist@abpp.org. The submission attachment document itself should clearly identify the author(s).

- Article submissions will be subject to review and acceptance or rejection by the Editorial Board. Authors may be asked for revisions based on the review.

Submissions or letters to the Editor with particularly controversial content may be referred through the Communications Committee to the Executive Officer and the BOT for review.
Several years ago, the ABPP Board of Trustees appointed the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Work Group. The assigned task for the Work Group was to develop a means by which specialists may maintain their certification by documenting ongoing competence. Since this time, the MOC Work Group has developed a model by which all specialists may maintain their ABPP board certification through their specialty board. The activities of the MOC Work Group have been chronicled in The Specialist since its inception.

2013 has been a busy and important year for the MOC Work Group, which, currently, is comprised of Michael Tansy (Chair), Christine Nezu, Charme Davidson, John Northman, Deborah Attix, Kathryn Korslund, Jeanne Galvin, and David Cox. This year the work group met six times by telephone and once in person. Additionally, the MOC Chair met telephonically with the ABPP Specialty Board Presidents, Academy Board Presidents, and the ABPP EC updating them on MOC Work Group activities.

In January, the MOC Work Group surveyed specialty boards regarding maintenance of certification. In March, we sent an email to all ABPP specialists, seeking their direct feedback on the MOC model, too. The specialty boards’ and specialists’ feedback was distributed to and considered by all members of the MOC Work Group, as well as to the ABPP Executive Committee. April 4-6 the work group met, accompanied by Randy Otto, then ABPP President-Elect, to further develop the MOC model. In July, the work group sought and obtained approval from the Board of Trustees for a MOC model that included a Specialty Continuing Professional Development Grid, a Narrative, and forms that specialty boards may use for evaluating specialists’ submissions. Also, the Board of Trustees approved several MOC-related motions, including:

"All specialists certified after January 1, 2015 must successfully complete renewal of certification every ten years to maintain their current ‘ABPP certified’ status."

"Specialists certified before January 1, 2015 may waive the certificate renewal requirement."

"Before January 1, 2015 Specialty Boards must allow renewal of certification for specialists certified before January 1, 2015."

"The Maintenance of Certification Grid and Narrative and their respective rating instruments be adopted for use by all specialty boards as a generic template for renewal of certification."

"Specialty boards may modify the Maintenance of Certification Grid and/or Narrative for the purpose of specialty-specific requirements with the approval of the ABPP BOT."

"The MOC Work Group serves in a consultative role to specialty boards for the purpose of implementation, including modifying Specialty Board bylaws and manuals, as needed."
Having obtained the Trustees’ approval on a MOC model, the work group’s primary focus shifted from MOC model development to assisting Specialty Boards in their effort to implement MOC by January 1, 2015. Toward this end the MOC Work group finalized an “implementation tool kit” that includes recommended language that specialty boards may adopt for MOC. Also, the MOC Work Group drafted revised language for adoption by the ABPP BOT Standards Committee. Further, members of the MOC Work group volunteered to consult with specific specialty boards. Correspondingly, specialty boards identified individuals from their specialty to collaborate with these MOC Work Group liaisons in MOC implementation efforts. In September, the ABPP Executive Committee approved a plan to fund travel by MOC Work Group liaisons to assist specialty boards with their implementation efforts. Three specialty boards, Counseling, Clinical, and Police and Public Safety, met with a liaison from the MOC Work Group (Davidson, Tansy, and Nezu, respectively) to develop their MOC model. MOC implementation plans are being developed by all remaining specialty boards. The ABPP BOT Standards Committee has approved two boards’ MOC materials (Counseling and Group). It is anticipated that two other boards (Clinical and Police and Public Safety) will submit their MOC materials soon. Several boards (Couple and Family, Clinical Health, Clinical Neuropsychology, and Rehabilitation) have invited their MOC Work Group liaison to meet with them in person or by Skype at upcoming board meetings. All Specialty Boards have MOC implementation underway on some level.

In December, Michael Tansy presented a report on MOC implementation progress to the Board of Trustees. The Board directed Dr. Tansy to craft a MOC FAQs document that is included in this edition of The Specialist.

In 2014 the MOC Work Group will meet monthly by telephone to support implementation efforts. We anticipate the MOC Work Group liaisons and Specialty Board Liaisons will meet routinely to implement Specialty Board MOC. As in the past, the MOC Work Group anticipates reporting to the Executive Committee, Board of Trustees, Board and Academy Presidents, and specialists, informing them and being informed by them.

**FAQs Regarding ABPP Maintenance of Certification (MOC)**

**What is ABPP Maintenance of Certification (MOC)?**

Maintenance of Certification (MOC) involves a process of self-examination and documentation of one's continuing professional development since last examination or review. MOC involves you documenting, using a grid and responding to questions focused on your practice, professional activities you routinely engage in that demonstrate your continuing professional development.

After you complete and submit this document, a member of your specialty board will review it to verify that your submission demonstrates involvement in activities that maintain your specialty-related competence. ABPP MOC is not a re-examination, but rather a demonstration of ongoing professional development that goes beyond simple participation in traditional continuing education activities.

**Why was MOC developed?**

ABPP developed MOC as a result of converging forces within psychology and the broader healthcare community, including the voice of public advocacy groups, who insist upon competent practice throughout the career of a psychologist. In reality, psychology competencies have a limited half-life, and because of this, the ABPP Board of Trustees decided that routine demonstration of competence is necessary for the ABPP certificate to continue to be a viable and credible credential within psychology.
Who will be affected by MOC?

All ABPP specialists who are board certified after January 1, 2015 must demonstrate Maintenance of Certification every ten years. While all board certified specialists are encouraged to participate in the MOC process, those boarded before January 1, 2015 may waive their obligation to participate in maintenance of certification.

How will MOC work?

On January 1, 2015 all Specialty Boards will begin their MOC activities. Specialists will be notified by ABPP Central Office that they may submit their MOC documents to their Specialty Board, which will include a Specialty Continuing Professional Development Grid and a narrative (maximum of 750 words) that answers focused questions. If a specialist does not provide evidence of competence in a required area of practice during the initial Specialty Board review, the Specialty Board reviewer will reach out to the specialist to assist him or her in remediating the submission. If necessary, the specialist will be allowed a year to resubmit the MOC materials to satisfy the MOC standards for the specialty. If the specialist does not provide documentation that satisfies the Specialty Board’s standards, the specialist’s certificate is not maintained. As with their initial ABPP examination, specialists are afforded two levels of appeal of any Specialty Board decision; one at the Specialty Board level and one at the Board of Trustees level.

What will it cost me, as a specialist?

The MOC is not intended to generate income for ABPP. MOC fees required of specialists are expected to be nominal and only associated with the cost of administrating MOC.

Is it mandatory for me to participate in MOC?

No. If you are a current specialist who is board certified before January 1, 2015 you may waive MOC for any specialty in which you have been certified (before January 1, 1015). However, we encourage you to participate in MOC as it is consistent with ABPP’s philosophy that all psychologists should demonstrate their continuing competence in their specialty.

What if I decide not to participate in MOC initially, but then have a change of heart and want to participate in MOC later?

Recognizing that psychologist’s circumstances change, specialists may initially decide to waive MOC then later reconsider and participate in MOC.

If I don’t participate in MOC will my certificate be revoked?

No.

If I don’t participate in MOC is my certificate treated any differently than the certificates of those who decide to participate?

No. There will be no notation on any specialist’s certificate. However, once ABPP offers MOC, it will become public knowledge. Should a third party (e.g., insurer, hospital privileging committee) inquire as to whether a specialist waived or participated in MOC, ABPP Central Office is obligated to inform them.
When will MOC go in effect, and what is the timeline for current specialists?

By January 1, 2015 all Specialty Boards are expected to be ready to begin MOC. Of course, it is not anticipated that on January 2, 2015 specialists will submit their material for review. Unless a specialist seeks early consideration (we anticipate that some will want to for personal and professional reasons), participation will be distributed over a period of 8 years (2015 through 2023), allowing for all current specialists to demonstrate MOC within a ten-year cycle.

If I want to, can I participate in MOC before my due date?

Yes.

Who will notify me when I am due for my own MOC?

ABPP Central Office will notify specialists and their Specialty Boards when their MOC is due.

What if I am certified in two specialties and want to participate in MOC, how will that work?

Rather, than ask a multiply-boarded specialist to submit multiple grids and narratives, these specialists will submit one MOC document. Of course, it is incumbent upon the multiply boarded specialists to satisfy the specialty-specific requirements of every specialty in which they are boarded.

Can I fail MOC?

Yes. If you do not demonstrate that you have maintained the foundational and functional competencies specified by your Specialty Board.

If I fail, do I get another chance?

Yes. If there is a problem with your submission you are offered feedback and a year to remediate your submission. If you do not remediate your MOC submission, you will not maintain your certificate.

What happens if I am due for participation and, due to hardship, I am unable to participate? Will ABPP grant me an extension?

Yes, but you will need to provide an explanation of the hardship and your explanation will need to be accepted by the Specialty Board.
As I write this article, it is the holiday season once again, and there is a constant stream of messages via television, news media, magazines, social media, and regular mail expressing a focus on gifts, gratitude, charitable contributions, celebration, and hope for a new year.

