Minutes from the OSPA Executive Board Meeting 4/13/2011

Krista Hickman, M.A., NCSP, SP408
Secretary

School Psychologist
Lima City Schools
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OSPA Executive Board Members in attendance:

Ryan Allen IUC Liaison
Chuck Archer Legislative Committee Chair, Proxy for Linda Seekatz
Jay Bahnsen Central Rep/Spring Conference Chair
Terry Bendo PR Committee Co-chair
Melissa Bestgen Student Rep, Cleveland State U.
Kate Bobak Historian
Ann Brennan Dir. of Leg. Services/Prof Relations
Lynn Brumfield Southwest Rep
Debra Buck Southeast Rep
Perry Clark OSSP Liaison
Amy Davis Student Rep, Bowling Green U.
Dan Dean Cleveland Rep
Dana Doran-Myers U of Dayton Student Rep
Jen Douglas Membership Chair
Heather Doyle PR Committee Co-Chair
Jessica Dunwoodie Student Rep, U. of Cincinnati
Marina Ergun Multicultural/Diversity Co-chair
Denise Eslinger Elyria/Lorain Rep
Gail Fadel Cleveland Rep
Beth Gaubatz Maumee Valley Rep
Julie Griffith Cleveland Rep
Michelle Hathorn Treasurer
Krista Hickman Secretary
Brian Hill Crisis Intervention Committee Chair
Susan Johnston Fall Conference Co-chair
Sal Karanouh-Schuler Spring Conference Chair
Aimee Kirsch President-elect
Kelly Kowalski Kent/Akron Rep
Robyn Kuhlman Student Rep, Bowling Green U.
Robert Kubick TOSP Editor
David Lamb Northwest Rep
Kathy McNamara NASP Liaison
Reuben Mosidi Nominations/Elections Chair
Barbara Murphy Liaison ODE Office for Exceptional Children
Christopher Nelson Maumee Valley Rep
Ralph Pajka Nominations/Elections Co-chair
Kristin Prough Awards Chair
Sharon Rieke Southwest Rep
Kathryn Rodocker Kent/Akron Rep
Luci Secord Central Rep
Elaine Semper President
Meghan Shelby Multicultural/Diversity Co-chair
OSPA Executive Board Meeting
April 13, 2011
Call to Order at 4:50 pm

Approval of Agenda
The agenda was approved as amended.
Motion: Sharon Rieke
Second: Gail Fadel
Motion Passed

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of the February 4, 2011 Executive Board meeting were approved as corrected.
Motion: Jay Bahnsen
Second: Debbie Buck
Motion Passed

President’s Report
Elaine Semper

NASP conference
- We got compliments on our website! They really liked that we put a face on our people on our website.
- Please jot down names of great speakers from the NASP conference and contact info. for our OSPA conference chairs.

The Ohio Special Education Leadership Conference will be September 19 & 20, 2011.
The Ohio Coalition meeting is November 29, 2011

Treasurer’s Report
Michelle Hathorn

OSPA is still in great financial shape.
Motion to approve the treasurer’s report
Motion: Chris Nelson
Second: Beth Gaubatz
Motion Passed

Director of Legislative Services
Ann Brennan

And Professional Relations Report

Jeff just posted a thorough legislative update to the OSPA website.
Other sources for good and current legislative information:
- The ART association website has great weekly summaries. Ann has been forwarding them to the OSPA listserve.
- Ohio Coalition for the Education of Children with Disabilities has a new budget information section on their website. All the documents are linked. http://www.ocedc.org/st_spec_ed_bdgt.php

HB 5 (Collective Bargaining) has been passed. Substantive changes!
- Tenure is no longer in effect.
- Bargaining is limited to salaries within district established ranges.
- Employee evaluation is another requirement.
• The budget bill sets requirements for student outcomes to be part of the evaluation system. Neither bill addresses how related services fit into the merit-based system, but ALL employees have to be evaluated and paid on the merit system.
• The Ohio Coalition will be working with the legislature, ODE, and the 21st century office to develop the system. We will have to be advocates for related services people.
• Ann’s strategy is to work with the Coalition to come up with a recommendation for a model for related services. It would have to include the criteria that are listed in the budget bill. E.g. What is the value added measure going to be for related service people and what measure do you use?
• Signatures are being collected to overturn the HB5 on the fall ballot.

Budget Bill – Preliminary hearings are done. There are a lot of hard to understand nuances in the budget.

