



Nevada Psychological Association

NPA News

The Voice of Psychology in Nevada

2012 Spring Newsletter

~ ~ ~ ~ ~ A Message from our President ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

As I embark on my journey as president of NPA for the 2012-2013 year, I would like to first give a heartfelt thank you to all who have contributed to our state psychological association over the years. Many of you have volunteered your time and energy to keep this organization surviving and thriving. Whether you have served on the board or a committee, hosted an event, lobbied in D.C., attended a C.E. and/or paid your membership dues, we all have worked together on behalf of the profession of psychology in Nevada.

In the upcoming year I have three main initiatives. **The first is to ensure that NPA is taking a proactive stance with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) in Nevada.** Katherine Nordal, Ph.D., executive director of APA has stated “if psychologists are not at the table it is because we are on the menu.” We need to make our voices heard.

My second initiative as President is to educate other professionals and the community about the essential role psychologists play in the prevention, management, and treatment of chronic illness and the health care system in general. With ACA comes a strong push towards preventative and integrative care. The government’s federal emphasis on a mind-body approach to wellness is long overdue, as diseases related to lifestyle behaviors are key factors in our current leading causes of death (certain cancers, heart disease, type II diabetes, etc.). All too often, patients who present with sleep disturbances, anxiety, depression, pain, etc. are being treated solely with pharmaceuticals, rather than referring to psychologists for evidenced-based behavioral interventions. Through educating the community and other professionals about the vital role psychologists plays in overall health and wellness, and partnering with other professions in a collaborative way, it is my hope that physicians and other professionals will increasingly refer to and include psychologists as an essential part in the prevention and treatment process.

My third initiative is to keep NPA current on ways to safely and ethically utilize digital media for service delivery and electronic record keeping. With the ACA there is an unprecedented emphasis on electronic communications and telemedicine. This is exciting as it opens windows of possibilities with regards to access to care. However, since there are not yet formal guidelines for psychologists in this realm, the digital era poses novel, complicated ethical and legal risks. For this reason, NPA brought Jeffrey Younggren, Ph.D. from APAIT to Reno in January to talk about risk management in the digital era. Younggren warned that changes in health care delivery through electronic means are going forward whether psychologists like it or not and “if we don’t develop our own guidelines, someone is going to do it for us.” Younggren emphasized the need to get educated and stay current as best as we can by attending regular CE events, learning from others within and outside of our profession, consulting, and documenting our efforts to make informed decisions. Younggren warned of increasing ethical dilemmas and risk for litigation when it comes to digital media. According to Younggren, “professional isolation” is the riskiest thing you can do. All the more reason to be an active member of NPA!

With your membership and involvement in NPA comes the benefit of having your finger on the pulse of the legislative, economic, technological, and cultural climate of our profession. There is strength in numbers and it is important for us to support one another across specialty areas and practice settings within psychology, whether that is private practice, academia, hospital setting, etc. We need to band together by our common interests, stay educated, educate others, get involved, adapt and continue to protect the field of psychology.

I have always been proud and grateful to be a psychologist and especially a part of NPA. My sense of pride was further validated when I went to State Leadership Conference in March. Sitting with all of the other presidents-elect, I realized that although NPA may be small (actually “very small”) we are mighty. We have a strong legacy of dedicated, passionate, skillful, fun members and a wonderful variety of seasoned veterans to early career and student members. I am excited and honored to have the opportunity to be president of NPA.

With gratitude,

Lindsey Ricciardi, Ph.D.
President, Nevada Psychological Association

Upcoming Events:

- **June 22nd, 2012**
Chronic Pain and Addiction
Mel Pohl, Ph.D., Leanne Earnest, Ph.D.
Las Vegas 6 CEs
- **August 11th, 2012**
Comprehensive Behavioral Intervention for Tics (CBIT)
John Piacentini, Ph.D.
Reno 6 CEs
- **September—October, 2012**
MBSR for Mental Health Professionals
Colleen Camenisch
Reno 22 CEs
- **November 17th, 2012**
Ethics & Ethical Decision Making For Nevada Psychologists
Stephen Behnke, Ph.D.
Las Vegas 6 CEs
- **November 29th - Dec 1st, 2012**
Dialectical Behavior Therapy Intensive Clinical Training: Part I
Alan Fruzzetti, Ph.D.
Las Vegas Up to 60 CEs

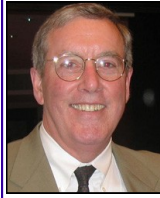


Inside this issue:

Announcements	2
Past President letter	3
Lobbyist Update	4/5
Strategic Planning	7
2012-2013 Board	8
Regional Updates	10/11
Malingerer Article	12/13
Classifieds	15

2012 Award Winners

James Mikawa Award for Outstanding Contributions to the Field of Psychology



NPA is pleased to present this award to **John Friel, Ph.D.** for his 20+ years of treatment in the mental health and chemical dependency fields, his ClearLife/Lifeworks Clinic Program (Couples Therapy and Family Reconciliation), and his professional speaking and consultation with business and industry. NPA recognizes his contribution in bringing psychological support to many people, with at least eight self-improvement books. We also applaud his efforts with NPA, for many years of service on the Executive and Regional Boards, participation in Strategic Planning meetings and willingness to play a mentorship and training role with emerging psychologists at many levels. Thanks also for valuing and supporting training initiatives such as the NPA Training Consortium (NPATC) and other NPA legislative and mental health initiatives.

“Psychologist of the Year” Outstanding Contribution Awards

NPA is pleased to present this award to **Leanne Earnest, Ph.D.** for her efforts serving on the Southern Regional Board and 6 years as Secretary of the NPA Executive Board, helping to establish an Early Career Psychologist (ECP) initiative within NPA, developing a Business of Practice Network (BOPN) committee in the southern region, and participation for three years on the Mental Health Subcommittee on Public Education for the Children’s Consortium in NV. She revived, re-energized and has continued to serve on the Public Education Campaign (PEC), having developed a partnership between PEC and the YMCA and participation in the annual Healthy Kids Day in Las Vegas as well as a Carson City legislative event. NPA also recognizes her for her many contributions to our CE Committee such as organizing well-received Ethics trainings and an intensive Dialectical Behavior Therapy training.



NPA also recognizes **Lindsey Ricciardi, Ph.D.** for her efforts with NPA, which started with her involvement as an APAGS and UNLV student representative. She has participated in numerous ways, including service with the CE, Budget, Legislative and Membership committees. She served five years on the Southern Region Board, including two years as President. Dr. Ricciardi’s contributions progressed last year to the NPA Executive Board as President-Elect and now President. We appreciate and applaud her significant NPA contributions

Outstanding Advocacy Awards

NPA recognizes **Gary Lenkeit, Ph.D.** for his efforts as Federal Advocacy Coordinator, serving since 1997 and traveling to State Leadership Conference in Washington DC 13 of those 15 years. He has contributed much to preserving the scope of practice for psychologists and protection of the public in his roles on the Board of Psychological Examiners. He has been invaluable in his position as president of the Board this year, as well as his work during previous years writing practice parameters such as those for behavior analysts and psychologists. We also recognize and thank him for his mentorship of psychology students and ECPs, through his role as Director of Clinical Training for NPATC and past roles as NPA President (twice), Treasurer, Southern Region President and various committees.



NPA recognizes **Judy Phoenix, Ph.D.** for her efforts serving on NPA’s Legislative Committee intermittently from the early 1990s, continuing for approximately 8 years since the 80’s until the present. From 1998 to present, she was often the Legislative Chair or Co-Chair, ever ready to testify to the state legislature. She was a founding member of NSPA and her advocacy efforts also led to the first grant request to APA to hire someone to stay abreast of and provide NPA notice of relevant bills in the legislature. Her message of education and advocacy was clearly heard as Editor of the NV Psychologist newsletter in the 1990s as well as contributing to many later NSPA and NPA newsletters. She joined fellow NPA leaders multiple times at SLC in Washington DC to hone her leadership skills and lobby our NV delegates on Capitol Hill.

Special Recognition Awards

NPA also recognizes **Wendi O’Connor** for her service as Executive Director of NPA. Her expertise in bookkeeping and tax preparation has been invaluable over the past 3 years and NPA is most grateful for her efforts to organize and streamline NPA’s finances, cutting unnecessary costs and increasing non-dues revenue streams. We admire her ambition and passion for NPA and her ability to seek out and secure successful partnerships with other organizations, SPTAs and businesses. Feedback from members has been overwhelmingly positive about how helpful, pleasant and efficient she is with CE and general office concerns.



