

CIRCULAR LETTER #602

Post-Meeting Spring

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

MAY 2007

By the time you read this, the spring blizzards and snowed out baseball games should be a thing of the past. Beautiful early spring weather greeted us at our spring meeting, which 142 members, 18 committee guests, 3 Ethel Ginsburg Fellows, and 3 Ittleson Consultants attended. We welcomed 15 new GAP fellows, and voted in 6 new members. Just as creative people experience cycles of seeming lack of productivity followed by intense activity, I believe organizations do as well. Although at times GAP has seemed to me to be “stuck” and turned in on itself, there was an air of excitement and forward momentum at this meeting.

Our new fellows are an exciting group with diverse backgrounds and talents. By the end of the meeting they had already begun working on their project to be presented at the fall 2008 plenary.

On Friday, the Steering Committee heard a presentation by Robby Reynolds, from the Association of American Medical Colleges on the AAMC’s new website for medical education, MedEdPORTAL (www.aamc.org/mededportal). The purpose of this project is to provide a venue for medical scholarship. It is designed to provide a home for a variety of materials written designed to aid in medical school teaching at all levels — students, faculty and residents. The site is open to the general public and is being accessed by users from around the world. Materials placed on the website after a rigorous peer review and editorial process. Mr. Reynolds offered us the opportunity to have a specially designated GAP portal for our publications. Given the fact that several committees are developing curricula, this is an exciting opportunity for us to have a major impact on medical education. GAP will be responsible for providing peer reviewers and an associate editor. Peer reviewers may be asked to review materials by other than GAP authors. Many thanks to Steve Scheiber who volunteered to serve as associate editor. We already have a structure in place to review GAP products—our hardworking Publications Board. In addition, we will need to enlist additional GAP members who are willing to serve as reviewers. In the past we have surveyed members to determine their areas of expertise in order to call upon them as reviewers — this time we will use broadcast e-mails to obtain reviewers.

We heard an outstanding plenary address by Frances A. Champagne, M.D., “Epigenetic Programming of Gene Expression and Behavior,” in which Dr. Champagne demonstrated evidence from a rodent model that the environmental experiences of infancy can alter gene expression and thus behavior through epigenetic modification of steroid genes.

An enthusiastic group arrived early to attend a new task force on “Integrative Psychiatry in the Age of Neuroscience” organized by Devra Braun (see Dr. Braun’s report). The task force will explore whether to pursue forming a new committee.

Given our concerns at the fall meeting about the eroding of our reserves over the past few years, financial matters occupied the attention of the Board of Directors and Finance Committee. Our reserves continue to be at a healthy level—around \$400,000—but they have fallen from approximately twice that 10 years ago, owing to expenditures exceeding revenues. Lower reserves means less income on our investments. It appears that we will have returned to financial stability by the fall, thanks mainly to the members’ agreement to pay the full costs of their hotel rooms at meetings (albeit at a very favorable rate).

The Finance Committee spent considerable time reviewing our portfolio with Harris Management, and held a productive telephone conference with our contacts there. The acquisition of Harris by a much larger company, Phoenix Investment Partners, Ltd., has resulted in reduced communication

and a resultant lack of clarity on our part about developments within Harris. We continue to be invested in a mixture of mutual funds designed to provide a stable income — for the year 2007 we earned 12.6%. Full financial statements are available from Frances at the GAP Central Office.

We continue to explore sources of outside funding. Several committees are creatively engaged with outside entities whose mission coincides with that of the committee—see the reports of the LGBT and Psychopharmacology committees. Grants from the Gill Foundation and the National Board of Medical Examiners, respectively, are funding GAP's portion of the operating expenses of these committees. The grant application process was relatively simple for both — Jack Drescher shared with us the one page proposal his committee submitted (copies are available from Jack at <jadres@psychoanalysis.net>. Lilly continues to provide an unrestricted educational grant, and this plus funding from Dear Abby goes to support GAP fellows. Presidential guest Justin McCarthy discussed with us the advisability of encouraging members who are in a position to do so to develop charitable remainder trusts. This vehicle provides tax advantages to donors as well as benefits to recipients. We are planning a presentation on this at the fall meeting.

