

Texas Psychiatrist

Are You Ready? Will You Help?

Another Legislative Session to Begin in January

On January 11, 181 members of the Texas Legislature will begin a 140-day Legislative Session, ending on May 30. If this upcoming Legislative Session is similar to past Sessions, over 5,000 bills will be filed. Traditionally, over 300 bills of the total have had a direct effect on psychiatric care, requiring intense lobbying efforts. There is no reason to believe the upcoming Session will be any different.

Based on activities of Legislative Interim Committees during the past year and legislative activities in adjoining states, Texas Psychiatry can expect an even more active and challenging Legislative Session in 2005.

Are you ready? Have you scheduled a meeting with your legislative representative yet? Does your legislative representative know you by name? If you answered "no" to these questions, challenges facing Texas Psychiatry may even be greater. "All politics is local." The front line in psychiatry's lobbying efforts are the members of organized psychiatry, members of the Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians and the Texas Academy of Psychiatry. Members of these organizations will help determine whether or not constructive legislation is passed and whether or not ill-conceived legislation is defeated. How? By becoming acquainted with and developing relationships with legislators prior to the Session so that legislators will turn to a constituent-psychiatrist for advice on legislative issues. Will you help?

The Federation will send to each TSPP and Academy member a "Key Contact"

form so that members may report on their relationships with legislators. This information will become vital during the Session when a message needs to be delivered to a key legislator by a psychiatrist-constituent. Will you help?

Texas Psychiatry will play an important role in the legislative effort by some psychologists to gain prescribing privileges...acquisition of a "legislative medical degree." Texas Psychiatry, along with mental health advocacy organizations, will argue that a medical degree and extensive medical residency training are THE requirements to safely and effectively prescribe medications for patients...not some 300 hour correspondence course on psychopharmacology. But, the Texas Psychological Association, emboldened by recent victories in our bordering states of New Mexico and Louisiana, will launch a major effort to convince legislators to allow psychologists to independently prescribe medications. Texas Psychiatry, for the welfare and safety of patients, can not allow the mistakes of New Mexico and Louisiana to be replicated in Texas. Will you help?

Texas Psychiatry will play an important role in a legislative effort by anti-psychiatry organizations, including Scientology's

Citizens Commission on Human Rights, to ban or place barriers to medications prescribed for children. The legislative attack will be targeted at children in the foster care system and children receiving Medicaid benefits. The opposition will continue to spread misinformation about the efficacy of medications prescribed for children, using arguments that off-label use of psychiatric medications should be banned. Texas Psychiatry, along with mental health advocacy organizations, will present scientific facts and family testimonials about the safety and efficacy of the treatment of childhood psychiatric disorders with medications. Will you help?

Texas Psychiatry will play an important role in the reconstitution of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners, which is subject to Sunset Review during the Session. Texas Psychiatry supports meaningful licensing and enforcement efforts of the Board to ensure patient safety. But Texas Psychiatry is concerned with the lack of due process in proceedings and the apparent discrimination against psychiatrists exhibited in certain policies. Texas Psychiatry will work to reform these practices. Will you help?

Texas Psychiatry will play an important role in the reform of the insanity defense statutes in Texas. Recent high profile cases

have brought attention to inadequacies in the insanity defense. Texas Psychiatry, along with mental health advocacy organizations, will actively pursue reforms that better represent persons with serious mental illness while protecting the public's interest. Will you help?

Texas Psychiatry will play an important role in the funding of public mental health services in our state. The restructuring of the public mental health system has been completed through the reorganization of the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Texas Psychiatry, along with mental health advocates, will work hard to improve access to public mental health services and to increase the funding for these vital services. Will you help?

Texas Psychiatry's success in addressing these and many other issues during the 140-day session will depend on whether or not you answered "Yes" to the questions, "Will you Help?"

Please visit with your legislators and report your contacts on the "Key Contact" form that will be mailed to you. On the form, please indicate whether or not you will want to be kept apprised on key legislative actions through the Federation's "E-Mail Alerts" or "Fax-Alerts."

Legislative advocacy is vital for ensuring that patients in our state receive quality psychiatric care. Legislative advocacy is not a passive activity, it is a contact sport...people to people.... forming relationships. Will you help? ■



January 25-26

Capitol Day: Don't Miss It!

Are you asking, "How can I help Texas Psychiatry with legislative advocacy?"

Very simply. Come to Capitol Day on January 25-26 at the Thompson Auditorium in the Texas Medical Association Building (401 West 15th Street) and participate in Texas Psychiatry's advocacy for psychiatric patients at the Texas Capitol.