NPA recognizes **Laverta Mackie** for her 24 years of service as the Executive Director for the Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners. In that time, she oversaw the licensure of more than 450 psychologists in Nevada. Most would describe their interactions with Laverta as warm, caring, knowledgeable and generally helpful. It was undoubtedly challenging at times, as people experienced the anxiety of becoming licensed as a psychologist or during response to a Board complaint. NPA recognizes her kind, helpful, and efficient service with the Board as significant, important and praiseworthy.

CONGRATULATIONS!

NPA
Recognizes
the
Hard Work
Of its
Members
at our
2012
Annual
Business
Meeting!

A Letter from our Past President

Greetings Dear NPA Colleagues,

I say farewell to my NPA Presidency year, full of admiration and gratitude for the dedicated volunteers of NPA, whose efforts help this **very small** organization accomplish so much! It has truly been an honor to serve as your president and to labor beside you for the benefit of NPA members and for advocacy of psychology in Nevada.

Last year my overarching goals of increasing networking opportunities and improving the communications capabilities of NPA included five major targets areas. Goal one, professional networking, to increase knowledge about the valuable and unique contributions psychologists make within our communities. This initiative had robust efforts amongst other mental health professionals, physicians, and legislators. Professional networking expanded through continuing education (CE) workshops, legislative gatherings, advocacy efforts, as well as through socials such as the 5th Annual (Southern Region) Psychology and Psychiatry Holiday Mixer. NPA has also become known as a voice of advocacy in the Nevada Legislature, through spoken and written testimony. Legislative session 2011 was incredibly busy. Numerous bills threatened to cut mental/behavioral health services and threatened to encroach on psychologists' scope of practice, as well as bills that could leave the public unprotected from services without board oversight. NPA is now sought out by legislators for information regarding bills, often through our outstanding lobbyist, Bryan Gresh.

Goal two was increased networking within NPA membership. Our membership grew and meeting attendance increased, thanks to the efforts of the regions and committees. For example, strategic planning last year was one of the largest ever. Several seasoned members re-joined committees, and shared their wisdom with early career psychologists (ECP) and graduate students. This collaborative mentorship has contributed to the executive board and most of the northern and southern regional board positions being held by early career psychologists!

Goal three was to continue increasing member driven, high quality, CE workshops. Thanks to a very talented and committed members of the CE committee, NPA has provided state-of-the art workshops such as Intensive Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT), Psychopharmacology, Risk Management in the Digital Era, and Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction (MBSR), to name a few.

Goal four was to continue improving the technology and communications capabilities of NPA. We now have an NPA Facebook page (sign on and 'Like' us!), an ever improving website, an interactive listserve, options for member websites through the NPA site, and discounted professional services such as Affinipay credit card processing. NPA is also committed to become more environmentally-friendly and "green."

Goal five was to promote psychologists' strengths and value as integrated health providers, in tandem with the health care reform and Affordable Care Act (ACA) initiatives that are already upon us. Sadly, this area has been slow to develop in NV. Many states in America already have integrated health care models for patients to receive whole-person care more efficiently. This area needs much attention in NV and it is **imperative** that psychologists be at the table and part of the planning, in order to be included in the new service delivery models. Please join in the conversations wherever they are occurring and advise NPA of your efforts, so we can help get psychologists to the planning tables. Health care in NV will surely suffer without the expertise psychologists have to offer in so many aspects of mental, behavioral, and overall health management. Additionally, segments of our diverse population stand to suffer without our voice of advocacy and attention to multi-cultural concerns.

I look forward to a new year, serving in the past-President role, several committees, as well as continuing to work alongside two passionate and talented psychologists, Lindsey Ricciardi, PhD (President) and Melanie Crawford, PhD, (President-Elect). It is also a joy to interact with such a dynamic and proficient Executive Director, Wendi O'Connor.

I invite you to be a part of this vibrant organization through membership renewal, and ideally through participation with a committee. Involvement with NPA is a great way to provide input, build professional connections, advocate for psychology in NV, and help NPA preserve and promote our field. Hope to talk and/or work with you soon!

Respectfully,



Lisa M. Linning, Ph.D.
Past President, Nevada Psychological Association

The View From Carson City *by Bryan Gresh, NPA Lobbyist*



Though not obvious to the casual observer, Nevada legislative races—and individual political agendas—are in full bloom this spring. For the Nevada Psychological Association, that means months of meetings, phone calls and emails have already taken place as we prepare for yet another session of the Nevada State Legislature. The 77th Session will commence on February 4th, 2013. Does that seem like a far off date, way beyond the familiar string of holidays and observances on our work calendars? It really isn't. Actually, the ramp up to 2013 Session began not too long after the 2011 Session ended in early June of last year.

What did NPA accomplish during the 76th biennial get-together of state lawmakers? Though your Legislative Committee weighed in on approximately three dozen bills, a few in which we were especially active deserve a mention here.

Let's take a look:

Senate Bill 190 *Provides for the licensure of music therapists.* http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/76th2011/Bills/SB/SB190_EN.pdf This bill provides for the licensure and regulation of music therapists and makes it unlawful to practice music therapy or hold oneself out as a music therapist without a license. The bill makes the State Board of Health the licensing entity for music therapists and establishes the requirements and fee for licensure to practice as a music therapist. Senator Mo Denis (D-Las Vegas), the sponsor of the bill worked closely with NPA along with Marriage and Family Therapists. Although not perfect, the combined efforts of psychologists and MFTs greatly improved the original language. We continued working on the bill with Senator Denis until just a week was left in the session before reaching an agreeable compromise. We are watching the effects of this new law during the interim to determine what 'tweaks' might be necessary during the 2013 session.

Assembly Bill 316 *Establishes provisions relating to persons with autism.* http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/76th2011/Bills/AB/AB316_EN.pdf Assemblywoman Melissa Woodbury (R-Henderson) sponsored this bill. The bill provides for a statewide standard for measuring outcomes and assessing and evaluating persons with autism spectrum disorders through the age of 21 for the purposes of receiving services. The bill established the Autism Treatment Assistance Program to provide and coordinate the provision of services to persons with autism spectrum disorders. NPA's former Legislative Chair, Dr. Michelle Carro, worked tirelessly on appropriate amendment language. I was able to work alongside Assemblywoman Woodbury and testify on behalf of NPA during the bill's hearing in the state Senate on the final weekend of the session. The bill passed unanimously out of both houses.

Senate Bill 294 *Establishes provisions governing medical assistants.* http://www.leg.state.nv.us/Session/76th2011/Bills/SB/SB294_EN.pdf Senator Barbara Cegavske (R- Las Vegas) was the sponsor of this bill. SB 294 authorizes medical assistants, under the supervision of a physician or physician assistant, to possess and administer dangerous drugs under certain circumstances. But that's not what is of interest to us here. An amendment was adopted during a Conference Committee with just hours remaining in the session. That action is of significant interest to NPA in the Autism arena. The amendment revises the requirements for licensure as a behavior analyst or assistant behavior analyst to provide that the applicant must hold current certification as a board certified behavior analyst or board certified assistant behavior analyst, as applicable, issued by the Behavior Analyst Certification Board, Inc. The amendment also expands the requirements for a certificate as an autism behavior interventionist to include the completion of a practical examination developed and approved by the Board. The medical assistants' bill passed both houses unanimously and the Conference Committee amendment with the BA language was adopted late on the last day of the 2011 session.



www.greshgroup.com

The View From Carson City by Bryan Gresh, NPA Lobbyist

Three of three dozen bills NPA toiled on during the last session. Different bills, different subject matters, but one underlying thread. Notice the timelines for each; look at how NPA participated in those bills *at the very end*. That's what our involvement, our credibility has achieved during the many years of taking part in the legislative process—the opportunity to be at the table throughout the entire debate and having a place there when others have left the room. NPA is involved until the bitter end.

Knowing when to engage, when to push our points and when to dialogue to achieve a reasonable outcome for our members—that's what we work on whether we're in Carson City during the constitutionally-mandated 120 day Legislative session, or during the interim, that time when folks can breathe, and let the issues breathe as well.