On-line payment of dues was again discussed and is not feasible given the additional costs this would incur for GAP.

Thanks to outgoing Board members, William Sledge and Joan Lang, and welcome to newly elected members, Lisa Dixon and Ben Liptzin. Special thanks to Paul Fink for his passionate and committed leadership during the past 2 years. Congratulations to Steve Scheiber on being elected Life Member.

Finally, we note the passing of long time GAP members Henry Work and Harold Lief. The Board voted to honor Henry Work, a former GAP President, by a plenary address in his honor, and to ask members to remember him with coupon contributions, noting his family's statements that contributions to GAP would be an appropriate way of honoring him.



Lois T. Flaherty, M.D.

Administrative Committee Reports:

FELLOWSHIP SELECTION COMMITTEE MINUTES

Present: Doctors Gross, Heru, Gardner, Shanfield, Rao

This meeting was spent in orienting the new group of Fellows to GAP. An outstanding group of Fellows has started their first meeting of a two year rotation.

PUBLICATIONS BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Present: Drs. Adler, Aldrich, Baron, Copans, Fink, Merlino, Nadelson, Nace, Notman

1. Update on Reports
 - a. Psychopharmacology Committee: DTC Survey received some feedback during APA presentation and is reworking the manuscript for resubmission to the Publications Board.
 - b. The Committee on Terrorism submitted its manuscript "Psychiatry and Terrorism" and was approved pending final review by Dr. Adler.
 - c. The Prevention Committee had its article "Prevention in Psychiatry" approved as the lead article in the May 2007 upcoming issue of Psychiatric Annuals.
 - d. The Psychopathology Committee had its very fast track manuscript: "Psychiatry and Primary Caring: What are our boundaries of responsibility?" approved, submitted and accepted by Psychiatric Services as a "Best Practices" article which will appear in the May 2007 issue.
 - e. The Committee on Addictions report on Coercion will appear in the May 2007 issue of Journal of Addictions.
 - f. The Committee on Mental Health Services had its article: "The Tipping Point from Private Practice to Publicly Funded Settings for Early and Mid Career Psychiatrists" appear in Psychiatric Services: 2006: 57:11, 1640-43.

- g. The IMG Committee had its article: An Annotated Bibliography of Professional Literature on IMGs” appear in Academic Psychiatry’s Volume 31 1-2/07 issue.

2. Partnering with the AAMC MedEdPortal

We are pleased to announce a collaborative effort with the AAMC regarding GAP committee work on curricula development. Five committees are currently engaged in such work particularly focused on residency training such as LGBT, geriatrics and family. Given the timeliness and importance of this work GAP with the help of the Committee on Aging has undertaken a partnership with the AAMC that is devoting major resources to a website entitled: MedEdPortal. This site has the capacity to provide online resources to advance learning in medical education worldwide. You can view their work at: www.aamc.org/mededportal.

We are pleased to announce that Steve Scheiber, MD has agreed to join the Publications Board as the Associate Editor for this project. Steve will assign peer reviewers within GAP to review potential submissions to MedEd and within the Publications Board we shall provide MedEd with first level review. Within MedEd GAP will have its own area where each of our curricula will be featured. Committee members will be able to site this work as a peer reviewed publications for their curriculum vitae.

3. Potential venues for GAP products.

As Committees contemplate appropriate audiences for our collective work we are mentioning several venues. GAP has had success with Psychiatric Services as a journal for editorials, short and regular articles as well as some of its columns such as its “Best Practices” column for those committees working on short reports of varying lengths. In addition, an increasing number of journals are accepting commentary articles (American Journal of Psychiatry, NEJM, JAMA) for position papers in keeping with the spirit of GAP. The World Congress’s journal “World Psychiatry” has a large international readership that has great interest in the social issue papers and positions GAP is known for. Finally, for committee’s working on longer manuscripts 3 committee’s (Work and Organization, Research and Prevention) have taken responsibility for an entire issue of Psychiatric Annals which has a large readership.

