

History of the Cleveland Association of School Psychologists

May 18, 2008

Respectfully submitted by

Valorie Wolcott Mendelson, Historian

The undertaking of documenting the long and robust history of the Cleveland Association of School Psychologists is daunting. As I began this task, I found it useful to look at the parallel development of school psychology in the state of Ohio. Thus, I have included some of the recorded benchmarks from *The History of OSPA: the first 50 Years* which appear on the OSPA web site. I would encourage you to review this document to gain an appreciation of all that we have accomplished.

An African proverb refers to future progress as having been gained by standing on the shoulders of the elders who came before. I am humbled by the stature of the school psychologists who came before, and to whom we in CASP and OSPA are forever indebted for the development of our profession. And so we begin.

The state of Ohio has a long and rich history of its contributions to the profession of school psychology. Although the clinic practice of psychology was established very early in Ohio, it was during the 1940s that there was increasing concern for atypical children who were unserved in the public school setting, especially those excluded from school. The major role of the practicing psychologist in the schools was testing, usually with the Standard Binet Intelligence Test. It is reported that in Cleveland, school psychologists were each expected to evaluate and classify 900 children each year. Anyone not meeting the quota risked dismissal or probation.

Efforts to “institutionalize” school psychology as a separate and specialized profession appear to have started with a small number of school psychologists who met in June of 1943 at the Ohio State University faculty club, to start an organization for school psychologists. Their advocacy efforts, in conjunction with the Ohio Department of Education, resulted in an Amended

Senate Bill 65 (1945) which enabled boards of education to establish and maintain child study services and provided reimbursement for approved child study services. Until this law, the number of school psychologists in the state had grown slowly because no state reimbursement had existed.

In the years that followed, leaders such as Dr. Douglas Courtney, Thelma Tyler, P.O. Wagner, and Ray Horn strengthened the role of school psychologist in Ohio. In 1945, the organization was officially called School Psychologists of Ohio (SPO).

In the 1950s, other individuals who contributed to the development of SPO as a viable professional organization included Past-President Dr. Stella Whiteside, Director of Psychological Services for Cincinnati Public Schools, and Dr. Bertha Luckey, Director of Psychological Services for Cleveland Public Schools. Concurrently, the Cleveland Psychologist group met and hosted “no dues” presentations for the purpose of professional development.

The gradual evolution and growing importance of school psychology was fortified in April, 1960, when the first Ohio internship was created and funded. The first internship class consisted of 17 members. SPO membership had grown to 115 and the first “Honorary Life Membership” was approved and awarded to Ray Horn.

In the 1962-63 school year, an amendment to the SPO constitution changed the name of the group to Ohio School Psychologists Association (OSPA). The Journal of School Psychology was biannually published by ODE beginning in January, 1963.

NASP was officially born on March 15, 1969, in St. Louis where over 400 school psychologists, state department personnel, and university trainers from 24 states had gathered to form a national association. A critical catalyst for this action was due to Ohio’s own Polly Alexander, who subsequently was elected as the first President, and Bill Farling, then at the University of Akron, who was named Executive Secretary. Other Ohioans serving as Committee Chairmen in the new organization were: Ken Hoedt, Akron, Research; and Janko Kovacevich, Akron, Legislation. A former Ohioan, Jerald Green,

a graduate of Kent State, was elected to the position of President-elect and served as Program Chairman. Dues were \$25.00.

The decade of the '70s saw radical changes to school psychology in Ohio with respect to licensing, the passage of FERPA, funding, and Public Law 94-142 (The Education of all Handicapped Children Act of 1975). This law amended provisions relating to eligibility, and application for federal funds stipulated that "each local education agency in the state must maintain records of individualized education program for each handicapped child." These plans were to be designed initially in consultation with parents or guardians, and to be reviewed and revised as necessary, at least annually. This provision took effect in fiscal 1978.

In the last 25 years, the role of school psychologists in Ohio has evolved with the growing need to address children's needs within the continually changing societal and legislative framework. We have trained to assess using SOMPA as well as the variations of WISC; and to incorporate MFE, IEP, LRE, Inclusion, Proficiency, IAT, IBMFE, FBA, OISM, and other alphabetical concoctions into the daily execution of our work. Laws have been revised, clarified, and sometimes seemingly muddled as we have acted as best we could as the child advocate who is highly trained with a full array of tools in our toolkit.