I am drawn to the words of Robert Kennedy with regard to living a life of commitment to improving the lives of others. The ABPP Foundation mission is ultimately aimed at increasing improved public access to competent specialty psychology practice and creating assurance in the psychological care they receive. The philosophy expressed by Robert Kennedy summarized our continued commitment to improving the lives of people who seek out, engage and place their trust in psychology specialists.

On behalf of the ABPP Foundation Board, we want to extend our wishes for a successful and healthy start to all board certified specialists in the year ahead and express our special thanks to our 2013 donors. These generous specialists who provided support to the foundation inspired us to work toward our future dreams. For those who are considering their choices for charitable giving in 2014, it is our hope that disseminating information about the activities that occurred over the past year and our plans for the future will inspire readers to give generously. With a generous spirit toward improving people’s lives through greater awareness and access to competent psychological services, we hope to encourage an even greater number of tax free charitable contributions for 2014, and increasing the size of our Wall of Recognition.

We are proud of our modest beginning in 2012, and look back on 2013 as a year in which we gained momentum toward our goals. We also anticipate with excitement several significant “firsts” for the year ahead. With regard to 2013, we are extremely grateful to our donors and their confidence in our ability to carry the ABPP Foundation mission forward. These generous contributors are listed on the webpage under the Wall of Recognition for 2013. The Wall is updated quarterly, and will reflect the 2014 contributions when it is updated in April, 2014. In the first quarter of 2013 I requested an interview with all contributors. The purpose of this outreach was to actualize our board members’ commitment for outreach to ABPP constituents regarding priorities for distribution of future funds. The interviews included questions such as, “What was the reason for your decision to make a 2013 donation to the ABPP Foundation?” and “What would influence you to continue to contribute each year?” Finally, donors were asked how they would prefer to have their charitable contribution to the ABPP Foundation spent?
We learned much from these interviews. Ten interviews were conducted and many indicated that they made their contribution at the time of attestation during a brief reflection of wanting to support an increase in specialty practice. The priorities and reasons for continuing their contributions included awarding scholarships for board certification and a commitment to increase the number and diversity of board certified specialists. Another significant preference for the ABPP Foundation was to engage in greater advocacy efforts to raise awareness of ABPP as the gold standard of psychology specialty competency in state jurisdictions, medical systems and the courts. As a result of these discussions, we have added activities aimed at such advocacy efforts, as well as, the other priorities that were promoted by our contributors, to our 2014 agenda. We view such activities as consistent with our charitable mission, which is stated below.

The mission of the ABBP Foundation is the promotion of competent specialty practice and specialty board certification, the protection of the public through providing educational opportunities in the form of scholarships and assistance to training programs, and provision of continuing professional development. The Foundation supports educational programs to promote the importance of psychology board certification to the general public and related professions. To achieve this goal, the mission of the Foundation includes raising funds. No earmarked funds can be used for any purposes other than those by which they have been designated.

**A Review of Our 2013 Activities**

Our Board of Directors, consisting of 8 voting members and two ex-officio members, met for nine telephonic board meetings in order to lay the groundwork for policies and procedures, fund management and promotional activities. We developed a list of ABPP Foundation Ambassadors to provide future assistance with fundraising, advocacy and development. For example, several Ambassadors may work collaboratively with the board to organize a specific activity or event, such as hosting a tea, cocktail reception, or specialty conferences, and/or inviting other specialists for coffee or lunch. These initiatives provide our colleagues with the opportunity to learn the rationale for becoming donors. Others may help us establish our presence at venues such as annual conferences.

Our 2013 fundraising represented a great start to building our Foundation endowment. Highlights of our activities included the following:

- A Founding Donors campaign was implemented and resulted in raising $20,000 from 88 individuals. These individuals are recognized on the Foundation website which is linked to www.ABPP.org
- A first exhibition booth for fundraising was developed for both the ABPP continuing education series in Boston and at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Honolulu. This activity permitted us to make attendees aware of the ABPP Foundation’s efforts and causes, and was positioned adjacent to the ABPP Booth. Doing so allowed those individuals interested in board certification to visit both exhibitors at once. Our ABPP Foundation Ambassadors provided visitors to the booth with useful information about tax free opportunities to support ABPP, and provided brochures about our efforts in the future.
- A fundraising event was held at the APA Convention in Hawaii in which a donor provided a $400 donation for an elegant dinner that was awarded to a randomly-drawn donor. The $400 dinner certificate was awarded to Dr. Lynn Schaefer who selected Ayhan’s Mediterranean Restaurant in Plainview, New York.
- A “Wall of Recognition” was developed, uploaded to the website, and updated quarterly that listed the 2013 donors to date under the relevant donor categories.
- Creation of an administrative position to develop and maintain our office infrastructure, communications, financial records, and manage our webpage.
In order to launch our work for the next year, we received two generous pledges, each of which created a matching challenge to potential donors, such that their collective donations will be matched up to $5,000. Dr. Norma Simon and Dr. Tom Boll pledged these matching funds. Dr. Simon’s challenge was aimed specifically at launching our office infrastructure start up costs and an administrator position. Dr. Boll’s challenge involved a special appeal to past presidents of the ABPP; this challenge was to provide matching funds to support the following initiatives: an ABPP Foundation 2014 Donor Event; advocacy efforts; and building our endowment. These exciting initiatives are described below.

**ABPP Foundation Vision for 2014 and Beyond**

Our vision is that present and future fundraising will ultimately result in raising sufficient funds to significantly impact the importance of board specialization for both peers and the general public in the future. In order to realize this vision, we have developed the following strategic goals:

- Continued growth through outreach at conferences, conventions, and personal contact
- The identification of an Ambassador in every state, and providing our Ambassador force with “advocacy toolkits” with which to promote the benefit to the public for board certification psychology specialists at state, local, and systems levels
- Encouragement and support for our Ambassadors to host events that recognize the importance of competent specialty practice and increasing the number of ABPP’s accessible to the general public
- Support of the next ABPP CE conference for a lunch, speaker, or other event
- Sponsorship of a fundraising event at future APA conventions
- Working with representatives from our designated earmarked funds to help manage and distribute scholarships consistent with our mission
- A 2014 scholarship competition for an ABPP candidate from an underrepresented multicultural group

Finally, we established donor recognition levels regarding 2014 charitable gifts to the Foundation. The levels are listed below. Our donor recognition levels were established to recognize the incredible generosity of our contributors and provide us with one small way to extend our gratitude for their charitable gifts. If every Board Certified Psychologist gave the equivalent of what they charge for a single session or one hour of assessment, consultation, or a presentation, we would raise over a half million dollars and be able to substantially advocate for Board Certification and increase public awareness and protection.

**ABPP Giving Levels & Recognitions**

**Diamond Legacy Patron**

$5,000 or more

- Name on a plaque
- Recognition at convocation
- Invitation to the Patron and a guest to attend annual Foundation event (to be announced)
- 3 VIP donor badge ribbons for convention badges
- Recognition on ABPP Foundation website
- ABPP Coffee Mug
- Eligibility for naming opportunities and maintenance of donor level with an annual contribution minimum of $500.00.
Platinum Donor
$2,500 - $4,999
- Name on framed certificate
- Recognition at convocation
- Invitation to the Patron and a guest to annual Foundation event (to be announced)
- 3 VIP donor badge ribbons for convention badges
- Recognition on ABPP Foundation website
- ABPP Coffee Mug

Gold Donor
$1,000 - $2,499
- Name on certificate
- Recognition at convocation
- Invitation to the annual Foundation event (to be announced)
- 2 VIP donor badge ribbons for convention badges
- Recognition on ABPP Foundation Website
- ABPP Coffee Mug

Silver Donor
$500 - $999
- 2 VIP donor badge ribbons for convention badges
- Recognition on ABPP Foundation Website
- ABPP Coffee Mug

Bronze Donor
$100 - $499
- 1 VIP donor convention badge ribbon
- Recognition on ABPP Foundation Website
- ABPP Coffee Mug

Contributing Donor
Under $100
- Recognition on ABPP Foundation website
- ABPP Coffee Mug

All donation levels are effective for one year and may be renewed annually to maintain the level of recognition. Diamond legacy donors may maintain their donor level in subsequent years with a minimum of a $500 donation each year. Awards may vary from year to year, depending upon availability.

On behalf of the ABPP Foundation and Board of Directors and Administrator, we wish to extend our best wishes for a healthy and successful New Year to all board certified Specialists. We would like to hear from Specialists and hope that anyone with questions about or interest in supporting the foundation. We are especially interested in hearing from individuals who would like to serve as an Ambassador in their area, or be nominated for consideration of serving on the board. We will be sending out news alerts regarding the nomination and voting process for new board members as well as upcoming events and any changes in our contact or office information. Checks may be mailed to American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP) Foundation, 600 Market Street, Suite 201, Chapel Hill, NC, 27516. Donations may also be made through the link to the Foundation webpage at www.ABPP.org.
Bernard F. (‘Ted’) Riess, PhD, ABPP was a professionally prominent psychologist, psychoanalyst, researcher, scholar, and teacher, who practiced for decades in the metropolitan New York City area. He earned his Ph.D. in psychology from Columbia University in 1934, was a Guggenheim Fellow in 1947, and achieved his Board Certification in Clinical Psychology from ABPP in 1954. Subsequently, he served as President of the ABPP Board of Trustees. He passed away in 1995 at the age of 87.

