

**APA Area VII 8/4-5/2017**  
**American Psychiatric Association**  
**Area VII Meeting**  
**Vancouver, BC, CA**  
**August 4-5/2017**

**Attending:**

James (Bob) Batterson, MD., Speaker-elect

Jeff Akaka, MD, Area VII Trustee

Craig Zarling, MD, Area VII Rep

Charles Price, MD, Area VII Dep Rep

**Alaska**

Alexander von Hafften, MD, Rep

John Pappenheim, MD, Rep Alaska

**Arizona**

Payam Sadr, MD, Rep

Mona Amini, MD, Rep

**Colorado**

L. Charlotte (Charlie) Lippolis, DO, Rep

Patricia Westmoreland, MD, Alt Rep Colorado

**Hawaii**

Leslie Gise, MD, Rep

Ike Ahmed MD, Rep

**Idaho**

James Saccamondo, MD, Rep

Maisha Correia, DO, Rep

**Montana**

Joan Green, MD, Rep

**Nevada**

Dodge Slagle, DO, Rep

Philip Malinas, MD, Rep.

**New Mexico**

Brooke Parish, MD, Rep

**Oregon**

Amela Blekic, MD, Rep

Annette Matthews, MD, Rep

**Washington**

James Polo, MD, Rep

Ray Hsiao, MD, Rep

**Western Canada**

Adeyinka (Yinka) Marcus, MD, Rep

Ian Forbes, MD, Rep

F. Fiona McGregor, MD, Rep

**Wyoming**

Stephen Brown, MD Rep

**MUR**

Linda Nahulu, MD, Rep

Mary Roessel, MD, Dep Rep

**ECP**

Jacqueline Calderone, MD Dep Rep

**RFM**

David Braitman, MD, Rep

Krin Walta, DO, Dep Rep

**Staff:**

Ann Thomas, APA staff to Area VII

Tim Miller, APA DGR Western Region State Affairs

Staff

**Guests not otherwise noted:**

**Not able to attend:**

Ariel González, JD, Staff Chief, Dept. of Gov't Relations

Gregory Miller, MD,  
ACROSS Rep Association of Family Psychiatrists  
Kimberly Nordstrom, MD, JD, ACROSS Rep

American Association of Emergency Psychiatry

Jason Collison, MD, ECP Rep

O'Ann Fredstrom, MD, Rep Wyoming

Matthew Layton, MD, Rep Washington

Jason Hunziker, MD, Rep Utah

Stamatis Dentino, MD, Rep Utah

Alexis Giese, MD, Rep Colorado

Reuben Sutter, MD, Rep New Mexico

Second Rep TBD, Montana

Glenn Martin, MD, Past Speaker

Steven Daviss, MD, Recorder

Daniel Anzia, MD, Immediate Past Speaker

Theresa Miskimen, MD, Speaker

Jeremy Lazarus, MD, Parliamentarian

Friday evening before the Saturday Area Council meeting, Colleen Northcott hosted a mixer for the Western Canada DB members and the Area Council at her lovely historic farmhouse in Vancouver.

Dr. Zarling opened the Area Council at 8:00am on Saturday August 4th in Vancouver at the Metropolitan Hotel with welcome and introductions. Ann Thomas was introduced as the new staffer for Area 7 from the APA Central Office.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved at 8:15am.

**The AEC report was given by Dr. Zarling and contained the following points:**

Diversity continues to be a priority.

Arbitrary ceiling in IMGs continues to be opposed consistent with 1994 position statement. Position statement, "Diversity" of 1999 retained.

Position statement on abortion being reviewed by Council on Minority and Health Disparities. This 1978 statement was reinforced.

MOC: Position paper opposing MOC for licensing and privileging approved by the BoT.

Approved APA PG on Alcohol Use Treatment.

Referendum voting: Process to have referenda approved at less than 40% of eligible voters become BOT action item and a decision will be made at the BoT. There is an Assembly workgroup to develop grassroots voting issues and encourage members to vote, procedural changes need to be discussed.

The new Speakers Award: Awarded to Dr Peele

Action Papers – of note, Healthcare as a Human Right, resembles Area 7 paper from a few years ago which was changed to "Access to Healthcare as a Human Right", a workgroup has been formed to address that.