And while incumbents and candidates jockey for position in the upcoming General Election this fall, NPA has been involved in meeting with those who hope to return and those who want the chance to serve. We tell them who we are, and what we're about. We discuss the issues that matter to our members. We aim to protect the profession of Psychology while ensuring Nevada's laws are crafted by the best practices in the field, and by science.

Though home to 2.7 million of us, Nevada is still a small state. The faces you nod acknowledgement to in the legislative hallways one year become friends the next. Later, those friends become colleagues, people you wind up working with on the issues years down the road.

The Nevada Psychological Association works on the issues. As a member, YOU can work on the issues. That's one of the benefits of membership, that's what we're here for. The esteemed Dr. Judy Phoenix is helping the Legislative Committee for the 2013 session. NPA members are always welcome to join. You can't fight City Hall? Sure you can. In Nevada, for psychologists it starts with NPA.




SPRING MOUNTAIN

FREE 24/7 CONFIDENTIAL
MOBILE PSYCHIATRIC ASSESSMENT

FULL PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES

Specializing in providing short-term, in-patient psychiatric services for people with symptoms such as:

- Depression • Suicidal Attempts or Threats
- Psychosis • Bipolar Disorder • Schizophrenia
- Panic or Obsessive Compulsive Behaviors
- Chemical Dependency & Substance Abuse

PSYCHIATRIC IN-PATIENT SERVICES INCLUDE:

- Psychiatrist Led Treatment Teams • Family, Individual and Group Therapy
- 24-hour Nursing Care • Secure Setting • Medication Management
- Individualized Case Management • Treatment Education
- Referrals to Mental Health Professionals
- Partial Hospitalization and Intensive Outpatient Programs

SPRING MOUNTAIN TREATMENT CENTER

For Children, Adolescents and Adults Ages 5 and Older

7000 W. Spring Mountain Rd.
(702) 873-2400

SPRING MOUNTAIN SAHARA

A Senior Adult Program For Ages 55 and Older

5460 W. Sahara Ave.
(702) 873-2400

An Open Letter from NPA Legislative Committee Chair, *Judy Phoenix*

June 2012

The 2011 Legislative session was, without a doubt, the busiest in the history of NPA. The Legislative Committee weighed in on about THREE DOZEN bills! Included were bills licensing music therapists, the standardization of the evaluation of autism, and the essential Board of Examiners bill relating to certification of Behavior Analysts that got kicked out early in the session and was later reattached to a bill governing medical assistants. NPA was deeply and continually involved.

We have established a reputation for ourselves within the legislature as an organization that cares; that is willing to provide our expertise to our Legislators; that is willing to show up to the table to solve problems and facilitate progress in Nevada's social policy and mental and behavioral healthcare. In order for us to keep up our momentum, we need to maintain and continually fund the Nevada Psychological Association (NPA) PAC. In short, I am writing to urge you to contribute to the NPA PAC today.

For those of you who are familiar with our PAC, understand how PACs work, and see the value in making a contribution, read no further. Simply skip to the end of this letter, complete the information and make your contribution today.

For those of you who aren't really sure about this whole 'PAC thing', and who might be asking yourself, "Why do I need to contribute to the PAC when I'm already an NPA member?" please read on. I would like the opportunity to explain to you how this works and why it is so very important that each of us make a contribution to our PAC.

What is a PAC? PAC stands for Political Action Committee. PACs are special organizations that are set up for the purpose of pooling contributions from like-minded people with a common purpose. The contributions are then made to campaigns and organizations that support that common purpose.

In general terms, NPA PAC supports Nevada campaigns and officeholders that value psychologists' science and practice.

A donation to NPA PAC enables you to combine your money with the contributions of other psychologists to deliver 'more bang for the buck.' Alone, we each make a little contribution. Together we make an effective difference.

Are you getting a 'funny', uncomfortable feeling? Perhaps, for you, political giving has a negative connotation, a sense that we are buying votes or somehow engaging in an unseemly activity. I used to feel that way. I don't now and here's why. Our contributions provide us nothing more than access to our public servants; they certainly don't "buy" votes. If you spend any time in Carson City, the notion of 'buying' votes is absurd. Our public servants need our support as they campaign and work in office. When we support them, they return the favor by finding time to sit down and listen to us. And personally, I feel really good about the messages that psychologists want to convey. Don't we want to support office holders and candidates who share our philosophies and values? I do.

Are you wondering why your dues monies don't cover the PAC contributions? Laws prohibit NPA from donating dues dollars to candidates or officeholders. Membership dues are used for advocacy, NPA's operational expenses and salaries. The dues dollars are not used for political giving and that is why your contribution to the NPA PAC today is so important.

NPA's Board of Directors determine on a regular basis which candidates are supportive of psychology, and which deserve our endorsement and our financial support. What matters to you as a psychologist? Earlier in this letter I asserted that psychologists have important messages to share with our legislators. We care about evidence-based mental health care, we believe that qualified providers should work within appropriate scopes of practice, we believe in good science backing social policy decisions, we believe in the intimate connection between mental and physical health, we believe in social justice and the list goes on.

An Open Letter from NPA Legislative Committee Chair (continued)

We can effectively convey these and other important messages to our legislators with the help of a healthy PAC. I hope that I've convinced you that the NPA PAC is important and that we need you.

\$125.00 – Less than a one hour session fee.

That's what we're asking each NPA member to donate, \$125.00. Most of us charge more than that for one hour of our time. And, if it can't be \$125.00, then \$75, \$50, \$25, \$5 - whatever fits within your level of comfort. We only ask that you send the contribution today. (Of course, it is fantastic if I've convinced you to donate more than \$125.00!)

If you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to email or call me at jphoenix@pyramid.net or 775-322-5055.

Sincerely,

Judy Phoenix, Ph.D.
NPA Legislative Committee Chair



NPA PAC DONATION FORM

Date: _____

Name: _____ Title: _____ License #: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

E-Mail Address: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

Comments regarding your preferences for donations? Email me at jphoenix@pyramid.net

Payment Information:

FAX (credit card only) to: (888) 654-0050

ON-LINE: www.NVpsychology.org

Payment in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed by check, payable to **NPA-PAC**.

Mail to: P. O. Box 400671, Las Vegas, NV 89140

OR

Please charge my credit card (Complete form below).

Cardholder Name (As it appears on the card): _____

Billing Address (if different from above): _____

Visa/MasterCard/Discover (circle one): Account #: _____ Expiration: _____

Security Code (3 numbers on back of card, or on American Express 4 numbers on the front): _____

Authorized Signature: _____



GROW YOUR PRACTICE IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

As practice opportunities and settings in psychology continue to grow in new directions, The Trust helps your practice move in the right direction with innovative **Trust Sponsored Professional Liability Insurance*** and risk management services.

We anticipate trends in independent or group practice, healthcare, government, business, industry, and emerging specialty areas. We also closely monitor our professional liability coverage to ensure that your psychology practice is protected as it advances in size and scope.

You get more than just a policy with The Trust Sponsored Professional Liability Insurance Program. You get great coverage with an entire risk management program, including free Advocate 800 consultations, continuing education solutions, premium discounts, and top customer care.

**Keep moving in
the right direction.**

To learn more and apply for coverage, visit apait.org or call us at 1-877-637-9700.

Ψ THE TRUST
www.apait.org
(877) 637-9700

* Underwritten by ACE American Insurance Company, Philadelphia, PA. ACE USA is the U.S.-based retail operating division of the ACE Group headed by ACE Limited (NYSE:ACE) and rated A+ (Superior) by A.M. Best and AA- (Very Strong) by Standard & Poor's (ratings as of July 22, 2011). Administered by Trust Risk Management Services, Inc. Policy issuance is subject to underwriting.

2012/2013 NPA Strategic Planning Meeting

NPA's 2012-2013 Strategic Planning Meeting was held on May 19th, 2012 in Reno at the home of Melanie Crawford, our current President-Elect and CE Chair. There were 23 in attendance to help plan goals for NPA numerous committees over the next year. More details can be found on our website at www.NVpsychology.org

Here is a summary of the 2012/2013 Committee goals:

Legislative Committee

Chair: Judy Phoenix

Goal: Getting several people trained to be able to testify. Introduce Full Mental Health Parity - non-partitioned. Promote more education to membership about the legislative process.