Capitol Day 2005 was conceived during TSPP's Leadership Conference this past August by the Mental Illness Awareness Coalition, which includes NAMI Texas, Texas Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, Mental Health Association in Texas, Texas Mental Health Consumers and

TSPP. Inspired by the communications workshop led by Joel Roberts in August, the Mental Illness Awareness Coalition partners decided to put into practice the communications skills so expertly cultivated by Joel Roberts by joining forces again early during the Legislative Session to jointly visit with legislators.

Capitol Day 2005 will feature a communications workshop again led by Joel Roberts, a former Los Angeles talk show host, who will be returning for a TSPP program for the fourth time. Joel Roberts' communications training is second to none. Participants learn how to rapidly and concisely convey key messages while having fun and being inspired by the energy and expertise of Joel Roberts.

On Tuesday morning, January 25 (9:00 am - 12:00 noon), Joel Roberts will lead a workshop specifically for members of TSPP and the Academy to sharpen messages about issues that are vital to psychiatrists and their patients.

During the Tuesday afternoon session (1:30 pm - 6:00 pm), members of NAMI Texas, Texas Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, Mental Health Association in Texas and the Texas Mental Health Consumers will join TSPP and

Academy members in a combined training session led by Joel Roberts. The afternoon session will address the numerous legislative issues that are priorities of the Coalition partners.

The program will continue on Wednesday morning (9:00 am - 12:00 noon) for all Coalition partners with fine-tuning of communication messages for members of the legislature. Following the morning session, participants will go to the Capitol on Wednesday afternoon to visit with legislators about mental health issues. Capitol Day 2005 will conclude with a debriefing at the TMA Building beginning at 5:00 pm.

This is an experience you will not want to miss. In 2003, Joel Roberts conducted his communications program for TSPP members for Capitol Day. The following are some of the comments about the 2003 Capitol Day made by TSPP members in their program evaluations:

- "This was by far the most valuable educational experience on patient advocacy and influencing public policy that I have had in all my training. I sincerely wish every psychiatrist in the state/country could have this experience."
- "Focused my ability to present information concisely and hopefully effectively.



Joel Roberts

Encouraged my involvement in media for public information on mental health issues."

- "An important wake-up call coupled with empowering information. Excellent training and materials enhanced by Joel's humor and sensitivity to the different temperaments. Socratic method encouraged critical thinking. Interactive mode built camaraderie. Practical advice for dealing with the media, lay legislators, and public quite valuable. Well worth the time and expense to come."

How can I register for Capitol Day? Turn to page 4 for the Registration form.

Please make arrangements to attend Capitol Day on January 25-26. Your participation will help Texas Psychiatry advocate for quality psychiatric care, you will learn valuable communications skills, and you will have fun! ■

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It Takes A Physician....

J. Clay Sawyer, MD, President, TSPP

The Thanksgiving holiday has now passed, and the time has arrived for all of us to make plans for the upcoming legislative session. The opportunity is at hand to put into practice the lessons learned at last summer's leadership conference—Joel Roberts, our featured speaker and teacher at that conference, will be in Austin for TSPP's Capitol Day on January 25-26, 2005. You may recall from an earlier column that Joel's effective program enhanced the communication skills of all who participated so that we may better articulate our message to the legislature. He has led three of our summer conferences at our invitation; he is coming to Austin on his own initiative due to the fact that he has strong, positive feelings about the good results that psychiatry achieves. He realizes the unique situation in Texas regarding the workings of our legislature, and he wants to help us in every way that he can to continue to be in a position to offer medical help and care as we were trained to do. We can only be in that position if we convey as accurately and as succinctly as we can to our state representatives and our state senators the facts regarding psychiatric medical care, the importance of the availability of that care, and the urgency of dramatically improving access to that care for all Texans. As psychiatrists, we are the best representatives to deliver that message, and it is up to us to do so.

Thanks to our tireless Legislative Affairs chairman (Martha Leatherman, MD), to our effective lobbyist (Steve Bresnen), to our

dedicated staff (John Bush and Debbie Sundberg, who routinely track over three hundred bills pertaining to psychiatric issues during a typical legislative session), and to our eighteen Chapter Political Action Coordinators (an idea pioneered by our former president David Axelrad, MD), we already have a tremendous head start in terms of developing effective relationships with legislators from all over the state, and of offering ourselves as effective resources for all medically-related issues. We now must utilize those contacts to the fullest, and we must effectively do so for the entire legislative session. Joel's presence for Capitol Day will help all of us to solidify and to fine-tune our approach so that our message does not become lost among the messages of those who would do harm to our patients by legislating for substandard care (both psychologist prescribing efforts and scientologist-inspired movements to limit psychiatric care to foster children come to mind) and those who would legislate for no psychiatric care at all (which would seem to be the ultimate goal of the scientologists).