Let's now turn to CASP'S history in juxtaposition to the statewide development of school psychology:

Jim Harvey previously summarized CASP history, reminding us that the Cleveland area has been a pioneer in the field of school psychological services. In 1912, the Cleveland Schools began testing for mental ability and established the first School Psychological Clinic under Medical Services in 1917. In 1945, Cleveland Heights was one of the initial internship sites as proposed by P.O. Wagner in 1940.

The exact date of the formation of CASP is unknown. However, there are reports that Sam Bonham formed a small group of school psychologists from the eastern suburbs during the mid 1950s.

There is also documentation that a Cleveland group provided professional development for no fee to local school psychologists.

In 1965, Cleveland School Psychologists joined the suburban group to form the Cleveland Area School Psychologists which later became the Cleveland Association of School Psychologists (CASP). Sketchy reports of CASP's history in the late 1960s suggest that Millie Blondis and Louis Helfenbein were chairpersons during this period.

Don McPherson and Marilyn Bate were the first co-chairpersons of CASP. There was some discussion at this time of phasing out CASP and merging with CPA, which was then headed by Don Friedheim, Division of Child Psychology. Don McPherson recommended that CASP continue with Marilyn Bate as the first CASP president in 1970. Don and Marilyn wrote the first CASP constitution and organized the first executive board with the help of Carlos Cortes, Mary Ritz, and Al Becker. In his role as CASP treasurer, beginning 1978, Al Becker played a very important role in holding the organization together during the formative years. He acted as treasurer for numerous years, holding the record for the longest term of office in Ohio.

The CASP Psychologist of the Year Award was initiated by John Keshock in 1972. The first recipient was Don McPherson. This award was re-established in 1975 to honor CASP members who have made a significant contribution to School Psychology and to CASP. The awardee is then eligible for consideration as the Ohio School Psychologist of the Year.

CASP growth between 1974 and 1976 was shepherded by Bruce Konya and Jim Harvey, who formed a west-side/east-side coalition of 120 school psychologists. Standing committees were established, the CASPLINE newsletter was begun, and the first annual spring conference was held. CASP has grown from a small group of school psychologists able to meet in small meeting rooms to a large active group. Through the dedicated leadership of the CASP officers and executive board, CASP is currently the largest regional organization in the state of Ohio with 228 members. Due to the large membership, CASP warrants three representatives to the OSPA executive board.

CASP Mission Statement

The recently revised CASP mission statement follows: *The mission of the Cleveland Association of School Psychologists is to support school psychology in Northeast Ohio by providing opportunities for professional growth and collaboration that will enhance the mental health and educational competence of children in a diverse society.*

CASP's executive board meets four times each year and includes the offices of president, president-elect, secretary, treasurer, past-president, OSPA regional representatives, OSPA representative to NASP, CASPLINE editor, and chairs of the following CASP committees: membership, public relations, nominations and elections, awards, technology, private practice, professional ethics and standards, student representatives, historian, and all CASP participants in OSPA committees.

CASP currently provides three half-day, in-service meetings to address the membership's need for professional development. Strong attendance and positive evaluations of recent meetings verify that CASP continues to provide needed skill improvement to its members. CASPLINE, the quarterly newsletter of CASP, is mailed to members four times per year and is available on the CASP web site. CASPLINE's recent revision includes graduate student intervention offerings, coverage of social service participation, and expanded coverage of CASP business and activities.

Strong leaders who have served as CASP President are:

1970 Marilyn Bate	1985 Dave Botnik	2000 Marija Colic-Turcinov
1971 John Keshock	1986 Peg Shultz	2001 Barbara Lambert
1972 Pat Crisci	1987 Carol Redmond	2002 Kim Strausser
1973 Lee Horowitz	1988 Sandy Beckett	2003 Miriam Farrow
1974 Jim Harvey	1989 Bruce Konya	2004 Denise DiMaria-Lopardo
1975 Bruce Konya	1990 Terri Chiarra	2005 Gail Fadel
1976 Bertha Stroud	1991 Nancy Reynolds	2006 Becky Dingledein
1977 Don McPherson	1992 Deb Grilly	2007 Linda M. Neiheiser
1978 Audrey Bashian	1993 Denise Kuna	
1979 Lucy Simm	1994 Jim Harvey	
1980 Henry Winter	1995 Mike Bailey	
1981 Cathy Telzrow	1996 Mary Ann Teitelbaum	
1982 Carol Larson	1997 Rich Starn	
1983 Laurie Albright	1998 Laura Gabel	
1984 Linda Downing	1999 Lucy Simm	

The Cleveland Association of School Psychologists (CASP) has a long history of distinguished service to its members, to the Ohio School Psychologist Association (OSPA), the National Association of School Psychologists, and to the profession of school psychology.