Ethics Committee referral of paper opposing conversion therapy.

Membership increase, 17% of increase is women, 13% is African-American.

Annual Meeting was profitable, 11,600 attendees, of which 9,700 were professionals.

The new APA building is controversial in some DBs.

Area Council function is being reevaluated.

MURs as group, vocal about not being included enough, invite them to include area meetings?

Special elections procedures developed for Assembly Leaders unable to complete terms of office.

Assembly Work Groups: Metrics sunsetted, MOC, Access to Care become committees.

The Area Trustee report is included in the backup material. It was noted that this is Dr. Akaka's last year on the BoT as the Area Trustee as he is completing the final year of the maximum allotment of 6 consecutive years in that position.

**Speaker-elect's Report given by Bob Batterson.**

The Recorder race was Paul O'Leary and Steve Daviss. Dr. Daviss is expecting to get a job at SAMHSA under Anita Everett, so the AEC is instituting a process for Assembly office vacancies.

APA membership is getting older – revenue is decreasing as older members pay decreasing dues if any at all.

APA will be renting in the new building probably by the end of the year. APA has the option to buy the top three floors in a couple of years under favorable conditions.

MOC statement: please emphasize to constituencies that APA is not in favor of MOC being a requirement for state licensure; APBN says they don't advocate for MOC to be requirement or licensure; APA statement generated discussion, passed – intended to support state-level laws that prevent MOC from being part of licensure.

21 action papers from Assembly went to JRC, only one paper was withdrawn, two didn't pass – high success rate; 3 went directly to board; HC as a Human Right got traffic on listserve; discussion of committee/action paper/council processes, how things actually reach BoT.

Group discussed utility of statements on MOC: having position statement from APA allows psychiatrists to speak up with hospital admin, combine with statements from pediatrics, surgery, internal medicine, etc.; important to use these statements as leverage; too common for our position statements to remain on paper, no action taken.

**Tim Miller, DGR Region 4 staffer gave the following report:**

Dr. McCann-Katz and Dr. Jerome Adams confirmed.

Trends impacting Area 7: success at deterring psychologists prescribing bills in NJ, NY, TX, working on it in OR, ID. There is a call next week in OR about mid-level professionals performing rTMS – is this the norm in other states? Alkermes/Vivitrol is advocating for use in prisons, solicited thoughts from the AC. The response was that there was not much data on Vivitrol, relies on abstinence approach, recommends that TM discuss APA committees on relationships with pharma, addiction, and correctional psychiatry.

Dr. Zarling posited how can an individual member craft legislation, find the correct legislator, any help from APA on this?

Perhaps it would be helpful for Tim Miller to help link up with DB leadership in linking members to state legislators similar to the APA-CAN program.

**APAPAC Report – Charles Price.**

Area 7 Council historically gives at the 100% level. Currently Area 7 is at 63%. Hopefully the goal can be reached before the Fall Assembly meeting. Also, NJ has set the example for DB Executive Councils by having 100% of their Executive Council contributing to the APAPAC. All DBs in Area 7 are encouraged to follow suit.

**Committee reports were given by the following:**

Procedures – Dr. Hunziker was not present and no report was given

Rules- Drs. Brown and Blekic, no report

Awards – Dr. von Hafften, there will be a conference call in September. Keep in mind Profile in Courage, Bill Richards Psychiatry awards.

Nominating – Dr Gise. Dr. Gise reported out that the candidates to fill the Area Trustee vacancy are: Annette Matthews (Oregon), James Polo (Washington), Joshua Sonkiss (Alaska), and Steve Jenkusky (New Mexico). A protracted discussion ensued as to how to vote on these candidates. The following resolution was approved by the Area Council. The voting would take place at this meeting with the three candidates with the most votes to be forwarded to the National Nominating Committee. The following voting system would be employed in the voting. All candidates would be vote ranked. First choice would receive 1 point, second choice 2 points, third choice 3 points etc. depending on the number of candidates. The three candidates with the least number of points would be forwarded to the National Nominating Committee. Tellers were appointed by Dr. Zarling representing states that did not have a candidate up for election. James Saccumondo chaired the Ad Hoc Tellers Committee. The top three candidates were reported out by Dr. Zarling (in no particular order) as Dr. Matthews, Dr. Polo, and Dr. Sonkiss. These will be forwarded to the National Nominating Committee.