But, it was as an American citizen asserting his Constitutional and civil rights during the 1950s McCarthy era that Dr. Reiss became more widely known to the public. He held Marxist beliefs and had associated with members of groups targeted by Congress in what history later regarded as a ‘witch hunt.’ In 1952, he invoked the Fifth Amendment in refusing to testify to a Senate subcommittee about his own beliefs, organizations to which he had belonged, and personal associations. For this action, he (along with others) was fired from his Hunter College faculty post, which he had held since 1928. After a lengthy Constitutional battle, in 1982 he and other former faculty received restitution and their pensions in a public formal ceremony.

Professionally, he came to wear many hats. In the mid-1940’s, he became involved in the newly formed Postgraduate Center for Mental Health (PCMH), directed by psychiatrist Dr. Lewis Wolberg, which still provides psychoanalytic training as well as treatment at moderate cost. Dr. Riess became a psychologist-psychoanalyst in 1955 and was associated with PCMH for many years. He was Director of its Research Department from 1965-1975, Editor of its Transnational Mental Health Research Newsletter, and a member of its Board of Trustees. He maintained an active independent practice. While remaining ‘leftist’ in beliefs, he was nonetheless ecumenical enough to serve as a consultant to executives at Volvo of Sweden, the automobile manufacturer. From 1976 to 1984, he was a faculty member and Director of the Graduate Program in Clinical Psychology at The New School for Social Research. He subsequently directed the Housatonic Mental Health Center in suburban Connecticut.

In his research and practice, he was a pioneer in exploring diversity. A PCMH document listing faculty interests records his ‘specialties’ as “homosexuals, children, [and] minorities.” He was ahead of his time in studying personality characteristics of lesbians. In one research effort, he matched lesbian women to heterosexual women by demographic characteristics in seeking comparisons. Heretofore, lesbian women had only been compared with homosexual men. In his career, he had over 90 publications, was Editor of the two-volume New Directions in Mental Health (1968), and co-edited several volumes of the Progress in Clinical Psychology series.

In addition to being a staunch advocate of personal rights and a remarkably accomplished professional, Dr. Riess was an extremely colorful individual. Dr. Jeanne Safer, a research associate of Dr. Riess’ for 25 years at PCMH, has remarked that he was “one of a kind, the most generous mentor, an iconoclast, and the most curious mind I have ever known.” She described him further as “fascinated with research, ideas, and had a lively mind. He had generosity for talented others.” He was held in such high esteem that very famous individuals, such as Dr. David Wechsler, made themselves available for scholarly presentations at PCMH for little or no remuneration.

Dr. Gary VandenBos of APA, who also made PCMH presentations at Dr. Riess’ behest, echoed Dr. Safer’s characterizations. Dr. VandenBos described him as “very warm, very accepting, very inclusive. He always made me feel welcome, included, and valued.” He recounted a Society for Psychotherapy Research dinner meeting with Drs. Bertram Caron, Hans Strupp, Jeanne Safer, and others at which one diner commented on some unique salt and pepper shakers. The next day, Dr. Riess presented those shakers to that diner, remarking that “the corporation always budget(s) for a little shrinkage.”
I never formally met or spoke directly with Dr. Riess. However, during an APA Convention in the mid-‘70s, I collapsed into a seat on a shuttle bus directly behind Dr. Riess, who was talking to a colleague. Between the seats, I glimpsed the profile of a goateed older gentleman with energy in his demeanor and an unmistakable twinkle in his eye. At that time, Dr. Riess had just resumed a graduate faculty role (at The New School) after a gap of nearly 25 years. He remarked, sagely but wryly, that the very same issues that were being discussed in 1950 were still being discussed in the ‘70s, as if he had never left! The conversation then turned to their advancing age. Perhaps not entirely in jest, Dr. Riess animatedly proposed that APA establish “Division 70, the Division of Senescent Psychologists,” to serve the professional needs and interests of that maturing cohort. That’s a proposal that still bears consideration today!

As Historian, I welcome any further information, reminiscences, and anecdotes, etc. regarding this remarkable board certified Specialist at my e-mail address Emu34@aol.com

Notes:

1. The author gratefully acknowledges the personal communications of Drs. Jeanne Safer (11/4/13) and Gary VandenBos (11/5/13), as described and quoted above.

2. The author expresses his thanks to Mr. John McMasters, Executive Assistant at the Postgraduate Center for Mental Health, for providing background information and PCMH documents without which this column could not have been written.

Bibliography


Board and Academy News

American Board of Clinical Health Psychology
Anne C. Dobmeyer, PhD, ABPP, President, ABCHP

The American Board of Clinical Health Psychology (ABCHP) would like to extend warm congratulations to the twelve psychologists who achieved board certification in clinical health psychology in 2013! They include Nicole Frazer, Laura Holcomb, Lisa Kearney, Laura Melton, Amanda Merchant, Nicole Najar, Regina Pavone, Matthew Skinta, Jeannie Sperry, Lekeisha Sumner, Lori Urban, and Kathryn Waggoner.

The ABCHP has been involved in numerous activities over the past year to ensure that psychologists achieving board certification in clinical health psychology have demonstrated the competencies required to provide quality services in this specialty area. In 2013 we continued to have a steadily increasing number of candidates for board certification in clinical health psychology. In fact, over the past five years, ABCHP has seen the greatest percentage increase in Specialists of any ABPP Specialty Board. As we continue to examine more candidates, I appreciate the time that many of you have volunteered to assist with examination activities, as practice sample reviewers and/or oral examiners.
Over the past year, the board has worked to increase our pool of trained oral examiners. In order to more efficiently conduct oral exams, we have made strides in training a group of examiners in Rochester, MN (Mayo Clinic) so that this location is now available as a regular site for oral exams. We are also in the process of training examiners to stand-up an oral exam site in San Antonio, TX.

Board members have worked on improving our manuals and examination processes. In particular, we have improved the standardization of the cases used in the Standardized Clinical Case Assessment and Integration module of the oral exam. We revised our Candidate Manual to improve clarity of our processes as well as provide more objective benchmarks for competencies. Additionally, we are in the final stages of a revision of our Oral Examiners’ Manual.

We had two new appointments to board in 2013. Jeffrey Goodie was appointed to serve as our Credentials Reviewer, and Erica Jarrett accepted an appointment to serve as our Practice Sample Coordinator. We will have some upcoming changes to our board composition in 2014, as well. Paul Hershberger will be rotating off the board as he has completed his appointment as Treasurer/Secretary. Thanks, Paul, for your many years of valuable service to ABCHP. Cynthia Townsend has accepted a 4-year appointment to serve as the incoming Treasurer/Secretary. Cyndy previously served a term as our Practice Sample Coordinator, and we are pleased to have her returning to the board.

Plans for 2014 include continuing to expand our pool of trained oral examiners and finalize revisions to the Oral Examiner Manual. The largest project in the upcoming year, however, will be to develop the processes and competencies that ABCHP will use for the Maintenance of Certification (MOC), in alignment with ABPP requirements for all Specialty Boards to begin offering MOC in January, 2015.

As we continue our efforts to promote high standards in board certification for clinical health psychology, please consider volunteering some of your time. If you are interested in serving as a practice sample reviewer, please contact Dr. Erica Jarrett (ericajarrett@hotmail.com).

Please feel free to contact me (dobmeyera@gmail.com) with any questions or suggestions you might have for the Board. Best wishes for a productive and enjoyable 2014!

American Board of Counseling Psychology
ted Stachowiak, PhD, ABPP, Past President, ABCoP

The American Board of Counseling Psychology is currently engaged in conducting its Periodic Comprehensive Review (PCR). The review is scheduled to be completed in 2015. The foundational and functional competencies adopted by the American Board of Professional Psychology are being incorporated into the revised examination. ABCoP’s Maintenance of Competency (MOC) was submitted to and approved by the ABPP Standards Committee. Thanks to Dr. Tony Kerrigan who agreed to pioneer our MOC efforts as ABCoP’s MOC Coordinator.

As we enter 2014, there are several leadership changes to be recognized. Dr. Sylvia Marotta-Walters was reappointed to a four-year term as ABCoP’s Trustee. She also began serving as ABCoP’s President. Dr. Derek Bergeron will begin serving as Practice Sample Chair, mentored by Dr. Mary O’Leary Wiley, who is now ABCoP’s President Elect. Dr. Laura Palmer is now our Credentials Review Chair, mentored by Dr. Sylvia Marotta-Walters. Dr. Janice LeBel will begin serving as the Oral Examination Chair, mentored by Dr. Charme Davidson, and Dr. Adrienne Barna. Dr. Barna has ended her term as Oral Examination Chair, but will continue to serve ABCoP as Member at Large, and as mentor for oral examinations.
Under Dr. Bergeron’s and Dr. O’Leary Wiley’s leadership, ABCoP has successfully transitioned to implementing Practice Sample reviews using an electronic submission and review process. This change has eliminated the time delays and expense associated with paper-bound practice samples. While there continue to be hurdles that need to be overcome to accommodate the variations in Practice Samples, the use of electronic submissions has been overwhelmingly positive.