Method: Conference calls and in-person meetings to discuss strategic & relevant issues. Forwarding articles about legislative issues to the listserv to keep membership informed.

Continuing Education Committee

Chair: Melanie Crawford

Goal: Produce high quality CE events that meet NPA budget goals

Method: Offer more practicle trainings such as DBT and more trainings specific to Nevadans. Develop web-based CE events. Use personal connections to increase attendance.

Early Career Psychologists (ECP) Committee

Chair: Nicole Williams

Goal: Re-establish ECP chair and activities in the North. Collaborate with other disciplines. Bolster student and early career competency so we feel more adept at relating our skills to the community.

Method: Kara is willing to attempt to organize in the North. Plan meetings focused on collaboration (e.g. early career psychiatry). Mentor/Mentee seasoned psychology speakers.

Public Education Campaign (PEC)

Chair: Danielle Bello

Goal: Use information, brochures, talks to communicate psychology's value to the public.

Method: Use CE workshops for talking to the media and getting qualified/competent to do these events. Set up meetings with community groups, targeting issues of concern e.g. confidentiality, diverse groups. Utilize Facebook.

Diversity Committee

Chair: Johanah Kang, in place of Sharon Jones-Forrester who was unable to attend

Goal: Speaker series, appoint a Northern Region Diversity chair, increase membership

Method: Put articles, links, and advertise on Facebook and in newsletters for specialized experiences and client populations. Contact Yani and Connie for UNR monthly diversity trainings. Post notes on meetings with dates/times to Facebook, using specific language about meeting content as a way to make "diversity" less scary.

Membership/Newsletter/Website:

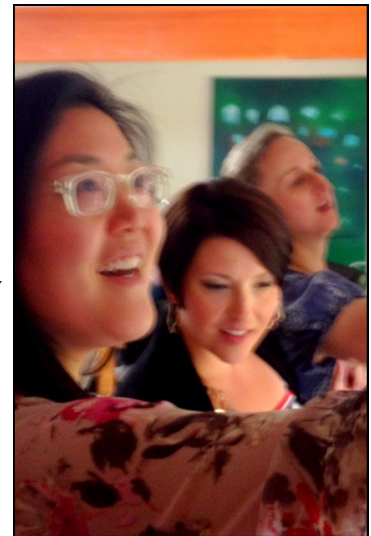
Chairs: Susan Ayarbe, Wendi O'Connor

Goal: Make membership renewals easier with auto-renewal form, recruit newly licensed psychologists to NPA, increase budget goal for membership dues, maintain updated website materials for members.

Method: Create a new "auto-renewal" form for all members to simplify the renewal process (included in newsletter). Recruit newly licensed psychologists in NV by inviting them to upcoming socials/CE events. Increase membership recruitment at CE events. Drive more traffic to website with updated articles, presentation announcements, NPA member testimonials, other items of interest.



Morning Session/Introductions:
From left: Kara Bunting, Judy Phoenix,
Lindsey Ricciardi, Gary Lenkeit,
Nancy McNaul



Brainstorming Session:
From left: Johanah Kang,
Whitney Owens, Shera Bradley

Social Media/Technology:

Chair: Whitney Owens

Goal: Increase membership knowledge of how to make use of social media: increase "likes" on Facebook, start Twitter site, increase use of technology to educate and provide workshops to members (webinars)

Method: Provide education to NPA members re: social media through Facebook and NPA listserv. Increase education about how Facebook can be a useful networking tool.

2012-2013 Nevada Psychological Association: Executive Board Members



President: Lindsey Ricciardi, Ph.D. is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist specializing in the assessment and treatment of eating, weight, and body image related issues. She was in the first cohort of the UNLV Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program and completed her internship and fellowship at the University of Chicago Medical Center. She is the co-director of Creative Health Solutions. Dr. Ricciardi has been active with NPA for the past decade serving as student rep, APAGS rep, Southern Board vice-president and president.



President-Elect: Melanie Crawford, Ph.D. is a licensed clinical psychologist in private practice specializing in the neuropsychological assessment of children and adolescents. She received her doctoral degree in child clinical psychology and developmental cognitive neuroscience from the University of Denver and completed her predoctoral internship in child clinical psychology at the University of CA, San Diego School of Medicine. This is her fifth year with NPA Northern Board and third term as Northern Region President.



Past-President: Lisa Linning, Ph.D. is a Licensed Psychologist at DRC, Children's Program, in Las Vegas and part-time private practice. She is involved with treatment of severely abused and disabled youth through research, youth corrections, residential and inpatient treatment centers, and outpatient services. Dr. Linning started with NPA in 2002 as UNLV/APAGS rep, spent several years on the Southern Board and various committees. She stays active with advocacy for mental health and children's issues at the state and national levels.



Treasurer, Executive Board: Shera Bradley, Ph.D. is a graduate of the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Her practice includes clinical and forensic services, including therapy and assessment for adolescents and adults. She started a unique program that provides therapeutic services to girls who have been sexually exploited, generally through prostitution. This year will be her fourth year as the NPA Treasurer. Additionally, she serves on the Executive Board and on the Training Committee for the NPA Training Consortium.



Treasurer-Elect Robyn Donaldson, Ph.D. Graduated from UNLV's Clinical Psychology program during which time she served as Campus Rep for NPA southern region. She completed her pre-doctoral clinical internship at the CAPS of Oregon State University and is currently a psychological assistant working for Dr. Kenneth McKay at Healthy Minds in Las Vegas, where she conducts disability and vocational rehabilitation assessments and provides psychotherapy to adults and children.



Secretary: Susan Ayarbe, Ph.D. received her degree in Clinical Psychology from UNR in 1988. After working for eight years at the Rocky Mountain Multiple Sclerosis Center in Denver, Co as a staff neuropsychologist and research assistant, Susan spent the next six years in corporate consulting, providing training in process improvement and change management. After moving to Reno, Susan started her private practice, which is focused on the neuropsychology assessment of children and adolescents.



Diversity Chair: Sharon Jones-Forrester, Ph.D. is a graduate of the UNLV Clinical Psychology graduate program. She completed her predoctoral internship at the VA Northern California, and completed her two year postdoctoral fellowship under the supervision of Dr. Thomas Kinsora in Las Vegas. She has a strong commitment to issues of diversity, cultural competence and social justice, and hopes to start an NPA Diversity Committee speakers series to inspire, educate, and generate additional tools for building culturally competent clinical practice.



ECP Chair: Nicole Williams, Ph.D. earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Developmental Psychology from Bryn Mawr College in 2006. She completed her Clinical Internship at Friends Hospital in Philadelphia and served as a Postdoctoral Psychology Fellow at The Devereux Foundation the following year. She is in private practice in Henderson. Dr. Williams has a particular interest in Autism Spectrum Disorders and is a consultant for Autism Care West, Inc. Additionally, she has specialized training in Anxiety Disorders, and treats children and adults suffering from a broad range of anxiety symptoms, including compulsive hoarding, obsessive compulsive disorder, school refusal, and panic disorder.

APAGS Reps: Casey Catlin (UNR) and Kerri Schafer (UNLV)

Campus Reps: Stacy Reger (UNLV), Sungjin Im and Stacey Cherup-Leslie (UNR)

2012-2013 Nevada Psychological Association: Regional Board Members



Northern Regional President: Brie Moore, Ph.D. is a Licensed Clinical Psychologist in private practice in Reno, Nevada. She specializes in the evidence-based treatment of behavioral health concerns, including childhood anxiety, depression, and noncompliance. Dr. Moore also specializes in the family-based treatment of childhood obesity. She has been active in NPA for several years and served two terms as Secretary of the Northern Board.



Northern Regional Vice-President: Yani Dickens, Ph.D. is a Licensed Psychologist working in private practice and also at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR) Counseling Services. He provides UNR student athletes with counseling and sport psychology consulting services as an adjunct clinical faculty member with the University of Nevada School of Medicine. In private practice, Dr. Dickens provides sport psychology consultations, psychotherapy, and assessment.