Special Education
• Flat funded, which is a relatively good thing.
• Special education enhancements were also included and flat funded.
• IDEA requires states to at least maintain the current level of special education funding in order to get IDEA funds.
• The special education enhancements line item is the only line item that made it into the current budget. The gifted people lost line item funding; it is rolled into the general budget. Ann thinks that might change with the amended budget bill.

Shared services provisions are required in the budget bill, but are not clear.
• The bill requires the ESCs to come up with a model for shared services by the end of 2012.
• Under the bill, ESCs can provide services to local governments as well as to school districts.
• The bill requires all school districts to contract with ESCs, but it is not clear if the districts will have to get certain services from the ESCs.
• At the same time, the budget severely cuts the ESCs’ state funding. Providing regional services at a fee to the districts that are required to contract with them seems to be expected to make up the difference.

Retirement reform bills have had hearings, hearings and more hearings! It is expected that there will be more hearings by June. The house speaker has said that he would rather not have the bill in the budget. The bill is already complicated by the budget bill which increases the employee contribution by a lot.

House Bill 136 – Education Choice Bill - is going through the House now. Ann thinks it will pass. It expands Ed Choice dramatically and replaces the old program.
• Includes a special ed voucher program similar to the Autism scholarship, expanding it to all special ed students.
• A grandparent with power of attorney could access the vouchers.
• There is no evaluation component based on student outcomes. Evaluation will be basically parent and student satisfaction, not educational outcomes.
• Requires that parents be given notice of what their children can receive in the public schools vs the private program.
• The district of residence has to do the evaluation and write the IEP, but the voucher school doesn’t have to follow our IEP. There is actual language in the bill that says the voucher schools can change the IEP.
• Ohio Legal Rights might challenge it in the courts as a violation of IDEA. Florida has a similar program, which has been challenged.
• The voucher amount would be for whatever the district receives from the state. Whatever the district’s weight is will be deducted from the district and transferred to the private provider.
• Community schools are allowed to accept the vouchers in this proposed bill.
• Child has to be enrolled in the district of residence during the year prior to applying for a voucher. A child attending a community school can apply for the voucher, but the community school is not considered to be a district of residence for the bill. It isn’t clear whether the student would need to go from the community school to a public school for a year before applying.
NASP

Kathy McNamara

- Bad news first: There will be a dues increase from $175 to $190. This is consistent with NASP policy of reviewing dues every three years. NCSP will be going up from $90 to $99.
- Prepare Curriculum – crisis program – is being revised.
- NASP Summer conference programs seem to be a well kept secret. They are held in different places each summer and attract about 300 people each. Participants really seem to enjoy them.
- NASP – has a new self-assessment tool for members to use to look at our own areas of expertise, need. It is software. Idea is to have it available at computers at conferences for people to check out their own needs. NASP is looking at professional development opportunities that don’t require people to travel.
- Effective this fall, NASP will be launching communities on their websites. Doesn’t clutter up your email box, but gets info out to you that you need. Go to NASPonline.org to register to participate in some of the communities. Enhance your professional development!
- 2012 NASP convention will be held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 2013 will be in Seattle.

Committee Reports

Nominations and Elections

Reuben Mosidi & Ralph Pjaka

Written report in executive board packet
We have a treasurer-elect for the first time.
President-Elect: Denise Eslinger
Treasurer-Elect: Terry Bendo
Secretary: Krista Hickman
Central Rep: Jay Bahnsen
Cleveland Rep: Dan Dean
Kent-Akron Rep: Erich Merkle

Motion to accept the election results:

Motion: Chris Nelson
Second: Julie Griffith
Motion Passed

Membership

Jennifer Douglas

- Jen is the new membership committee chair.
- A main goal of hers is to focus on retaining, recruiting, and providing services. She welcomes input.
- We have a total of 906 members at this time.

Spring Conference

Sal Karanouh-Schuler

Over 280 are registered.
2012 Spring Conference will be April 18 through April 20. We will be at the Polaris Hilton again.

Technology

Jeff York

Written report provided
- The focus of committee has been to pursue a re-build of the website. The committee met with FAC and has a recommendation for a web designer. Some of the first things that they want the re-build to include are:
  o Online member and user profiles – user can change their info, renew membership, event registration and payments
  o Pages for each committee and each regional
  o Searchable member directory
Executive board directory

- Selective e-mail blasts – that can be sent to specified groups of members (committee)
  - Continuing to try to maximize the membership numbers and improve contact info. 2700 individuals are currently in the contact database.
  - The committee took a look at the OSPA listserve, which went “members only” last spring. We currently have 445 subscribers to list serve. We had about 775 before we went “members only”. A number of those were old addresses, duplicates, etc., so we aren’t sure how many were “real”.

