**Council of Specialties in Professional Psychology**

**Virtual Annual Meeting Minutes**

**November 6, 2021**

**Executive Session**

1. Julia Phillips, Secretary, completed the roll call.
   1. Present: Karen Farrell, President/Clinical Psychology; Richard J. Seime, Past President; Victor Molinari, Treasurer; Julia Phillips, Secretary/Counseling Psychology; Linda Carter Sobell, Behavioral and Cognitive Psychology; Michael Roberts, Clinical Child Psychology; Lloyd Berg, Clinical Health Psychology; Robin C. Hilsabeck, Clinical Neuropsychology; Danielle Rynczak, Forensic Psychology; Michelle Mlinac, Geropsychology; Nina Brown, Group & Group Psychotherapy; John M. Watkins, Psychoanalysis; Michele J. Rusin, Rehabilitation Psychology; Carlen Henington, School Psychology; Shirley M. Glynn, Serious Mental Illness Psychology. Toni Minniti, guest, APA Education Directorate.
   2. Absent: Cindy Carlson, Couple and Family Psychology; Jennifer C. Kelly, Police & Public Safety Psychology
2. Elections – President-Elect and Secretary
   1. Karen Farrell asked for nominations for President-Elect. Linda Sobell nominated Victor Molinari who accepted the nomination. Linda Sobell made a motion to elect Victor Molinari and he was elected unanimously. Hence, his term as Treasurer will end one year early on December 31, 2021.
   2. Michelle Rusin self-nominated for Treasurer. Rick Seime made motion to elect Michelle Rusin for a two-year term as Treasurer beginning January 1, 2021. Motion passed unanimously.
   3. Danielle Rynczak self-nominated for Secretary. Linda Sobell made a motion to elect Danielle Rynczak as Secretary, which passed unanimously.
3. Approval of Minutes from August 21, 2021
   1. No motion was made regarding the minutes from August 21, 2021. This item will need to be on the agenda for our next quarterly meeting.
4. Bylaws Vote
   1. We made minor edits to bylaws, including changing “Secretary/Treasurer” to “Secretary” or “Treasurer” as appropriate, adding that we now meet quarterly with annual meeting in DC and remaining meetings held virtually, specifying that votes for officers with more than one nominee will be by secret ballot and those with one nominee by general consent, how an officer may be removed, and allowing for electronic voting.
   2. Michelle Rusin made motion to approve bylaws as proposed and motion passed unanimously.
5. Members were informed that Don Townsend emailed us to let us know that the Sleep Psychology Specialty Council notified the Executive Council that they were withdrawing as a member of COSPP. Karen Farrell had a collegial discussion with representatives from the Society of Behavioral Sleep Medicine who shared that the multidisciplinary nature of the Society made it impossible for them to do an Education & Training Taxonomy. Linda Sobell highlighted that Sleep Psychology is recognized by CRSSPP. Sleep Psychology is due for renewal and they will need to submit a taxonomy with that petition. It was noted that Sleep Psychology had been rejected 10 years ago by ABPP and has been invited to re-apply for ABPP several times and has not pursued an application. Linda Sobell raised the issue that COS might need a discussion regarding whether or not all members must identify as psychologists. Karen Farrell agreed that this discussion may be useful next year. Rick Seime made a motion that COS acknowledges that Sleep Psychology has withdrawn from COS and send a letter stating Sleep Psychology will be taken off of the roster and COS website, and indicating that we would welcome them back to COS in the future.
6. Linda Sobell made a motion to close executive session and it was approved unanimously.

**Open Session:**

1. Introduction of guests and liaisons.
   1. Present: Toni Minniti, APA Education Directorate; Jeff Baker, APPIC; Brian Stagner for Linda Berg Cross, CRSSPP liaison; Alex Siegel, ASPPB; Rick Day, guest, and Candice Schaefer, ABPP Organization and Business Consulting Board; Ron Rozensky, guest.
