

**Area 3 Council Meeting  
May 4-5, 2018  
New York City, NY**

**Call to Order:** Dr Joseph Napoli, Area 3 Representative, called the meeting of the APA Area 3 Council to order on Friday, May 4 at 12:33 pm, at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City, NY. A quorum was present for the entire meeting.

**Present (voting members):** Drs Mary Anne Albaugh, Lily Arora, Charles Blackinton, Ken Certa, Charles Ciolino (Saturday am and pm only), Constance Dunlop, Michael Feinberg (for Mel Melnick;), Gerard Gallucci, Bill Greenberg, Annette Hanson (Friday and Saturday am only), Barry Herman (Friday and Saturday am only), Mark Komrad, Rahul Malhotra, Elizabeth Morrison, Joe Napoli, Daniel Neff (for Kenneth Thompson), Jennifer Payne, Ranga Ram, Richard Ratner, Cristina Secarea, Dimal Shah (for Manuel Reich), Elias Shaya, Nazanin Silver (Friday and Saturday am only), Eliot Sorel, and Brian Zimnitsky.

**Non-voting members**

Area 3 Trustee: Dr Roger Peele

Executive Director members: Patricia DeCotiis (Friday and Saturday am only), Joanne Dunne (Saturday pm only), Megan Hayes (Saturday am and pm only), Deborah Shoemaker (Saturday am and pm only)

District Branch Presidents: none

Privileged Guests: Dr Sabina Bera, APA Fellow (Saturday am only), Dr Bob Batterson (Saturday am only), Dr Steven Brown (Friday only), Jon Fanning (APA Membership Director, Saturday am only), Dr Joseph Liberto (AAAP Rep (Saturday am and pm only), Dr Paul O'Leary (Friday only), and Craig Obey, Chief APA Gov't Relations (Saturday am only)

APA Staff: Jennifer Medicus

**Absent voting members:** Dr Baiju Gandhi

**1. Welcome New Members and Guests, and Introductions and Disclosures of Potential Conflicts of Interest** – Dr Napoli welcomed new members and guests. Attendees introduced themselves and reported their affiliations, to identify potential conflicts of interest that might arise in the proceedings.

**2. Minutes of the March 10 Council meeting**

Dr Napoli also reported that the minutes were not available for adequate review by the Council, so they will be discussed tomorrow.

**3. Announcements by Dr Napoli**

**RFM Awards:** The Council had voted to approve 4 RFMs, two from NJPA and two from WPS, to receive the first Area 3 Council RFM awards for their accomplishments; there will be a presentation later recognizing them. Dr Napoli thanked Dr Sorel for having the idea for these awards, Dr Greenberg and Ms DeCotiis for reviewing and supporting this in the COMS committee, Dr Herman and Ms Shoemaker and the COPE Committee for their review of this program and Ms Dunne for her work in revising the proposal, and he explained the review process so that other DBs will be able to work on submitting candidates for these awards next year. There will be a dinner this evening for the awardees.

#### **4. Candidate for Recorder – Dr Brown**

Dr Brown had been unable to be present at our March meeting at which time the other two candidates for Assembly Recorder made presentations to our Council, so at this time he presented to our Council, regarding his candidacy.

#### **5. JCAHO/CMS Ligature risk policy**

Dr O’Leary gave some background on this problematic issue, and an update on recent APA activities attempting to mitigate unintended adverse consequences of implementing this new policy, including an APA survey of the real or anticipated adverse effects on hospital units (eg, closing units rather than making extensive and expensive structural changes). Dr Certa expressed concern that CMS backing away and letting the JCAHO decide on this policy, and Dr Napoli suggested that he could talk directly with Dr Levin to get the most recent information available regarding where this process stood. Dr Napoli noted that there were potential conflicts between implementing such a policy for suicide prevention while trying to comply with fire safety standards (eg, removing door knobs as a ligature risk, which would then increase the difficulty of having people able to leave quickly in the event of a fire).

#### **6. Area 3 Representative Report – Dr. Napoli**

##### **A. Agenda**

Dr Napoli briefly reviewed the upcoming agenda for this Council meeting.