Northern Regional Secretary: Ree Noh, Ph.D. completed her Masters in Psychological Counseling at Columbia University and her Ph.D. in Applied Developmental Psychology at Boston College. She interned at the Northern Nevada Child and Adolescent Services in Children's Behavioral Services division and Adolescent Treatment Center. She has been part of the UCAN team since 2008. In her private practice, she provides psychological/psycho-educational assessments, therapy for children, and adults experiencing emotional and behavioral difficulties



Northern Regional Treasurer: Mandra Rasmussen-Hall, Ph.D. received her Ph.D. at the University of Nevada, Reno and has a private practice in Reno. She works with adults and couples, and has clinical expertise in treating problems associated with posttraumatic stress and difficulties regulating emotion.



Southern Regional President: Whitney Owens, Ph.D. has been involved with the NPA since moving to Las Vegas in 2008. In 2009, she became the Southern Region Secretary and involved in the Southern Region events. Professionally, Whitney is an ECP who became licensed in the Spring of 2009. Her specialties include addictive disorders, depression, anxiety and relationship issues.



Southern Regional Vice-President: Carrie Sheets is a postdoctoral fellow at Creative Health Solutions in Las Vegas. She earned a B.A. in Psychology and Japanese from Kalamazoo College and an M.S. from the joint program in Clinical and Biological/Health Psychology at the University of Pittsburgh, where she will receive her Ph.D. this spring. Ms. Sheets completed her predoctoral clinical internship in health psychology and obesity at Duke University in 2010. She specializes in the treatment of eating and weight disorders in children and adults.



Southern Regional Treasurer: Nicole Williams, Ph.D. earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Developmental Psychology from Bryn Mawr College in 2006. She completed her Clinical Internship at Friends Hospital in Philadelphia and served as a Postdoctoral Psychology Fellow at The Devereux Foundation the following year. She is in private practice in Henderson. Dr. Williams has a particular interest in Autism Spectrum Disorders and is a consultant for Autism Care West, Inc. Additionally, she has specialized training in Anxiety Disorders, and treats children and adults suffering from a broad range of anxiety symptoms, including compulsive hoarding, obsessive compulsive disorder, school refusal, and panic disorder.



Southern Regional Secretary: Silvie Semence, Ph.D. is originally from the Czech Republic. She grew up in New England and graduated from Syracuse University with a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology in 2008. She pursued a post-doctoral residency in Las Vegas, NV, with private practitioner Dr. Stephanie Holland. She continues to reside in Las Vegas conducting therapy and psychological evaluations for children in foster care.

Nevada Psychological Association: Membership Benefits

MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS....

NPA Keeps You on the Cutting Edge

- Reduced fees on NPA's Continuing Education programs - Keep up to date on standards of practice and develop your skills and knowledge base

NPA Helps Shape the Profession Through Advocacy

- Advocacy for psychology and psychological services in the State Legislature
- NPA Legislative Committee works with our lobbyist to identify and speak out on issues relevant to psychology
- Meet with our national representatives in our nation's capitol to influence federal legislation through the State Leadership Conference in Washington, DC

NPA Can Help Your Practice Grow

- Free statewide Referral Service Network
- Website advertising and low-cost credit card processing services
- Market your practice with a professional webpage
- Make presentations to businesses and community groups through public education programs that enhance the general understanding of psychology and promote psychology services.
- Outreach to businesses, the media, and other social service organizations

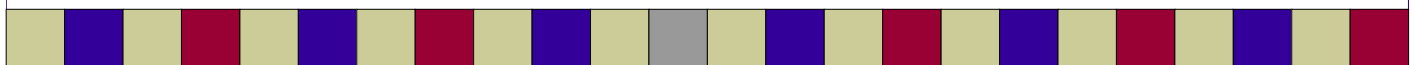
NPA Can Connect You with Your Colleagues

- Meet and stay connected with your peers across the state through networking events, meetings and workshops
- NPA's listserv allows members to discuss and keep abreast of relevant issues
- Find an outlet for your talents and interests by serving on any of our active committees and task forces
- When you join NPA, you become a member of one of our regional chapters. These regional groups offer a smaller, more easily accessible, and intimate setting in which to interact with your colleagues

UNITE WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES

BY JOINING TODAY!

WWW.NVPSYCHOLOGY.ORG



2012-2013 NPA Membership Renewal Form—Page 1



Nevada Psychological Association

Membership Application/Renewal

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 400671 Las Vegas, NV 89140 Phone/Fax: 888-654-0050

You can also renew online at: WWW.NVPSYCHOLOGY.ORG

Membership Year: June 1st, 2012–May 31st, 2013

Information about you: Please complete the box below. This information updates the NPA database. PLEASE print clearly. IS YOUR INFORMATION THE SAME AS LAST YEAR/NO CHANGES? [] Check box, sign below, skip to Page 2

Name: _____ Degree _____ DOB _____ Sex: M [] F []

Home

Home Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Home Telephone (____) _____ Fax (____) _____ Toll Free Phone _____ Preferred E-Mail _____

Primary Employment

Secondary Employment

Title _____ Employer _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Fax _____ County _____

Title _____ Employer _____ Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Fax _____ County _____

PREFERRED MAILING ADDRESS: _____ Home Address _____ Primary Employment _____ Secondary Employment

I Do _____ DO NOT _____ WISH TO BE LISTED IN THE NPA ON-LINE MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY

PREFERRED MEMBERSHIP DIRECTORY ADDRESS: _____ Home _____ Primary Employment _____ Secondary Employment

[] Subscribe me/keep me subscribed to the NPA Member listserv an interactive email communication list used by members to discuss pertinent information with colleagues, i.e., referral sources, ethical questions, practice information etc.

[] Receive NPA E-NEWS. This is a brief informational email with links to further information on-line.

My e-mail address is: _____

[] I authorize NPA to send e-mails to me as necessary. _____ (initials)

Graduate College/University _____ Graduation Date _____ Degree _____

Licensed in NV- License# _____ Year Licensed: _____

Licensed in other state _____ License #: _____ Year Licensed: _____

APA Member: [] Yes [] No National Register: [] Yes [] No ABPP: [] Yes [] No Specialty ABPP Area

I agree to abide by the ethical principles set forth by the American Psychological Association and I certify that all statements made herein are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

2012-2013 NPA Membership Renewal Form—Page 2

A. For Full Membership, there are three steps to figuring your dues:

_____ Full member, 5 years of more post licensing

_____ Full member/Early Career Psychologist, first licensed anywhere in the last 5 years

(Please note that 30% of dues is designated for the lobbyist and is not tax deductible. \$15 of your dues payment will go to support your respective region, North/South, and its activities.)

A1. Chose Base Dues (choose one and √):

- Full member, 5 yrs post licensing \$120.00
- 4 years post licensing \$105.00
- 3 years post licensing \$95.00
- 2 years post licensing \$85.00
- 1 year post licensing \$75.00
- Licensing year \$65.00
- Post-doc/unlicensed \$65.00

A2. Add assessment by income:

(This applies to all members no matter when licensed or where you work)

- \$150,000 and up \$170.00
- \$75,000 - \$150,000 \$80.00
- \$Up to \$75,000 \$35.00

A.3 TOTAL (Add A1. and A2.) _____

B. Other Membership Categories:

- Associate/Affiliate/Out-of-State Member** \$65.00

Those with a masters degree in psychology or equivalent, academic non-licensed psychologists, individuals, agencies or groups, with an interest in psychology as such, but not limited to: attorneys, MDs, certified paraprofessionals, or sponsoring agencies. This group excludes licensed psychologists as individuals or in a group practice.

- Student Member** \$45.00

Graduate or undergraduate students with an interest in psychology. Please include proof of student status with your application.

- Retired Member** \$65.00

Retired members shall have previously met all requirements of Full or Out of State Members; if no longer licensed or an APA member, have voluntarily relinquished licensure or membership while in good standing; have reached the age of 65; are no longer practicing as a psychologist and; have applied for status as Retired Member.

C. Additional Donation Opportunities:

- Lobbyist/Legislative Fund** \$100.00 or \$ _____ Other Donation

- Political Action Committee** \$100.00 or \$ _____ Other Donation

Your contribution to PAC allows us to support Nevada State Legislators who share our passion and positions. This is NOT tax deductible.

- NPA Training Consortium** \$100.00 or \$ _____ Other Donation

- NPA Century Fund** \$100.00 or \$ _____ Other Donation

The Century Fund supports our central office operations and Executive Director.

