Call to Order   10:07

Approval of Agenda
Add to Committee reports: Awards

Approval of Minutes of January meeting

Motion: Sharon Rieke
Second: Jill Payne
Passed

President's Report
Intern Conference planning committee is looking for 2 more representatives from the southwest region to be on the committee and to work in partnership with the IUC (Dayton, UC, and Miami) to plan the conference content. ODE has asked that the conference focus on the OISM model. The mantra is student achievement and behavior. ODE would like a focus to be on culturally responsive practices. It will be important to get information from this year’s interns and feedback after the conference. Interns talk among themselves – the official feedback from last intern conference was good, but the talk said “same old, same old.”
The interns did not like the activities (like Glen and Gary used to do) and were very turned off by that. The panel of first year psychologists and Rob’s “how to get a job” talk went over well.

ODE has asked Janet to participate in the OISM grant reading on May 18 and she is going to do so.

Nicholas Lighthouse – has started a coalition for bringing workshops / community presentations on evidence based practice for adolescent Depression. There will be two speakers on Oct 3, 2006. Franklin County Mental Health Association sponsors it. There is usually a daytime meeting for practitioners and an evening meeting for parents and community.

Janet gets all kinds of e-mails, since Erich put a contact for her on the website. She gets a lot of spam. She also got e-mail from:

Someone looking for data about the cost of untreated mental health issues in schools (Kids! Not administrators!)
Someone who wanted our mailing list, looking for psychologists in a certain area who might want a job (private). The board concluded that private parties could buy an ad in TOSP or buy a posting on our website (with a disclaimer).

She received a letter from someone offering to make a CD of OSPA conferences. They sent a sample. The board concluded that the expense and hassles of getting speaker permission were not worth it at this time, but we will see if any of our speakers are willing to make handouts, PowerPoints available for a brief time on our website.

**Treasurer’s Report**

We are not at the end of a quarter, so no report. OSPA will be using credit cards, hope to have it on site at spring conference.

**Hotel Contracts** – FAC asked that the Fall 2007 contract be signed with the Mariott North for cheaper room rates for our members. Mariott even came down on the rates.

**Business Manager’s Report**

OSPA is offering another Ethics workshop in Cleveland on June 9 in the afternoon in addition to the one at spring conference.

Motion to approve new members: Lynn Brumfield
Second: Elaine Semper
Approved

Membership is about what we usually have at this time of the year.

**Director of Legislative Services and Professional Relations Report**

Ann hands out:

OISMs guidance document – for new grants under OISMs model
State board of education will be adopting an acceleration policy for advanced learners. Districts need to have policy based on model policy – Hot off the presses
Draft state board of education guidance for school substance abuse and violence prevention policy
A letter drafted by organizations opposing state special ed voucher bill
Legislative services analysis of HB 431
Questions and answers on serving children with disabilities parentally placed in chartered nonpublic schools (11/2005)
Ohio Supervisors of school psychologists group – has been directing questions to Ann (Cooper) Guinan re: IDEIA issues. Ann Brennan has Q and A info from her.

ODE and IUC and Ann met in February (Stephanie Metzger, Lawrence Dennis, new person – Barbara Murphy, will be working with school Psychs for ODE – former Findlay school psych – has been with state for several years in another department) to go over issues with school psych internship program.

IUC is collecting student outcome data on a pilot basis this year on intern impact on student outcomes. University of Dayton put this together with University of Cincinnati. ODE would like us to continue this. The data was wonderful, showing progress kids made in behavioral and academic interventions as a result of our interns. The ODE people were really intrigued. Talked about intern numbers and funding, particularly as the Dayton/Shawnee cohort comes on board in 09-10. ODE is supportive of intern program, particularly in light of the data. They also talking of ways to support the UD/Shawnee program with regard to tuition. UD’s tuition is relatively high and Shawnee is an impoverished part of state.