There was discussion of having a closed, members only, listserv. The question was asked, Are we better served by a closed listserv than an open one? There was not a big surge in membership as a result of closing it. Some feel OSPA has limited discussion by closing it.

Motion to re-open the listserv.
  Motion: Chuck Archer
  Second: Deb Buck

Discussion:
- With the website re-build, there may be opportunities for parallel listserves where we can post to open or members only.
- According to our recent survey, the listserv is the second most appreciated member benefit (after Ann Brennan!).
- What you put on the listserv and e-mail is forever. “A family that I know” could be interpreted or misinterpreted to be certain persons.
- Some would be more comfortable with an area that is for members only that we could go to for support from colleagues.
- The listserv is a resource for school psychologists who are isolated in districts with limited resources. Some cannot afford to be OSPA members.
- Maybe we should consider doing “communities” like NASP is starting.
- We do have an OSPA Facebook page that is open to anybody.
- The community concept is in the phase two of our website re-build.
- You have to be careful about what you communicate in any e-mail. The techies in your district can read anything you write. We aren’t encrypted.

Motion tabled until next meeting.

Crisis/Intervention  
Brian Hill
Written report in executive board packet
The February topic of the month was book resources. The annotated bibliography of book resources will go up on the website.

Private Practice  
Kathryn Rodecker
Written report
The committee has a goal to have private insurance vendors and a state board of psychology presence at Fall conference 2011.

Scholarship  
Valorie Wolcott Mendelson
Written report in executive board packet
- IUC says that applications are available to their students.
- The Scholarship fund is at almost $37,000. Valorie has said that at $40,000, she’ll let someone else take it over. Her goal for this year is to raise $6500.
- There was discussion of the possibility of getting a list or silent auction items sent out in advance of fall conference, so that people would know what is going to be available and they or their districts can plan accordingly.

Awards  
Kris Prough
The committee will be developing multimedia presentations to play at future award ceremonies. Please submit nominations!

**Multicultural & Diversity**

*Marina Ergun*

Written report

The committee is continuing to focus on ELL.
- Working on a directory of Bilingual school psychs.
- Working on a FAQ.
- They would like to provide inservice at one of the conferences on the topic of ELL.

**TOSP**

*Rob Kubick*

- 26 articles are now on NASP on-line.
- IUC brought up the idea of some kind of recognition or award for interns: Outstanding research, intern of the year, etc.
- Krista Foley is now Copy editor for the TOSP. She is a first year professional. She will be looking for format, typos, APA style, etc.
- Rob is part of a NASP community that is sharing articles.
- Jeff and Rob went to San Francisco and did a presentation to about 25 state newsletter editors.

**Omnibus survey**

- Last done in 1994.
- Will be developing a role and function survey this summer.
- It will be a Survey Monkey survey.
- Will be integrating with some focus group discussions.

**Historian**

*Kate Bobak*

Kate bought an album and put the old pictures in it. Eventually she would like to have the photos digitized and available on-line. She will be going to the museum in May to drop off more items.
Kate is working on an Excel document that lists what OSPA has donated to the museum.

**Public Relations and Community Service**

*Heather Doyle*

Written report in executive board packet

- Food drive –we are at $320. We are actually 6th on the list on the Mid-Ohio Foodbank website.
- Heather is looking at something with Habitat for Humanity for next fall. Habitat has more need for weekday groups – maybe we could do some in the summer.
- 5K walk/run for the fall is a possibility for community services.
- Wants suggestions for non-politically motivated children’s charities.
- Merchandise survey got a lot of good responses and ideas.
- She will send out an e-mail to school superintendents re: school psych awareness week this coming year.

**Fall Conference**

*Sue Johnson*

- The 2011 OSPA Fall Conference will be on November 2 & 3.
- Matt Burns and Amanda Vanderhaven will be speaking on RTI – Interventions for Different Tiers.
- We will be at the Polaris Hilton in Columbus.
- Currently planning to have the Wine and Cheese Reception again.

A discussion of Fall Conference planning included the intention to continue the Wine Tasting and Cheese Reception in order to provide opportunities for Committee Chairs to promote their group’s activities and recruit new members. In an effort to prevent any future misunderstanding about the wine tasting procedures the ticket which each registrant receives in their material packet will clearly state that the recipient will receive the opportunity to taste both the red and white wines. Advertising this event as a *tasting* will hopefully clarify that there is an understood limit to the amount of wine available. The setting and committee set-up arrangements will be considered in an effort to facilitate the event.

