Here’s hoping all of you had a great summer. Now that fall is upon us, it’s time to think about our next GAP meeting.

As I write this column, my public affairs activities have moved into high gear following passage of a California law aimed at banning licensed professionals from trying to change (homo) sexual orientations in minors, so called “reparative therapies.” New Jersey’s legislature is about to consider a similar bill and both bills are motivated by efforts to prevent the possible psychological harm that can be done by these now discredited approaches. The California law, however, was immediately subjected to a court challenge by religious social conservative groups citing free speech issues and claiming the law is an unnecessary intrusion of government into private therapeutic relationships. Explaining the complexity of competing clinical and ethical considerations (do no harm versus protecting the right to speak in therapy about anything) offers challenges in educating the public on these issues. Hopefully, it is also the type of activity we will see more GAP members engaging in as our clinical knowledge is drawn upon in public policy debates like these.

Toward that end, the Planning, Marketing and Communications committee continues its fruitful partnership with Catchafire. With the approval of the Board, they have invited Erin McAfee as the next consultant to attend our November meeting. She will help GAP further develop its public relations and media plans so that our thoughtful work products can better reach the larger audiences whom we seek to influence and educate (including practicing and academic psychiatrists; residents and training directors; journalists and producers; policy makers and the general public). Erin has a tremendous depth of marketing experience and is very interested in learning more about GAP and what each individual committee’s different needs are with regard to publicizing its work products. Please feel free to seek her out during our meeting. Also, if your committee is considering (or should be considering) outside funding for a present or future project, have the Committee Chair let Frances know as we will try to set some funding priorities before our next meeting.

The upcoming meeting will be the last one for this group of GAP Fellows and they will be presenting their own work product at the Friday plenary. They have chosen to speak about “Bullying Across the Lifespan,” clearly another a topic that is both timely and in the public eye and which draws upon the expertise of psychiatry.

Several newly formed committees are looking for additional members and ask current members of other committees to reach out to friends and colleagues who might be interested in joining GAP. The Committee on Administration and Leadership, chaired by Joe Merlino (merlinojp@gmail.com), is seeking new members and they are particularly hoping that some women will join them. Also, David Sasso (david.sasso@gmail.com) will be chairing the first meeting of the newly-revived Committee on Psychiatry and the Arts. Please feel free to email either Chair if you have someone in mind as a potential committee member.

I look forward to meeting with all of you in the fall.
Announcements

Cotswold Looney Fellow

The Cotswold Foundation of Villanova, Pennsylvania has contributed funds to add a Fellow to GAP’s current group. The Executive Director of the Foundation, Wistar Morris, III, wishes to fund the participation of the Fellow in a specific committee. Mr. Morris visited GAP and participated in the deliberations of four committees. After reviewing past contributions of all these committees, he chose to fund the Committee on Work and Organizations.

Mr. Morris is a graduate of Cornell University and the Harvard Business School. He is a contributor to the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Wistar Institute, the Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory Duke University and other institutions advancing art and science. He wants Doctor John Looney’s name to be on the Fellowship because Doctor Looney introduced him to GAP. Mr. Morris has an open invitation to attend GAP meetings in the future.

Remembrance of Jerry M. Lewis
By His Student, Colleague and Friend, John G. Looney

We lost Jerry Lewis. He died of a stroke on August 5. A memorial service in Dallas brought together his large adoring family and so many friends and professional colleagues. He was buried in the historic Grove Hill Cemetery overlooking the Timberlawn Psychiatric Research Foundation. Jerry had been at the Foundation seeing patients and writing on the day before his death at eighty-seven. He had never stopped loving his profession.

Jerry was a remarkable leader. His potential for future leadership was seen in medical school. He graduated top of his class at the University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School. His calm style of leading by example caused any organization of which he was a member to become better. At Timberlawn Psychiatric Hospital he provided much of the leadership that moved Timberlawn to national recognition while he was Psychiatrist in Chief. Under his guidance a treatment and research center was developed that was proudly claimed by those who worked there to be another Camelot. Jerry led as President of the Southern Psychiatric Association, GAP and the American College of Psychiatrists. Jerry also led us through his prolific writings, always seeing, and encouraging us to see, at a deeper level the essential elements of our helping others.

Jerry was a leader because he was emulated. Others wanted to be like him, to think like him, to make empathetic contact with patients like he did. Of course, it was never possible to put into a copied style all of his traits of passion for quality, curiosity, intellect, caring, scholarliness and integrity. As well, he was so much more handsome. Sometimes the drive to emulate Jerry had humorous effects. There was a time when Jerry smoked a corn cob pipe, something that could be done with dignity by few. A distinguished visitor to Timberlawn was astonished by how many Timberlawn staff members, including myself, were walking about the campus smoking cob pipes.

The essential thrust of Jerry’s research was identifying the life developmental factors that help people achieve their potential. His primary passion was always the healthy family as the crucible for the development of young people. The book, No Single Thread, was the seminal work in the field of understanding interactional processes in families. His research interest began with his love of his own family. He fostered their development year after year. His devotion to his beautiful wife, Pat, the love of his life for over sixty years, was remarkable. He solidified
that relationship at each new phase of their lives together. Many times this big, rock-solid man seemed like a kid in love. For some years Jerry and I were roommates at GAP. The first thing he would do upon arrival was to call Pat. His deep voice would get low in volume, almost to a whisper like a teenager in love not wanting to be overheard. I would leave the room with a heightened realization of how hard we must all work to sustain our crucial relationships. At the memorial service, Jerry’s oldest son read bits of a love letter to Pat. It brought us to tears because of its carefully crafted expression of love but also because we learned that it had been written just a few years before his death. He also wrote a brief goodbye for the memorial service bulletin, “For Pat with and for love over the past sixty two years. Let the music play on.”