ABCoP is deeply indebted to Dr. Davidson for all that she has given to ABCoP and ABPP. On December 31, 2013, Dr. Charme Davidson ended a long tenure as an officer in various capacities with ABCoP. She was elected in 1998 as Practice Sample Chair, followed by her service as President. In addition to serving as an officer for the American Board of Counseling Psychology, Dr. Davidson has served as a mentor to numerous candidates, a reviewer of practice samples, an oral examiner, and as a backup chair of oral examinations. In 2007 she was chief author of ABCoP’s first PCR and the revision of its PCR during 2013 and 2014. During 2013 she developed ABCoP’s Maintenance of Competency document, one of the first approved by ABPP’s Standards Committee. In 2010 she helped to create the ABPP Foundation. She has also served as a member of APA’s Committee on Accreditation.

Truthfully, I feel exhausted just writing about Dr. Davidson’s contributions. The above are the numerous visible contributions that Dr. Davidson made. However, the invisible contributions far outweigh the visible ones – the numerous times that she has served as a consultant to every ABCoP Officer, and to every aspect of the examination process. Dr. Davidson’s presence has been felt throughout the entire board certification process. Her dedication to promoting board certification in Counseling Psychology will be felt for years to come. Even though her tenure as an officer has ended, she will continue to serve ABCoP and ABPP as a member of the MOC Task Force, as a member and strong supporter of the ABPP Foundation, and as an advocate for board specialization. We are deeply honored and privileged to have Dr. Davidson as a treasured member of the American Board of Counseling Psychology.

ABCoP continues to develop a strong working relationship with the American Academy of Counseling Psychology. In September 2013, the American Academy of Counseling Psychology and the American Board of Counseling Psychology met in Golden, Colorado to plan efforts to advance board certification in Counseling Psychology. Some of you may remember that this was a time of major flooding in that part of Colorado, but that fact did not interfere with the outstanding collaboration that resulted from this meeting. The American Board of Counseling Psychology and the American Academy of Counseling Psychology continue to meet every other month via teleconference to work together in the promotion of board certification.

American Academy of Forensic Psychology and American Board of Forensic Psychology

Psychology and Law in the 21st Century

Jeffrey Haun, Nichole Marioni, Erik Schlosser, Lois Condie

The potential for psychologists to work at the nexus of psychology and law was recognized in the early 20th century. In the past 100 years, work within the domain of psychology and law has expanded to a variety of subspecialties, as reflected in a broader span of both practice and research. Journals covering behavioral sciences as it relates to the law, public policy, and both criminal and civil justice and behavior have expanded their breadth and have reached an international audience. Researchers and practitioners routinely present at international conferences, and cross-cultural research and consultative practice are thriving. For example, the president of the American Psychological Association, and ABPP specialist Dr. Donald Bersoff (2013), and colleagues presented on International Perspectives on Law and Psychology at the European Congress of Psychology in Stockholm, Switzerland. And, a number of forensic psychologists participated in the International Academy of Law and Mental Health in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. In addition, Dr. Bersoff has discussed ethics at the International Congress of Psychology in South Africa, as well as, presented at other international conferences.
The news in forensic psychology is both international and local in this article. Dr. Condie discusses developments in international forums, and she is joined by Dr. Erik Schlosser, Dr. Jeffrey Haun, and Dr. Nichole Marioni in their discussions of "A Day in the Life" of a forensic psychologist. The local experiences of forensic psychologists are described in our Day in the Life series to illustrate the new accomplishments of some of our most recently certified forensic psychologists in American Board of Forensic Psychology (ABFP), American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). They describe some of the most influential workshops offered by the American Academy of Forensic Psychology, and some of the recent influential research having direct bearing on their work.

The American Academy of Forensic Psychology (AAFP) workshop series, for many years coordinated by Dr. Alan Goldstein, and more recently by Drs. Richard Frederick, Randy Otto, and Lisa Piechowski, has long been the standard bearer for forensic psychology workshops. A number of workshop series are scheduled annually around the country. In 2014-2015, workshops will be held in Charleston, SC; San Antonio, TX; Scottsdale, AZ; San Diego, CA; Atlanta, GA; Las Vegas, NV; St. Petersburgh, FL; Alexandria, VA; Chicago, IL; and Cincinnati, OH. For more information, see: www.aafpworkshops.com. The American Academy of Forensic Psychology plans to continue this popular workshop series. The Academy also has plans to expand some of the basic workshops to online accessible forums, and to further define and disseminate high quality research and practice standards in the domain of psychology and law. Our membership contributes regularly to this mission by providing high quality workshops, conducting research that carries forward our understanding of the nexus of psychology and law, and by continually setting high standards of practice and serving as a model to the forensic community.

We begin with a description, by two of our new ABFP/ABPP specialists, of valuable AAFP continuing education workshops. Next, we provide a snapshot of a Day in the Life of three forensic psychologists, and a snapshot of how one forensic practitioner utilizes the latest psychology and law literature in his practice. We end with a return from the local to the international forum with a description of how international efforts to preserve human rights and dignity of vulnerable citizens often begin with local efforts. Dr. Condie describes her international workshop series on how international rights preservation for children and elderly individuals begins with and prospers through local efforts. Our newest members are featured first. Their biographies can be found at the end of the article.

**AAFP Workshop**

**Nichole Marioni, PhD, ABPP**

Last June (Neller, 2012), I attended Dr. Daniel Neller’s AAFP presentation on Violence Risk Assessment. I chose this presentation in order to enhance my risk assessment knowledge due to its applicability to my work, and in anticipation of submitting a risk assessment work sample to ABPP as part of my application for board certification in the forensic specialty. As often happens with such learning endeavors, I found the presentation a welcome review of foundational research and clinical practice, as well as an introduction to more in depth concepts. I learned, in greater detail, ways to further improve the quality and accuracy of my work. Although it seemed a bit daunting to submit a risk assessment work sample for ABPP, I forged ahead. The experience highlighted the need of practitioners, whether relatively new in our careers or well-established and seasoned professionals, to continually expand our knowledge, improve upon our current practice, and interface with other forensic psychologists. As a new ABPP specialist, I plan to continually sharpen my skills and increase my knowledge base.

Dr. Neller’s presentation reviewed the historical literature and case law relevant to risk assessment; a variety of assessment methods (unstructured clinical judgment, actuarial assessment, and structured professional judgment); state-of-the-science assessment instruments; and, recent research and case law relevant to risk assessment. An important theme throughout his presentation was the concept of base rates. Dr. Neller illustrated that the most important aspect of risk assessment is the base rate of violence for the population of interest. An often overlooked dimension of forensic assessment practice, base rates are particularly important to consider when working with...
specific populations. Where I practice forensic psychology, a forensic state hospital for pre-adjudicated and sentenced individuals, risk assessments typically are requested for the patients with the most extensive and severe histories of violence. Often patients have been considered too violent to be maintained in the prison and have engaged in ongoing violence even within the protected hospital setting. Understanding base rates helps us to step away from fear of what individuals may do in the future and objectively consider evidence to arrive at our clinical opinions. Risk assessments typically are requested due to concern about the safety of others, and we are accustomed to considering the cost of underestimating risk. However, Dr. Neller reminds us to also consider the cost of an error to the individual being assessed. In his training, he discussed a number of elegant examples of balancing risk, mediators of risk, and civil rights of those we evaluate. After all, what is the cost of error to the individual in question, were one to assume, without clear data, that the individual intended harm? In our efforts to protect the public from harm, we must balance the real risk to society with the civil liberties of those whose future placement and rights depend upon our assessment outcomes. Dr. Neller’s presentation included many strategies and resources to assist the forensic professional in determining base rates as a foundational component of risk assessment. His presentation was consistent with scientific research concerning disintegrative and reintegrative approaches to individuals in the criminal justice system.

**AAFP Workshop**

**Erik N. Schlosser, PhD, ABPP**

I started working for the Utah Department of Corrections in 1999. Having just completed an internship and three years of clinical work in the Department of the Navy, I felt ready for the new job in some ways but was curious to see the reality of working in a prison system. As the new job developed it became apparent that risk assessment would play a larger role than I had anticipated. In order to learn more about the growing developments in this area I attended two workshops by psychologists who were board certified in forensic psychology. The first was offered by Mark Zelig, PhD, from Utah, entitled “Risk Management of Targeted Violence for Law Enforcement Officers.” The second was offered by J. Reid Meloy, PhD, from California, entitled “Violence Risk and Threat Assessment.” Both workshops emphasized the importance of assessing static and dynamic risk factors and provided plenty of case scenarios in which the assessment and formulation of risk management strategies were demonstrated. Looking back, these trainings provided a framework for violence risk assessment that continues to hold up today. They provided an introduction to a language and process that encouraged practitioners to use the most current and relevant research as the basis for one’s assessment and to formulate opinions that address real-world problems and provide feedback to consumers, tailored to their specific needs.