##### **B. Assignments**

Reference Committee 1 – Dr Secarea (for Dr Dunlop)

Reference Committee 2 – Dr Greenberg; Dr Payne (for M/UR); Dr Ratner (for ACROSS)

Reference Committee 3 – Dr Neff (for Dr Thompson)

Reference Committee 4 – Dr Arora

Reference Committee 5 – Dr Feinberg (for Dr Melnick)

##### All Area Assignments

Area 3 will be the primary Area for the revised position statement on abortion

Area 3 will be the secondary Area for the revised position statement on screening for mood and anxiety disorders during pregnancy and postpartum; Dr Morrison noted the Rules Committee action on this, Dr Greenberg noted that there was concern in the AEC about identifying source of the recommended screening timings, and Dr Payne stated that she would follow up with the sources of the recommendations

##### Assembly Ad Hoc Work Groups and Committees

Access to Care – Dr Sorel

MOC – Drs Arora and Ram

DSM – Dr Malhotra (for Dr Ciolino)

Public and Community Psychiatry – Dr Gallucci

Liaison Committee on Practice Guidelines – Dr Hanson

Work Group on Increasing Voter Turnout – no one currently assigned from Area 3

APA Foundation Work Group (has now been sunset)

### **7. AEC Report – Dr Greenberg**

Dr Greenberg reported that the AEC had some extended discussion regarding the proposed change in the APA dues structure, to end the “Rule of 95” dues reduction for those who have not yet reached that criterion in the next two years, to be replaced by requests from members for dues reduction based on their retirement or semi-retirement status, or other financial stress. This proposal was generated to address DB finances, rather than APA finances, as dues represent only a minority of the APA’s income, as opposed to virtually all the income that DBs receive, and the aging demographics of DB members has been having a negative impact on some DBs. There appeared to be some concern about the proposal from members of Area 2, but specific concerns were not brought forward. The Board has approved this change and the Assembly will only be able to vote the current proposal up or down, there will not be any opportunity to amend. Another issue involved the decision that individuals may learn the detailed results of Assembly elections (ie, numbers of votes cast for the candidates), by asking the Speaker.

Dr Napoli, indicating that we are secondary on the Rule of 95 revision proposal, which although Board-approved, the Assembly also votes on as it represents a change to the APA bylaws. Dr Malhotra moved that Area 3 support this proposed change in bylaws to end the Rule of 95, with Dr Albaugh seconding. In the ensuing discussion, in response to a question by Dr Ratner, Dr Morrison noted that there was a very wide range in the DB dues for the various DBs. Dr Sorel, supporting concerns raised by Dr Herman, recommended that if the DBs had a financial problem and that we have an aging membership, that we need to have a more comprehensive approach to address these larger issues. There was a motion to postpone further discussion until the Council meeting the following morning, in order to get more input from Mr Fanning and a member of the task force that produced the Rule of 95 dues reform proposal, moved by Dr Malhotra and seconded by Dr Albaugh. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion, with one abstention.

### **8. Financial Report – Dr Greenberg**

Dr Greenberg reported that our Area 3 account balance had diminished slightly, and was now \$94,317, related to the timing of when our expenses are submitted.

### **9. Trustee Report – Dr Peele**

Dr Peele indicated that he did not have anything to add to the BOT report of the last meeting.

### **10. APA Update – Jennifer Medicus**

Ms Medicus reported that the APA was working with Montefiore on a case study of the collaborative care model, the results of which will be published reasonably soon. She stated that she could send out a hyperlink to an article, “Leveraging Digital Technology to Improve Behavioral Health Integration,” which describes the model.

## **11. Action Papers – Dr Dunlop**

Dr Dunlop reported that she could distribute newer versions of her three action papers.

## **12. PAC – Dr Certa**

Dr Certa explained the value of our PAC and the importance of making contributions to the PAC. Dr Napoli noted that 100% of the NJPA BOT have contributed to the APA PAC for the last two years, and he encouraged other DBs to make an effort to match this demonstration of support, as the percentage of members of an organization contributing to a PAC is an important measure, not just the total amount that a PAC raises.

The Council went into recess at 1:56 pm, and reconvened the next day, Saturday, May 5 at 8:33 am, with voting Council members not present on Friday presenting their affiliations.

## **13. Continuation of Proposed Rule of 95 Bylaws Change**

Dr Napoli introduced Mr Fanning and Dr Batterson, who then further discussed the circumstances that led to the proposed change in the bylaws, answering questions from Council members. The motion to support the bylaws change was voted upon and approved: 16 yea, 6 nay, 2 abstentions.

## **14. Reference Committee Reports**

**S = Support, SWC = Support with Changes, DNS = Does Not Support**

### **Reference Committee 1 Advancing Psychiatric Care – Dr Komrad reporting**

cc 2018A1 4.B.2 Revised Position Statement on Telemedicine in Psychiatry

cc 2018A1 4.B.7 (Revised) Proposed Position Statement: Weapons Use in Hospitals and Patient Safety

2018A1 12.A APA Endorsement of AMA Position Opposing Unsupervised Practice of Non-Physician Practitioners – **SWC**

2018A1 12.B Enforcing Parity Laws with Insurance Companies – **SWC**

2018A1 12.C Supervision of Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants in Psychiatry by Psychiatrists – **SWC**