History of Past Awards:

CASP member accomplishments provide opportunities to celebrate distinguished service through recognition of individual contributions to school psychology. Since 1975 CASP has selected their Psychologist of the Year from a pool of nominees. That person subsequently is recommended for consideration as the OSPA School Psychologist of the Year.

This is a list of past Cleveland School Psychologists of the Year:

1975 Esther Gray	1986 Audrey Bashian	1997 Juliette Madigan
1976 Jim Harvey	1987 Peg Schultz	1998 Donna Yohe
1977 Al Becker	1988 Laurie Albright	1999 Laura Gabel
1978 Louise Federici	1989 Nancy Reynolds	2000 Gail Fadel
1979 Bruce Konya	1990 Bill Deal	2001 (no one)
1980 Ben Candee	1991 Gilda Newman	2002 Ralph Pajka
1981 Bertha Stroud	1992 Richard Starn	2003 Susan Berk
1982 Cathy Telzrow	1993 Bruce Oppenheimer	2004 Becky Dingeldein
1983 Dave Jones	1994 Valorie Wolcott	2005 MaryAnn Teitelbaum
1984 Dave Botnik	1995 Denise Kuna	2006 Denise DiMaria-Lopardo
1985 Lucy Simm	1996 Joanne Wasco	2007 Dana Marolt

Cleveland School Psychologists of the Year who were selected as The Ohio School Psychologist of the Year:

1993 Bruce Oppenheimer
1996 Joanne Wasco
1997 Juliette Madigan
1999 Laura White
2004 Rebecca Dingledein
2005 Mary Ann Teitelbaum

CASP members have been recipients of the **Clyde V. Bartlett Award**. This award was created in 1972 to memorialize Clyde V. Bartlett who was an OSPA past president and longtime newsletter editor. Clyde was a school psychologist in Maple Heights. At the time of his death, a committee met and established this award, the purpose of which is to recognize an Ohio school psychologist for outstanding services or achievement in the profession. The criteria for selection include significant

contributions to the growth and development of the profession, outstanding service to the community in the area of mental health, and the personal qualities thought to be desirable in the profession. The following are CASP recipients of the **Clyde V. Bartlett Award**:

1975 Nicholas Gallo
1989 Cathy Telzrow
1993 Audrey Bashian
1996 Kathy McNamara
2003 Valorie Wolcott Mendelson

The **Pete Gross Best Practice Award** was established in 1988 to recognize school psychology programs that demonstrate exemplary professional practices and to provide information to other school psychologists. It was named in honor of Pete Gross, a school psychologist who later worked for the State Department of Education, Division of Special Education. Pete Gross understood the good that school psychologists can do for children and, in his role with the state department, worked to provide the best services for children. He continually challenged school psychologists to develop the skills needed to function at the level of "best practice." The following are CASP recipients of the **Pete Gross Best Practice Award**:

1994 Bonnie Jasiunas
1997 Dan Dean and William Stencil
2008 Dana Marolt

Additionally, the **R. A. Horn Honorary Life Membership Award** has been awarded to numerous CASP members. This award was established in 1961 by OSPA as the OSPA Life Membership Award to recognize the contributions of retiring members. The award was to be presented to members or nonmembers who had contributed significantly to the field of school psychology and who continued to demonstrate an interest in the profession. The award is not given every year, but since 1961 OSPA award the **R.A. Horn Honorary Life Membership Award** in honor of the man who greatly affected the development and direction of school psychology in Ohio. CASP **R.A. Horn Honorary Life Membership Award** recipients are:

Don McPherson
James Harvey

Esther Gray
Nancy Reynolds

Barb Garwood
Bruce Konya
Audrey Bashian

Gilda Newman
Valorie Wolcott Mendelson.