**A Day in the Life of a Forensic Psychologist, Part I**

**Erik N. Schlosser, PhD, ABPP**

After seven years in the Utah Department of Corrections and two years with the New York State Office of Mental Health I decided to venture into private practice specializing in forensic psychology. Five years later I became board certified as a forensic psychologist. The process of becoming board certified was an outgrowth of my experience in private practice, specifically, the desire to receive feedback and to measure my knowledge and ability using a nationalized set of standards by professionals doing similar work. My experience in private practice illustrated that networking opportunities were present, but the bulk of my time was spent working independently, producing evaluations, and conducting consultations and presentations requested by others. One of the most interesting things about private practice was the reality of starting from scratch in every way: creating billing statements, report formats, learning the amount of time it takes from the first conversation about a case to the final process of collecting a fee, and learning how to pace one’s self in terms of hours devoted to work. Issues would arise which, in the past, were handled by someone else but now fell on my shoulders: computer malfunctions, subpoenas being served, and following up on payments due. In the midst of the challenges of the work, the benefits were evident: flexible scheduling, autonomy, and perhaps the biggest benefit of all: the freedom to choose whether or not to participate in ancillary activities such as committee work and volunteerism.
As a state-employed forensic psychologist, my responsibilities are quite varied, contributing greatly to my job satisfaction. A typical day involves conducting forensic evaluations of individuals within a large state forensic mental health system (competence to stand trial, criminal responsibility, civil commitment, violence risk assessment). Depending on the nature of the evaluation, the interviews might occur within a forensic psychiatric institution, county jails, or in a community setting. Occasionally, I am called upon to testify in criminal and probate courts throughout the state. Although I find my clinical work very satisfying, the aspect of my work that is currently most intriguing to me is the opportunity to contribute to influence the greater system within which I work through education and consultation about forensic mental health concepts and best practices. For example, I am currently involved in providing a series of trainings on violence risk management to approximately 500 direct-care staff members in a large forensic institution. I remain passionate about training future forensic psychologists and am heavily involved in our post-doctoral fellowship program. Thus, on a given day I am likely to spend time providing clinical supervision, observing evaluations, reviewing reports, and offering training seminars.

As I sat down to write about a day in my life as a forensic psychologist, I was struck by the fact that there is no typical day. Every day, and every patient, presents new challenges, and that is what I most appreciate about the forensic profession and workplace. The forensic hospital in which I work is the only facility in the state that accepts sentenced state and county inmates, as well as pre-adjudicated detainees. When I entered employment at the hospital, I did so as a ward psychologist. Over time my role changed and I advanced to an administrative role as chief psychologist, overseeing the psychology department and participating on many committees and work groups. Much of my week is spent in clinical and administrative meetings, drafting policies, reviewing documentation, and training and supervising staff members. Through these activities, I have gained immeasurable understanding of the complexity of state mental health and criminal justice systems and how they intersect with one another. I now have a role in which I can directly impact the practices of our hospital. Direct clinical practice and patient contact remain the most interesting part of my job. In the past month I was involved in assessing the adjudicative competence of a pre-trial defendant, performing a risk assessment for a patient whose prison release date is pending, developing a structured behavior plan for a volatile patient with an extensive history of self-injury and aggression, performing a psychological autopsy following a suicide, and conducting a psychological evaluation to determine diagnosis and possible malingering. The variety and textured nature of the cases forces forensic psychologists to push the boundaries of what we know, consult with senior and junior colleagues, and incorporate new strategies and research into practice. From each new case we learn something about the mental health and criminal justice systems, mental illness, current research, and clinical tools. The diversity of cases and psycho-legal questions keeps the work from becoming rote or stale. As forensic psychologists, we are lucky to work in a system and field within which there is unlimited potential for professional and personal growth.

When asked about the latest literature that has direct bearing on my work, I immediately thought of a study recently published by Murrie, Boccacini, Guarnera, and Rufino (2013) that examined the influence adversarial allegiance on the opinions of forensic mental health experts. These researchers sought to build upon previous field studies that demonstrated evidence of adversarial allegiance in the scoring of risk assessment instruments conducted as a part of sexually violent predator (SVP) proceedings (Murrie, Boccaccini, Johnson, & Janke, 2008; Murrie et al., 2009). In this context, adversarial allegiance refers to a presumed tendency for experts to reach conclusions that support the party who retained them (Murrie et al., 2013). Consideration of biases such as adversarial allegiance
has implications for the ethical practice of forensic psychology, which requires that forensic practitioners strive for impartiality and fairness when offering expert opinions (American Psychological Association, 2013).

Acknowledging the potential influence of selection effects on the results of previous field studies, Murrie et al. (2013) examined adversarial allegiance in an experimental design. In the study, 108 forensic psychologists and psychiatrists were paid to review the same four case files after attending a two-day training on two measures commonly employed in sex-offender risk assessment: The Psychopathy Checklist-Revised, Second Edition (PCL-R; Hare, 2003), and the Static-99R (Helmus, Thornton, Hanson, & Babchishin, 2012). Participants were randomly assigned and deceived to believe they were part of a large-scale forensic consultation paid for by either a public defender service or a specialized unit that prosecutes SVP cases. Overall, the scores demonstrated a systematic pattern of adversarial allegiance, such that those who believed they were consulting for the prosecution tended to assign higher risk scores, whereas those who believed they were consulting for the defense assigned lower scores. These allegiance effects were stronger for the PCL-R, which requires greater subjective judgment in scoring, than for the Static 99R.

Although this line of research has thus far focused on a very narrow type of assessment, Murrie et al. (2013) convincingly argued that there is little reason to believe that other types of forensic evaluation are not susceptible to allegiance effects. Accordingly, forensic mental health experts must be aware of the potential influence of adversarial allegiance and take steps (e.g., self-monitoring) to mitigate its impact on their practice (Murrie et al. 2009).

Local Models of Preservation of International Rights
Lois Condie, PhD, ABPP

Above, you heard from forensic psychologists working in local communities, hospitals, and private practices. It might seem like a jump, across oceans and across concepts, to now discuss international research. In our research and consultation, those international efforts begin by recruiting local talent, efforts, and conceptions of rights. Research on public policy and community activism is of interest to those in the field of psychology and law whose work centers on rights preservation for vulnerable populations. The above descriptions of work in the forensic community illustrate that civil rights is an everyday consideration in the setting of the work. Internationally, there are communities of local individuals for whom recognition of rights is a novel endeavor. Dr. Gary Melton is at the forefront of this work and has inspired two generations of psychologists to develop prevention programs that facilitate the preservations of rights, and hence the preservation of psychological wellbeing, in communities. The work began at a local level in a South Carolina community and was quickly expanded beyond U.S. borders to a variety of international communities. Similarly, Dr. Jeanne Brooks-Gunn has illustrated how poverty influences development and has worked to improve practice and raise awareness of social issues that affect the wellbeing of children and families in the United States and internationally. These two research and practice exemplars have influenced the template we use for international consultation on rights preservation for children and elderly individuals.

In her presentations in Berlin and Amsterdam, Dr. Condie discussed applications of local rights-preservation efforts designed to enhance the wellbeing of children and elderly citizens of a diverse set of small communities. The symbolic language of rights-affirming instruments are used as a catalyst (whether formally adopted or not) to promote diversity, quality of care, protection of children and elderly individuals, inclusion, freedom from harm, and the right to a family environment. Governments cannot realistically guarantee access to families, but it is reasonable for states to create environments that are protective and that facilitate close relationships important to children and elderly individuals. Family environment is an objective of state protection that is broader than the family itself (Melton, 1996).

The general principle of taking rights seriously at a local level implies more than grassroots efforts to begin at the beginning (and, of course, the beginning point differs depending upon economic and social variables). Work toward preservation involves significant community collaboration and must be carried out in a manner that respects local
cultural conventions without compromising the individual integrity of children and elderly individuals in those communities. The effectiveness of international human rights law rests upon a foundation of political and legal structures that promote and sustain everyday interactions consistent with individual integrity. Our “all rights is local” movement has built a scaffold of dimensions, economic and social variables, governmental and nongovernmental model initiatives, and other features that move beyond a checklist of the rudiments of basic mental health policies and provisions necessary to preserve international rights. Designed to give children and elderly individuals a meaningful voice in matters affecting them, the template allows local communities to choose from menus of advocacy procedures and mechanisms that are suitable to local cultures and conventions. Rather than using a top-down imposition of international rights, the strategies are designed to promote and strengthen local efforts, beginning with the processes and identified needs that are most important to that local community, in light of their view of the feasibility of implementation (Condie, 2011, 2013).

Summary

Thus, a day in the life of an ABPP specialist working in the domain of psychology and law might involve an evaluation in New York, a consultation in Utah, an administrative meeting in Minnesota, an ethics consultation to psychologists in South Africa, or an analysis of the feasibility of protection policies concerning elderly individuals in rural communities outside Amsterdam. Literature consulted might range from the micro-clinical level to the international preventive level of analysis. An AAFP CE workshop might be presented in Cleveland, or taken on the road to Sweden. As we delve into the ever-shrinking world of the 21st century, the specialty of psychology and law faces many challenges, all of which we embrace as a forensic community.

