Council of Specialties in Professional Psychology

Virtual Quarterly Meeting Minutes

August 21, 2021

12 noon – 1:36 pm EST

Open Session

1. Julia Phillips, Secretary, completed the roll call.
   1. Present: Karen Farrell, President/Clinical Psychology; Robin C. Hilsabeck, President-Elect/Clinical Neuropsychology; 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; Cindy Carlson, Couple and Family Psychology; Danielle Rynczak, Forensic Psychology; Michelle Mlinac, Geropsychology; John M. Watkins, Psychoanalysis; Michele J. Rusin, Rehabilitation Psychology; Carlen Henington, School Psychology; Shirley M. Glynn, Serious Mental Illness Psychology; Don Townsend, Sleep Psychology. Linda Berg-Cross, CRSSPP; Toni Minniti, APA Education Directorate; Kristen Knight-Griffin, APA Education Directorate; Ron Rozensky, guest.
   2. Absent: Sally Barlow, Group & Group Psychotherapy; Jennifer C. Kelly, Police & Public Safety Psychology; Scott Sperling, APA CECP; David Cox, ABPP; Jeff Baker, APPIC, Matt Zimmerman, APPIC, Alex Siegel, ASPPB.
2. Karen Farrell noted that more than half of the Specialty Councils’ Taxonomies have come in for review by Executive Council. The Executive Council members will review the Taxonomies and provide feedback to the Specialty Council representatives. Specialty Council representatives should share that feedback with the members of their Specialty Councils. Rick Seime noted that for some Taxonomies, substantive changes will be needed, and that for others, only minor changes will be needed. Please use the CoS Taxonomy Grid that the Executive Council provided – it is on the website, as well. With their Taxonomies, some specialties have given edits to Common Definitions – the full CoS will address those recommended edits at the November meeting. We discussed whether the full CoS will vote to approve Specialty Council Taxonomies one by one, or wait and do so for all Taxonomies at the same time. Preference for the former was expressed overall. Rick Seime made a motion that when Taxonomies receive Executive Council approval, an electronic vote by the CoS Board of Directors will ensue for full approval. The motion was approved unanimously. Victor noted that all Taxonomies are to some degree, works in progress and CoS may need to review them periodically. Toni Minniti suggested the CoS set a timeline for periodic review of Taxonomies. Carlen Henington suggested a rolling review so that not all taxonomies are due for review at the same time. Linda Sobell suggested including dates on taxonomies so that it is clear which version was formally approved by the CoS. Ron Rozensky suggested that Taxonomies be reviewed the year before their seven year CRSSPP/ APA recognition renewal petition is submitted. Others expressed support for that idea. The rationale for doing so is the additional support for a specialty’s petition by the CoS as it demonstrates engagement by the field as a Specialty. Carlen Henington made a motion to notify specialty councils that they will be responsible for updating their taxonomies one year prior to submission of their specialty recognition petition to CRSSPP, and CoS will approve the revised taxonomy. The motion was approved unanimously. Toni Minniti suggested the CoS Executive Council review the process regarding who is responsible for notifying Specialty Councils about the deadline for revision/review of their taxonomies. She further noted that CRSSPP can add language regarding Taxonomy review to the CRSSPP letter that is sent to Specialty Councils one year in advance of the due date for the CRSSPP petition.
3. Open discussion was held to address Specialty Council representatives’ questions and concerns regarding Taxonomy revisions. Specialty Council representatives raised questions primarily regarding the postdoctoral stage of training. Rick Seime and Ron Rozensky shared various suggestions, including (a) the importance of remembering that the purpose of the Taxonomy is to provide guidelines for training programs to describe their training, rather than for individuals to describe themselves; (b) at the postdoc stage, Specialty X should identify what type of training is necessary for a program in another (Specialty Y), to describe their programs as providing an exposure to Specialty X; and (c) consultation by specialties with other specialties may be helpful to identifying what reasonably constitutes an exposure, but ultimately specialties must themselves determine what constitutes an exposure in their specialties. Additional questions were raised for the doctoral stage and the common definitions given the change in focus of the SoA. Karen Farrell suggested we do additional zoom calls for consultation, whether individual or group. She requested Specialty Council representatives email her with information on whether an individual or group consultation is requested and regarding what particular issue the specialty wishes to address.
4. Karen Farrell reported that the Executive Council is recommending that some funds be available for Specialty Councils to use for consultation regarding legal, financial, and tax issues that sometimes arise when setting up bank accounts to process income and expenses for a Specialty Council. Lloyd Berg and Clinical Health Psychology most recently ran into issues when setting up bank accounts and being asked for federal tax Employer Identification Number. In some states, one must also have a registered agent. He shared CHP’s solution to use a Registered Agent in Washington DC (<https://www.washingtondcregisteredagent.com/>). Because APA is unavailable for this type of consultation given pre-existing relationships between APA, divisions, and specialties, the Executive Council will continue to discuss how to best provide such consultation to member Specialty Councils.
5. Rick Seime reported that he, Toni Minniti, and Ron Rozensky have been working with APPIC leadership, including a presentation to the APPIC Board on the Taxonomy on August 9th. Wayne Siegel invited them to continue work regarding the use of the taxonomy in the Universal Psychology Postdoctoral Directory (UPPD; see <https://www.appic.org/Postdocs/Universal-Psychology-Postdoctoral-Directory-UPPD> and there was similar interest by Editor of APPIC Directory, which is exclusively for APPIC member internship and postdoctoral programs (see <https://membership.appic.org/directory/search>).

1. Linda Berg-Cross and Toni Minniti are planning for the Fall CRSSPP meeting and requested input from CoS, particularly in the area of how to support applications for subspecialty recognition that will begin to come in at the end of the year. CRSSPP’s full meeting occurs in October. John Watkins noted that he is involved with a subspecialty petition that will be submitted in December 2021 and that he would like to have more guidance from CRSSPP, particularly seeking information on when and if CRSSPP was available to consult with applicant subspecialties. It was decided that John Watkins and Karen Farrell will meet in September as planned, and that Karen Farrell, Rick Seime, Robin Hilsabeck, Linda Berg-Cross, and Toni Minniti will meet to determine what resources CRSSPP might create to aid in subspecialty development. The output of this meeting will also likely inform what types of activities will be the most beneficial use of attendees’ time at the CRSSPP meeting in October. Karen Farrell and Rick Seime will both be attending the Fall CRSSPP meeting.
2. Toni Minniti provided a brief report on meetings regarding the Taxonomy between CRSSPP and APAGS, as well as CRSSPP and APA CECP.
3. Karen Farrell suggested that CoS Specialty Council representatives might better collaborate and support one another in the process of writing CRSSPP petitions, rather than each Specialty Council doing so in a silo. Please think about how we might more fully support one another in that process.
4. Karen Farrell reported that the CoS needs candidates for President-Elect and is encouraging CoS representatives to please put their name forward. Carlen Henington asked for the Presidential Trio to talk about their duties – Karen Farrell shared that it has been very rewarding, and gave overview of the responsibilities e.g., monthly EC meetings, quarterly CoS meetings, and maintaining liaison relationships. Rick Seime shared that the newly created positions of President-Elect, President, Past President make onboarding much more seamless. Both agreed that it is truly a team effort.
5. CoS will be meeting virtually in the Fall – APA is tentatively planning to have hybrid meetings in the Spring.
6. Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm EST.

Respectfully submitted, Julia C. Phillips, Secretary

*Approved by the Council of Specialties on (insert date)*