

Area 7 Council meeting

Honolulu, HI

8/10

Welcome from Linda Nahulu and Leslie Gise, acknowledgment of native Hawaiian people and land

Introductions, disclosure of conflicts

Approval of minutes from May 2019 meeting

Annette Matthews (Area 7 trustee), BOT report

- departure from APA of Phil Wang, Director of Research position open
- PsychPro doing well, membership up, data fixes from Epic, grant to harmonize diagnoses of addiction, depression with family practice
- APA looking at surprise costs/billing by urgent care

Ray Hsiao, AEC update

- November Assembly meeting will be paperless
- New guideline/workgroup on disclosure of actual and perceived conflicts
- New checklist for action paper authors
- Budget consciousness, stay tuned for updates about reorganization of Area Council financing; thinking about how Assembly can be prepared for market downturn
- Paul O'Leary: concern about bullying/unwelcoming atmosphere on Assembly listserv – don't post anything you wouldn't say on Assembly floor; will this discourage fluid, informal discussion? is this discoverable in a lawsuit/should we even think of this as private communication?

Committee nominations: National nominating, Assembly nominating, Area nominating, Rules

DB reports

WY (Stephen Brown)

- Stephen Brown awarded Physician of the Year in WY, first psychiatrist!
- 22 members (probably 35 psychiatrists in the state)
- Hard time attracting new leadership
- Telemedicine may make recruiting more difficult

MT (Lisa Ponfick)

- Kept psychologist prescribing bill out of legislature; used some CALF grant money to fight psychologist prescribing this legislative session, having that money already allocated was helpful – do other DBs recommend continuing to get money in advance? (Yes: group agreed issue is unlikely to go away, helpful to be proactive, consistently spend money to prep for it, maintain relationships with legislators)

- Senator Tester has been great resource for mental health in Montana, intervened directly to assist patients; Maya Lopez: in OR we've achieved more leverage by being constantly in touch with legislators on a variety of issues, establishing credibility on access to care helps to fight the impression that psychologist prescribing is necessary; Jim Saccomando: don't walk away, stay involved, help develop strict prescribing standards; Charles Price: think about how you can be a resource to your legislators/connection to psychiatric care

CO (Patricia Westmoreland)

- Successful meeting, speaker from JHU about effects of marijuana legalization
- "Mental Health Stories" at APA Annual Meeting
- New recruiting video demonstrating value to members
- CO passed strong mental health parity bill, bill banning conversion therapy; unfortunately also passed bill allowing medical marijuana for autism despite DB efforts to fight it
- Inviting current AMA president to speak at Spring 2020 meeting
- Question/discussion: Denver recently decriminalized psilocybin possession – detectable on gas spec, impact on acute psychosis? More scientific/less anecdotal approach needed; in WA, funding to medical centers from marijuana taxation has not panned out

Voting - Rules Committee nominees: Jason Hunziker, Jim Polo

Voting - National Nominating Committee nominees: Trevor Prior, Maya Lopez, Jason Hunziker, Brooke Parish, Patricia Westmoreland

DB reports

Idaho (Jim Saccomando)

- Brainstorming ways to identify/publicize which psychiatrists in state are accepting new patients, i.e. a database
- Help from A7C with state association Annual Meeting – looking for speakers on missed populations in psychiatry and behavioral health (i.e. transgender, LGBT populations, etc.); first year hiring someone to promote meeting on social media, very successful
- Trying to develop a toolkit for people interested in going into private practice – any existing resources to recommend? Idaho has less managed medical care, lots of opportunities for those interested in private practice
- Discussion/questions: Brittany McColgan would like to develop a list of A7C members and their speaking expertise for DB meetings, etc., for example Trevor Prior does talk on treating adults with autism, highly underserved population (could also be useful at national level)

Alaska (Natalie Valasquez)

- Incoming class of 20 medical students, very difficult to recruit
- Any state employee who didn't "resign" was fired – all psychiatrists left, state hospital lost accreditation; very few beds left in state (a few in Juneau and Fairbanks); after legal pressure, accreditation restored, state hospital turned over to Wellpath in no-bid contract
- Mental health impacts of recent earthquake include PTSD
- Difficulty filling positions on AK DB executive council

- Discussion/questions: have you interfaced with native corporations to recruit psychiatrists? \$200k spent on recruiting, tough to fight perception of Alaska as dark and cold; might be helpful to find ways to expose students to AK before it's time to apply for residency/fellowships; hard to compete with entities who pay a stipend/lock applicants in, might be worth considering for Alaska, residents throughout the West should be interested in AK opportunities; re: burnout, 50% of physicians switch jobs in first two years after residency – worth it to break down expectations about work/life balance, salary, scheduling, fairness, values; is there something we can do as an Area to leverage the whole Western region, not compete with each other? Jim Polo will organize a committee to look at this question

Voting - Assembly Nominating Committee nominees: Trevor Prior, Jason Hunziker, Brooke Parish

HI (Leslie Gise)

- No president-elect
- APA not coming to HI in 2021
- Geographically isolated; innovative grant to Big Island for education and outreach in wake of lava disaster; few providers in region, some resistance to outsiders; support from APA Disaster Committee
- Shortage of providers on neighbor/outer islands

UT (Anne Lin, Jason Hunziker)

- Integrated care – training with Lori Raney/AIMS model in spring, looking at implementation in some community clinics; global health fellowship with pediatric residents; how to get PCPs to accept this model so psychiatrists aren't doing all the work
- Should APA, UPA be more or less political? For example on climate change, guns
- PAs requesting expansion of privileges – how should we evaluate their competence in proposed roles?