References


About the Authors

Jeffrey Haun, PsyD, is employed as a forensic psychologist at Minnesota State Operated Forensic Services where he conducts a variety of forensic evaluations and offers training and consultation.

Nichole Marioni, PhD, serves as Chief Psychologist at Central New York Psychiatric Center, where she supervises psychologists and practicum students and conducts a variety of psychological and forensic evaluations with pre-trial and incarcerated adults. She also maintains a small private practice conducting criminal and civil evaluations and teaches undergraduate courses as an adjunct at Cazenovia College.

Erik N. Schlosser, PhD, has worked as a psychologist in the U.S. Navy, the Utah Department of Corrections, and the New York State Office of Mental Health. He is currently in private practice as a forensic psychologist in Clinton, NY.

Lois O. Condie, PhD, is affiliated with Boston Children’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School; she consults to the Social Security Administration; and she teaches on an adjunct basis at Boston College, Boston University, and Harvard University.
American Board of Group Psychology
Sally H. Barlow, PhD, ABPP (Clinical and Group)
Past President, ABGP

The Group Board of Trustees (BOT) worked very diligently this last year to prepare and pass our first ever Periodic Comprehensive Review (PCR), in which we also updated the Exam Manual extensively. Additionally, we have been working on Maintenance of Competency (MOC) revisions that reflect our specialty qualifications. These revisions were also added to the Exam Manual.

Our current board members hail from across the US, from Park City to Boston, New York City to Albuquerque, Austin to Chicago, Los Angeles to Great Neck! We are practicing group psychologists, university professors, group researchers, group consultants, and some of us are happily retired (which is a good thing because being on national boards can be a lot of work). The BOT consists of myself, as outgoing President — (It’s been a lot of work as I said, and I will be glad to pass the gavel to the incoming President); incoming President, Joel Frost; Gloria Batkin Kahn, Past President; Darryl Pure and Lorraine Wodiska, Examination Co-Chairs; Jean Keim, Treasurer; Andrew Eig, Secretary; Tom Lowry, Fellowship; and, Richard Billow and Gil Spielberg, Recruitment. Our honorary retired member, the inimitable Joe Kobos, is missed greatly. Our Diversity Committee chair, Edith Chung, has taken a leave of absence, and we look forward to her return.

With regards to diversity, Dr. Chung along with the remainder of the ABGP board strongly support updating ABPP definitions of diversity to reflect current research and clinical applications. We are unclear why the ABPP definitions have lagged behind extant research. However, it is clear that the American Psychological Association expects not to update their material until late 2014. Their diversity webpage (http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/resources/policy/multicultural-guidelines.aspx) refers to a 2002 document and reflects a few of the struggles—e.g. covering multicultural definitions in one place, while attending to other diversities (disabilities, sexual orientation, socio-economic class) in separate locations. We look forward to an all-encompassing diversity document. Even so, these issues are deemed to be so critical, that ABPP is encouraged to move forward. As stated by President Elect Joel Frost, “We have seen a continuing inconsistency and insufficiency in our ABGP (and ABPP) professional literature regarding diversity. We have, therefore, revised both of our documents to reflect a consistent, as well as sufficient definition of, inclusion of, and inclusive set of categories, which ensures that our professional materials are state-of-the-art.” We welcome other specialties to join us in this effort.

American Board of Organizational and Business Consulting Psychology
Ralph Mortensen, PhD, ABPP
President, ABOBCP

Organizational and Business Consulting Psychology is a relatively small specialty with 43 certified practitioners across the U.S. Our members work in a variety of settings including academia, consulting firms and internal organizational roles. 2013 has been a productive year for our board. In addition to ongoing candidate recruiting and exams, here are some outreach highlights:

We have had conversations with representatives of both APA Division 13 (Consulting Psychology) and Division 14 (Industrial-Organizational Psychology) about the possibility of building on their competency identification efforts to provide credentials for executive coaches. The coaching arena has been a bit of the “Wild West” with few entry requirements and a number of people who operate with no behavioral science training or independent verification of their fitness to provide coaching. There also have been initiatives in this crowded market, particularly by the Internal Coaching Federation, to control and limit business by convincing organizations to insist on ICF certification in spite of its limitations.

A second activity arena has been our conversations with psychologists who work in national security roles for the federal government. Many of their services involve more job performance, leadership and organizationally focused issues rather than traditional mental health or wellness practice. An effective psychologist must have a very good grasp of how the government functions, how teams operate and the characteristics of effective leadership. A challenge is how our Board can gather practice samples yet maintain appropriate safeguards for classified information.
A third initiative, in a similar vein, has been our conversations with military psychologists. Although many enter the armed services to provide essential clinical and counseling psychology support, their roles often evolve to a much greater concentration in non-clinical organizational and leadership issues similar to national security practitioners. Also like national security practitioners, military psychologists often acquire and benefit from grounding in consulting and organizational psychology from independent study, continuing education and hands-on practice.

2014 promises to be an interesting and exciting year as we pursue all three possibilities.

**American Board of Rehabilitation Psychology**

Lester Butt, PhD, ABPP  
Past President, ABRP

Greetings from the American Board of Rehabilitation Psychology!

This has been an eventful year for our Board and Specialty. We have successfully completed several oral examinations in conjunction with our Rehabilitation Psychology Conference, as well as, an additional ‘mid-year’ exam.

- In accord with the desire to expand roles within our Board, we are in the process of redefining our officer positions. Specifically, the former Treasurer role, which was comprised of our internal fiscal management as well as our Rehabilitation Psychology Conference Co-Chair, has been divided along these lines. Additionally, the Secretary position, which involved Candidate monitoring, Oral Examination Lead, and typical secretarial minutes recording, has likewise been sub-divided into clearer lines of demarcation. These changes will render the positions far more manageable as well as provide more Board members the opportunity for heightened involvement.

- Of particular note has been the addition of two new Board members, Tom Kerkhoff (University of Florida) and Kim Gorgens (Denver University). Both are most welcome additions and bring expertise, innovation and energy to our group.

- Our conference was held February 27-March 2, 2014 at the Hyatt Regency Riverwalk in San Antonio, Texas. The conference, sponsored by ABRP and Division 22 (Rehabilitation Psychology) had an array of informative offerings. The day-long pre-conferences included the following: Rehabilitation Psychology: Addressing the Needs of Past and Present Military Personnel in Community; Veterans Health Administration and Department of Defense Settings; and, Rehabilitation Psychology in Critical Care Settings: Evidence-Based Practice and Practice-Based Evidence. There was a track on Mindfulness, as well as, topics as varied as inter-professional teamwork in pain management; outcome measurement; positive psychology in moderate to severe traumatic brain injury; syndromes of impaired consciousness; DSM-5 and ICD-10; psychopharmacology; interventions for reducing substance misuse post-injury; psychosocial issues in pediatric burn care; end of life issues; and, philosophy of mind. There was also our traditional offering of Introductory and Advanced Tracks for the Board Certification in Rehabilitation Psychology.

- Commencing on the first of January, ABRP welcomed the following new officers: Michele Rusin, Ph.D., ABPP (RP) President  
Tom Kerkhoff, Ph.D., ABPP (RP) Vice-President  
Terrie Price, Ph.D., ABPP (RP) Treasurer  
Ellen Snoxell, Ph.D., ABPP (RP) Secretary

- Finally, our Board felt that a narrative from a new Board Certified professional would be enlightening. As a result, the below is offered as a testament to the ABPP process with special focus upon Rehabilitation Psychology.
The process of achieving Board Certification in Rehabilitation Psychology surprised me. I applied as a senior candidate with 22 years of postdoctoral practice, expecting to achieve a credential that validated my background in the field. Although I did receive this validation eventually, I also experienced a period of professional growth that shaped me in ways I did not anticipate.

I completed my internship in 1988-89 at the Louis Stokes Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, where I now work as a staff psychologist and supervisor of interns and residents. While I took my work seriously, in retrospect I believe I had grown rather stale. Board certification gave me a shot in the arm, casting me again in the role of learner rather than teacher, mentee rather than mentor. I found the reversal in roles helpful and revitalizing, although not always comfortable.

I decided to become Board-certified when Cleveland VA started a clinical psychology residency position emphasizing Rehabilitation Psychology. Although I had trained interns for ten years, taking on a resident prompted me to question my own status. It's one thing to supervise interns in a generalist program. However, could I really claim to be a specialist based on my own say-so or did I need to offer proof? The latest training guidelines in Rehabilitation Psychology, which have been circulating in the field for a couple of years, state: “The training director or at least one other supervising psychologist should be board-certified or working to achieve board-certification.” (Stiers, et al., 2012). Even though “should” is not “must,” I took the external verification pathway. I wanted the instant credibility with trainees and prospective employers of my trainees that comes with ABPP certification. Plus, the evolution toward board certification as a requirement rather than an aspiration seems inevitable, especially within the realm of APA-accredited training programs.