   2. Absent: David Cox, ABPP; Scott Sperling, APA CECP liaison; Amy Silberbogen, APPIC; Derek Phillips, Clinical Psychopharmacology
2. President’s Remarks and Welcome
   1. Karen Farell noted that this is her last Annual Meeting as President and highlighted the challenges associated with the pandemic over the past two years, as well as the opportunities it presented for new learning. She noted the importance of balancing risks and rewards and the need for courage to live our everyday lives. In spite of the challenges, she noted that we on COS have also done quite a bit of work, particularly with the Taxonomy Initiative.
3. COSPP members and liaisons introduced themselves and offered highlights of annual reports to the group.
   * 1. Michelle Rusin shared that Rehabilitation Psychology Specialty Council worked on their CRSSPP petition this year. Doing so has highlighted the depth and breadth of rehabilitation psychology as a specialty. They are also working on fundraising.
     2. Nina Brown shared that the Group Psychology and Group Psychotherapy Specialty Council changed their bylaws at the same time as they have had leadership transitions. They have been working on communicating with the public, as well as the psychology community regarding the specialty. They are planning for their CRSSPP petition, which is due in 2023.
     3. Robin Hilsabeck shared that the Clinical Neuropsychology Specialty Council had two new member organizations, including Society for Black Neuropsychology and Asian Neuropsychological Association. They will also extend invitation to the Queer Neuropsychological Society to join the Specialty Council. The Houston Planning Commission is planning the 2022 Houston Conference to work on new education and training guidelines with a stronger focus on technology and diversity competencies. Brad Roper is the Executive Chair of the Houston Planning Commission.
     4. Linda Sobell shared the Behavioral and Cognitive Specialty Council had had disruptions in leadership in the recent past, but the new leadership group is now solidifying. They worked on their E&T Taxonomy which is being considered for approval. They also worked on their CRSSPP petition. Linda indicated that she is fulfilling the remaining part of a term as Chair after the past Chair could not finish the term. She clarified with Rick Seime that if she is re-elected, that her next term would be her first full term.
     5. John Watkins shared that Psychoanalysis has been actively working on CRSSPP petition. The Specialty Council also changed bylaws to include an ECP member, a student member, and others in effort to diversify the specialty.
     6. Jeff Baker shared that APPIC is monitoring the match imbalance, which increased last year. APPIC is also concerned about the pandemic and its effect on training because students’ practicum hours are lower. APPIC voted that all internship programs must be accredited by July 2023 – there are currently 100 programs that are not yet accredited. APPIC launched a new platform for internship applications, which went well. He noted that only 13% of students now want to go on site for internship interviews compared with 87% who wanted to do so in the past. APPIC is not mandating online interviews, but most sites are now doing them. He noted that there were more problems last year that were brought to APPIC’s informal problem resolution process related to competencies. The next APPIC conference will be held in May in San Diego.
     7. Brian Stagner indicated that CRSSPP has been promulgating the E&T Taxonomy in meetings with the Canadian Psychological Association, APAGS, and other stakeholders. CRSSPP will be getting four new renewal petitions and one new subspecialty petition in the coming year.
     8. Michelle Mlinac indicated that the Geropsychology Specialty Council held a conference focused on creating a pipeline for Geropsychology. She noted that academic positions in Geropsychology are not getting filled.
     9. Lloyd Berg shared that the Clinical Health Psychology Specialty Council met twice virtually, welcoming two new members to the Specialty Council, including an ECP. They worked on a public comment on revised competencies from CoA for Clinical Health Psychology, as well as revised their E&T Taxonomy. Finally, they worked hard to establish a checking account, however, hit a number of barriers in trying to do so. He would like to have COS continue to work on helping Specialty Councils to set up banking in a more systemic way. Linda Sobell noted that Nancy McDonald at ABPP opened an account for Behavioral and Cognitive Psychology. CHP asked her to do so, but she indicated that it was not possible. CHP will ask ABPP again if this is possible.
     10. Danielle Rynczak shared that all positions on the Forensic Psychology Specialty Board are turning over. They are working on their E&T Taxonomy. All representatives are working on integrating diversity issues in their organization. They cancelled a conference in NOLA earlier this year and will plan another one in the near future.