We must accept this responsibility for the good of our patients — no one can accomplish this task as effectively as we can. We have help; TMA has been a strong ally for many years, and our scope of practice concerns dovetail nicely with the issues of other medical specialties. TMA's concerns must also be our concerns, as issues beyond scope of practice have a special importance for all physicians during this session. The Medical Practice Act will "sunset" this

spring, and TSPP is in a position to have meaningful input (through TSPP and TMA representatives) about how this Act is rewritten and revised. A significant portion of the new Act must address reform of the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners so that due process for physicians can be assured and formalized. TSPP representatives have already been busy testifying before the Sunset Commission on these and other issues; we intend to see this process through, and we will do so. All of us can help this effort by supporting TMA through membership and through participation in TMA's *First Tuesdays at the Capitol* program (Feb.1, Mar. 1, April 5, and May 3, 2005).

You might recall one other point from that previous column: the fact that our worst enemy is complacency from within. It takes the dedicated effort and support of all Texas psychiatrists in general, and TSPP members in particular, to be able to accomplish these goals. All of us must make the effort to learn to know our respective legislators, to be the medical resource upon which they can rely, and to be willing to step forward for the health and welfare of our patients. Well-intentioned efforts toward these same goals fell short in New Mexico and in Louisiana. We cannot allow the same developments to happen in Texas. I am convinced that if Texas falls on the prescribing issue, then Pandora's Box will truly be open and will set the stage for other such actions elsewhere in the country. Neither TMA (which must represent all specialties) nor APA (which cannot be everywhere at



J. Clay Sawyer, MD, DFAPA



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once) can perform these tasks for us.

We, TSPP, must do so. And we cannot allow ourselves to fail. ■

Respectfully submitted,

J. Clay Sawyer, MD
Waco, Texas

We Only Have to Fear Our Greatness

R. Sanford Kiser, MD, President, Board of Trustees, Texas Academy of Psychiatry

All too often we dismiss our abilities and aspirations. At those times, we find it easy to turn away from the challenges that face us. We decide that we are unworthy and untalented for the task ahead. We doubt our decisions, our capacity for intelligence, and even our most fundamental right to think at all. We retreat into the security of insecurity.

In many respects, we psychiatrists in Texas are at such a point in our efforts to re-establish a new configuration for organized psychiatry in our state. We are at a critical turning point in the practice of our profession. We now face difficult times that will require commitment and courage, for we are setting forth a new definition for the advocacy of our profession.

In our work to establish the new constellation of the Federation of Texas Psychiatry, the Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians, and the Academy of Texas Psychiatry, we hold great excitement. Yet from some quarters we have been counseled that we are embarking on an endeavor that is unique, untried, untested, and even the target of threats.

Is this time a time for fear? A time for

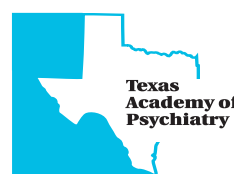
hesitation and self-doubt? A time for questioning our judgment and wisdom?

The answer is no.

In psychiatric training, we are taught that fear and anxiety for an endeavor such as ours can have many root sources. Examples are fear of abandonment, fear of loss of control, fear of bodily injury, fear of social embarrassment, etc.

These examples above have no concern for us. Instead I have detected a different kind of fear as I have talked with Texas psychiatrists about these new developments. In my colleagues I have detected a deep, almost imperceptible amazement regarding the magnificent new opportunities that this new configuration of organized psychiatry will create. The fear that I have heard is the awe of our fully realized potential. That fear was best expressed by Nelson Mandela, in his 1994 inaugural speech.

I am proud of psychiatry. I am proud of Texas. I am proud of Texas psychiatry. I am proud that in our state we are not afraid to expand into new horizons and into new dimensions to reach out to our fellow Texans in as many ways possible. ■



R. Sanford Kiser, MD

NELSON MANDELA'S 1994 INAUGURAL SPEECH

Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.

Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure.

It is our Light, not our darkness, that most frightens us.

We ask ourselves, who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented and fabulous?

Actually, who are you not to be?

You are a child of God. Your playing small doesn't serve the world.

There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you.

We were born to make manifest the Glory of God that is within us.

It's not just in some of us; it's in everyone.

And as we let our own Light shine,

We unconsciously give other people permission to do the same.

As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others.

TSPPs Committees at Work...

