

**American Psychiatric Association
Area VII Meeting
Boise, ID
March 9-10, 2019**

Attending:

Area 7 Rep
Craig Zarling
Area 7 Dep Rep
Charles Price
Area 7 ECP Rep
Jacqueline Calderone
Area 7 ECP Dep Rep
Jasleen Chhatwal
Area 7 RFM Rep
Krin Walta,
Area 7 RFM Dep Rep
Brittany McColgan,
M/UR Rep
Mary Roessel
M/UR Dep Rep
Linda Nahulu
Alaska
John Pappenheim, Rep
Joshua Sonkiss, Rep
Arizona
Payam Sadr, Rep
Jason Curry, Alt Rep (attending without reimbursement)
Colorado
Patricia Westmoreland, Rep
Hawaii
Leslie Gise, Rep
Iqbal (Ike) Ahmed, Rep
Idaho
Jim Saccumondo, Rep
Maisha Correia Idaho Rep
Montana
Joan Green, Rep
Lisa Ponfack, Rep
Nevada
Dodge Slagle, Rep
New Mexico
Brooke Parish, Rep
Stephanie Fallon, Rep
Oregon

Stephanie Maya Lopez, Rep
Amela Blekic, Rep
Utah
Anne Lin, Rep
Washington
Matthew Layton, Rep
Ray Hsaio, Rep
James A Polo, Rep
Western Canada
Wyoming
Stephen Brown, Rep
O'Ann Fredstrom, Rep
Tim Miller, DGR Region 4 staff
Ann Thomas, APA Staffer to Area VII

Guests:

Joseph Napoli – candidate for Speaker-Elect
Mary Jo FitzGerald – candidate for Recorder
Adam Nelson – candidate for Recorder

Not able to attend:

Assembly Speaker
Bob Batterson
Assembly Speaker-Elect
Paul O'Leary
Assembly Parliamentarian
Jeffrey Akaka
Area VII Trustee
Annette Matthews
Arizona
Don Fowls, Rep
Colorado
Charlotette (Charlie) Lippolis, Rep
Kimberly Nordstrom, Rep
Nevada
Phil Malinas, Rep
Utah
Jason Hunziker, Rep
Western Canada
Trevor Prior, Rep
Fiona McGregor, Rep
Third Rep Western Canada

Saturday March 9

Welcome/Introductions

AEC report (Craig Zarling): APA membership is at an all-time high; 175th anniversary of APA, APAF gala at Annual Meeting will be at SF City Hall, buy tickets early; changes to area council financing – Sunday

lunch at Nov. meeting cancelled to save \$, BOT will fund BOT attendance at Nov. Assembly; area councils that had surpluses at the end of 2018 will be rolled into contingency fund, councils can apply for funding, APA should respond within 30 days; block grant increased to \$50,750; beginning in November 2019, Assembly will aim to go paperless; discussion of non-psychiatrist affiliate membership category, joint workgroup of BOT, AEC to discuss further; call for action papers: “access to quality psychiatric care”; ongoing advocacy around increased research into firearm injury; motion to change M/UR to ARMUR voted down (or at least postponed to the next AEC being referred back to the MUR Committee – qualitative perception of the power of various groups within APA Assembly vs. their actual voting strength (M/UR, ECP, RFM)

Affiliate membership

- Ike Ahmed: open membership in AGP changed identity of organization as non-psychiatrists asked for more and more representation in the organization, APA should be mindful of that when exploring this issue
- Joan Green: isn't there a conflict between inviting psychologists to be members and fighting psychologist prescribing bills
- Jacqueline Calderone: ECPs were disappointed not to be represented, we're coming up in a different, more integrated population health system, tone around this issue is pretty negative
- Jasleen Chatwal: psychiatrists need to decide what their leadership within health systems looks like before inviting others in
- Matthew Layton: we can collaborate without affiliate membership, revenue potential shouldn't influence this process
- Jacqueline Calderone: what are the parameters of affiliate membership, how would the role be defined, does it necessarily lead to dilution of psychiatrist membership/influence; Ray Hsiao: experience of other associations is instructive, in practice it often does dilute existing membership
- Jim Polo: APA exists to protect our profession, but our profession is poorly understood by both medical and non-medical colleagues, we need to lead in mental health, especially in light of overwhelming need for care

Area nominating committee (Anne Lin, Krin Walta): Area dep rep nominee is Ray Hsiao; Area RFM dep rep nominee is Nicole Burkette Ikebata

Assembly elections/nominating committee (Charles Price): Joseph Napoli is nominee for speaker

Access to Care committee report (Jim Polo)

MOC committee (Matthew Layton): committee response to ABMS Vision of the Future report – general agreement that ABMS missed the mark, committee supports initial certification but no evidence that MOC improves practice while placing burden on diplomates, risks becoming a second form of licensure – ongoing CME requirement already exists in form of state licensure; ABPN just got sued; Ike Ahmed, Jacqueline Calderone: we don't know whether or not MOC works but public demands some form of certification – standards and learning are important for the field, whether or not these specific standards are appropriate

APA admin report (Ann Thomas): APA advocacy around MOC; in Education, PCSS program/train the trainer ongoing, SMI program getting off the ground, new website is available with clinical and patient resources, Annual Meeting coming up, lots of 175th anniversary programming; questions about

Assembly controversy re: NP prescribing session at AM; are there any updates on prior authorization issues, particularly frustrating in rural areas

Discussion of Area Legislative and Public Affairs representative positions – are they clearly defined? Does it overlap with Tim’s job or existing DB activity?