Task Force Report:

The new GAP Task Force on “Integrative Psychiatry in the Age of Neuroscience” got off to a running start with widespread interest and eleven members in attendance at the group’s first meeting in March. As an outgrowth of this initial brainstorming session, Stu Copans proposed writing a related opinion piece, and group members have begun to work on this collaboratively.

At the request of Steering Committee, at the appropriate time we will submit a proposal for creating a new GAP Committee on Integrative Psychiatry and Neuroscience. Please contact Devra Braun to play a role in creating this Committee.

Meanwhile, we will continue to operate as a Task Force while building toward a future committee. Please contact Devra Braun to be included in our ongoing communications and fall meeting. Our next Task Force meeting will be at the Renaissance Hotel at 2 pm on Thursday, November 8th.

For information, contact Devra Braun: DevraB@aol.com or 203-252-4627

OPERATING COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Committee: Aging

Present: Doctors Liptzin, Cohen, Kennedy, Meador, Rohrbaugh, Sakauye, Streim

Fellow: Brett Rusch

Guests: Warachal Faison, Kelli Harding, Roseann Liepzig, Robby Reynolds

The Committee is working on a survey of geriatric psychiatry residency training in general adult residency for presentation at AADPRT and publication. The Committee is analyzing letters to Dear Abby on quality of and access to mental health services for older patients, summary will be published in Dear Abby and *PsychServices*. The Committee is also working on

curriculum development in geriatric psychiatry, to be presented at the AAGP and published in *Academic Psychiatry*.

The anticipated date for completion is 2008, targeted at training directors, general public and legislature. The project will be submitted to: *Academic Psychiatry* and *PsychServices*.

Committee: Child

Present: Doctors Pfeffer, Stubbe, Jensen, Schowalter, Tanguat, Daly

Fellow: Hannah Stevens

The Committee is working on a fast track article on a new paradigm for clinical delivery of child and adolescent psychiatry. The anticipated date for completion is 2008 and will be intended for child and adolescent psychiatrists.

Committee: College Student

Present: Doctors Wenger, Reich, Backus, Schwartz, Siggins, Notman, Girard

Fellow: Michelle Goldsmith

Guests: John Miner and Paul Barreira

The Committee is working on a fast track article on dilemmas in college mental health care related to managing risk and anxiety in administration, parents and clinicians. The first draft is mostly completed, targeted at university administrators and to be submitted to *Chronicle of Higher Education Review*.

Committee: Cultural

Present: Doctors Oquendo, Becker, Alarcon, Lu

Fellow: Helena Hansen

Guests: Annelle Primm, Junius Gonzales

1. The Committee is working an article on Race, Ethnicity and Culture in mainstream psychiatric research
2. Article on how to teach cultural psychiatry in psychiatry residency

Both articles are in first draft form with the first targeted for completion December 2007 and August 2007 for the second article. The articles will be targeted to mental health providers to be submitted to *American Journal of Psychiatry* and *Transcultural Psychiatry*, respectively. Between meetings, the Committee will continue to code data and made design decisions.

Committee: Disasters & Terrorism

Present: Doctors Stoddard, Aldrich, Ng, Merlino

Fellow: Erick Hung

Guest: Ed Kantor and Todd Holzman

The Committee is working on a fast track report that has been approved for submission for publication. The report will be on Psychiatry & Terrorism: Roles has been approved for publication and Psychopharmacology in Disasters has been chosen for the new topic. The anticipated date of completion for the second topic is six months targeted to the general medical audience.

The Committee thanks the Publications Board for their input.