CASP members have also well served the state of Ohio as **OSPA President**. The list follows:

1976 Barb Garwood	1992 Nancy Reynolds
1984 Cathy Telzrow	1994 Laurie Albright
1987 Audrey Bashian	1997 Valorie Wolcott Mendelson
1990 Dennis Pinciotti	1999 Juliette Madigan

Linda Neiheiser has recently been elected and will serve as President in 2009.

A long history of distinguished service leads to bright hopes for CASP's future.

Addendum:

In order to provide a look back over the years, a few past presidents agreed to offer their reflections on their term(s) while serving as CASP President. It has been my great pleasure to interact with these wonderful school psychologists through this endeavor. I wrote to Marilyn Bate this reflection:

"It is my experience and belief that the memorable leaders of CASP (and OSPA) have been extraordinary people who came to the table at critical times with very special skills suited for that moment in time. Reading this (Marilyn's submission), and following my conversation with Don McPherson and Audrey Bashian, I am convinced that CASP grew from roots planted by wonderful school psychologists. Currently we speak of special education services as being unique, intensive and specially designed – it occurs to me that leaders like you were the special education services well-suited for the needs of our profession."

As I continued to collect remembrances from the following past presidents my thoughts were confirmed. They are all extraordinary people who served at special times making pivotal decisions which enhanced CASP's vitality. I salute their efforts, and welcome others to offer and continue to offer their reflections well into the future in order that we not lose sight of whence we came.

Following are their offerings:

Marilyn Bate 1970:

Don [McPherson] and I co-chaired CASP but concluded that it was time for the organization to move from an informal, comfortable, social group to a more organized professional association. We formed a working committee to draw up a constitution and bylaws that paralleled that of OSPA. We did a great job of writing over cocktails at the home of Dr. Mary Ritz. It was a most congenial group. From those small beginnings, the group was able to form committees, develop more professional workshops, and grow into the vital organization that now exists.

We expended considerable effort toward developing a working relationship with CPA because earlier school psychologists were primarily clinicians who were also CPA members. With the advent of NASP, school psychology came into its own and there was a major rift in psychology regarding the place of school psychologists. I believe the Cleveland group enjoyed a close and respectful relationship

with clinicians and that was not the case across the nation. I hope this relationship remains supportive on both sides.

Our workshops focused on classroom management and how to train teachers to deal with unruly children. We worked to organize special programs for "underachieving" children and worked with the State Department of Education in developing classes for LD, SED, and other special needs children.

I miss the close companionship and support we enjoyed in the early CASP years. I am proud of CASP and the many wonderful people who have worked to make it one of the best in the nation! Thank you for the honor of being a part of a wonderful group of caring individuals.

With the fondest of memories,
Marilyn Bate Submitted 5/15/08

Jim Harvey 1974 and 1994:

After reflecting on my 34 year involvement with CASP, I feel like the proud papa who has watched his child grow up into a mature, responsible and productive citizen. In the first CASPLine in September, 1974 I wrote: "We are probably the largest local group of school psychologists in Ohio, but at present our organization is weak. We have no standing committees. We do not take active positions on events effecting education or psychology, and we are not, as an organization, taking affirmative action to improve the quality of our profession."

In 1974 CASP had fallen on hard times. There had been no president-elect the previous year and the organization had been relatively inactive. Don McPherson asked Bruce Konya and me if we would reorganize CASP. Bruce was in Rocky River and I was in Cleveland Heights so we thought this West Side / East Side Coalition would be a good thing for CASP. We flipped a coin and I became President (and CASPLine editor) and Bruce was President-elect. By September 1975 when Bruce became president, we had an active Executive Board with Susan Berk as Secretary, Albert Becker as Treasurer, Audrey Bashian as CASP Editor, Louise Federici as the University Representative, and Esther Gray and Don McPherson as OSPA Representatives. We had established four standing committees: Professional Development, Publications, Program and Membership. Members who were on one or more of these committees included Executive Board Members and Bill Ginter, Keith Wiant, Phyllis Hoffman, Lucy Simm, Bertha Stroud, Phillip Wisneski, Gilda Newman and Dave Jones.

Bruce and I started the CASPLine and an annual spring conference. I thought it was cleaver of me to suggest we re-establish the CASP Psychologist of the Year Award started by John Keshock so I could become the second recipient. Rocky River special education students made my plaque and spelled psychologist wrong making it even more precious.

