OSPA Executive Board Meeting  
March 26, 2004

Members present:
George Csanyi President
Lew Sarr President-Elect
Chuck Archer Past President
Krista Hickman Secretary, Fall Conference Co-Chair
Lynn Brumfield Treasurer
Ann Brennan Director of Legislative Services & Professional Relations
Cheryl VanDenBerge OSPA Business Manager
Mary Dixon Newsletter Editor
Erich Merkle OSPA Web Developer
Elaine Semper Elyria/Lorain Representative
Kristine Quallich Kent/Akron Representative
Kristen Prough Intern for Kris Quallich
(Proxy for Kershini Naidu, Kent/Akron Representative)
Gail Fadel Membership Co-Chair, (Proxy for Ralph Pajka)
Cleveland Representative)
Matt Cianciolo Intern for Gail Fadel
Juliette Madigan Cleveland Representative, NASP Liaison
Virginia Switzer (Proxy for Holly Middleton) North Central Representative
Scott Gill Maumee Valley Representative
Rachel Ripstein Southwest Representative
Eunice Miller Southwest Representative
Sharon Rieke Southwest Representative
Linda Kessler East Central Representative
Jay Bahnsen Spring Conference Co-Chair
Sue Johnston Spring Conference Co-Chair
Valorie Walcott Mendelson AFFIC Liaison
Antoinette Miranda IUC Liaison
Barb Scholl Legislative Co-Chair
Reuban Mosidi Nominations and Elections
Laura Gabel Public Relations Co-Chair
Cynthia Lindberg Membership Co-Chair
Janet Brunecz Fall Conference Co-Chair
Louise Cardenzana Awards Chair

Call to Order  10:00

Roll CallKrista Hickman

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Minutes of January 30, 2004 meeting
Corrections to minutes:
   Unfinished business –
   Goal # 5, not “five of the NASP Goals”
   Committee reports –
   Nominations

Maumee Valley joint membership numbers – 61

Motion passed to accept minutes as corrected.
President's Report

Introduces Erich Merkle as OSPA Web Developer, new member of Executive Board (non-voting).

Thanks us for flowers and prayers. He had a heart attack, threw a bold clot, had two stents put in, and is doing well.

Recognizes Juliette Madigan, who spoke on NPR radio on behalf of school psychologists and represented our profession so well.

Treasurer's Report

No quarterly report because the quarter is not done until end of month.
FAC met this morning and discussed:
- Intern Funding and how we support that. FAC is recommending that the board amend our budget to include a line item on our budget to support intern activities. Board agrees to wait until we hear Ann’s report to make a motion.
- We may have to move the OSPA office and quickly because the building owner is in financial difficulties.
- Will have an additional line item next year for the website.

Business Manager's Report

Ballets are going out this week.
Conference registration is coming in nicely. We have twice as many as this time last year.
We have to move the OSPA office within 30-60 days.
Cheryl had gall bladder surgery. Thank you for the flowers.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Stephanie Faller
Stephanie accepted an invitation to speak to the OSPA Executive Board today. She has been with ODE 2.5 years. She’s an LPCC. The rest of her career has been in the field of mental health.

There has been a lot of change at ODE. There is a hiring freeze. New positions coming into ODE are written with a strong connection to other departments within ODE, not as simply special education positions.

Stephanie told the board that ODE tried to fill Pete Tolan’s School Psychologist Consultant position, but they didn’t get applicants. ODE did hire somebody under the new job description who will start in September, will be strongly connected to assessment.

Stephanie suggests that OSPA needs to make strong relationship with Don Peasly – office of assessment and with early childhood – Barbara Weinberg. Our members need to be reading the IDES of ODE – middle of every month on ODE website.

The focus of the department of special education is moving from eligibility and paperwork to instruction. She shared a book with us and said that the book is the language and direction the office is going. All the work they are doing out of ODE matches this book:

_A New Era: Revitalizing Special Education_
_Presidents Commission on Excellence_

Order: 1-800-437-0833
Kindergarten screening assessment – upcoming school year, will be screening throughout the year as people are trained, full implementation in 05-06.

ODE is convening a statewide transition work group to discuss successful transition to post secondary schools (vocation). We don’t know what happens to kids when they are gone from school.