     11. Shirley Glynn shared that the Serious Mental Illness Specialty Council has been working on their E&T Taxonomy. They are waiting on final feedback from CoA on the postdoc competencies. They are also working on their ABPP materials to submit an application to set up a Board in SMI.
     12. Michael Roberts from the Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology Specialty Council reported that he is in his last year as Chair. They submitted both an E&T Taxonomy and CRSSPP petition, as well as postdoctoral competencies to CoA. They are working to update their education and training guidelines to make it more competency oriented. He shared that he has watched the COS grow in positive ways since his first term on COS ten years ago and over the past six years, as well.
     13. Julia Phillips shared that the Counseling Psychology Specialty Council submitted its CRSSPP petition, which was formally approved. They are continuing to work on the revision of the E&T Taxonomy. They are also working on bylaws changes to add an ECP constituent organization to the Specialty Council.
     14. Alex Siegel shared that ASPPB is working on the revision of the Model Licensing Act and noted that they will reference the E&T Taxonomy in it, hopefully so that licensure boards will incorporate it from a regulatory perspective.
     15. Carlen Hennington noted that the School Psychology Specialty Council has been working on their E&T Taxonomy. She shared that every ten years, school psychology brings together school psychologists for the Future of School Psychology Conference. This conference will be held in May 2022 and will have international participation.
     16. Karen Farrell noted that the Clinical Psychology Specialty Council focused on their CRSSPP petition, as well as the E&T Taxonomy, which is still a work in progress.
     17. Rick Day from Organization and Business Consulting, shared that they are currently an ABPP specialty and that they have been consulting with Rick Seime to apply for membership on COS. Candice Schaeffer will take the lead on that application. Previously, I/O Psychology had a Board but it went away as there were not enough people applying for it. In the new specialty, many licensed psychologists are engaged in organization and business consulting, leadership development, and other related activities.
4. Approval of Taxonomies (Rick Seime) – 30 minutes
   1. Rick Seime explained the process for approval thus far via 10-day approval by general consent – it was the mechanism that fit the bylaws to allow approval of taxonomies as we went along. Two taxonomies were sent out for 10-day approval several days ago – it was noted that these could be approved by the 10-day process or by voting today. Lloyd Berg raised the question regarding consistency between Specialty Councils e.g., use of “less than or equal to” or use of symbols? Consensus was to use symbols. Victor Molinari made motion to allow EC to change this verbiage to symbols and make any other non-substantive changes. Carlen Hennington made a friendly amendment to alert any Specialty Councils of such changes and that the EC request that the revised version be utilized. Rick Seime noted that the official taxonomies will be posted to the COS website. The motion passed unanimously. Linda Sobell made a motion that we vote on both of the outstanding taxonomies separately. The taxonomy for Rehabilitation Psychology passed unanimously and the taxonomy for Behavioral and Cognitive Psychology was passed with one recusal (Linda Sobell).
   2. Rick Seime shared information about the next steps for the seven approved taxonomies as follows. At the bottom of the first page, there will be a statement noting the approval date. It will also state that a revised taxonomy is due to COS for approval one year before the date that the specialty’s CRSSPP petition is due. Rick has worked with website coordinator, Bonnie Palmer, to create a new part of the website that will house the approved taxonomy for each specialty, along with the statement above. This website will be the official place for approved taxonomies. Lloyd Berg asked if Bonnie will go through and clean up the formatting? Rick shared that the EC will ensure the formatting is correct. There was discussion regarding dissemination strategies for COS, Specialty Councils, and constituent members of Specialty Councils. Ron Rozensky suggested having a paragraph that is consistent across specialties. Carlen agreed that model language would be helpful. Michelle Rusin and Toni Minniti will work with Rick Seime on developing this language.