TSPPs committees met in San Antonio on November 12, 2004 and conducted the following business:

Budget Committee: The Committee reviewed membership statistics which reflected a continued trend in a decline in membership and financial reports which reflected TSPPs financially successful year last fiscal year. The Committee considered requests from members for changes in membership status and dues relief. The Committee endorsed a recommendation from the Executive Director that TSPP accept APAs offer to pay for a financial audit. Considerable attention was devoted to the APAs divisive actions regarding the restructuring of organized psychiatry and confirmed that there is no co-mingling of funds between organizations because each organization within the Federation has its own accounts in different financial institutions.

Children and Adolescent Committee: The Committee spent most of its time reviewing legislative issues involving the treatment of children in the foster care system and/or in the Medicaid system. The Committee concluded that members must work hard to educate legislators about the psychiatric treatment of children to overcome considerable misinformation that is being promulgated by an organization whose political agenda is to ban or prevent access to psychiatric treatment.

CME Committee: The Committee reviewed the programs for the 2005 TMA Section on Psychiatry Program and the 2005 TSPP Scientific Program. The Committee reviewed requirements for the upcoming CME accreditation audit to be conducted in June. Discussion of the selection of future chairs of the Scientific Program led to a recommendation that the CME Committee recommend candidates for the position to the Nominating Committee for their consideration and that the Executive Council be responsible for the final selection based upon a recommendation of the Nominating Committee.

Ethics Committee: The Committee discussed insurance requirements for protection of the Committee and TSPP in addressing ethics complaints. The Committee also decided to proceed with current ethics complaints at a pace proportional to TSPPs risk of sustained APA support.

Fellowship Committee: The Committee reviewed the schedule for submitting nominees for Distinguished Fellow. Further business could not be conducted because a list of members eligible for Fellowship was not yet available from APA.

Forensic Psychiatry Committee: The Committee conducted a workshop to review proposals for reform of the insanity defense statutes in Texas.

Government Affairs Committee: The Committee was briefed on numerous legislative issues (treatment of children in the foster care and/or Medicaid systems; psychology prescribing initiatives; sunset process for the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners; restructuring and funding for the public mental health system, etc) and received legislative reports from NAMI Texas, Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance and Eli Lilly and Company.

MIT Section: The Section conducted a program on "Starting a Practice."

Membership Committee: Membership statistics were reviewed, with a continued loss of membership noted. Membership retention efforts were revisited, with economic reasons cited as the major reason for membership terminations. The Committee agreed to study the needs of academic psychiatrists and Members-in-Training to develop recruitment and retention programs. The Committee discussed a program to encourage Chapter Presidents to visit Residency Training Programs to discuss the professional benefits of participation in organized psychiatry.

Professional Practices Committee: The Committee reviewed and approved the Guideline for Cannabis Withdrawal with revisions. The Committee also discussed the desire to expand its charge to include reviewing guidelines for the practice of psychiatry; evaluating current issues in psychiatry pertinent to practice; and, serving as a grievance review panel to review complaints that do not meet the requirements for ethics reviews.

Public Mental Health Services Committee: The Committee received a report from NAMI Texas on its priority issues for the public mental health system, including the role of state hospitals. The Committee also discussed 46B issues (ie consumption of bed days because the slow process of returning clients to jail); disease management and the efforts by the Texas Department of State Health Services to fund the needs of the public mental health system.

Socioeconomics Committee: The Committee reviewed medical malpractice coverage and premiums and the differences in requirements by hospitals and concluded that hospitals and managed care plans should require lower levels of malpractice coverage for psychiatrists (ie \$300,000/\$600,000 instead of \$1 million/\$3 million). The Committee discussed various matters regarding the TSBME sunset review and issues pertaining to pharmacy benefit insurance matters, including cost caps and diagnostic exclusions for certain medications.

Strategic Planning and Coordinating: The Committee reviewed in depth the current conflict caused by the APA Board of Trustees and their perception of the restructuring of organized psychiatry in Texas. The Committee drafted a response to the APA Board for consideration by the Executive

Council. The Committee also discussed malpractice insurance premiums for Texas psychiatrists and the desirability of inviting

the Texas Academy of Psychiatry to have a seat on the Executive Council as a non-voting member. ■

TSPP EXECUTIVE COUNCIL ACTIONS

The TSPP Executive Council met on November 12, 2004 in San Antonio at the Omni Hotel and approved the following action items:

- ★ Upon the recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee, the Executive Council unanimously approved the following statement regarding the APA Board of Trustees' concern with TSPPs participation in the restructuring of organized psychiatry in Texas:
As a District Branch of the APA, TSPP has the right to arrange for its own programs and expenses and to contract for its own expenses.
TSPP regrets that the APA Board of Trustees misperceived a marketing letter of August 24 from the Federation of Texas Psychiatry which included a chart depicting services the Federation could offer to member organizations.
TSPP re-affirms that any decisions regarding programs and services offered by TSPP in the past or in the future remain the responsibility of the TSPP Executive Council and that TSPP has not relegated its decision-making authority to the Federation or any other organization.
TSPP re-affirms its support of the APA and the policies of the APA.
TSPP supports mediation from outside professionals such as the Association for Conflict Resolution if APA and TSPP cannot resolve differences.
- ★ The Executive Council approved the Strategic Planning Committee's recommendation that TSPP endorse the concept of reducing current psychiatric minimum limits of liability from \$1 million/\$3 million to \$300,000/\$600,000.
- ★ Upon a recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee, the Executive Council approved the request that the Texas Academy of Psychiatry be extended an invitation to send a representative to the Executive Council as an ex-officio, non-voting member along with other non-TSPP organizations already represented on the Executive Council such as the Texas Foundation for Psychiatric Education and Research, Texas Society of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Texas Department of State Health Services, the Texas Medical Association Interspecialty Society and other TMA committees and councils.
- ★ Upon the recommendation of the Budget Committee, the Executive Council approved the requests of two members for changes in membership status and two members requesting dues relief.
- ★ The Executive Council approved an action item submitted by the Budget Committee that TSPP agree to the request of Executive Director John Bush to accept the APAs offer to pay for a financial audit of TSPP, with the selection of the auditor and the scheduling of the audit to be at the direction of TSPP.
- ★ Upon the recommendation of the Membership Committee, the Council approved a request for TSPP to develop a survey to determine the needs and interests of academic physicians and MITs in an effort to recruit and retain members.
- ★ The Executive Council approved a request from the Ethics Committee for TSPP to continue its Ethics Committee activities at a pace proportional to TSPPs risk of sustained APA support.
- ★ Upon the recommendation of the Forensic Psychiatry Committee, the Council authorized the formation of a subcommittee of representatives of the Forensic Psychiatry Committee and the Government Affairs Committee to review legislation regarding the reform of insanity defense statutes and to support the following criteria in any reform legislation:
 - a) Changing the "know" standard to "appreciation" standard.
 - b) Changing the "wrongfulness" standard to both a "moral and legal wrongfulness" standard.
 - c) Including a requirement that forensic experts who testify should have the same expertise requirements as experts who testify on competency.
 - d) Addressing dispositional activities.
- ★ The Executive Council approved a recommendation of the CME Committee to formalize the selection of future Scientific Program Chairs for the Annual Scientific Program beginning for the 2006 Annual Meeting as follows: candidates may be recommended by the CME Committee to the Nominating Committee for consideration with final approval of the Nominating Committee's recommendation being made by the Executive Council.
- ★ The Council approved a recommendation from the Professional Practices Committee that the Guidelines for Office-Based Treatment of Cannabis Withdrawal be approved as revised.

TSPP Upcoming Events

Save the dates and plan to participate in the following TSPP Activities

Capitol Day

TMA Building, Thompson Auditorium, Austin • January 25-26

Capitol Day, January 25-26, 2005, is planned as a follow-up to TSPP's Summer Leadership Conference featuring Joel Roberts and to launch the legislative agendas of Texas psychiatry and mental health advocates. The program will be conducted in the Thompson Auditorium in the Texas Medical Association Building in Austin (401 West 15th Street).

Tuesday, January 25

- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Joel Roberts Communication Program for TSPP and Academy members
- 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm TSPP/Academy Luncheon
- 1:30 pm - 6:00 pm Joel Roberts Communication Program for the Mental Illness Awareness Coalition (members of NAMI Texas, Texas Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance, Mental Health Association, Texas Mental Health Consumers, TSPP and Academy)

Wednesday, January 26

- 9:00 am - 12:00 pm Continuation of the Joel Roberts Communications Program for members of the Mental Illness Awareness Coalition.
- 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Capitol Visit and Meetings with Legislators
- 5:00 pm - 6:00 pm Group Debriefing

There is not a registration fee for the program, however pre-registration by January 17 is required as seating is limited. Luncheon registration is \$10.00 per person.

Please reserve a seat for me at Capitol Day

(Check below the day(s) you will be attending).

- Tuesday, January 25
- Boxed lunch @ \$10.00 per person
- Wednesday, January 26
- Boxed lunch @ \$10.00 per person

NAME _____ AFFILIATED ORGANIZATION _____

ADDRESS/CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

PHONE/E-MAIL _____

METHOD OF PAYMENT- Make checks payable to "Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians"

- Check VISA MasterCard

CREDIT CARD NUMBER _____ EXP. DATE _____

NAME OF CARDHOLDER (AS IT APPEARS ON CARD) _____

SIGNATURE _____

CREDIT CARD BILLING ADDRESS _____

MAIL OR FAX FORM TO TSPP BY JANUARY 20, 2005

TSPP • 401 West 15th Street, Suite 675 • Austin, Texas 78701
FAX 512/478-5223 • E-Mail: tsppofc@aol.com

Why Should I be Active in the Political Process?