- Student Fund** \$100.00 or \$ _____ Other Donation

D. Total of A3 or B, and C: \$ _____

E. Make Your Payment:

- Check enclosed, make payable to NPA.**

- Credit Card Payment: (circle one)** Visa Mastercard Discover American Express

Card Number: _____ Exp Date: _____

Security Code: _____ (3 numbers on back of card or 4 numbers on front of AmEx)

Billing Address:

Home: _____ Office: _____ Other (indicate): _____

Name as it appears on card: _____

Your signature: _____

You can submit this renewal **online** at: www.NVPsychology.org

By fax to: (888) 654-0050 or **By mail** to: NPA, P.O. Box 400671, Las Vegas, NV 89140.

Any questions or concerns, contact Wendi O'Connor, Executive Director, at admin@NVpsychology.org or (888) 654-0050.

Optional: NPA Automatic Membership Renewal Form—Page 1

**Nevada
Psychological
Association**

Automatic Membership Application/Renewal

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 400671
Las Vegas, NV 89140
Phone/Fax: 888-654-0050**

You can also renew online at:

Annual renewal available online at: WWW.NVPSYCHOLOGY.ORG

Auto-Renewal: Beginning with Membership Year: June 1st, 2012–May 31st, 2013

A fast and convenient way to renew your NPA membership dues! We will automatically renew your membership each year and charge it to your credit card on file. This will ensure that your membership never lapses! Sign up for your automatic annual renewal today by completing this form, sign it and return by mail (address listed above), by fax (888) 654-0050 or by email: admin@NVpsychology.org.

(A.) Membership Dues: (there are three steps to calculating the amount of your dues)

(Please note that 30% of dues is designated for the lobbyist and is not tax deductible. \$15 of your dues will go to support your respective region and its activities)

Step 1: For Full Membership (check one):

- Full Member**, 5 years or more post licensing
- Full Member/Early Career Psychologist**, first licensed anywhere in last 5 years.

Step 2: Choose Base Dues (check one):

- Full Member, 5 years post licensing **\$120.00**
- 4 years post licensing **\$105.00**
- 3 years post licensing **\$95.00**
- 2 years post licensing **\$85.00**
- 1 year post licensing **\$75.00**
- Licensing year **\$65.00**
- Post-doc/unlicensed **\$65.00**

Step 3: Add assessment by income (check one):

(this applies to all members no matter when licensed or where you work)

- Earn \$150,000 and up: **add \$170.00**
- Earn \$75,000 - \$150,000: **add \$80.00**
- Earn up to \$75,000: **add \$35.00**

(A3.) TOTAL (add amounts in Step 2 and 3): \$ _____

(B.) Other Membership Categories:

- Associate/Affiliate/Out-of-State Member** \$65.00

Those with a masters degree in psychology or equivalent, academic non-licensed psychologists, individuals, agencies or groups with an interest in psychology as such, but not limited to: attorneys, MDs, certified paraprofessionals, or sponsoring agencies. This group excludes licensed psychologists as individuals or in a group practice.

- Student Member** \$45.00

Graduate or undergraduate students with an interest in psychology. Please include proof of student status with your application.

- Retired Member** \$65.00

Retired members shall have previously met all requirements of Full or Out of State Members; if no longer licensed or an APA member, have voluntarily relinquished licensure or membership while in good standing; have reached the age of 65; are no longer practicing as a psychologist and; have applied for status as a Retired Member.

Optional: NPA Automatic Membership Renewal Form—Page 2**(C.) Donation Opportunities:**

Lobbyist/Legislative Fund \$100.00 or other donation \$ _____

NPA Training Consortium \$100.00 or other donation \$ _____

Political Action Committee (PAC) \$100.00 or other donation \$ _____

Your contribution to PAC allows us to support Nevada State Legislators who share our passion and positions. This is NOT tax deductible.

Century Fund (supports central office) \$100.00 or other donation \$ _____

Student Fund \$100.00 or other donation \$ _____

(D.) TOTAL of A3, B, C: \$ _____ (this is the amount that will be charged each year)

Please check each of the following boxes:

I authorize NPA to automatically renew my membership each year. If I wish to opt out of automatic renewal, I am responsible for notifying NPA's Executive Director no later than April 30th (approx. one month prior to expiration date).

If my income changes, I understand that I am responsible for notifying NPA's Executive Director no later than April 30th or my credit card will be charged the same amount as the previous year.

My membership information has not changed. I will notify NPA if any changes do occur during the membership year.

I Agree:

By signing below, you are authorizing NPA to debit your credit card account prior to the expiration of the membership year on May 31st each year for your NPA membership. My membership dues will be processed between May 15th – May 31st of each year. It is my responsibility to notify NPA of any changes to my credit card information (for example: Expiration Date). Should NPA membership dues change or increase, you will be notified by NPA by mail and will be requested to fill out a new form.

Payment Information:

Check enclosed, make payable to NPA.

Credit Card Payment: (circle one) Visa Mastercard Discover American Express

Card Number: _____ Exp Date: _____

Security Code: _____ (3 numbers on back of card or 4 numbers on front of AmEx)

Billing Address:

Home: _____ Office: _____ Other (indicate): _____

Name as it appears on card: _____

Your signature: _____

You can submit this renewal **online** at: www.NVPsychology.org

By fax to: (888) 654-0050 or **By mail** to: NPA, P.O. Box 400671, Las Vegas, NV 89140.

Any questions or concerns, contact Wendi O'Connor, Executive Director, at admin@NVpsychology.org or (888) 654-0050.

2012 State Leadership Conference in Washington D.C.

Each year in March, NPA sends a delegation of representatives to the APA State Leadership Conference (SLC), held in Washington D.C. SLC is a one-of-a-kind training event in leadership and advocacy, made up of leaders from approx. 75 SPTAs and APA divisions, along with APA governance members. This year, our delegation consisted of: Lisa Linning (President), Lindsey Ricciardi (President-Elect), Judy Phoenix (FAC Co-chair), Danielle Bello (PEC Chair), Sharon Jones-Forrester (Diversity delegate) and myself (Executive Director). SLC is always an exciting and packed 4-day event, filled with plenary sessions, numerous informative workshops, multiple networking opportunities with leaders of other SPTAs and, of course, our annual visit to Capitol Hill to advocate on behalf of psychology to Nevada's Congressional Delegation: Senator Reid, Senator Heller, Rep Shelley Berkley, Rep Joe Heck, Rep Mark Amodei.



Front row, from left: Judy Phoenix, Danielle Bello
Back row, from left: Wendi O'Connor, Sharon Jones-Forrester, Lisa Linning, Lindsey Ricciardi

This year's theme was "**Bringing Psychology to the Table: State Leadership in Health Care Reform**". The theme recognized the critical importance of the Patient Protection Affordable Care Act in guiding the implementation of health care reform and its ability to shape the professional landscape for psychology as a health care profession. Katherine Nordal, Executive Director for Professional Practice said "Despite some uncertainty about the ultimate impact of the federal law, too much is at stake to risk anything less than our profession's full involvement in shaping the implementation of health care reform. Much of the work will occur at the state and local level over the next two years. Unless psychology has a place at the table as these new systems are being designed, we run the risk of being marginalized as ancillary providers. We must instead be present and engaged so that our expertise is full reflected in the future U.S. health care delivery system. Your leadership and commitment to the profession will help assure that we avoid critical setbacks in our efforts to meet the nation's compelling health care needs."



*Highly individualized
treatment for
eating disorders*

center for hope
OF THE SIERRAS



Residential Treatment

- Females, ages 16+
- Small home-like environment
- Insurance accepted

Partial Hospitalization and Intensive Outpatient

- Male & females, ages 14+
- Extended programming 7/days/week
- Housing options available

Specialized Diabetes Program

- Comprehensive medical management
- Multi-disciplinary team of experts
- 24-hour nursing

Center for Hope of the Sierras
3740 Lakeside Drive, Suite 201 | Reno, Nevada 89509 | 775-828-4949
www.centerforhopeofthesierras.com





Our first day opened with a keynote address by Alan Weil, Executive Director, National Academy for State Health Policy, who spoke about State Implementation of Health Care Reform. It was followed by networking groups for each of our delegates, and ended the day with the PHWA reception. Day 2 began with a plenary session "Today's News: Who's Up, Who's Down and What's Really Going On" presented by Eugene Robinson, a Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist for the Washington Post. That was followed by our first series of workshops, which focused on The State Health Care Reform, Psychology at the Editorial Table, How To Engage Students in Advocacy, and Innovative Practice to name a few. Day 3 focused on preparing for our hill visits, with additional workshops and discussion groups. And, on Day 4, we went to Capitol Hill and met with Nevada's Congressional Delegation to advocate on three topics:

1. Replacing the SGR with a system that values cost-efficient psychological services.
2. Adding psychologists to the Medicare "physician definition".
3. Making psychologists eligible for the HITECH Act Incentives.