Disaster Planning – Dr. Gise reported a push to have a disaster contact person in every DB. The DB Disaster Chair would get free admission to the Disaster Planning Workshop at the APA. Motion approved for each DB to have a Disaster Rep.

**Ann Thomas gave a report from APA headquarters.** She will serve as a resource for Area 7 in negotiating all things APA.

DB reports as usual sparked a lot of thought and concern to help our struggling DBs as well as cross-fertilize even the stronger DBs. (Electronic reports are appended to the minutes).

Saturday evening an event on the Vancouver Waterfront was partially underwritten by the Western Canada DB. There was an amazing fireworks display competition and buffet on board. Good mingling, eating, dancing and relationship building was evidence of a very successfully planned evening by the Western Canada DB. Thank you Canada!!

While the electronic DB Reports are attached, below are some notes on the discussion of the DB reports.

Alaska DB Report discussion: Lex von Hafften lifted up Lisa Murkowski for her stance on the ACA. Jeff Akaka proposed sending a letter to her on behalf of Area 7 to thank her for her votes to save ACA.

Hawaii: Leslie Gise led the discussion on younger membership, outreach to residents, social gathering, better remote access; IMGs struggling with MOC, APA struggling to attract IMGs – potential action paper? Jeff Akaka proposes giving legislators positive things to vote for to improve access and kill inappropriate scope of practice at the same time.

Arizona: Payam Sadr presented the report. The biggest legislative issue was surprise hospital billing, APA talking points helped members to advocate for ACA. Scope of practice – psychologists dismissed their full-time lobbyist in AZ, not an imminent threat, AZ DB engages positively with psychologists in interprofessional capacities.

Colorado: Charlie Lippolis presented the report. Successful but controversial spring meeting (“Ketamine: Tranquilizer or treatment?”), is it appropriate to have ketamine clinic as exhibitor? Learners seem to like the educational content but can be hard to separate an exhibitor’s agenda. Late September, med student dinner and essay contest. CPS/APA did “secret shopper” survey to determine network adequacy in Colorado – there’s a wait list, not a new issue. Medical marijuana for stress disorders – amended to only for PTSD, for children under 18 there must be two doctors signing off, one must be your PCP or a board-certified C&A psychiatrist; legislation on marijuana research; legislation on competency restoration; bill to ban conversion therapy died, it can still be reimbursed by Medicaid.

Montana: Joan Green presented the report. 13 people at the spring meeting, updated the bylaws; Montana Psychiatric Conference coming up in Chico Springs – Gabrielle Carlson, John Griest speaking. Raising suicide awareness, donating money to NAMI walk. Group discussed an action paper on resources for smaller DBs/physician burnout; knowing who to call at APA; Jeff Akaka: APA trying to provide backup to small DBs w/out exec director, including orientation for new presidents at Annual Meeting and monthly conference call for DB execs.

Idaho: Jim Saccamondo presented the report. Membership and financials are fine, April conference on autism spectrum disorders. Biggest legislative issue is psychologist prescribing, got provision that education of prescriber must be substantially to the level of a nurse practitioner; group of 5 (2 psychiatrists, 2 psychologists, 1 pharmacist) advising Board of Psychology, binding decisions. Working with U of Utah to develop residency track in southeast Idaho, bringing more psychiatrists into the state.

Nevada: Phil Malinas gave the report. Membership has grown, leadership stable, financial status stable, member services bifurcated with northern, southern branches. Less resident participation, looking at how to increase it. Member survey; contract staff managing social media, community outreach. Produced online CME activity on suicide, all physicians in NV required to take 2hrs/2 years suicide CME. Psychiatric advance directives law, regional mental health policy advisory boards, banned conversion therapy.

New Mexico: Brooke Parish gave the report. Pot symposium upcoming. Membership steady at 174. State Bill 90 passed, mid-level supervising psychologists learning to prescribe, vetoed by governor.