The Youngstown State University program - still going through the ODE approval process, are relying on a federal grant to support the program. They are planning to have 2 cohort groups of 6 each, if the federal grant comes through. If it does go on, we will need to factor those numbers into the intern allocations and money in the state budget.

OSPA is in the very preliminary stages of cosponsoring a workshop on Bullying with the school counselors next September. Thought it might be timely. It would be one day, in Columbus, at the Ohio Historical Society. Probably have box lunches. Hoping to get 300 people. The speaker fee is high ($2800) two speakers – same that spoke for Franklin County last year - wonderful speakers. FAC would have to approve before OSPA would cosponsor. (Looked at Fawcett Center – accommodate more, but higher price) Might try to market it to the Elementary Principals association to tri-sponsor it. Discussed possibly teleconferencing the workshop to other areas of the state. Expensive.

Legislative Stuff:

HB 276 – the anti bullying bill – passed the house. Looks like this will go through. Ann will post details on the website

HB 431 – special ed voucher bill – Will be heard again next Tuesday. The opposition was going to testify, but two of the major members testifying are not going to be in town. Ann will testify at a future date. Ann will be presenting testimony, Ohio Federation of teachers, school boards, etc. They have the testimony ready to go, just need to set a date they can all be there – possibly April or May. Several of them met with the bill sponsor, Representative Peterson, and shared their concerns. He believed our concerns were legitimate, and indicated that he will continue to work with us on it. Our bottom line – the bill would have to minimally have compliance standards with state and federal law and standards – IDEIA, NCLB, state stuff. If the private providers would have to comply with all that, we would object less. Ann doesn’t think that will actually happen. She thinks it will mirror the Florida law. OSPA will continue to express concerns.

Discussion:

Have issues come up with regard to labor issues? Are these places required to provide retirement, health insurance, etc. for their employees? Is this the WalMart of schools? Where we pay their health care through Medicaid? These are valid concerns. In Florida, there were 30 private providers in Florida pre-bill, since the bill was enacted in 2003, there are more than 700!! This is the scary thing.

How will the school records follow the kids? What info will be available when they come back to us? 52% of the kids chose not to continue the IEPs after the first year in Florida. Many of the parents go to the private schools because they don’t think their kids are special ed. They want to drop the IEPs. 70% of the kids enrolling in the Florida private voucher schools were
special ed. Many of the charter schools are getting a lot of special ed kids, behavior problems. This is not what they were expecting and they have to educate them. The autism voucher has 400 kids participating now. State board of Ed staff asked the board of ed to oppose the bill. They decided not to support the bill unless the providers are required to comply with IDEIA. One board member kept citing the autism voucher program as a good reason to support the bill.

HB 486 - civil liability – indemnify any school employee from civil suit as long as any injury does not rise to level of child endangerment (permanent injury). OSPA was part of the coalition that opposed it last time. The coalition is no longer together. Ann will write a letter expressing concerns. The support for the bill is wider than it used to be. Still have concerns. Why should employee be immune from hurting a child?

HB115 Regional services delivery bill – is not moving at this time. Opposition seems to be shutting it down.

Bill to add general safety drill to the list of required drills – sort of an anti-terrorist drill. Revise the school safety plans more often to keep up with the happenings in the world. Drop one fire drill in response. Practice the procedures to be followed in event of terrorist activity against the school or other violent act at school. (Drop and Cover!?!)

Sharon Reike reports that the state fruit bill is back. It used to be between the pawpaw and the apple. The apple fell. It is now between the pawpaw and the tomato. Chuck – everybody knows the tomato is a VEGETABLE! Krista – Biologically, the tomato is a fruit! So are cucumbers.

State health insurance plan. The budget corrections bill extends the work of the board to give them 6 more months to do their work. They will make recommendation to the legislature regarding a state wide employee insurance plan.

Committee Reports

Spring Conference Committee Sal Karanouh-Schuler and Elaine Semper

Lynn and Sharon are working on restaurants in the area and hospitality. Have a concept for hospitality. They cannot use the place they had identified due to price. They wanted $150 for an open space. The concept is to get people together after the Thursday presentation and opportunities to connect and make dinner arrangements. University of Cincinnati will be at the conference to allow people to sign up for college credit.