Jerry’s contributions to the field and his influence through his personal relationships will endure. Although we miss him so much, we are grateful for how he inspired us. In thinking about my intensified mix of feelings, the words of Thornton Wilder seemed apt; “All that we know about those we have loved and lost is that they would wish us to remember them with a more intensified realization of their reality. What is essential does not die but clarifies. The highest tribute to the dead is not grief but gratitude.”

References


2. Wilder, T., Personal comment about death.
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2012

10:00 a.m.  GAP Office Opens  Masefield A Room
10:00 a.m.  Finance Committee Meeting  Masefield B Room
12:30 p.m.  Publications Board  Hutchinson A Room
2:00 p.m.  Board of Directors  Cooper B Room
4:00 p.m.  Fellows Meeting with Selection Committee  Cooper A Room
4:30 p.m.  Fellowship Selection Committee  Masefield B Room
5:30 p.m.  Reception of the Board of Directors with 2012 Fellows  Room 688
6:30 p.m.  Fellows Dinner  Cooper A Room
9:00 p.m. -  Hospitality Room  Irving A and B Rooms
11:00 p.m.  Hosted by: Terrorism & Political Violence

Thursday Committee Meetings:

- Child Psychiatry  8:00 p.m. Library Room
- College Student  7:00 p.m. Restaurant (6 people) Dr. Notman
- Family  8:00 p.m. Restaurant (6 people) Dr. Berman
- Psychiatry & Community  8:00 p.m. Restaurant (8 people) Dr. Osher
- Psychopathology  3:30 p.m. Gallery Room
- Josh Gibson  7:30 p.m. (4 people)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2012

7:30 a.m.  Breakfast  Cooper-Greeley Rooms
8:30 a.m.  General Membership Meeting  Cooper-Greeley Rooms
9:30 a.m.  Committee Meetings
10:30 a.m.  Coffee Break
12:00 noon  Luncheon  Cooper-Greeley Rooms
            Steering Committee Meeting  Irving A Room
1:00 p.m.  Fellows Meeting  Irving B Room
2:00 p.m.  Committee Meetings
3:00 p.m.  Coffee Break
5:00 p.m.  Plenary Session: GAP Fellows “Bullying Across the Lifespan”  Cooper-Greeley Rooms
6:30 p.m.       Cocktail Reception      Red Oak Terrace
7:30 p.m.       Dinner              Cooper-Greeley Rooms
9:00 p.m.       Hospitality         Foyer - Cooper-Greeley Rooms
                Hosted by: Work & Organizations

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2012

8:00 a.m.       Breakfast          Cooper-Greeley Rooms
                 Steering Committee Meeting       Irving B Room
                 Fellows Breakfast Meeting         Irving A Room
9:00 a.m.       Committee Meetings
11:30 a.m.      Lunch              Cooper Room

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ADOLESCENCE            ROOM 405
AGING                  MASEFIELD B ROOM
ADDITIONS              ROOM 203
ADMINISTRATION & LEADERSHIP
      ZENGER ROOM
CHILD PSYCHIATRY       ROOM 203
COLLEGE STUDENT        VERANDA ROOM
CULTURAL PSYCHIATRY    PORTICO ROOM
DISASTERS AND THE WORLD
      KYKUIT SUITE/ROOM 103
FAMILY                 HUTCHINSON B ROOM
GENDER ISSUES AND MENTAL HEALTH
      HUTCHINSON A ROOM
GLOBAL PSYCHIATRY      VANDERBILT/ROOM 107
HISTORY AND PSYCHIATRY
      JOHN JAY SUITE/ROOM 102
HUMAN SEXUALITY        ROOM 207
LGBT                   ROOM 688
MEDICAL EDUCATION      PARLOR ROOM
MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
      HUDSON ROOM
NEUROPSYCHIATRY        ROOM 211
PLANNING, MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS
      ROOM 305
PREVENTIVE PSYCHIATRY
      ROOM 215
PROFESSIONALISM        ROOM 221
PSYCHIATRY AND ARTS    TBA
PSYCHIATRY AND THE COMMUNITY
      LYNDHURST/ROOM 104
PSYCHIATRY AND THE LAW
      SLEEPY HOLLOW/ROOM 105
PSYCHIATRY AND RELIGION
      ROOM 209
PSYCHOPATHOLOGY        GALLERY ROOM
PSYCHOPHARMACOLOGY     ROOM 634
PSYCHOTHERAPY          ROOM 201
RESEARCH               ROOM 217
TERRORISM and POLITICAL VIOLENCE
      ROOM 205
WORK AND ORGANIZATIONS
      VAN CORTLANDT/ROOM 106
DATES OF FUTURE GAP MEETINGS

2012
November 15-17

2013
April 4-6
November 14-16

2014
April 10-12
November 13-15

2015
April 16-18
November 12-14

2016
April 14-16
November 10-12

2017
April 6-8
November 9-11

2018
April 12-14
November 8-10

2019
April 11-13
November 7-9

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