Voting - Area nominating committee nominees: Stephanie Fallon, Brooke Parish

RFM report (Brittany McColgan)

- Lot of action papers being written: topics include scope of practice, providing female patients with appropriate garments on psych ward, standardizing protocol for when resident, student, or staff member is assaulted on psych ward/what should training be
- Re: recruiting, stipends have been successful; holding face to face events for residents when we host Area Council meetings could also be useful; don't underestimate debt burden of residents, utility of early financial education
- Trend does seem to be toward preference for positions with defined hours/predictability

Voting results

- Rules: Jason Hunziker, alternate Jim Polo
- National Nominating: Patricia Westmoreland, alternate Maya Lopez
- Assembly Nominating: Brooke Parish, alternate Trevor Prior
- Area Nominating: Stephanie Fallon, alternate Brooke Parish

Speaker's Update to Area 7 (Paul O'Leary)

- Authoring an action paper: primary author checklist developed by Joe Napoli
- Changes to Assembly schedule, agenda for each plenary session; at AM, Opening Session will continue to be on Saturday
- New: reaffirmation calendar vs. consent calendar; report from each reference committee to be treated as a consent calendar; Procedural Code to be rewritten in advance of November 2019 Assembly, if successful adopted formally at November 2020 Assembly

M/UR report (Mary Roessel)

- Action paper about acknowledging indigenous territory assigned to Council on Minority Mental Health
- Fellowship opportunities/mentoring program

PAC report (Patricia Westmoreland)

- Raised \$214k to date from 1100 members
- In light of recent mass shootings, PAC is reviewing whether or not to support legislators with A+ rating from NRA, soliciting comments; there are legislators we disagree with on some issues who are nonetheless helpful on other issues we care about (as in CO with marijuana); when issues compete as in OR, important to weigh mental health impact on case by case basis, as with gun violence, reproductive rights; does being absolutist on any given issue eventually make it impossible to support anyone?

NM (Brooke Parish)

- Beginning to market to all licensed psychiatrists in NM – promoting what NM DB is doing for them; one-to-one outreach to lapsed members, ECPs, etc.
- On track to meet 100% Club eligibility for UNM residents

ECP report (Jasleen Chhatwal)

- No meeting since new members joined
- Jacqueline Calderone now ECP chair

Draft guideline recommendations on schizophrenia (Maya Lopez): try to be prepared to discuss these at Assembly

NV (Phil Malinas)

- 200 members (about 60% of all psychiatrists in NV); expanded # of general psychiatry residents in NV, 20 new residents/year statewide
- Starting in 2021 prescribers in NV will have to prescribe all controlled substances electronically
- Increase in NV licenses not attached to NV addresses – possibly telepsychiatry? Concern that they may not be familiar with available local resources, especially re: involuntary holds

OR (Maya Lopez)

- Scope of practice: PAs trying to remove most requirements for physician supervision, redefining relationship as “collaboration”; positive feedback for consults we provide to PAs and NPs on Oregon Psychiatric Access Line (state funded), working hard to build those relationships, demonstrate leadership, could be successful strategy in other states
- Curious about diversifying funding sources for DB

AZ (Jason Curry)

- Parity, scope of practice continue to be legislative issues
- Looking to expand community engagement, broaden focus beyond Phoenix, especially to northern AZ

Western Canada (Trevor Prior)

- Membership up to 463, mostly centered in lower mainland – about 600 psychiatrists in Alberta
- Geographically large DB – about a quarter of the continent! Most activities/membership concentrated in Lower Mainland of BC – trying to expand presence into Manitoba, Saskatchewan
- Discussion of mental health impact of report on murders of indigenous women
- Discussion of how access issues are being addressed in Western Canada; supervised injection sites have become a political issue in Alberta; data just emerging on relationship between kits/visits/supervised injection sites and eventual addiction recovery care

WA (Matt Layton)

- Legislative: \$254 million for mental health system, state hospitals will be beneficiaries; effects of Trueblood lawsuit; money for planning large training hospital (150 beds) approved
- DB finances strong

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Planning for future meetings: if your DB would like to host, please submit a detailed proposal to Ray Hsiao about how your state DB would benefit; looking at Tucson for Spring 2020

Assembly budget: expense of attending Annual Meeting/Assembly is significant for younger members, members in private practice who don't have CME budgets; inconvenience and expense of traveling from remote areas, missing work is considerable

How can we raise the profile/strength of Area 7 in Assembly/national organization? We cover a huge geographic area, represent unique patient populations, continuously underrepresented. The group agreed to conduct a strategic planning session at the March 2020 Area Council Meeting