Action papers

- Improving Access to Behavioral Health Services (Jim Polo): APA would work in collaboration with other stakeholders to create/join coalition to work with commercial insurance to address inadequacies of access to behavioral health care; does APA already do this - what is the action arm of the Council on Healthcare Systems and Financing? Paper could specify how payers would be held accountable rather than create a new body; Area 7 votes to support paper
- Jacqueline Calderone: Enhance APA’s efforts to make sure telepsychiatry is covered by Medicare/Medicaid for all patients – for example Medicaid patients on disability due to mental illness can’t have telepsychiatry appointments in their homes; two providers who need to be in the same encounter can’t both bill for an evaluation, real barrier to expanding integrated care
- Mary Roessel: resolved that APA acknowledge traditional territory where meetings/events are held, APA should establish and incorporate these protocols (in similar style to protocols at University of Victoria, for example) – timing is good as we acknowledge 175th anniversary and look forward; one question is who should do this acknowledgment/how to operationalize; Area 7 approves paper as written and also voted to have Procedures Committee formalize this protocol for Area 7

Charles Price, Ray Hsiao, Stephanie Fallon will put together proposal for money from AEC contingency fund for Summer 2019 meeting to be held in Hawaii if approved by the AEC

Legislative Advocacy report (Tim Miller): APA joined other orgs in asking federal government to fund research into firearm injury; federal fly-in this week; Resident Physician Shortage Act, asking Senate to pass bill creating additional residency positions – would increase by 3000/year for 5 years; 42 CFR Part 2, outdated regulation of substance abuse treatment records creating unnecessary burden to integrated care; conversion therapy ban happening in Colorado

PAC report (Charles Price) Area 7 traditionally has 100% buy-in to the APAPAC. Hopefully this tradition will continue.

Workgroup discussion of whether or not to have public affairs and legislative reps – is this a new position, or keep it budget neutral by assigning it to an existing council member; do other areas have this? Need to consult other area procedure codes; Jacqueline Calderone and Patricia Westmoreland will update us in May about legislative rep; Payam Sadr will update about public affairs rep job description

AEC contingency fund proposal to hold August 2019 meeting in Hawaii, supported by Hawaii DB

Scope of practice paper from Dr. Geller – what does this mean for states who already have unsupervised prescribing by NPs (WY, AZ, NV, MT for example)? quality of training, practice varies among NPs; gatekeeping may be less productive than promoting standardization of training programs – opportunity to show leadership without seeming self-serving

Area 7 votes to submit HI proposal to AEC contingency fund

DB reports

- CO (Patricia Westmoreland): focus on recruiting new members; developing multi-tiered mentorship program to promote more resident/ECP involvement; public information committee created books of adult and children's mental health stories; activity around licensing/regulatory issues – CO DB involved with removing stigmatizing questions from state applications; legislative committee very active, key bills around substance use recovery, medical marijuana (various conditions including autism currently), suicide prevention; involved with launch of film "Too Ill to Execute" about need for SMI exemption from death penalty
- HI (Leslie Gise): membership 173, full slate of officers, finances in the black; legislative: hearing about crash course subscribing on Tuesday; Committee on Women active; medical students at UH Manoa started a chapter of Students for a National Health Program
- NV (Dodge Slagle): hired full-time executive director; membership growing, currently 199, outreach to younger members; finances strong thanks to February meeting; southern and northern chapters in state function somewhat independently; lots of RFM and ECP involvement; new residency programs pending in state, hopefully more medical students will be able to stay in-state; medical student scholarship awarded annually, annual donation to NAMI, sponsorship of suicide prevention coalition; legislative: NV likely to pass physician-assisted suicide bill – state medical society declined to take a position; NV has recurring requirement that doctors have to participate in 2 hours of suicide prevention CME; discussion of experience with physician-assisted suicide in other states, unforeseen implications
- RFM (Krin Walta): voting for next chair, Brittany McColgan is running; creating virtual RFM caucus to increase communication among RFMs, discussion of issues before the Assembly
- MUR (Mary Roessel): Indigenous toolkit on APA website – concise information, case history about working with indigenous patients; DDHE establishing CME module on mental health disparities
- NM (Brooke Parish): fall meeting in October at UNM – talked about gun violence/safety and relationship to mental illness, new version of Medicaid; finances in the black; new DB exec director; in need of new lobbyist; prescribing: NPs, PAs, those who already have prescribing authority can now supervise; membership slightly up (184), 100% of UNM residents; partnering with UNM for two spring CME meetings, OUD treatment conferences; Brooke Parish is MAT trainer, did a training with osteopaths, hopefully another this summer
- OR (Amela Blekic): good attendance at winter conference; very active legislative session, increased number of bills related to mental health; cultural change at OR capitol; OR has among lowest vaccination rates in country, new bill would remove non-medical exemption; conferences coming up in July and September; Maya Lopez: Disability Rights Oregon and groups in neighboring states are monitoring reporting time for fitness to proceed – shift from reactive to proactive stance has been successful for OR DB; Craig Zarling: new bill would take away all caps on non-economic damages in malpractice lawsuits, looks likely to pass – be alert, proactive in other states
- AZ (Payam Sadr): has full-time lobbyist paid from member dues; 2019 session had large legislative turnover but still Republican majority; scope concern: filing by nurses' association to expand prescribing authority to clinical nurse specialists; PAs want to practice independently, compromise negotiated on supervision ratio; House Rep introduced resolution that would broaden acceptable reasons to refuse vaccination, governor said he would veto; Annual Mtg will be April 27 in Scottsdale
- MT (Joan Green): membership stable; psychologist prescribing bill came up, educational requirements were too low, MT DB successfully argued that they were making progress on expanding access but that this bill wasn't a solution, bill was tabled; successful Annual Mtg in fall; spring meeting April 27; several anti-suicide bills in legislature