We were quite pleased with the level of response from our meetings and returned home filled with exciting ideas from the workshops, networking with other SPTAs and the conference in general. We are in the process of compiling all that we learned and will be posting it to the website, so make sure to set aside some time to log on and read all about it!

Wendi O'Connor, Executive Director

Northern Region 2011/2012 Report

This year in the North NPA organized several events for local psychologists. The Northern Region held their Annual Fall Social in September. The Northern Region also worked with the Continuing Education Committee to bring three workshops to the area including a half-day workshop on the Art and Science of Psychotherapy, a full day APAIT Ethics conference, and the NPA Annual Conference, which was focused on recent developments in the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders. We look forward to the upcoming year where we will continue to provide opportunities for Northern Region Psychologists to come together. We are please to announce the Dr. Brie Moore will be taking over as Northern Region President. We are also excited to report that there are plans to revitalize the Northern Region Early Career Group. Please keep your eye on the list-serve for updates and announcements of Northern Region events.

Sincerely,

Melanie Crawford, Ph.D.

2011/2012 NPA Northern Regional President

*An
Update
from
the
North*

Southern Region 2011/2012 Report

The Southern Region is pleased to announce another exciting year of promoting the Nevada Psychological Association in the Southern Region. We aim to bring psychologists together to network, socialize and share new and exciting ideas in the field of psychology. I would like to extend a great thank you to our current president, Lisa Linning, as well as our incoming president, Lindsey Ricciardi, for their continued support and guidance to the Southern Board. I would also like to greatly thank the members of the Southern Board for their tireless commitment to NPA and the Southern Region: Carrie Sheets, Amy Guevara, Silvie Semenec, Kerri Schafer and Johanah Kang. I would also like to recognize our Southern Region ECP chair, Nicole Williams for encouraging the Southern Region ECP members and graduate students to get involved with the state organization.

We have had a great year in the Southern Region. Just after the last Annual Conference, the Southern Region hosted our annual Spring Picnic at my home. We had a family friendly carnival and barbecue and the event allowed us to network and socialize with both familiar colleagues and some new faces as well. In the fall, we held our annual Fall CE event at Lake Las Vegas, with a panel discussion about Updates in Neuropsychology. A big thank you to Sharon Jones-Forrester, Danielle Bello and Thomas Kinsora for donating their time and knowledge to the Southern Region. We had a great turnout and we even stayed for some Shakespeare in the Park after the event. We also co-hosted the Nevada Psychiatric Association and Nevada Psychological Association Holiday Mixer in December of 2011, the fifth year for this event. The event was held at Marche Bacchus and was sponsored by Spring Mountain Treatment Center. The event raised donations and awareness for the Rape Crisis Center.

We are looking forward to another successful year in the Southern Region. Thank you again to all of those in our region who donate time, ideas and resources to the Nevada Psychological Association. We look forward to a great year ahead.

Sincerely,

Whitney Owens, PsyD

2011/2012 NPA Southern Regional President

*An
Update
from
the
South*



Malingerer
 By
Thomas
Kinsora

Let's be honest with ourselves for a moment. Few of us have made it into adulthood without engaging in, or entertaining the notion of malingering or feigning illness. My first conscious recollection of malingering began at age 8. You see, I was obsessed with my babysitter, Kitty who fit the perfect part of a flower girl in the late 1960's. She began babysitting us at age 16. After a couple years she had taken a job as an office assistant with my family's medical doctor. She still watched us when my parents went out, but my parents were getting boring and staying home for longer periods. I hadn't seen her in months and was pressing my parents to leave, somewhere, anywhere for an evening, so I could be in her presence again.

My devious plan of deception began the moment I heard that my brother would be taken to the doctor's office for strep throat. I skillfully convinced my mother early on the morning of the appointment that I too had fallen ill. I played it up well, and my nurturing Italian Catholic mother fell prey easily. The funny thing is, I willingly endured a full course of penicillin, all for the few moments I was able to work my eight-year-old magic with Kitty as she sat behind the desk at the doctor's office. She entertained me with a smile, and laughed at my attempts at humor. I actually thought I had a chance.....

While this case is silly, it certainly illustrates our capacity, even from an early age, to manipulate others for the needs of our internal desires. What we gain from our deceptions can range from attention, emotional support, removal from responsibilities, financial gain, and to a variety of other selfish goals. As Neuropsychologists, I and many of my colleagues, are pushed directly into the crossfire in the course of independent medical evaluations that attempt to discern real cognitive and psychological issues from those that may be caused by deception. Neuropsychologists have, over the last two decades, developed a wide variety of empirically validated methods to identify low effort, and outright deception. These methods include separate standardized measures of effort, pattern analysis of regular neuropsychological measures, and analysis of embedded measures within our regular neuropsychological measures. I initially began using these measures in the early 1990's on forensic cases. However, for well over a decade, in my own practice, we have been administering and analyzing several measures of effort on every patient, no matter who the referral source may be. We do this because even in cases where there is no workers compensation claim, disability claim, or a lawsuit in the works, we find that a significant number of patients exaggerate or otherwise put forth poor effort for assorted array of secondary gain issues that may not be obvious at first glance.

When we look at the research, we find fairly consistent findings with regard to the number of individuals who deliver invalid assessment profiles based on the reason for referral. Research suggests that anywhere between 33 and 40% of patients who are referred for neuropsychological assessment as part of an independent medical evaluation in which a disability claim, workers compensation claim, or a personal injury claim is present, will exhibit exaggerated performance, such that the entire data set must be invalidated (2, 3, 8, 9, 11, 12). Approximately 22% of college students seeking medications or accommodations for ADHD are faking (19). These figures are consistent with my own findings in my work with such claims, and is also true in my work with capital murder defendants (although, interestingly, some research suggests that the rate of exaggeration with capital murder defendants is actually somewhat lower than that seen with litigating civil claims (12). But others indicate that it is higher (1).).

More interesting, is the fact that a sizable number of patients with no obvious financial incentive exaggerate impairment on neuropsychological measures. In my own practice between 10 and 15% of adults referred to me for neuropsychological assessment, exhibit poor effort or exaggerated performance (this is consistent with research within the medical literature of individuals with exaggerated medical complaints). Most of the offenders are referred for complex and atypical neurological issues. Child patients are hit and miss (perhaps 5 to 10% of my child referrals exhibit verified poor effort), and their poor effort is usually due to a lack of appreciation of how we can really mess up their lives with our findings when we wrongly assume that they gave a rats fanny about the assessment.

If you think about it, the above statistics are staggering and force us to reevaluate the validity of our interpretations in assessments, and clinical conclusions regarding our psychotherapy cases. These findings also absolutely obligate us to evaluate patients for effort and veracity, particularly in cases where claims are made or where benefits may be at stake. To evaluate, render an opinion, or draw a conclusion, without thoroughly validating performance in these high-risk patients will absolutely cause us to be wrong at least 33 to 40% of the time. With our lower risk patients, we will be wrong between 10 and 15% of the time.

