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Focus on



FALL 2006 • VOLUME 38 • ISSUE 3

President's Message

Post APA Convention greetings to all of you, our Division 31 colleagues. Our Division 31 programming, Board meeting, and social/awards reception all were successful and I hope those of you who attended were able to join us at these important and exciting activities. I would like to share a few of the highlights with you so that you have a sense of the Division momentum and contributions being made across psychological associations and in APA.

Division 31 is sponsoring several initiatives which promise to be very instrumental in advancing our goal of collaboration with psychological associations. The APA Ethics Office and Division 31 are working together to assist psychological association ethics committee in their movement from adjudication to education. The Division 31 Board of Directors volunteered to call ethics committee chairs and executive directors of psychological associations and ask select questions regarding the challenges, accomplishments and goals of the ethics committees regarding development of an educative role. Preliminary results of the interviews have already identified several challenges including these:

- How can ethics programming move from single workshop subjects to more in depth and multiple workshop presentations?
- What do ethics committee members do when consultation questions on ethics begin to develop distinct legal aspects?
- How can colleague assistance be developed in an educative context?

Successful ventures have included consultation, workshops and newsletter ethics columns. The final summary will be completed in following months and the results will be reported in the Division 31 newsletters.

Another successful initiative is directed by **Dr. John Moritsugu**, a member of the Board of Directors. Division 31 and Division 45 (Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues), who received an interdivisional grant from APA. The grant allows Divisions 31 and 45 to develop a web based site for multicultural information, activities and interests to be shared with and to be accessed by psychological associations. Our objective is to assist psychological associations in the development of ethnic

minority involvement through information and collaboration with Division 31 and among the associations themselves.

At the Division 31 Social/Awards Hour, we were most privileged to present the awards for Outstanding Psychologist and for the Outstanding Psychological Association in Diversity Initiatives. Our outstanding psychologists are **Dr. Jennifer Kelly** and **Dr. Bill Safarjin**. Both Jennifer and Bill have made extraordinary contributions to the division and to the enhancement of the well-being of psychological associations. Their professional involvement is truly exemplary. The outstanding SPTA award went to the Hawaii Psychological Association. Their members continue to demonstrate commitment to the advancement of ethnic minority presence in their association and to support ethnic minority initiatives.

Division 31 has been the home of the Karl F. Heiser Award for four years and we are committed to the continued recognition of outstanding members of psychological associations in promoting advocacy through their work and their legislative efforts. **Dr. Jeffrey Barnett**, past president of Division 31 graciously coordinates this important event. This year, 12 psychologists were honored for their outstanding contributions in advocacy. Dr. Barnett, APA President Dr. Gerry Koocher, Heiser founding member Dr. Jack Wiggins and myself were honored to present awards to these meritorious psychologists in the presence of their family and friends. Special recognition goes to Dr. Barnett for his willingness to commit his time and effort to maintain this important award.

At the Division 31 Business Meeting, the Board voted to change the terms of office for secretary, treasurer and member-at-large to three rather than two years. This change brings Division 31 into alignment with other division and governance groups of APA.

I continue to be most honored and privileged to serve as your president and hope that you will pursue your interests in Division 31 through our exciting programs, activities and committees. I look forward to our continued work together and invite you to contact me regarding your interests in the Division at lcampbel@uga.edu.

—Linda F. Campbell, PhD