   3. Taxonomies already approved include:
      1. Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology
      2. Clinical Health Psychology
      3. Clinical Neuropsychology
      4. Geropsychology
      5. Psychoanalysis
      6. Rehabilitation Psychology
      7. Cognitive and Behavioral Psychology
   4. Eight Taxonomies still to be approved include:
      1. Clinical Psychology
      2. Counseling Psychology
      3. Couple and Family Psychology
      4. Forensic Psychology
      5. Group and Group Psychotherapy Psychology
      6. Police and Public Safety Psychology
      7. School Psychology
      8. Serious Mental Illness
5. Update on the Tool in Development with CRSSPP (Toni Minniti/Scott Sperling)
   1. Toni Minniti shared on behalf of Scott Sperling that there is nothing new on the tool itself until the approved taxonomies are ready. He also inquired about payment for the work of Robert Davis to continue his development of the Psychology Taxonomy website to assist Training Directors to describe the level of training their program offers in a specialty.
6. Update on On-going Work with APPIC on Use of Taxonomy Language (Rick Seime/Ron Rozensky)
   1. Ron Rozensky and Rick Seime have been in communication with APPIC regarding the APPIC Directory, as well as with Wayne Siegel who works with the Universal Psychology Postdoctoral Directory. APPIC has adopted taxonomy language in its internship directory for training activities – there is opportunity to enhance the effectiveness of how the language is used e.g., by using the names of specialties in addition to training activities.
   2. A concern that gets verbalized by training programs relates to how CoA will view changes. Rick Seime suggested working collaboratively on this with CoA.
   3. Ron Rozensky suggested that we work with the Monitor on Psychology to communicate about the promulgation of the taxonomies and how it is useful to the field e.g., protection of trainees. Jeff Baker also said we should emphasize protection of the public, as well. Carlen Hennington suggested TEPP as a potential outlet for an article, as well.
7. Building a Consultative Function for COSPP in the CRSSPP petition process (Karen Farrell/John Watkins)
   1. Discussed how we might build a consultative function for COS regarding the petitioning process with CRSSPP given that it would benefit members to have such consultation while doing their petitions, as well as for groups who are petitioning for the first time.
   2. John Watkins shared information about the specialty renewal process for Psychoanalysis. Because of changes in the field related to the need to make the specialty more reflective of diverse practitioners and clients, as well as need to broaden the specialty beyond psychoanalysis, they decided to move forward with the petition as a Specialty in Psychoanalytic and Psychodynamic Psychology with a Subspecialty in Psychoanalysis. There are many programs at the doctoral, internship, and postdoctoral level that offer psychoanalytic/psychodynamic training while no programs offer psychoanalytic psychoanalysis training. The latter is offered at the post licensure level and involves time intensive and expensive training in psychoanalytic institutes, which is difficult to access without financial means and social capital. Moving forward with a broadened Specialty in Psychoanalytic and Psychodynamic Psychology and a Subspecialty in Psychoanalysis is more reflective of the actual diversity in the specialty. Further, this movement is clearly supported by their literature review and data gathered by the Specialty Council regarding Division 39 members’ professional activities and identities. John noted that the involvement of academics and graduate students from doctoral programs was very helpful to getting this work done and recommended it as a strategy for other Specialty Councils.
8. Leadership Transition (Robin Hilsabeck)
   1. Robin Hilsabeck shared information regarding her upcoming year as President.
   2. She would like to focus on board certification as an expectation in the field, however, recognizes that COS should not be doing the work of ABPP. She would like us to focus on how each specialty has generated excitement to achieve the goal of board certification and have specialties share their strategies with one another.
   3. Robin asked for feedback on this idea, as well as ideas for other initiatives that COS may engage in.
   4. Victor Molinari supported this idea. He also shared that it is also important to focus on the overlaps in competencies between specialties.
   5. Michelle Mlinac shared that doing exams by zoom has led to increases in ABPP applications and others agreed.
   6. Michelle Rusin shared that an issue in the future may also be post-licensure training e.g., if psychologists change jobs and need to get board certified in another area.
   7. Rick Seime agreed that a focus on post-licensure is necessary.
9. Meeting was adjourned at 3:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Julia C. Phillips, Secretary