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

**Intern Funding**

In February, ODE proposed that OSPA be the fiscal agent for intern funds and that IUC be delegated all the related duties, such as internship site approvals. There was a meeting (ODE, IUC, and OSPA) to discuss the issues. After the meeting, Ann did further research. OSPA’s liability is a concern if we become fiscal agent. Ann called a lawyer who said the issue would take a lot of research; this is a unique situation. A non-researched opinion – the lawyer did not see any way OSPA could limit our liability in this situation. Then OSPA found that ODE requires us to have an IRN number in order to do this. We do not have an IRN number. Lack of IRN number and liability issue = not this year. **ODE agreed to continue as fiscal agent for at least the next year.**

**Intern Conference:** None this year. Still discussing whether we can do anything special for interns at spring conference this year. We won’t be able to have a separate intern strand at this year’s spring conference.

**Discussion:**
- We want to have something special.
- ODE will give $2500 and they have to be direct billed by the hotel. ODE will not pay for intern registration. ODE cannot pay OSPA directly, will only work with the Hotel.
- We now have to decide if the board wants to contribute matching funds
- Suggestion - use the money to pay for hotel rooms for the interns.
- This is not an option, the logistics would be a nightmare.
- We need a personal letter sent to every supervisor and every intern, inviting them to Spring Conference Intern Activities and clarifying the situation
- Every intern should be invited to the Intern Activities, even if they don’t come for the rest of the conference.

**CONSENSUS:** George will post the agreed on information online and send a personal letter to each intern and facilitator.

**INTERN CONFERENCE**  
May 2004

- We will have the traditional intern raffle for interns who are OSPA members.
- Spring conference registration fee for interns – will be $75.00 must register by April 28. Refer to website to download registration form.
- OSPA room rate deadline is still April 14.
- Featured Professional Development Activity for interns in the Ballroom from 4:30 – 7:00 on Thursday. Appetizers and Cash Bar. No charge for this activity, but must RSVP for head count.

**School based mental health initiative** – (Stephanie Faller coordinates.)
ODE and Ann would like volunteers to become active in the regional mental health organizations – be a contact person on behalf of school psych so we are in the loop. Areas, sponsoring organizations and contact persons:
- **Southwest** - Miami University, Oxford Ohio – Carl Paternite
- **Northwest** – Children’s Resource Center, Bowling Green – Noelle Duvall
- **North Central** – Without Walls, Cuyahoga Falls – Kathleen Oberlin
- **Central Ohio** – Children’s Hospital Behavioral Health Center, Columbus – Linda Maxwell
- **Northeast** – PEP in Cleveland – Therese Johnston
- **Southwest** – Woodland Centers in Gallopolis – Dave Tener
The Children’s Advocacy Committee is interested in serving on these, this is what that committee wants to have as their mission. Anyone else who is interested should contact Ann Brennan.

Shawnee State / University of Dayton satellite program
This is going forward. UD is hoping to begin next year if they can get it all together. The plan is try it for two cohorts of school psych candidates and see how it goes. It would be a remote, part time, evening and weekend program. Students would register as UD students. Trainers would be from UD. Classes would meet at Shawnee State. Idea is to meet the need in the Southeast corner of Ohio.

Senate Bill 2 - signed into law. State board – educator standards board – will establish professional development (by 2005?) and licensure standards.

189 – Addresses state indicators – prohibits lower rating for district for 2003-04 than 2003-04 if district meets certain other standards - a transitioning provision into new indicators. Clarified the Autism bill – specifies that the vouchers cannot be used for wrap around services – have to use the whole voucher for the private provider. Can’t divide up. Ann clarifies that the kid doesn’t have to be attending public school, only needs to be a resident of district. Parents have to go in and sign an IEP – but they don’t take services from the district.

House Bill 130 – allows caretaker affedavit authorization for grandparents – will be law.

House Bill 106 – records released from DYS. Passed House and is in Senate. Clarification – law requires that the records be released to the designated school psychologist. Looks like it is going to become law. Probably effective next school year

Senate Bill 265 – addresses liability – all school employees who physically harm a child while disciplining, but don’t meet level of “child endangering” would be immune from liability. Major substitution bill being put together.

House Bill 330 – would change proficiency test dates to May. Lot of support among elementary school principals. But probably won’t go anywhere.

OREDS – ODE recommendation, keeps ESCs intact and reorganizes everyone else.