For the vast majority of psychologists within Nevada who do few assessments, or limit their assessments to brief psychological evaluations, the task of detecting deception becomes complicated. Other than the validity scales on the MMPI, there are few methods to detect deception that meet the sensitivity and specificity requirements that are obtainable within neuropsychological measures. Evaluations that target feigning of psychiatric issues such as the SIMS are occasionally useful for individuals feigning psychosis, but also possess an unacceptable rate of false positives with certain patient populations that confound the interpretation. Even more complex, is the detection of malingering or exaggeration within clients who are referred for psychotherapy. Most of us who have been in practice for a while have had at least one client who remained in psychotherapy for a period of time, and within six months of leaving, become involved in some type of legal matter. We are then asked by their attorney to render an opinion, or we are asked by the client themselves to draft a letter in support for one type of benefit or another, whether it be worker's compensation, or disability. This type of request places us in a quandary. We have to ask ourselves whether we are ethically able to support such a request without explicitly, and prominently, stating the limitations of our opinions due to the unknown quantity of factor "d" (deception) that might be present. This is particularly true given the rather high likelihood that the patient consciously sought psychotherapy as a means to an end, rather than as a true desire for psychological stability. All of us have been played like a cheap Kentucky fiddle at one time or another. I have seen patients for neuropsychological evaluation who outwardly denied the presence of litigation, yet found myself served with a subpoena for records within weeks after seeing the patient. These are the realities of our practice. We owe it to ourselves to keep our eyes wide open and to employ tools at our disposal to help us know the creature that we are interacting with.

The literature pertaining to symptom validity testing is large and complicated. It is an area that will demand considerable attention if you happen to be involved with the higher risk populations. Presently, neuropsychologists are required to become proficient with symptom validity measures as it has become a standard of care issue in our specialty. Clearly, symptom validity techniques are in need of development in other areas, particularly general clinical psychology. Some measures of symptom validity have been developed recently for use with claimants of chronic pain (12, 16), PTSD (13, 14, 15), ADHD (5, 7, 10, 18), and dyslexia (4). While we will never detect all aspects of deception in our patients, it behooves us to develop and use measures that can help us move toward the underlying truth of our patients alleged situation. By doing so we will move closer to the potential that we have in our work with our patients, and in our ability to assist those who must make crucial decisions regarding matters pertaining to our patients, whether these matters be related to better psychological care, monetary benefits, or civil/criminal proceedings.

Thomas Kinsora

(Bibliography is available on our website at: www.NVPsychology.org)



Letters to the Editor and Op Eds: A Way to Promote Psychology

Danielle Bello, Ph.D., Public Education Campaign (PEC) Coordinator

Have you ever thought of submitting a letter to the editor or an opinion editorial (op ed) to a newspaper as a way of communicating your knowledge about psychology?

The 2012 State Leadership Conference and the Public Education Campaign sponsored a workshop with three panelists, editor Christian Trejbal from the Roanoke Times, Margot Friedman from Dupont Circle Communications, and Alyssa Best from the OpEd Project, who provided tips about writing a strong letter and getting it published.

It is important to understand the difference between a letter and an op ed. A letter to the editor is short (200 words) and usually a reaction to something seen in the paper. An op ed (opinion editorial) is longer (750 words) and written as a column. Stick to the word length specified by the paper. Bewary of “no man’s land” word length (200-400 words) which may be difficult for papers to fit.

The chance of having a letter published is better than you think. According to Mr. Trejbal of the Roanoke Times, smaller papers in a community print about 67% of letters and larger papers about 25% of letters. Incidentally, the Washington Post receives about 200 letters per day and may print 10.

A letter or op ed can influence the public’s view about psychology. Plus you will gain some free marketing in the process. There are some hooks to use that can make your letter/op ed interesting and print-worthy.

Letters to the Editor:

Have a reaction to a story or column in the paper. Respond as quickly as you can, such as the day the story runs. According to Ms. Friedman, editors are most likely to run one of the first letters they receive in response to a story. Make sure you mention the specific story in the first line of your letter.

Localize the issue. Find a way to relate your letter to Nevada and the issues we face in this state. Style counts. Peruse the paper’s letters to see the style of the letters that are published.

Op Eds:

Look for conversations already in progress. Think of your op ed as joining a conversation and tie your lead to an event that is in the news or in anticipation of news that is about to break.

Lead ideas. These are jumping off points for a column. They include new research studies or statistics, holidays and anniversaries, references to popular culture such as TV and movies, unique personal experiences, and the conventional wisdom is wrong (everyone thinks A but the reality is B). One example provided by Ms. Friedman was an op ed about human trafficking with the lead being the release of the movie ‘Taken.’

Don’t submit a form letter and don’t submit the same letter to multiple papers. If rejected you can submit to another paper or can revise and resubmit. It is acceptable to email or call the paper after a few days to determine whether your submission will be printed. A letter from an individual psychologist may have more impact and thus a better chance of being printed than a letter from an organization. Finally, the Associated Press standards, which many papers follow, do not refer to psychologists as Doctor/Dr. so don’t be offended. However, in your letter you can state “I am writing as a psychologist/doctor...” Good luck with your submissions and remember, if you are published, please advise the PEC coordinator as these statistics are tracked.

The Public Education Campaign of the APA consists of marketing initiatives and public awareness campaigns which seek to encourage access to psychological services and demonstrate the value of the psychology profession in various settings. Danielle T. Bello, Ph.D. is the coordinator for Nevada.

If you would like to participate in the PEC or report your communication to the media, please email her at danielle_bello@hotmail.com.

NPA ADVERTISEMENTS

John C. Friel, Ph.D.

Licensed Psychologist
 216 Mt. Rose Street Reno, NV 89509
 775.337.0299 john@clearlife.com
 651.756.1944 Secure Confidential Fax

Men's Therapy Groups
 3 Thursday Evenings per Month * Occasional Openings
 5-7 pm or 7:15-9:15 pm
 2, 4, 6, 8, and 12-hour Couples Therapy Sessions
 for Busy Couples and to move through Gridlock
 3-1/2 Day ClearLife® Clinic Intensive

http://www.clearlife.com

Specialized Treatment for Adolescent & Adult Women With Eating Disorders



"There is No Substitute for Experience"

- Inpatient Treatment
- Residential Treatment
- Day & Evening Program
- Outpatient Therapy
- After Care Follow-up
- Accredited High School
- Joint Commission Accredited
- TRICARE Certified

888-224-8250
 www.centerforchange.com
 info@centerforchange.com



PINECREST
 Children's Behavioral health

BRIE A. MOORE, PH.D.

Licensed Clinical Psychologist | drmoore@pinecresthealth.com

T: 775.826.6218 F: 775.826.6271
 6490 S. McCarran Blvd., Suite D1-28 Reno, NV 89509

NV #PY0555



Support NPA! Visit our website at:

www.NVPsychology.org

click on the amazon.com banner on the home page
 and make your purchases as usual.

NPA will automatically receive a percentage of the
 sale at no additional cost to you!



**Nevada
Psychological
Association**

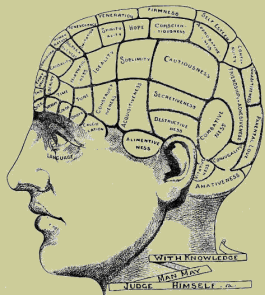
**P.O. Box 400671
Las Vegas, NV 89140**

www.NVpsychology.org

**Phone/Fax:
888-654-0050**

**E-mail:
admin@NVpsychology.org**

**Find out more
on our website!
www.NVpsychology.org**



Advocating for Psychologists in Nevada

**First Class
US Postage Paid**

NPA 2012/2013 Continuing Education Calendar

Psychological Approaches to Chronic Pain and Addiction

**Dr. Mel Pohl, M.D.
Leanne Earnest, Ph.D.**
June 22, 2012
Henderson Convention Center
Henderson, NV 6 CEs

Comprehensive Behavioral Intervention for Tics (CBIT)

John Piacentini, Ph.D.
August 11th, 2012
venue tba
Reno, NV 6 CEs

MBSR for Mental Health Professionals

Colleen Camenisch
September - October 2010 (dates tba)
venue tba
Reno, NV Up to 22 CEs

Legal and Ethical Decision Making for Nevada Psychologists

Stephen Behnke, J.D., Ph.D.
November 17th, 2012
Henderson Convention Center
Henderson, NV 6 CEs

Dialectical Behavior Therapy 2012/2013 Intensive Clinical Training

Alan Fruzzetti., Ph.D.
Part 1: November 29th - December 1st, 2012
Pt 2: February 21st - 23rd, 2013
Pt 3: Apr 2013 (dates tba)
Pt 4: June 2013 (dates tba)
venue tba
Las Vegas, NV
Up to 60 CEs

Coming in 2013:

Annual Conference: Health Care Reform
Apr/May (date tba)
Las Vegas

Assessment Training with Cecil Reynolds

Cecil Reynolds, Ph.D.
Fall
Las Vegas

**More information
and registration is available online at
www.NVpsychology.org**