The December 1973 membership count was 140. Out fall membership meeting on October 5, 1974 included 5 workshops: David Botnick (WISC-R), Ann Bowdish (Key Math), Ed Seagel (Preschool and Early Childhood Screening Battery, Jim Harvey (McCarthy Scales of Children's Abilities), David Jones (Meeting Street School Screening Test) and Dave Santoro (Barkley Classroom Climate Inventory). The December joint luncheon with the Cleveland Psychological Association was Beef Stroganoff for \$5.75. The speaker Elaine Lasky, Ph.D., spoke on *Psycholinguistics and School Psychology*.

CASP became proactive sending a position statement on the SE-13 controversy to the Ohio Superintendent of Public Instruction and the President of OSPA. For those too young to remember, in

1974 the Education for All Handicapped Act (PL: 94-142) had not been passed so over 4 million children with disabilities were not attending public schools. SE-13 (legal dismissal) was the evaluation procedure school psychologists had to complete to exclude students with IQ's under 50 from public school including a behavioral intervention plan with time lines. We felt it was unprofessional and a waste of time to write a plan for a dismissed student with no follow-up. OSPA took up this issue but lost this appeal. However, within a year PL: 94-142 was passed and it became a moot point as all students had to have an IEP and be the official responsibility of the public schools.

By the time I did my second stint as CASP President twenty years later in 1994, CASP had become a vibrant and active professional organization. There were now 213 members. The Executive Board meetings were held at the Bratenahl Community Center. Our fall workshop, *Aggressive Reduction Training: It's an Art* by Souhail J. Kassabri was on September 16, 1994 and held at CSU's Mather Mansion. It was sponsored by CASP, CSESC (now State Support Team Region 3) and the Cleveland Public Schools. Our spring meeting at CSU University Center (also sponsored by CSESC) was on March 18, 1994. The presenter was Dr. Cynthia Reighard and Ohio Department of Education staff and the topic was: *Prekindergarten through Grade 12 Standards for Ohio's Schools: Focus Feedback Workshop for Related Services*.

I'm delighted to see CASP continuing the tradition of strong leadership and supportive membership.

Jim Harvey

Submitted 5/23/2008

Don McPherson 1977:

Don, who has been retired for 23 years, reported that it was difficult to recall many details or exact dates with respect to his participation in CASP. He came from Mansfield, OH and worked in Oberlin/Amherst during the 1961-62 school year. In the fall of 1962, he became an active participant in CASP. Don reported that the group was vibrant and he and Marilyn Bate cooperated in order to solidify the base. It was his opinion that CASP should not merge with CPA, then led by Don Friedheim, Division of Child Psychology. Marilyn became the first president. Don recalled that in 1966-67, there was \$6.00 in the CASP treasury. He advocated and cooperated with Dennis Eckart and Beth Lizkowski for children's issues. Don played controversial but forward thinking roles with respect to the Peace Movement, Environment and Civil Liberties issues. He testified against his own district on a particular case involving a learning disabled student. He recalled that the Board of Psychology was established in 1972, and that he worked with Dick Celeste, Harry Leyman and Sweeney on legislative issues. He reported that Sam Bonham was concerned about the Ohio House of Representatives not being supportive of school psychology. Don is proud of his active role in the political arena in support of school psychology, both locally and statewide.

(Based upon telephone interview 5/8/08)

Audrey Bashian 1978:

It's been very difficult to remember what occurred during the year I was president of CASP. I had saved all the newsletters (known as CASPLINE) for many years but when I sold our home after my husband's death in 2002, the newsletters were thrown out. I've never been a packrat and now I wish I had saved that file.

Personal memories come flooding back in bits and pieces. I had interned as a school psychologist in East Cleveland Schools during 1972-73 and continued to work there until June, 1979. Probably the most memorable event to occur during 1977 was being awarded my school psychologist license, number SP 1. I believe I was in the first or second group of school psychologists taking the license exam, which was then given in Columbus November 27, 1976. Because I was one of five passing the exam and my last name begins with B, I was given SP 1. Wow!!

I remember meeting in my East Cleveland office with Jim Harvey and Bruce Konya to discuss the CASP newsletter. Perhaps they can recollect what we decided during that meeting (or meetings). Other memories concerning our CASP organization are very hazy after thirty years. I do remember attending one or two of the OSPA board meetings in Columbus to become familiar with that organization. Much of OSPA's efforts during that year revolved around P. L. 94-142 which mandated full service for children with handicapping conditions. (See "The Ohio School Psychologists Association: The first fifty years, 1943-1993".)