The American Board of Rehabilitation Psychology assigned me a mentor, Lester Butt, then President of the Board. I had received great mentorship in the past, most notably from Robert W. Goldberg, PhD, ABPP, my internship Director of Training, current colleague, and Editor Emeritus of The Specialist. However, it had been a long time since anyone new offered mentorship to me. I embarked on a series of telephone calls and in-person conferences at professional meetings focused on my preparation for the practice sample and oral exam. Similar to a trainee, I again encountered questions about my work: What did I do and why did I do it? Did I display the mandated competencies of my specialty? I was reminded of the intrinsic power differential between supervisor and supervisee. The Board had all the power to certify or not certify me, whereas I had basically nothing, save what I could prove through my own efforts. Mentoring helped me find the path between 50 blank pages of a practice sample and far-from-perfect first efforts at role-playing an oral exam. As I prepared for Board Certification, I noticed that my approach to supervision took greater form of highlighting how a given case would enable a resident to employ functional competencies. “Let's use this case to work on your assessment competency,” I would say, or “This is a case where you can practice your team consultation skills.” Heightened awareness of my own clinical purpose enhanced my teaching as well as my service provision.

Besides the mentoring, I found that preparing for the Oral Exam consolidated my ability to convey knowledge. Books and journals I had sitting on my shelf that I should read, I actually read. I committed things to memory for a change. Although I do not expect to sustain the intense focus and concentration I was able to muster prior to the exam date, the preparation has given me a stronger foundation in the literature, not to mention a huge pile of papers and some new books.

Cleveland VA received a Site Visit from APA to accredit our Rehabilitation Psychology residency for the first time. The night before the visit, I received notification that I had been awarded certification. One of the site visitors told me that he had planned to inquire where I stood with respect to ABPP. Although our accreditation is pending at the moment, being able to say I was already a specialist was a great feeling. After I passed the exam, my rehab colleagues threw me a little celebration with a sign that says it all: Practice Sample: $250, Oral Exam: $450, Achieving ABPP...Priceless.
As I leave my present position as President of the American Board of Rehabilitation Psychology, I want to thank all Board members for this opportunity to serve. You are an amazing group of professionals and display a wealth of intellect, compassion, commitment and humanism. I will always treasure this time as one of the highlights of my career. Wishing all a productive and joyous New Year.

American Academy of School Psychology and American Board of School Psychology
Shelley Pelletier, PhD, ABPP, AASP President
Michael Tansy, PhD, ABPP, ABSP President

The American Board of School Psychology (ABSP) and the American Academy of School Psychology (AASP) continue to work closely and harmoniously toward our shared goal of increasing the number of school psychologists who become board certified. Currently, through our combined efforts we have more candidates in our pipeline than any time in our history. Additionally, we have a number of Early Entry Option applicants awaiting licensure so they may then apply for candidacy in School Psychology.

The ABSP is comprised of Michael Tansy (President), Hedy Teglasi (Vice-President/Secretary), Cynthia Riccio (Vice President/Treasurer), Judith Kaufman (Director of Examinations and Director of Mentoring), Tony Wu (Practice Samples Reviewer), and Roger Kaufman (Credential Reviewer). The AASP Executive Committee is comprised of Shelley Pelletier (President), Shawn Powell (Past-President), Robyn Hess (President-Elect), Thomas Huberty (Treasurer), and Walter Pryswansky (Secretary). We thank the board and the executive committee for their tremendous commitment to ABPP demonstrated by their hard work.

In addition to his service on the ABSP, Michael Tansy served as the School Specialty’s representative to the ABPP Board of Trustees. In this capacity he participated in the AASP EC leadership in an ad hoc role, informing the ABSP and the AASP EC of ongoing Board of Trustees matters.

While the Board and Academy Executive Committee conducted separate business through email and telephonic meetings, both groups met in person separately and in a joint meeting at the APA Convention in Honolulu.

The ABSP and AASP EC are truly dedicated to the field and future of School Psychology. The AASP EC has continued to focus on increasing the number of applicants for board certification in school psychology. Our efforts have been supported, in part through a grant we received from the ABPP Board of Trustees. Referred to as the "1200 Initiative," we have anticipated that there are approximately 1200 licensed psychologists who are eligible to apply for board certification in school psychology. Shawn Powell organized outreach to an initial pool of over 850 licensed psychologists who are members of APA’s Division 16. He has contacted these individuals and encouraged them to consider applying for board certification.

Our efforts to promote awareness of board certification in school psychology and to recruit qualified applicants have also included a special session on becoming board certified in school psychology at the NASP convention in Seattle on February 14th, 2013. We will hold a similar session at NASP in Washington, D.C., in 2014. Additionally, Shawn Powell organized and moderated a Q & A telephone conference call with over 30 attendees from throughout the country asking Shelley Pelletier and Michael Tansy detailed questions about obtaining board certification. These endeavors have been quite successful and have generated additional interest and applications.
2014 AASP and ABSP Leadership

The 2014 AASP Executive Committee will be comprised of Robyn Hess (President), Linda Caterino (President-Elect), Shelley Pelletier (Past President), Erica Weiler-Timmins (Secretary), and Thomas Huberty (Treasurer). In 2014, the ABSP will be comprised of Judith Kaufman (President and Director of Mentoring), Hedy Teglasi (VP-Secretary), Cynthia Riccio (VP-Treasurer), Shawn Powell (Director of Examinations), Tony Wu (Practice Samples Reviewer), and Roger Kaufman (Credential Reviewer).

Diversity in School Psychology

Diversity is a value to the School Specialty. Increasing diversity and developing awareness of the impact of diversity within school psychology are essential to our future. We are especially pleased to highlight Dr. Tony Wu, an AASP Fellow and ABSP Board member, who recently published an article in the National Association of School Psychologist's Communiqué regarding issues related to diversity as they can impact supervisory relationships.

Irwin Hyman and Nadine Lambert Memorial Scholarships

Since 2005, the American Academy of School Psychology has distributed over $40,000 in Hyman and Lambert Scholarship funds. In 2013, the Academy awarded four $1,000 scholarships to outstanding school psychology doctoral students, who are identified below. We will continue to offer this program and encourage exceptional school psychology students to apply for these esteemed annual scholarships in subsequent years. As has been the practice for several years, graduate student applicants were reviewed by the AASP Past President, President, and President Elect.

The Academy appreciates the generosity of their scholarship donors, including:

- Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs (CDSP)
- Multi-Health Systems (MHS)
- PAR
- Woodcock-Munoz Foundation
- Contributing AASP Fellows

The scholarships are available as a result of the generous donations from these sponsors. We thank them for their support! Individuals and organizations are encouraged to support school psychology by making a donation to our fund through the ABPP Foundation.

2013 Irwin Hyman and Nadine Lambert Scholarship Recipients

Ms. Charity Brown Griffin is near completion of a doctoral degree in school psychology at the University of South Carolina. Dr. Shauna Cooper recommended her for the award. Her scholarship efforts have focused on issues related to cultural and racial factors related to achievement, and increasing awareness of racial diversity within the field of school psychology.

Ms. Susan Jarmuz-Smith is near completion of a doctoral degree in school psychology at the University of Southern Maine. She was recommended for the award by Drs. Rachel Brown and Patti Harrison. She has served as a leader in a local school psychology organization and in NASP. Given her prior career in the IT field, it is not surprising that many of her publications and research efforts have focused on the relevance and application of technology for children and practice.
Mr. Austin Johnson is near completion of a doctoral degree in educational psychology, with a concentration in school psychology, at the University of Connecticut. Dr. Sandra Chafouleas recommended him for the award. His scholarship efforts have focused on assessment and intervention, particularly positive behavioral interventions and supports with children with challenging behaviors.

Ms. Roxanne Scott is near completion of a doctoral degree in school psychology at the University of Arizona. She was recommended by Dr. Michelle Perfect. Ms. Scott has been quite involved in student leadership roles in Arizona, and within NASP. Her research efforts have focused on issues related to child maltreatment and behavioral health interventions.

Pictured: Hyman-Lambert Scholarship recipients Austin Johnson, Charity Brown Griffin, and Roxanne Scott

2013 APA Convention, Honolulu

The 2013 APA Convention, was held on Oahu, in August. The annual AASP Fellowship Breakfast was held at the Hale Koa Hotel on Waikiki Beach. The breakfast was attended by 30 individuals, including Academy Fellows, psychologists interested in becoming board certified, NASP leaders, and three of our Hyman-Lambert Scholarship recipients (pictured above) and their guests.

Fellows of the Academy participated in additional meetings held at APA included the ABPP Convocation, the annual meeting of CPPSA, and the annual AASP-ABSP joint meeting. At the ABPP convocation new AASP specialists were honored.

New AASP Specialists

Dr. Susan Calhoun is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at Penn State College of Medicine conducting research and teaching child psychiatry fellows with a focus on autism, ADHD and sleep disorders in children. She also provides diagnostic clinic services through the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center.

Dr. Nichole Adams is the Nassau BOCES Special Education Department chief psychologist, where she supervises a team of more than 80 clinicians who provide counseling to 1,600 Nassau BOCES students in the agency’s 10 special education schools. She is also an adjunct professor of psychology at Adelphi University.