The Committee is beginning to incorporate new members, completing the editing of the first project and drafting the second manuscript. The Committee is working on five brief papers to be authored by members.

1. Why learn about disaster psychiatry in residency?
2. Psychopharmacology Guidelines and when not to prescribe
3. International aspects especially related to foreign resistance to our points of view regarding terrorism/disasters
4. Relation to other physicians in disasters

5. Core competencies in disaster education

Committee: Family

Present: Doctors Berman, Heru, Grunebaum, Wamboldt, M

The Committee is working on a new topic. The second article on competency in family skills for general psychiatry residents was submitted for publication.

The Committee would like suggestions for prospective members who are involved with families. They do not have to identify as “family therapists”.

Committee: Human Sexuality

Present: Doctors Friedman, Fisher, Downey, Haase, Bell, Adelson, Goldenberg

Guest: Sidney Edsall

The Committee is working on two projects:

1. Research: Psychiatrists’ Knowledge of Sexuality in Bipolar Outpatients
2. Clinical: Sexuality in Bipolar Patients: A Modern Psychodynamic Perspective

The topics have been chosen and research is being done. The audience will be mental health providers. Between meetings, the committee will:

1. Report on progress of research study (protocol is being submitted to Columbia University/NY State Psychiatric Institute IRB prior to submission to GAP leadership)
2. Planned papers
3. Continue working to obtain IRB approval of research study
4. Continue literature review on sexuality in bipolar spectrum individuals

The Committee is still working on building membership in the committee and plan to invite three guests in the Fall. We expect that our research project protocol on clinicians’ knowledge of bipolar patients’ sexuality will have obtained IRB approval and we will be discussing data collection strategies.

Committee: International Medical Graduates

Present: Doctors Rao, Kramer, Myers, Lomax, Sperber, Twenlow

Guests: Diane Sacks and Ramotse Saunders

The Committee is looking at the complex role of cultural issues on psychiatric training with special reference to IMG’s. The first draft is near completion and will be targeted at psychiatric educators and submitted to *Academic Psychiatry*. In addition, the Committee decided to modify and distribute an online resource from Canada called “A Faculty Development Program for Teachers of IMG’s”. Among the four modules on the program, the committee chose the modules working with IMG’s “Untangling the Web of Clinical Skills Assessment”.

Committee: Medical Education

Present: Doctors Nadelson, Dickstein, Bernstein, Scheiber, Silberman

Fellow: Holly Crisp-Han

The Committee is working on a fast track article on career choices of graduating residents. The anticipated date of completion is November 2008. The targeted audience is residency directors and department chairs. This will be submitted to *Academic Psychiatry*. The focus between meetings will be structural pilot data collection procedure, pilot interviews of five residents/committee member, and design of formal data collection instrument.

Committee: Prevention

Present: Doctors Pruitt, Powers, Koplan

Fellow: Chris Oletskey

The Committee is considering a handbook on prevention for psychiatric residents to be called "A Primer on Incorporating Prevention Principles into Psychiatric Practice."

The Committee will be working between meetings on a draft and revising topics and outline.

Committee: Psychiatry and Community

Present: Doctors Talbott, Cournos, Lamb, Minkoff

Fellow: William Nunley

The Committee is working on a fast track report with 15 chapters done. The target audience is mental health providers and will be submitted to *PsychServices* for publication. The Committee requests that GAP has Howard Goldman as a Consultant.

The Committee will be editing drafts between meetings and will be focusing on a new topic at the Fall Meeting.

Committee: Psychiatry and the Law

Present: Doctors Pinals, Giorgi-Guarnieri, Resnick, Mossman, Glancy, Kaplan

Fellow: Sarah Nash

The Committee is working on an intermediate length project. A screenplay on the biases of forensic psychiatrists. The first draft is in preparation with an anticipated completion date of Spring 2008. The project will be submitted to MGM, NBC, etc.