**Liaisons Reports**
**OPA Update**  
**Mary Ann Teitelbaum**

The OPA Board felt they needed to oppose SB 5 and they did based on mental health issues, prison populations, Medicaid issues. OPA is concerned about the budget and public services including Medicare/Medicaid providers and agency workers.

Counseling went back into the OPA definition of school psychology. It turned out to be a mistake. They hadn’t realized that it had been left out.

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**Ohio Supervisors of School Psychologists**  
**Perry Clark**

If we have a supervisor and would like them to become part of the organization, give Perry the contact information. The group meets 3 times a year. It is a small enough group to have impromptu discussions. Recent discussion included: How do we quantify what we do? The services we provide to students and families.

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**Office for Exceptional Children**  
**Barbara Murphy**

- Deb Delisle has resigned as State Superintendent. Stan Heffner is acting as the interim.
- The Department of Students, Families and Communities has been disbanded.
- Special education is now in the Center for Education Reform and Strategic Initiatives.
- OSEP – RTI memo – states that you cannot use RTI to delay an evaluation of a child. If you are using RTI correctly, this would not be a problem. If you are starting RTI because you think the child has a problem, then you do not have intervention imbedded in the system and you are not doing RTI. IF a kid shows up and obviously has a problem, need to do interventions while pursing the 60 day evaluation, not before.
- A new set of annotations will be coming out shortly. Nothing really earth shattering, just clarifications.
- Special education is working closely with curriculum and instruction: embedded into the model curriculum for every content area. For every strand, every content area, there is a link to diverse learners (gifted, sped, ELL) using universal design for learning framework. People will have access to all of the tools.
- This is Barbara’s last OSPA meeting. She is retiring in August.
- She is trying to put together a notebook about OSPA for her replacement. Wendy Stoika is her main contact for the transition phase.

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**Unfinished Business**

None

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**New Business**

**OSPA Position on Hiring Non-School Psychologists**  
**Chris Nelson**

Discussion of a clinical psychologist who has been hired to function as a school psychologist:

The psychologist seems to be competent, but could be taking a position away from a licensed school psychologist. The person is being called a “Psych consultant for psychological assessment and diagnosis of learning problems”. Chris sat in on a re-evaluation meeting and thinks the person did a good job, but doesn’t meet our licensing standards.

- MaryAnn Teitelbaum (OPA Liaison) points out that the clinical psychologist is not “consulting”. She is doing the work of a school psychologist.
- Barbara Murphy (ODE Consultant) points out that Ohio rules include “other qualified psychologist” under cognitively disabled and gifted. The clinical psychologist can only do and sign the part one page of the ETR. The identification is done by the team, not any particular team member.
- Is someone in this position functioning outside their area of competency? This is a State Board of Psychology issue. The Clinical Psychologist would need to document coursework, practicum, post-doc experience or internship.
• This was an issue a few years ago. It was decided that clinical psychologists had to approach a university and get an internship and appropriate coursework in student identification. It is a specialty area of psychology. The key is supervision and practicum.
• The board that holds the psychologist’s license is the body that has to deal with the practicing outside competency issue.
• Maybe Chris should let the school district know they could be liable.
• Barbara Murphy is seeing a lot of this with community schools. One was closed because of what they were doing.

**SB5 – OSPA’s Position**  
**Chris Nelson**

Most of the school psychologists to whom Chris has talked have no idea how HB 5 will affect our positions. We really don’t know how it is going to affect us. Does OSPA have a position? This was addressed earlier in the meeting by Ann Brennan.

**President-Elect Report**  
**Aimee Kirsch**

Aimee shares information about her focus for executive board for next year.

Early Professionals – recruitment and retention of students, interns and early practitioners.
• During our summer planning meeting the committees will look at their committee goals and objectives and include early professionals within their annual committee plan.
• She had a conversation with IUC about having executive board members talking to first year students in their role and function class.

Corporate outreach - Aimee started thinking about all of us who contact the various venders, etc. She’d like to take some time to get together all the people who are talking with publishers, venders and see if we can pull together and funnel that activity into a central location.

**Adjournment**

*Motion: Krista Hickman  
Second: Julie Griffith  
Motion Passed*

Adjourned at 7: 38 pm