A Thank You to Fellows for their Involvement

The success of the School Specialty is based on the voluntary efforts of the Fellows. All Academy Fellows are encouraged to support the Academy and the Board by getting involved. We thank those who have mentored candidates, including Shawn Powell, Tom Huberty, Robyn Hess, Shelley Pelletier, Catherine Fiorello, Linda Caterino, Jon Sandoval, David Wodrich, Jeffrey Miller, Hedy Teglasi, and Donald Bersoff. Additionally, we thank those Fellows who served as examiners in 2013 including, Rosemary Flanagan, John DeRochers, Shelley Pelletier, Jeffrey Miller, Hedy Teglasi, and Tom Huberty.

Please don’t hesitate to contact any member of the Academy or Board to volunteer for future leadership roles or to serve as a candidate mentor or examiner.
ABPP 2014 Awards

At the recent Board of Trustees meeting, the following awardees were selected. Watch for an update in the next issue of the Specialist. The awards will be presented at the ABPP Convocation in August at the APA Convention. Congratulations to these deserving recipients!

**Russell Bent Award for Distinguished Service and Contributions to the American Board of Professional Psychology:**
Christine Maguth Nezu, PhD, ABPP

**The ABPP Distinguished Service to the Profession Award:**
John E. Lochman, PhD, ABPP

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New ABPP Appointments

Please welcome the following specialists, who recently joined, or started new roles on, the ABPP Board of Trustees:

Randy K. Otto, PhD, ABPP (President – Executive Committee)
Michael E. Tansy, PhD, ABPP (President Elect – Executive Committee)
Christine M. Dacey, PhD, ABPP (Clinical Psychology)
Linda Carter Sobell, PhD, ABPP (Cognitive & Behavioral Psychology)
Shelley F. Pelletier, PhD, ABPP (School Psychology)
Jeanne M. Galvin (Public Member)
Katherine S. Jones, PhD, ABPP (Editor, *the Specialist*)

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Newly Certified Specialists
(July, 2013 through December, 2013)

**Clinical Child & Adolescent Psychology**
Maysa D. Akbar, PhD
Rebecca J. Johnson, PhD
Stephon N. Proctor, PhD
Patrick B. Reilly, PhD

**Clinical Health Psychology**
Laura E. Holcomb, PhD
Nicole R. Najar, PsyD
Matthew D. Skinta, PhD
Lori A. Urban, PsyD

**Clinical Neuropsychology**
Anne L. Barba, PhD
Christopher H. Bassin, PsyD
Brandon C. Baughman, PhD
Beth A. Caillouet, PhD
Cammy L. Chicota, PhD
Robert R. Fallows, PsyD
Julie A. Fields, PhD

**Clinical Neuropsychology (cont.)**
Ernest Fung, PsyD
Jennifer Geiger, PhD
Leslie Guidotti Breting, PhD
Phil F. Icard, II, PhD
Dawn L. Ilardi, PhD
Stacie A. Leffard, PhD
Liv E. Miller, PsyD
Kelli L. Netson, PhD
Doyle E. Patton, PhD
Suzanne K. Pierson, PhD
Stephanie K. Powell, PhD
Laura Renteria, PhD
June Restrepo, PhD
Joseph R. Sadek, PhD
Karen M. Sanders, PhD
Jacqueline H. Sanz, PhD
Ryan W. Schroeder, PsyD
Andrea R. Schwarte, PhD
Nikki H. Stricker, PhD
Yana Suchy, PhD

**Clinical Neuropsychology (cont.)**
Wendy A. VanVoorst, PhD
Sara L. Weisenbach, PhD
Bonnie Wong, PhD
Susan C. Woolley-Leving, PhD
Christine L. Yantz, PhD
Jonathan C. Young, PhD

**Clinical Psychology**
Randy P. Auerbach, PhD
Teri A. Bolte, PhD
Christopher S. Brown, PsyD
Julian Ford, PhD
Scott A. Gustafson, PsyD
Lea Laffoon, PsyD
Michelle M. Lee, PhD
John Lefkowits, PhD
Marc J. Mann, PhD
Joanne T. Marengo, PhD
Newly Certified Specialists (cont.)
(July, 2013 through December, 2013)

Clinical Psychology (cont.)
Ellen J. Marx, PsyD
Maria S. Noce, PsyD
Rahema Rodgers, PsyD
Lara A. Ray, PhD
Kristin J.P. Rodzinka, PhD
Jessica R. Schultz Fischer, PhD
Ja'net M. Seward, PsyD
Joshua W. Shuman, PsyD
David S. Tubman, PsyD
Ann M. Wagner, PhD
Jason Wise, PsyD

Cognitive & Behavioral Psychology (cont.)
Jennifer M. Hill, PhD
Roger K. McFillin, PsyD
Lening A. Olivera Figueroa, PsyD
Philip J. Pellegrino, PsyD
Josh S. Spitalnick, PhD
Denis G. Sukhodolsky, PhD

Counseling Psychology
Andrew S. Berry, PhD, PsyD

Couple & Family Psychology
Lyn R. Greenberg, PhD

Forensic Psychology
Dia B. Boutwell, PhD
Kostas A. Katsavdakis, PhD
Nichole L. Marioni, PhD
Erik N. Schlosser, PhD

Police & Public Safety Psychology
Scott W. Allen, PhD
Darlene P. Hoyt, PhD
Ellen M. Scrivner, PhD
John F. Warren, III, PhD
Elizabeth K. White, PhD

Rehabilitation Psychology
Thomas M. Dixon, PhD
Jessica W. McWhorter, PhD

Deceased Specialists
(July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013)

Hoyt M. Gilley, PhD, ABPP Clinical Psychology

Robert D. Langston, PhD, ABPP Clinical Psychology
ABPP 2014 Conference & Workshops
May 14-17, 2014

Special Complimentary APA Site Visitor Training Pre-Conference
May 13, 2014

The ABPP Conference & Workshops will be held in Chicago, IL May 14-17, 2014. A number of exciting continuing professional development workshops will be presented as well as a complimentary workshop to train APA site visitors.

Continuing Education credit will be available for the all of the workshops as well as the site visitor training. We hope you will join us, and that you will also take advantage of the free APA Site Visitor training designed to prepare you to engage in accreditation visits for doctoral programs or internship and postdoctoral residency programs.

The ABPP Conference & Workshops will be held at the Conrad Hilton Hotel, where you are invited to experience intuitive service and comfortable, upscale accommodations at this award-winning hotel perfectly located on the Magnificent Mile. The Conrad Chicago combines a premium location with plentiful value incentives to effortlessly connect their guests to everything they might need and everything downtown Chicago has to offer. The ABPP RATE $225 (if booked by April 13, 2014, after deadline space and rates are based on availability) and is valid for stays May 10th - 20th, 2014.

The full listing of workshops follows. More details, and the online registration process, may be accessed at https://www.abpp.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3522
## ABPP 2014 Conference & Workshop Schedule

**May 13-17, 2014**

### Tuesday May 13, 2014

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-4:30pm</td>
<td>CoA Accreditation Doctoral Program Site Visitor Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>CoA Accreditation Internship and Postdoctoral Site Visitor Workshop</td>
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### Wednesday May 14, 2014

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<tr>
<td>8:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Hot Topics in Ethics &amp; Risk Management in Psychological Practice</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Helping Patients &amp; Families Cope: Medical Crisis, Chronic Illness, &amp; Loss</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30-11:45am</td>
<td>Preparing for ABPP Board Certification: Choosing a Specialty Board &amp; Application Process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-11:45am</td>
<td>Clinical Practice &amp; Information Sharing: HIPAA, State Confidentiality Laws &amp; Other Legal Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Preparing Practice Samples for ABPP Board Certification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Clinical Practice &amp; Malpractice</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Thursday May 15, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>DSM-5: The Journey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Using Motivational Interviewing Strategies &amp; Techniques to Help Patients Change Risky/Problem Behaviors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Current Challenges in Psychological Assessments of Police &amp; Public Safety Candidates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-11:45am</td>
<td>The Collaborative Psychologist: Developing &amp; Thriving in an Interprofessional Mental Health Practice in the Era of Health Care Reform</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-11:45am</td>
<td>Ethical Issues in the Practice of Clinical Psychology</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Friday May 16, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Successful Collaborations with Health Care Providers: Opportunities, Models and Guidelines for Psychologists Practicing In and Outside Primary Care &amp; Specialty Medical Settings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Neuropsychology for Non-Neuropsychologists</td>
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### Saturday May 17, 2014

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Assessment of Threatening Behavior &amp; Violence Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Evidence-Based Assessment of Learning Disabilities &amp; ADHD in Late Adolescents &amp; Adults</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-4:45pm</td>
<td>Moving your Psychology Practice to Primary Care &amp; Specialty Medical Settings: Competencies, Collaborations, &amp; Contracts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30-11:45am</td>
<td>Navigating the Legal System: the Treating Psychologist goes to Court</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Winter 2014 37
Join us for the

2015 ABPP Annual Conference and Workshops
May 27-30, 2015

SAN DIEGO

Details coming soon on our website. Visit www.abpp.org for more information.

Save the Date!

Winter 2014