The Committee is looking for GAP members who may have a connection in the film industry. The Committee is working on drafting scenes between meetings.

The Committee is also looking for input with a written agreement of ownership.

Committee: Psychiatry and Religion

Present: Doctors Lewis, Meador, Snyder

The Committee membership is so reduced that in order to continue as a committee, we must try to reconstitute, by adding a number of new members.

The Committee is requesting from other GAP members possible new members who are interested in religious matters of concern to psychiatry. Please contact Doctor Richard Lewis: 203-624-2532 or email: hand774@attglobal.net

Committee: Psychopathology

Present: Doctors Adler, Siris, Goldman, Dixon, Berlant, Dulit

Guests: Ann Hackman, Marcia Valenstein, David Oslin

The Committee is working on a fast track article on Translational Problems of Outcomes Assessment: The Clinician's Dilemma in draft. The targeted audience is mental health providers and will be submitted to *PsychServices*.

Committee: Research Committee

Present: John Behrs, Carlo Carandang, Russell Gardner, Michael Grunebaum (first meeting), Jacob Kerbeshian, Douglas Kramer, Michael Schwartz, Beverly Sutton, Johan Verhulst, Frederick Wamboldt.

Fellow: Benjamin Woo

Type of manuscripts:

- Fast track: 1) commentary for mental health providers on CATIE ready for publication and given to the Publication Committee. 2) article on Social Brain being prepared for AJP. 3) PowerPoint presentation on Social Brain being prepared for GAP Webpage for use in medical school and psychiatric residency curricula.

Focus on work completed during the meeting:

- Work on above three documents.
- Deconstruct primary, secondary, and tertiary mental health provider services and determine the essential elements that predict excellent care outcomes. Data ready for study.

Plans for between meeting work and next GAP meeting:

Assignments for essential elements project:

- Jack K: overview (done)
- Doug K: Madison data
- Michael S. California data
- Russell G: medical student data
- John B: 1) physician empowerment
2) how to research remote causation
- Ben W: two pages on reaction to our papers

Assignment for previous work:

- Russell G: Draft of AJP paper and PowerPoint presentations

Committee: Social Issues

Present: Ottenberg, Lurie, Rosenthal

Fellow: Mehret Gebretsedik

The Committee is working on a project “Satisfaction with Psychiatric Cancer Issues of Psychiatry Identity”.

The topic is under consideration with no anticipated date of completion targeted at psychiatrists. The Committee will be working between meetings on the project.

Committee: Terrorism & Political Violence

Present: Doctors Post, Weine, Shanfield

Guest: Jeff Victoroff and Schuyler Henderson

The Committee is working on an intermediate length report with the first draft near completion. The target audience is mental health providers and psychiatrists. This would be submitted to Psychiatry. The manuscript will be submitted to the Publications Board for review. The first draft has been revised and between meetings, this draft will be reviewed and edited.

Committee: Therapeutic Care

Present: Doctors Lipkin, Gruenberg, Hunter, Finkenbine

The Committee is working on a curriculum regarding the history of psychiatry (DVD based). Interviews are being conducted and should be conducted by Spring 2008. The target audience will be medical students/residents. This might be submitted to MedPortal. The Committee will be working on the narrative, editing and adding pictures.

Committee: Work and Organizations

Present: Doctors Long, Gibson, David Morrison, II, Daven Morrison, III, Hagen, Larsen, Greiff

The Committee is working on a monograph "Business is Personal, Tools to Manage the Crisis in Workplace Relationships" This is at the publisher's acceptance at this time, targeted at managers and executives. The Committee will be working between meetings discussing the next project.

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**DATES OF FUTURE
GAP MEETINGS**

2007

NOVEMBER 8-10

2008

**APRIL 10-12
NOVEMBER 13-15**

2009

**APRIL 16-18
NOVEMBER 12-14**

2010

**APRIL 15-17
NOVEMBER 11-13**