See the OSPA website for updates.

Committee Reports

Children’s Advocacy Committee                   Kristine Quallich
Will be taking on “mental health for school success” as their mission.

Membership Committee                         Gail Fadel
Total of 840 members. Five new members. Still behind last year.
Motion to accept new members passed.

Awards Committee                          Louise Cardenzana
Need to get nominations out for School Psychologist of the Year Award. The nomination form is not on the website because it is a regional nomination, not individual. Form will be sent to regions. Send completed nominations to Louise this year. This is the last time they will go to Louise. Spring nomination form for awards is now one page – all in one.
Committee proposes:

**Ray Horn Honorary Life Membership for Alex Thomas**

**Motion passed**

**Bartlett Award** to Jim Evans

**Motion passed**

**Nominations & Elections**

Reuben Mosidi

Have all the candidates for all the offices.

President Elect – Janet Brunecz

Secretary – Krista Hickman

Seven Regions electing representatives

April 19 is the deadline for returning ballots to OSPA office.

**Motion passed to accept the slate**

**Spring Conference**

Jay Bahnsen & Susan Johnston

2006 - May 3, 4, 5 - in Cincinnati – at the Netherlands Plaza (Hilton), downtown Cincy – pay to park – Cheaper parking about a block away.

2005 – May 4, 5, 6 – Akron – Quaker Square

2004 – Columbus – Ethics Workshop Wednesday night. Intern Activities Thursday night

**Liason Reports**

**ISPA - NASP**

Juliette Madigan

Dallas!! Don’t forget your Teddy Bears for the Children’s Fund! They give them to children in crisis.

**Unfinished Business**

**OSPA Web Site – Questions & Answers**

Erich Merkle, Web Developer

History - The Website began in the spring of 2000, when Caven McLaughlin asked Erich to help him create the website. OSPA ONLINE currently has about 1000 pages of content. We have awards and comments back to 1999, legislative updates back to 1999. There is a history section, lots of stuff. The site gets about 5000 hits a month. It is in all the search engines. Largest month was 11,000 visitors. The site has a presence for each OSPA region, some are more detailed than others. All regions have space and can let Erich know what they want to do with their space. Some areas of the website – like parent section – have little on them now. Several hundred membership applications are downloaded from the website each month. Over 700 downloads of spring conference registration form. We can generate tons of data from our web statistics.

OSPA listserv is hosted by Kent State. They provide free listserv service. We can move to a different web hosting provider anytime we want. The listserv has 379 members now. We have an online archive that goes back to 2000 for the listserv. The OSPA website has a link to get into that. We have usage guidelines for the listserv – developed by Erich over time, with input last year from Chuck Archer.

**Costs**

$145 a year for web hosting – One World. Erich would like to switch to Active, which he uses personally, cost $4.95 a month. Domain name OSPAONLINE – is paid through 2011.

Software – updating Adobe Acrobat has been the main one. Other stuff Erich bought himself and has not sought OSPA reimbursement for it. Erich has documented 720 hours of web development since starting it (hours are generated by the website). He does about 5-10 hours a week, at least 5-10 tech support e-mails each day. If we add more sophisticated stuff, like e-commerce, the time will increase. (Erich is not paid for his services.)
Right now we have about what other school psych websites have. Do we want to add information for parents and practitioners? An online newsletter would be easy to do. Other online things – submission of award forms, online voting (a little more complicated), anything we spend postage on, E-commerce, selling things. Do we want to keep the membership only format? We are giving a lot of things away free.

Can anyone get on the listserve?

It is that way now. This means that currently parents could get on the listserve. We have no way of identifying people who are on. This was a problem on the NASP listserve a while back.

What about asking legal questions in an e-mail with psychologist’s name and district address? ______

It is an issue on the NASP listserve every now and then. The consensus has been that the parents and advocates have been an asset to the listserve.

Many people on the listserve are not aware that it is an open listserve and anyone can read the e-mails.

Maybe we need to post a reminder to members that it is an open listserve. Also a reminder to maintain professional level of communication in what we say. And a reminder that it is all archived with the writers name!

Erich has been invited and has accepted a nonvoting position on the Executive Board.

The focus of technology committee should be the USE of technology, not the content of the web page…do the research to look at e-commerce. We already have a technology committee on the “books”. It is non-functional at the moment. Maybe we should look to some of our newer members, who have more experience with technology.