On a personal level, my husband, son and daughter were so very supportive taking on roles which "Mommy" had usually done. Alison and Jack learned to do the laundry and then decided they should also teach their father on the use of washing machine and dryer! In addition they learned to cook and became quite independent which served them well later in life!

I loved serving as a school psychologist in East Cleveland. At the time I was one of three school psychologists plus one intern. We were given referrals from grades Kindergarten to twelfth grade when I first started. Later we each had certain specific schools to serve. There were many challenges but working with children of all ages was stimulating and rewarding.

Audrey Bashian

Submitted 4/30/08

Lucy Simm 1979 and 1999:

I've been wracking my brain trying to recall my Presidency. Someone who shall remain nameless suggested I get rid of all my old files, which I finally did last year, so I have nothing to reference! I do remember that in 1979 the issues were boosting membership and dealing with LD - amazing, isn't it? Don McPherson, Al Becker, Louise Federici, Barb Garwood were all actively involved. CASP was also sharing joint things with Cleveland Psychological Association (CPA). We often held our meetings at CSU in what was called Mather Mansion and the spring banquets were usually at Gwinn Estate, a lovely lakefront mansion with gorgeous gardens in Bratenahl.

My 1999-2000 Presidency is a bit of a blur. Susan Berk reminded me that's because it was when Jim Harvey retired and I was interim manager for several months in the Cleveland Public Schools. I remember Laura Gabel (past-president) and Marija Colic-Turcinov (president-elect) propped me up with all of their hard work. Again, issues were increasing membership numbers, especially to make an impact on the OSPA Board. We surveyed the membership in order to determine program interests. At that time mental health issues rather than special education were popular; however, autism and TBI were fairly recent buzzwords and members wanted more information on these topics.

Lucy Simm

submitted 5/20/08

Laurie Albright 1983:

Upon reflection, I remember the following as the issues and activities most prominent during my Presidency in 1983-84.

Issues swirling at the time:

- Ohio SLD identification guidelines were just being finalized, and booklets were distributed.
- Ohio was beginning to grapple with ending corporal punishment in the schools.
- Collective bargaining was a hot topic- Were we teachers or administrators???
- OSPA was deciding to file a lawsuit against Blue Shield for denying provider numbers and third party payments to school psychologists
- The K-ABC was just being introduced.

CASP activities

- CASP trainings, arranged by Linda Downing, included: Lillian Schlacter on Child Abuse, Jane Healy on Hyperlexia, Jackie Rogers on Children/Parents in Divorce, Barbara and Thomas Hall on Legal Issues Affecting School Psychologists.
- Toby Siegel kept the CASPlne on schedule.
- Al Becker kept our money in good order.

We had a hard working executive committee, and we typically had 16-20 people in attendance at our board meetings.

In reviewing the CASP constitution upon assuming the president's position, I learned that it was time for our "every 5 year constitutional checkup". I appointed a committee and we accomplished this task, submitting recommendations to the membership, amid the many other tasks. We created a student/intern membership category, changed the treasurer's position to an ELECTED position, and "neutralized" gender references, among other revisions.

The strongest memory I have of my "president's year" was not a specific story, but overwhelming pride in affiliation with such caring, dedicated, competent colleagues. It was indeed a privilege to serve such a wonderful group of individuals. And CASP remains a dynamic, professional, fun, totally volunteer organization to this day and, I trust will remain so many, many years into the future.

Laurie Albright

Submitted 5/19/2008

Mary Ann Teitelbaum 1996:

Memories of My Presidency:

It was a quiet but busy year. Goals were to increase attendance at CASP meetings and to include all geographic areas in participation. In order to do this, we conducted a survey of members to identify areas of need. We found that members wanted counseling topics as well as information on medical issues. We then found various locations around the city and neighboring suburbs to hold our meetings, rather than remaining at Cleveland State University. And, true to my ethnic origins, we provided refreshments.

My most satisfying memories were of working with other dedicated school psychologists in

developing a network and developing opportunity for professional development. Many fine professionals dedicated energy and expertise in making it a successful year.