12 reasons, just to mention a few...

1. [On the New Mexico victory by psychologists] To me, the bottom line is we developed relationships with legislators. We educated them about psychology and we made friends with them in some cases. - Mario Marquez, PhD, New Mexico Psychological Association
2. Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you. - Pericles
3. One of the penalties for refusing to participate in politics is that you end up being governed by your inferiors. - Plato
4. Those who do not do politics will be done in by politics. - French Proverb
5. All politics are based on the indifference of the majority. - James Reston
6. I believe there's something out there watching over us. Unfortunately, it's the government. - Woody Allen
7. If I seem to take part in politics, it is only because politics encircles us today like the coil of a snake from which one cannot get out, no matter how much one tries. I wish therefore to wrestle with the snake. - Mahatma Gandhi
8. In politics, stupidity is not a handicap. - Napoleon
9. No man's life, liberty or property are safe while the legislature is in session. - Judge Gideon J. Tucker
10. In politics, familiarity doesn't breed contempt. It breeds votes. - Paul Lazarsfeld
11. In politics, an organized minority is a political majority. - Jesse Jackson
12. All politics is local. - Tip O'Neill

TSPP Committees and CME Dinner Program

Westin Galleria Hotel, Dallas • April 16-17

Plan to attend TSPP's Committee meetings followed by a dinner program with 2 hours of Category I CME on Friday, April 16, 2005 at the Westin Galleria Hotel in Dallas (13340 Dallas Parkway). The Board of Directors of the Texas Foundation for Psychiatric Education and Research and the TSPP Executive Council will meet on April 17.

For room reservations at the special TSPP Discounted Rate of \$129.00 prior to March 25 call 1/888/627-8536 and identify yourself as registering for the Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians' meeting.

Saturday, April 16

- 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM Registration Johnson Foyer (2nd Floor)
- 8:30 AM - 4:30 PM Committee Hospitality Johnson 2 (2nd Floor)
- Refreshments & Light Hors D'oeuvres For Committee Members
- 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM Socioeconomics Dallas (2nd Floor)
- Fellowship Denton (2nd Floor)
- Budget Board Room (2nd Floor)
- Institutional Psychiatry Fannin (2nd Floor)
- Texas DBSA Collin (2nd Floor)
- 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM Membership Johnson 1 (2nd Floor)
- Professional Practices Dallas (2nd Floor)
- Continuing Medical Education Denton (2nd Floor)
- Texas Academy of Psychiatry Fannin (2nd Floor)
- 12:00 PM - 1:15 PM Luncheon Program Panorama East (21st Floor)
- See Registration Form: \$15 per person**
- 1:15 PM - 2:45 PM Strategic Planning & Coordinating Denton (2nd Floor)
- Public Mental Health Services Dallas (2nd Floor)
- Children and Adolescents Fannin (2nd Floor)
- Ethics Johnson 1 (2nd Floor)
- 2:45 PM - 4:15 PM Members in Training Johnson 1 (2nd Floor)
- Forensic Psychiatry Dallas (2nd Floor)
- Academic Psychiatry Denton (2nd Floor)
- Constitution & Bylaws Board Room (2nd Floor)
- 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM Government Affairs Johnson I&II (2nd Floor)
- 6:00 PM - 6:30 PM Welcome Reception Consular/Congressional (21st Floor)
- 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM CME Dinner/Program
- "Norepinephrine in the Brain, Neurology and Therapeutics for the 21st Century,"
- Michael Alan Schwartz, MD Governors (21st Floor)
- See Registration Form: \$25 per person**

Sunday, April 17

- 7:00 AM - 8:30 AM Foundation Board of Directors Breakfast Mtg Denton
- 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM Executive Council Meeting

TSPP COMMITTEE & EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETINGS April 16-17, 2005 • RSVP Form

NAME (PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE) _____ PHONE OR EMAIL _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

Please check YES beside each Committee meeting you plan to attend and return the form to TSPP:

- | YES, I will attend | NO, I will not attend | COMMITTEE/EXECUTIVE COUNCIL |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | ACADEMIC PSYCHIATRY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | BUDGET |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | ETHICS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | FELLOWSHIP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | FORENSIC PSYCHIATRY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | INSTITUTIONAL PSYCHIATRY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | STRATEGIC PLANNING & COORDINATING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MEMBERS-IN-TRAINING SECTION |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | MEMBERSHIP |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | NOMINATING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | PUBLIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | SOCIOECONOMICS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | TEXAS ACADEMY OF PSYCHIATRY |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | TEXAS DBSA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING |
| | | NOT MEETING |
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TSPP Luncheon (\$15.00 Per Person) - Complete payment information below