2018A1 12.D Requesting CMS Help Us Improve Addiction Treatment Process – **S**

2018A1 12.E Adoption of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry's Policy Statement on Psychologist Prescribing – **SWC**

There was much discussion about psychologist prescribing, leading, upon a suggestion by Dr Napoli, to have Dr Feinberg move and Dr Malhotra second, that Area 3 support Action Papers 12.A, 12.C and 12.E as amended by Reference Committee 1. Upon a recommendation by Dr Certa, Dr Napoli split the motion to 12.A, 12.C and 12.E separately. Dr Komrad noted that AACAP had spent a year thoroughly researching their policy on psychologist prescribing. The Council voted to support 12.A and 12.C unanimously, and the Council voted to support 12.E, with 2 voting against and 1 abstaining.

### **Reference Committee 3 Education & Life-Long Learning – Dr Neff reporting**

cc 2018A1 4.B.8 Proposed Position Statement: Risks of Adolescents' Online Activity

cc 2018A1 4.B.12 Proposed Position Statement: Psychiatric Services in Adult Correctional Facilities

2018A1 12.J Improving Access to the ABPN Examinations – **S**

2018A1 12.K Veterans and Their Families Deserve Quality Psychiatric Treatment – **SWC**

2018A1 12.L Defending the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) Program – **S**

2018A1 12.M APA Supports Psychiatrists to Practice Psychiatry Without the Unproven Requirements of the MOC In a Time of Severe Psychiatry Shortage – **SWC**

2018A1 12.N Developing a Web Based Tool Kit for Psychiatrists and Patients Who Wish to Appeal Adverse Medical Necessity Decisions by Managed Care Entities – **SWC**

**Reference Committee 5: Membership & Organization – Dr Feinberg reporting**

2018A1 12.S Guidelines for Public Statements by Psychiatrists – **DNS**

2018A1 12.T Streamlining the APA Application Renewal Process – **DNS**

2018A1 12.U Action Paper Follow up by the Assembly – **SWC**

2018A1 12.V Survey of Membership – **DNS**

2018A1 12.W APA Referendum Voting Procedure – **DNS**

**Reference Committee 2: Psychiatric Knowledge & Research – Dr Greenberg reporting**

cc 2018A1 4.B.11 Proposed Position Statement: Solitary Confinement (Restricted Housing) of Juveniles

2018A1 4.B.13 Proposed Position Statement: Research with Involuntary Psychiatric Patients – **S**

2018A1 12.F Medication Assisted Treatment and Physician Health Plans – **SWC**

2018A1 12.G Endorsing a Single Payer Nationwide Health Care System – **DNS**

2018A1 12.H Towards a Single Payer Nationwide Health Care System – **SWC**

2018A1 12.I Improving Identification and Treatment of Borderline Personality Disorder – **DNS**

**Reference Committee 4: Diversity & Health Disparities – Dr Arora reporting**

cc 2018A1 4.B.4 Revised Position Statement: Resolution Against Racism and Racial Discrimination and Their Adverse Impacts on Mental Health

cc 2018A1 4.B.5 Revised Position Statement on Religious Persecution and Genocide

2018A1 4.B.6 Proposed Position Statement on Discrimination Against Religious Minorities – **S**

2018A1 12.O Addition of Adequate Amounts of Phosphatidylcholine (choline) to all Prenatal Vitamins – **SWC**

2018A1 12.P Aligning the Financial Contributions of the APAPAC with the Stated Policy of the APA Regarding Firearm Regulation – **SWC**

2018A1 12.Q Study of the Impact of Racism on Clinical Treatment – **SWC**

2018A1 12.R A Call to Recognize and Honor the Psychiatrists Who Served in Vietnam – **S**

Dr Napoli noted that Area 3 is the primary Area regarding the position statement on abortion. Dr Herman reported that ACROSS, secondary reviewer on this position statement, was not in support, based on questioning whether all the statements were really psychiatric in nature, and thought it should be re-written. Dr Napoli indicated that in view of need for more time for discussion on this matter, the Council would discuss this later in the afternoon session, and he also decided that we would also hold over the discussion of the revised position statement on screening for mood and anxiety disorders during pregnancy and postpartum, so that Council members would have time to review the requested resource documents, that Dr Silver provided.

The Council went into recess at 1:56 pm, and reconvened at 4:33 pm.

**15. Managing Council time constraints**

Dr Greenberg, running the meeting temporarily in Dr Napoli's absence briefly reviewed items that we had to address in the remaining Council time this afternoon. Dr Napoli was absent because he was on the faculty for the Annual Meeting CME Course "Disaster Psychiatry Review and Updates: Terrorist Mass Killing, Climate Change, and Ebola," which was scheduled on Saturday from 1 to 5 pm.