History Task Force Update

Lew Sarr

The task force is still in limbo in terms of a site for our historical articles. He visited with Julie Wright. She is more than willing to give OSPA the portfolios she developed WHEN we have a secure site to house them. She has bound versions of the TOSP from the 1950’s. The OSPA office has a few public service announcements on video. Julia said that at one time there were leather bound copies of some old TOSPs at the office, but they are not there now. Caven has a complete set (not leather bound) which he will make available to us. The guy who does the binding is retiring. We could put some of the old videos, pictures, and TOSPs on the web site in the history section. Could have a slide show.

Planning conference June 17.

Lew Sarr

Topic: school mental health services

Presentations first, then discussion of what OSPA can do, what regions can do

Will be at COSERRC - probably 9:30 to 3:30

TOSP

Mary Dixon

Mike Webber (psych at school for the deaf) died a few months ago - cancer for the past year and a half.

Electronic TOSP – Dan, the layout guy, thinks this would be great. Do we want to do it this summer or next summer?

Reprints from other School Psych newsletters – this was an issue a few years ago and so she hasn’t been doing this. Recently California had two wonderful issues she would like to reprint – the states do have permission to take from each others’ newsletters.

Mary would like to have a theme for each edition and for the year - Mental health to be the 04-05 theme. She wants to assign committees to have articles in TOSP once a year - a particular issue that the committee would be responsible for submitting an article.
CONSENSUS: Electronic TOSP will start in the fall, the August issue, with the fall conference brochure, will be the first electronic issue.

Membership Fees
Gail Fadel
Gail suggests an 18-month membership be available to those who sign up in the middle of the year. Members who join after January could pay for 18 months. **FAC will look at this and make a recommendation.**

Gail is looking into credit card access so members can pay dues by credit card. She will get info to Lynn regarding cost. She thinks people might join sooner and might buy more at the conferences if they could use credit cards. We need to be sure that down the road we can move toward e-commerce and can build it into our merchant account, so we don’t have two separate systems. For each credit card (VISA, Mastercard, Discover) there is a separate charge.

Internship manual revision
Valorie Wolcott-Mendelson
Valorie has the **DRAFT of the revised intern manual.** Kathy MacNamera has been on sabbatical and has been working hard on revising the intern manual.

Intern Funding – ODE is getting out of the business and is asking IUC to assume responsibility for site approval, IUC will be funding bridge between state and districts. There is also talk of there being a 20 percent cut in intern funding next year. Medical coverage is an issue – expense of medical coverage for interns. Jim Evans (University of Dayton) has put together a funding proposal. Rumors are going around, most are unconfirmed!

Internship conference
**Motion to amend the budget to add $2500 to the state’s $2500 for the interns this spring – one time only - passed**

New Business

**Kindergarten Readiness Assessment**
Chuck Archer
(Chuck had to leave, George reads)

High points from letter from Stephanie Stollar to Chuck regarding kindergarten readiness assessment:

- Developed and piloted by Don Dino.
- Assess no later than 6 weeks after the start of school
- No relationship between this and literacy requirement.
- Could do as Kindergarten round up
- Can’t be used to prohibit student from enrolling in Kindergarten
- Results will not be reported to ODE until 05-06
- ODE will provide training on this instrument.
- The Kindergarten diagnostic assessment that was sent to districts last fall is not required.
- The Kindergarten diagnostic is required for transfer students (different law).
- Separate from the preschool requirements for progress monitoring. Using “Get It, Got It, Go!” for preschool. Developed by University of Minnesota to be a companion to DIBELS. No technical adequacy yet. No benchmarks yet. SERRCs will be training. Will be piloted in 10% of districts next year.
- Stephanie would like to hear from others who would like to help her.
- She has attended the advisory committee meetings. The main thrust has been related to a resource manual, which won’t be ready.
- It is not a standardized instrument – very informal – not good for pre and post testing. This info is not included in the manual.
- The screening measure is a short form, not a screening.
- Districts do not have to do the whole thing, or even do it all at once.

Conclusion – we need more info before taking position. Stephanie Stollar is already representing us, but Stephanie is asking for support from us. George will contact Stephanie and see what she would like us to do.

Executive Board Adjournment at 2:57