Western Canada: Yinka Marcus, Fiona McGregor gave the report. Membership up, finances ok; 1500 psychiatrists in the area, mostly in cities along American border, concentrating on having a president in each province. 11% of federal budget to health, 7% of that to mental health; pharmacists can prescribe; opioid overdoses an issue here too, naloxone kits distributed for free, not effective against carfentanyl.

Oregon: Annette Matthews reported. Membership at 415, focusing on recruiting RFMs. Public psychiatry group meeting at various facilities around the city, tour before meeting. Finances okay; membership active around issue of physician suicide. Legislative (Craig Zarling) – public psychiatry committee reinvigorated, D majority in House and Senate; scope of practice bill, wide support on healthcare committee including a family physician, amendments from psychiatrists turned down; lobbying hard, publishing editorials, veto unlikely; banned sale of tobacco to under 21; reproductive health equity act; group discussion of how to build credibility with legislators, other behavioral health providers, rural communities in need of mental health care.

Washington: Jim Polo reported. Lots of new mental health funding in WA, governor very committed to mental health; duty to warn legislation in effect in WA – in JP's opinion, poor charting and uncoordinated healthcare contribute to perception among juries that psychiatrists are to blame, important issue to monitor across states. Safer homes legislation to reduce access to firearms and prescription drugs. New child and adolescent psychiatry fellowship in Spokane; state mental health system partnered with UW to develop forensic training program at state hospital. Membership trending up – 613, positive impact on revenues. WSPA developed suicide training CME to meet WA state requirements.

Wyoming: Steve Brown reported. Scope of practice issues, though not psychologist prescribing. Mineral revenues down so lots of cuts at state level. Lots of court-ordered civil commitment; community mental health centers trying to provide alternatives to hospitalization.

ECP: Jacqueline Calderone reported. ECPs wondering about marketing – why don't more people understand the difference between psychologists and psychiatrists? MOC also a hot topic for ECPs; how to get wider ECP membership, is there a useful role for social media?

RFM: David Braitman reported. Lots of scope of practice discussions among RFMs; discussion of stigma, related to physician burnout and questions on licensing applications – could these questions be modified to include a time frame or "impairing your ability to function"; important legislative issue, timely to connect ECPs to burnout resources; how to fix system to prevent burnout rather than holding individual physicians responsible for their wellbeing, i.e. victim-blaming; practice has changed, burnout isn't individual problem.

MUR: Linda Nahulu reported. Assembly leadership assisted with funding MUR reps to attend Sept. component to meet with Council on Minority Mental Health and Health Disparities. Physician burnout definitely an issue among MURs, multiple roles due to your identity; MMHHD toolkits being developed; Mary Roessel elaborated on toolkits.

Upcoming Meetings: Block Grant from Assembly doesn't cover cost of two meetings per year; should group forgo March meeting? Replace it with telemeeting? Different vibe in the Area meetings from the Assembly meetings, important to share local/legislative issues and get support from rest of the group; add one day pre-Assembly to share DB reports/local issues? Area Council not valued enough. Bob Batterson, Speaker-elect, wants to propose that Block Grants be done away with, Areas 3,5,7 have heavy travel expenditures; if people

pay for these meetings out of pocket, could APA cover Annual Meeting registration in exchange? Combination live/tele meeting; could meetings be more efficient?

Action Items (Craig Zarling)

Motion approved to send letter of concern to the Assembly; if there needs to be an unfunded (out of pocket for Block Grant attendees/telemeeting) meeting, which one? March meeting in Anchorage will be unfunded, August meeting; suggestion to only send half of each state delegation to November meeting, money saved can fund Spring meeting, send message about importance of Area meetings. There was a sense of the Area Council to have a combined unfunded/telemeeting in Anchorage in March which is a slight variation on the prior discussion of the March meeting being in Anchorage. Ann Thomas will pursue the options of APA facilitating video/teleconferencing for this meeting.

November 3-5, 2017  
APA Assembly  
Washington, DC

Possibly a no expenses reimbursed and video conference meeting  
(due to budget issues)

March 2 & 4, 2018  
Anchorage, Alaska

August 4-5, 2018  
TBD  
(Due to budget issues)

Respectfully submitted,

Charles Price, M.D.  
Deputy Rep. Area VII