**Calendar** – Dr Greenberg informed the Council that the time of our next Fall meeting would be determined by email.

**Calling the Question** – Dr Morrison noted that there were individuals not able to speak about the Rule of 95 Bylaws Change as the question had been called, but that this required a 2/3 vote and she felt that perhaps at times there had not been 2/3 voting in favor. Dr Certa observed that in such questions one call always ask for Division, always in order.

## **16. Discussion of Pending Position Statements**

**Revised Position Statement on Abortion:** Dr Payne provided background regarding the proposed revised position statement on abortion (current version dates from 1978), updated to provide more culturally relevant considerations and newer evidence. Some questions were raised about perceived weaknesses in this shorter position statement, with Dr Malhotra clarifying that there had not been any motion approved to retire the old position statement at this time. Dr Certa moved to approve the revised position statement. The motion was seconded and after discussion the Council voted to approve with 2 abstentions.

### **Position Statement on Screening for Mental Health Symptoms in Pregnancy and**

**Postpartum:** Dr Payne indicated the Task Force will be withdrawing this position statement at this time for some rewriting, so the Council did not vote on it.

## **17. Presentation of RFM Merit Awards**

Dr Greenberg thanked Dr Sorel for the proposal to present these new awards, honoring RFMs in our Area who have contributed significant meritorious achievements, and thanked Ms DeCotiis of the COMS Committee, and Dr Herman and Ms Shoemaker for the COPE Committee's positive and timely vetting of this program. This year's honored RFMs are: Drs Stephen Mateka and Adam Sagot, both of Rowan University-School of Osteopathic Medicine and NJPA, Dr Cristina Secarea of St. Elizabeth's Hospital and WPS and Dr Madeline Teisberg of the Walter Reed National Military Medical Center and WPS. The certificates were presented, with Ms DeCotiis accepting the certificates for Drs Mateka and Sagot, who were not able to attend this Council session. Dr Sorel recognized the short time constraints this year for award nominations, and expressed the hope that additional DBs would be able to recommend candidates for this award for next year.

## **18. Reports**

Brief reports were given, with a few items noted below.

**A. Committee on Member Services** – Dr Greenberg and Patricia DeCotiis, Esq., briefly noted the work on the RFM awardees.

**B. Committee on Program Evaluation** – Dr Herman and Deb Shoemaker, noted the RFM award program and the MPS ECP program approvals. The Council voted unanimously to approve the COPE Committee approval of the MPS project.

### **C. ACROSS**

1) American Association of Psychiatric Administrators – Dr Herman

2) American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry – Dr Ratner

3) Southern Psychiatric Association – Dr Komrad (no organizational name change yet; hosting a reception the next evening at APA; next event in Nashville)

### **D. District Branches**

- 1) Psychiatric Society of Delaware – Drs Gallucci and Ram (successful 4-hour CME session on collaborative care)
- 2) Maryland Psychiatric Society – Drs Hanson, Shaya and Zimnitsky
- 3) New Jersey Psychiatric Association – Drs Arora, Blackinton and Ciolino (just completed a collaborative care training)
- 4) Pennsylvania Psychiatric Society – Drs Albaugh, Certa, Feinberg, Neff and Reich (legal issues with AOT being addressed)
- 5) Washington Psychiatric Society – Drs Dunlap, Morrison and Sorel (10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of successful CLM program noted)

**E. ECP** – Dr Malhotra

**F. M/UR** – Dr Payne (working out new bylaws and procedures)

**G. RFM** – Drs Silver and Secarea

**H. Assembly Ad Hoc Work Groups and Committee Reports**

1. Committee on Access to Care – Dr Sorel (noted World Bank data, eg, 50% of world population without access to health care)
2. Committee on Maintenance of Certification – Drs Arora and Ram (explored cost of the pilot program for option of reviewing articles instead of taking a 10-year exam)
3. Committee on Psychiatric Diagnosis & the DSM – Dr Ciolino
4. Committee on Public & Community Psychiatry – Dr Gallucci
5. Liaisons to the Steering Committee on Practice Guidelines – Dr Zimnitsky\_for Dr Hanson (several new guidelines being updated including treatment of schizophrenia and borderline personality disorder)
6. Workgroup on Increasing Voter Turnout – Drs Albaugh and Herman

**19. Departing Council Members:** Drs Blackinton, Silver and other council members who are leaving the Council were duly recognized, and appreciation expressed for their contributions to the Council’s work.

**20. Unfinished Business: none**

**21. New Business: Fall meeting of Area 3 Council to be arranged by email**

**Adjournment:** 6:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted,

William Greenberg, MD, DLFAPA  
Area 3 Deputy Representative