CME Dinner Program (\$25 Per Person) - Complete payment information below

METHOD OF PAYMENT- Make checks payable to "Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians"

- Check VISA MasterCard

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APAs Conflict with TSPP

The October/November issue of *Texas Psychiatrist* included a response from TSPP President Clay Sawyer, MD regarding the concerns expressed by members of the APA Board of Trustees about TSPP's role in the restructuring of organized psychiatry in Texas. On November 5, TSPP's Assembly Representatives (Priscilla Ray, MD, Clay Sawyer, MD, and David Axelrad, MD) delivered the following statement during the meeting of the APA Assembly:

Colleagues,

We are here for the same purposes — to increase membership, to enhance TSPP/APA together and to advocate for our patients. We agree on these goals; we simply disagree on the path to accomplish them.

In the process of finding the path, we need to treat each other as colleagues with respect and friendship. We should not be calling names, making accusations or maligning the intentions of others. We have made good-faith efforts to listen to the APA Board of Trustees to try to find the best path to these mutual goals — and we believe the APA Board members have done the same.

We have collected the twelve most frequently-asked questions and written brief responses to them. These are available, along with — in the spirit of openness — other materials. And we are available to answer any questions you have for as long as you want. However, we have all spent a lot of time and effort on this issue and need to be spending it on the more immediate and pressing issues which threaten us and our patients.

If this cannot be resolved here in a "win-win" situation, perhaps we need to agree to mediation, which we should approach as colleagues with an attitude of collaboration and respect.

Thank you.

ACTION PAPER

On November 7, the APA Assembly approved an Action Paper calling for a resolution of the conflict between APA and TSPP rather than the dissociation of TSPP from the APA which, according to the Action Paper would "dismember the APA and make us vulnerable to adversaries." Below is the Action Paper approved by the Assembly on November 7.

SUBJECT — Maintaining the Integrity of the APA

INTENT — To come to an amicable and healing resolution with the TSPP.

PROBLEM — It appears that BOT and TSPP are at loggerheads. If resolution is not achieved then the splitting will move us to dire consequences. TSPP is APA. Delinkage will dismember the APA and make us vulnerable to adversaries. The worst consequences however will be the impact on patients of all psychiatrists and all psychiatric associations as this hits local and national press.

ALTERNATIVES

- 1) Do nothing, letting the Texas experiment play out.
- 2) Support the Texas experiment.
- 3) Bring in outside mediation such as through the Association for Conflict Resolution to move toward resolution within 90 days which will maintain organizational integrity.
- 4) Dissociate the TSPP from the Assembly and APA.

RECOMMENDATIONS — Alternative 3 and alternative 1.

IMPLEMENTATION — Go to the Board of Trustees

ESTIMATED COST — \$12,000 TO \$15,000

SUBMITTED BY — Peggy Dorfman, MD, Rep, North Carolina Psychiatric Association; Nicholas Stratas, MD, Rep, North Carolina Psychiatric Association; Bertram Warren, MD, Rep, New Jersey Psychiatric Association

ENDORSED BY — Area 5 Council

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

TSPP NEW MEMBERS

The following membership applications have been approved by the TSPP Executive Committee and have been transmitted to the APA.

General Member

Bailey, Brigitte, MD
Clough-Stokan, Debra, MD
Sanchez, Ramon, MD
White, Karola, MD

Member in Training

Brown, Kevin, MD
Christman, Donald, MD
Dani, Radhi, MD
Fradkin, Robbie, MD

Fuenmayor, Mariela, MD
Hobday, Gabrielle, MD
Johnson, Peter, MD
Kober, Dana, MD
Laroe, Michele, MD
Macias, Claudia, MD
Nitsche, Allison, MD
Sepowitz-Hafkin, Rhoda, MD
Shivakumar, Geetha, MD
Warrick, Pressley, MD
Williamson, Mark, MD

Change in Status from MIT to General Member

Aeschlimann, Sofia, MD
Georges, Danae, MD
Harrison, Yaprak, MD
Jones, Roberta, MD
Maxwell, Rebecca, MD
McFarland, Regina, MD
Sierk, Priscilla, DO
Szmuk, Eleonora, MD

Transfer from Other District Branches

Bleiberg, Efrain, MD
Francis, John, MD
Lane, Frank C., MD
Sanchez, Ramon, MD
Tolschik, Olga, MD
Vermette, Heidi, MD

ACADEMY NEW MEMBERS

General Member

Matthews, Jeffery, MD
Parsons, Lauren, MD
Williams, Milton, MD

Fellow Member

Farley, Arthur, MD

Associate Member

Altschuler, Milton, MD
Moss, Rita, MD

Retired Member

Butler, V. Jack, MD



American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry

2005 Annual Meeting

March 17-20, 2005

The JW Marriott Hotel
by the Galleria,
Houston, Texas.