- UT (Anne Lin): membership 176; meets every other month, plus emergency meetings during legislative session; one conference/year, doing ok financially; Medicaid expansion to 138% of poverty line passed by referendum, legislature trying to substitute with expansion to 100% of poverty line; bill to restore insanity defense; APRNs want to prescribe, PAs want to do everything APRN can do; opposing proposed changes to involuntary commitment allowing PAs as examiners; proposed bill making it unlawful to change sex assigned at birth – bill dropped; bill attempting to disarm suicidal people/increase firearm education; Prop 2 referendum passed, legislature again tried to substitute

Area 7 votes to accept WA's nomination of Nicole Burkett Ikebata as RFM dep rep

Sunday March 10

Candidate statements: Mary Jo Fitz-Gerald (recorder), Adam Nelson (recorder), Joseph Napoli (speaker-elect)

DB reports

- WA (Jim Polo): membership stable at about 600, finances healthy; work with UW on CME series, good participation through video link; Annual Mtg in one week with programming about trauma/PTSD; legislative: 62 bills related to healthcare, mental health, integrated care, behavioral health workforce; Matthew Layton: Eastern State Hospital got \$25 million new unit; WSU Medical School has affiliations with 20 tribes
- ECP (Jasleen Chatwal): new ECP committee chair in May; no new action papers from ECP committee, but lots of discussion about Dr. Geller's scope of practice paper – desire for more positive tone, leadership from psychiatrists
- WY (O'Ann Fredstrom, Stephen Brown): membership steady at 22, recruitment pool unclear; finances in the black; legislative: legislature seems to feel that expanding scope will solve access issues, bill to this effect narrowly failed; bill to allow private substance abuse recovery services in prisons failed – peer counselors had no medical qualifications; because of Medicaid decreasing reimbursement for child and adolescent psych care, trying to mandate step down care – not adequate
- AK (John Pappenheim): membership increase to 57, finances improved, looking to hire lobbyist; no scope of practice issues in legislature this year, new governor proposes bare bones budget; CME meeting at end of March; state mental health hospital struggling for years – dwindling resources, staffing, low morale, administration choosing to privatize; under new governor much longer list of state employees, including doctors, were required to submit letters of resignation; Disability Law Center and NAMI filing civil suit re: jailing patients during involuntary commitment, initially a safety/transportation issue, now about lack of beds due to underfunding, AK DB considering amicus brief
- ID (Jim Saccomando): dealing with effects of psychologist prescribing, two psychiatrists and one pharmacist represented on 5-person advisory board to Board of Psychology; ID DB advocated for Idaho State U training program that would bring prescribing psychologists substantially to same level as NPs; Medicaid expansion referendum passed in November, court challenge failed, moving forward; new psychiatric hospital in Boise, 72-bed adult unit (for-profit)
- Western Canada reps unable to attend this meeting, looking for a third rep, preferably from Saskatchewan or Manitoba

Future meeting planning (Ray Hsiao): how to identify future meeting locations – perhaps one meeting per year could be easy to travel to/relatively low cost (Denver, Salt Lake City, Las Vegas), the other meeting could be the one that supports a specific DB, with a more robust form of support/mentorship

to offer a DB, DB could support a proposal; Maya Lopez: hard to keep up with volume of Assembly email, locate docs – let's establish cloud storage for sharing of docs, archiving purposes – AITS system already maintained by APA could be good solution

Final thoughts: how can we lead on scope issues? disconnect between APA at large and Area 7 interests esp. re: scope of practice – it's good for APA to have a position, but reality in Area 7 is often different; in states that already have psychologist prescribing, important to gather data about its effects; how can we be involved in training our non-MD colleagues to be better providers, work alongside them – not an action paper that would gain national support, we may have to think about this ourselves as an area

Action paper deadline March 28

Next meeting at Assembly at APA Annual Meeting in SF, May 17-19

Respectfully submitted (with major help from Ann Thomas APA Staff to Area 7),

Charles Price, M.D.

Area VII Deputy Representative