NASP Update Juliette Madigan

Juliette couldn't be here. She sent her report. Excerpted from her report:

OSPA got a Thank You letter from the NASP-ERT Minority Scholarship fund for OSPA’s $3000 donation. Three scholarships were announced in the Communiqué. Two students from Ohio, one from Cleveland State and one from the University of Cincinnati, did apply, but unfortunately were not chosen by the committee. Juliette sent both students e-mails thanking them for applying and encouraging them to apply again.

NASP Children’s Fund – we will have several items at the Auction in Anaheim this year. In February, the Children’s Fund awarded six $500 Practitioner’s Mental Health Startup Grants. One of these grants was awarded to Sara Vondracke, from Hamilton City Schools to develop a Crisis Response Toolkit. Congratulations to Sara! NASP members can apply for a variety of grants on the NASP website (NASPonline.org)

A NASP taskforce has been working on updating the Blueprint for Training and Practice. This will be the third edition and will be presented at the NASP Convention on March 31, 2006.

NEA has produced a new resource: The Puzzle of Autism. This work has been a collaboration if NEA, NASP, the Autism Society of America, and the American Speech-
Language-Hearing Association. It is a 38 page guide for all educational personnel who work with students with Autism Spectrum Disorders. It may be very useful for general education teachers who have ASD students in their classes all or part of the time. It includes common autistic characteristics and suggests classroom strategies for improving communication, sensory, social, and behavioral skills. A complimentary copy is available by e-mail gapsinfo@nea.org. You can also download the PDF at www.nea.org/specialed/images/autismpuzzle.pdf.

OPA Update
Mary Ann Teitelbaum

OPA continues to work on issues of prescription privilege.

AFFIC Update
Valorie Walcott-Mendleson

Intern manual – Kathy McNamara has done such a fantastic job on this! - Big improvement over old document. It is so clear and well written, that the little glitches and misunderstandings (What if intern is not being successful? What if the district is not providing what the intern ought to have?) should not be issues any more. It clearly outlines what the school district is committing to in accepting an intern. The monitoring forms are much more outcome based. The manual will be put on the OSPA website.

The iffy-ness of continued funding has forced us to be more outcome-based, to justify the intern program. No longer requires the districts to provide benefits. They are just trying to hold on to the state stipend. Interns are pretty much getting the state stipend.

The manual also clearly outlines the universities’ responsibility to train the field facilitators. When ODE gets requests from districts asking about interns, they will link them to the website.

Getting NASP approval for training programs is becoming more difficult. They are asking training programs to document what we do and it’s impact on students. Prove how our training effects the kids the psych students are working with. Some programs that have APA approval have lost NASP approval.

The interns are required to produce a portfolio that shows they were in compliance with the state, with best practice, etc. It is reviewed by the university. If a supervisor is not providing the experiences the interns need, they may be removed from the list. The new manual approves the supervisor, as well as the district. You can take the supervisory approval with you, when you move.

Awards
Kristie Prough

The committee is recommending Valorie Walcott-Mendelson for the Ray Horn award
Antoinette Miranda for the Bartlett award

Moved: Jay Bahnson
Second: Deb Liddy
Motion Passed

Val mentions getting historical info from Ray. He is in Columbus. Maybe Antoinette could get some of her students to collect info. OSPA started in his kitchen! He is responsible for the internship program in Ohio.

Unfinished Business

Revision of Constitution
Rob Kubick & Janet Brunecz

Rob passes out the revisions / amendments.
Ethics standards also have to be revised.
First page is already accepted.
Second page has that candidates must be members
Removal of oversight sections on ethics committee – other agencies have this function
Research committee has been inserted.
The final vote on adopting these into the constitution will occur at the next full meeting.
There is no language in the current operations manual or constitution naming the regions. There is no vision or mission statement in the current manual. We do have a purpose statement, which is a vision. The intern manual has a mission statement for OSPA (from Bergamo 1991), which apparently didn’t make it into the manual or constitution. From the intern manual:

“The mission of the Ohio School Psychologist’s Association is to serve the citizens of Ohio by working collectively with all learners, families, educators, and others to address the diverse learning and mental health needs of children and youth.”