Mary Ann Teitelbaum

Submitted 6/15/2008

Gail Fadel 2005:

I remember being quite nervous about the whole endeavor of becoming President. CASP has such a long history, and has had so many qualified people as President that I felt a bit overwhelmed. I know nothing about Robert's Rules of Order, and felt sure that the meetings would be disastrous. However, thanks to a wonderful executive Board, (Lucy Sims is a wonderful parliamentarian who helped keep me on track many times) we did manage to accomplish a few things. We reviewed and renewed the by-laws, and added student representatives from the universities to our executive board. If asked to identify the one thing that I felt was the most satisfying accomplishment during my tenure, that would be it. The universities have sent some very dedicated, talented, and enthusiastic students who have made wonderful contributions to CASP, and have helped promote membership among the student population. The added benefit to CASP is that they have remained active following their appointments, continuing to bring new and fresh ideas and energy to the organization.

On a less serious note, I remember the first year as President-Elect as the most difficult, because one has to line up speakers, venues, dates etc. Although templates were available thanks to the past President Denise, we still had to update the information for the general meetings on the computer template (anyone that knows me, knows that computers and I have a love/hate relationship). Then the template had to be e-mailed to the person who then printed them and mailed the notice to all of the members. Imagine my chagrin when I received word from Ralph Pajka that I had the wrong address on the flier for a meeting that was scheduled to be held at Lakewood High School. The flier had been mailed out with the meeting site listed as a totally different place, Hospice or Laurelwood or someplace. I had mistakenly emailed the rough draft of the flier to be printed rather than my final copy. Needless to say, I was mortified.

I had to redo the flier which I checked and rechecked at least 10 times. I sent the corrected one, sent email notices to the members as well, and prayed that the members came to the right place (they did). I was so grateful that Ralph noticed the error, and we were able to correct it in time.

CASP continues to grow and change according to the needs of its members, and the population we serve. It has been a privilege to have worked with the many extraordinary people, both executive board and membership, whose dedication to their profession deserves recognition. My thanks to you all.

Gail Fadel

submitted 5/21/08

Rebecca Dingeldein 2006:

As I said at the end of my Presidency (2006-07), it was truly a rewarding experience to serve as President of CASP! I agreed to run for office because I realized it was time to "give back" to my profession. You see, for many years I had been the fortunate recipient of the good work of my fellow School Psychologists who provided abundant opportunities for professional growth and networking with colleagues. So I felt privileged to be able to make the commitment to a strong professional organization of active, "can do" School Psychologists.

When planning our meetings for the 2006-07 school year, we utilized the results from the 2005-06 Topics of Interest Survey as a framework. We started the year with a full day of RTI training sponsored jointly by CASP and KAASP. This RTI in-service included a morning presentation by Dr. Cathy Telzrow, followed by an afternoon group of presenters from different school disciplines. The next CASP meeting featured an afternoon lecture on Epilepsy and Traumatic Brain Injury delivered by Dr. Patricia Klass from the Cleveland Clinic. The topic of the third CASP meeting was Cutting and Other Self-Injurious Behaviors, presented by Dr. Mark Warren, Medical Director for the Cleveland Center for Eating Disorders. All meetings were well attended!

The year was topped off by a lovely banquet at the Shoreby Club—unforgettable!! It was a beautiful evening, in a stunning location, with wonderful colleagues! Overall, this successful year was made possible by the hard work and contributions of the CASP Executive Board who provided the needed planning and support for every event. Also, we tried out some new ideas that proved to be beneficial for the organization. One result was the increased membership that climbed to 187 that year. I challenged CASP to exceed 200 in membership the next year and they did it!

Respectfully submitted 5/15/08

Becky Dingeldein

Linda M. Neiheiser 2007:

The school year 2007-2008 was a year of growth for CASP. Our membership reached an all-time high of 228, and attendance at our three General Meetings and the year-end Banquet achieved exceptionally high numbers as well. Our presentation topics and speakers consisted of the following: ADHD, Mood Disorders, and Substance Abuse in Schools: Assessment and Interventions by Luis Felipe Amunategui, Ph.D.; Utilization of the Beery Buktenica Developmental Test of Visual Motor Integration for Fine Motor and Non-Verbal Assessment by Lynne Pape, M.Ed.; and Law Enforcement and the Schools: Shared Issues of Concern for At-Risk Youth by Cleveland Police Officer Jeff Stanczyk.