Motion to accept this as our mission statement: Sharon Rieke
Second: Chuck Archer as proxy for Lew Sarr
Motion Passed

New Business

School Psychologist Licensure Exam

Ann Brennan

Discussion of eliminating the essay exam from the School Psychology License. The state board of Psychology wants to raise the cut score on the Praxis exam to 660 which is NASP’s recommendation and eliminate the essay exam.

Discussion:
So the committee would just do the oral portion – ethics part is oral.
Is the time (15 minutes) for the oral is worth the trip from other parts of the state?
Could the board have the team of two examiners give tests in different parts of the state instead of everyone coming to Columbus?
Does a brief oral adequately give the information to decide whether a person is qualified for private practice? Should the oral be expanded?
11 candidates became state licensed school psychologist last year. They are talking about grandfathering for at least a year for those with lower scores who were planning to take the license exam this year.

Ann will report that we have no stated objections, suggest the oral exams be moved around the state, and suggest that case applications / scenarios be expanded to be sure the person is a viable candidate.

For the Good of the Cause:

Reevaluations – “if school and parent agree that a reevaluation is unnecessary…”

- Akron is grabbing onto that. They are spending about 45 % of their clock time on reevaluations. Attorney is gun shy without state regs. Akron – did 1200 reevaluations last year. Only 6 kids did not qualify. Allocation of resources is the issue in Akron.
- Hamilton County area, 22 school districts – some have made up forms so there is a paper trail that there is an agreement. Jana Perry from the state department says that Ann Guinan says that if every one agrees that you are not going to do anything for the reevaluation – document it on the prior written notice. If everyone has met and decided that we have enough written data to answer the reevaluation questions, then THAT is the reevaluation. Write a couple paragraphs on the evaluation form, and that is your reevaluation.
- Some had issues as to what is a reevaluation. The info in Whose Idea? was picked up from IDEA 2004 – but the actual IDEIA language did not change except one sentence in the reevaluation section. How do we know that we don’t need to do a reevaluation if we don’t meet and discuss it????
- 90%/o of reevaluations could be done off IEPs if the IEPs are written and monitored right!!!
- If reevaluation isn’t done, please send ALL the information that lead you to decide not to evaluate when the kid moves!! (Song and dance about getting check marks on an IEP for kids from out of state)
Why not document and type up the record review?
We need to be careful about the corners we cut. Our focus needs to be on increasing school psych numbers and reducing our ratios, rather than how do we get an impossible job done.

Debra – update on Mount Gilead model situation. The situation is considered unethical. Cardington and Mount Gilead have dropped the model and are going together to hire a school psychologist. (Mt. Gilead – counselor was paid a stipend to test. The clinical psych was paid $5000 a year to do this.)

LPDC question
We have to submit an IPDP. In some districts people are resubmitting a plan and are being told that the second plan must be entirely new. No new goals. The goals have to be tied into the school improvement plan. Don’t they give examples? No. Suggestions – re-write goals in new and better ways. The no “new goals” is a local thing. Akron has heard the same thing and they are hearing specific, measurable goals. Some performance reviews are tied into IPDPs.

City of Toledo mental health resource is still in draft form – after a year. It will eventually be put on the child advocacy website.

There is a national version of the Summary of Performance – for seniors. The Southwest region is dispersing it. Psychologists might want to start asking in their areas. What are we doing? IS there any paperwork to put it on? Even though regulations for IDEIA aren’t here, we have to do this. SERRCs should have it.

Motion to adjourn: 1:27
Motion: Scott Gill
Second: Sal
Passed