We experienced many changes during the year regarding location, activity, and collegiality. Our Executive Board meetings were held at the Shoreby Club in Bratenahl, overlooking Lake Erie from every window. CASP, which normally held its General Meetings in various locations throughout the county, found a home in the centrally-located Cleveland Downtown Hilton Garden Inn. Suddenly, our meetings were on the same level, accommodations-wise, as OSPA and NASP -- situated in chandeliered conference centers with catering service provided. No more lugging bottles of water and pop and anything Costco had on special into makeshift meeting rooms; no more getting lost (and running late) trying to find the latest meetings site; no more begging members for projectors and microphones to use!

CASP members enjoyed optional luncheons before each general meeting at the Hilton, followed by social time in Harvey's at afternoon's end, with practicum students, interns, early- and mid-career practitioners, veteran psychologists, and even retirees all engaged in lively conversation throughout the evening. Additionally, CASP's Networking Committee hosted three social events for members and guests: an autumn gathering at Panini's; a winter ice skating event at Hoover Arena/IceLandUSA in Strongsville; and a Little Italy Pub Crawl.

We enhanced our web presence considerably with recent photos, details on upcoming events, and an expansive "Hall of Fame," reflecting the accomplishments of so many of our members. Our CASPLINE mirrored the professionalism of major publications in format, style, and content, and

included research-based articles, professional development activities, presentation summaries, glossy photos, and details of our members' outreach activities.

Our Children's Advocacy Committee offered opportunities to engage in group service projects. We hosted three US Marines at our winter meeting and collected over 600 new toys for the Marine's Toys for Tots campaign; we collected over 700 snack items for donation to the Ronald McDonald House of Cleveland; and more than a dozen CASP members prepared and served breakfast to families staying at the Ronald McDonald House while their children receive medical care at nearby hospitals.

We ended a very fulfilling year by holding our Spring Banquet at The Club at Key Center near Public Square. The setting was magical, as was the entire year! In reflection, I stand amazed and awed by the dedication shown by so many in CASP. Our varied accomplishments were the result of collective energy, and CASP members' actions truly evidenced these words: "Act as if what you do makes a difference. It does." (William James, psychologist, 1842-1910.)

Linda M. Neiheiser Submitted 5/31/08

Excerpt from November, 1979 CASPLINE:

From the CASPLINE edition November, 1979:

Lucy Simm – President
Editors: Esther Gray & Toby Siegel

Announcements:

12/8/79	CASP-CPA Christmas Party at Gates Mills Towers
Late January, 1980	CASP Workshop and Mixer (?)
February 22 and 23, 1980	School Vision and Reading Forum: Jane Mercer – will answer SOMPA questions
May 1, 2, and 3, 1980	OSPA Spring Conference in Toledo
May 9 or 16, 1980	CASP Spring Banquet

Other offerings included a presentation on "Language Problems of the Older School-Age Child" by Ms. Marilyn Vacel and Ms. Karen Murray.

Legal Issues of the Day:

- **Incongruent Inconsistencies**
 - H.B. 74 Death Penalty (pending)
 - A.M.S.B. 46 Shelter - \$10 marriage license fee to protect abused spouses (passed)
 - H.B. 731 Child Abuse – additional report required (pending)
 - "?? Protecting society from itself!?"
- **Psychologist Psycurity**
 - H.B. 769 – Due process for school administrators (pending)
 - H.B. 808 – Counselor/Social Worker licensure (Chronically pending)
 - " ? Is your job safe? "
- **Odds and Ends**
 - H.B. 349 and H.B. 491 – Minimal Competency Testing (pending)

- A.M.S.B. 724 – Extends expulsion time (pending)
- S.B. 161 – Mental Health/Mental Retardation Department split (“schizo”) (pending)
- “ ??? Does this end all??? “
- Most for the Least – OSPA vs. State of Ohio (pending)
 - Collective Bargaining (OSPA supports it)
 - Minimum Competency Testing (OSPA wants members’ input)
 - Revised Concept Paper – New State Standards (OSPA will review with you)
 - “ ? Are these your priorities? “

The issue concluded with a short survey of opinions related to this last issue. The CASPLINE consisted of three back-to-back pages on Manila paper. What a difference from Dana’s latest issue! Some things never change and some really do!