Open to Members
and Non Members

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Scenes from the Annual Meeting

The 2004 TSPP Annual Meeting and Scientific Program, conducted in San Antonio on November 12-14, was the best attended conference since 1998. Thank you for your support!



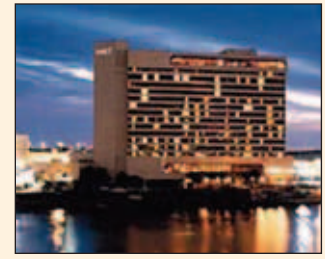
Senator Leticia Van de Putte receiving the TSPP Special Service Award from Michael Arambula, MD



Gary Etter, MD, Fort Worth, visits with Lynda Parker, MD, Amarillo



Nora Cox, Health Policy Analyst in the Governor's Office, briefs members on public policy issues during the member luncheon program.



Don't Miss Next Year

TSPP Annual Convention & Scientific Program
Hyatt Regency Hotel, Austin
November 4-6, 2005

Mark your calendar for TSPP's Annual Convention and Scientific Program scheduled for November 4-6, 2005 at the Hyatt Regency Austin Hotel, 208 Barton Springs Road, Austin, Texas. The Scientific Program will offer 10 Category 1 CME credits, opportunities to meet and visit with colleagues, participate in TSPP's committee meetings, join in the recognition of individuals receiving TSPP Awards, and enjoy the many music venues Austin has to offer. For hotel reservations at the special TSPP Discounted Rate of \$149.00 prior to October 13 call the Hyatt Reservations Department at 512/477-1234 or toll free 1/800/233-1234 and identify yourself as registering for the Texas Society of Psychiatric Physicians' convention.



(l to r) Jabeen Hayat, MD, David Axelrad, MD, Carolyn Axelrad, John Bush, Debbie Sundberg, and Conway McDonald, MD at the reception at "The Vault"



Philip Korenman, MD with Les Secrest, MD (left to right) at the Welcome Reception.



John Casada, MD, Scientific Program Chair

APA candidate for President-Elect Sidney Weissman, MD, second from left, with Shirley Marks, MD, Mary Lou Reilly, and Edward Reilly, MD at TSPP's Welcome Reception.



CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

JANUARY

25-26 Capitol Day Featuring Joel Roberts
 TMA Building, Thompson Auditorium
 Austin, Texas

MARCH

17-20 American Society for Adolescent Psychiatry Annual Meeting
 JW Marriott Hotel at the Galleria
 5150 Westheimer, Houston, TX
 Contact: Frances Roton, 972/686-6166

APRIL

16-17 TSPP Committee and Executive Council Meetings and CME Program

MAY

13 TMA Section on Psychiatry Program "Update on Childhood Psychiatric Disorders"
 Gaylord Texan Hotel, Grapevine, Texas.
 Registration information, contact Texas Medical Association, 512/370-1300.

NOVEMBER

4-6 TSPP Annual Convention and Scientific Program
 Hyatt Regency Hotel, Austin
 Hotel Reservations: 512/477-1234
 Registration information, contact TSPP Office 512/478-0605

Happy Holidays

CONGRATULATIONS...

The following TSPP members were elected at the Annual Business Meeting on November 13 to serve TSPP: **Gary L. Etter, MD** (Fort Worth) - President-Elect 2004-2005; **George D. Santos, MD** (Houston) - Secretary-Treasurer 2004-2006; **Leslie H. Secrest, MD** (Dallas) - President-Elect 2005-2006; **J. Clay Sawyer, MD** (Waco) - APA Representative 2005-2008; and, **Lynda Parker, MD** (Amarillo) - Councilor-at-Large 2005-2008.

The following individuals were elected to serve on the Board of Directors of the Texas Foundation for Psychiatric Education and Research at the Annual Membership Meeting on November 13 for three year terms (May 2005-May 2008): **David Briones, MD** (El Paso); **Jacque Collier** (Georgetown); **Arthur Farley, MD** (Houston/Austin); **Miriam Feaster** (Friendswood); **Edward Reilly, MD** (Houston); and, **Charles Gaitz, MD** (Houston).

The *Texas Psychiatrist* is published 5 times a year for its membership in February, April, June, August, and October. **Members of TSPP and the Academy are encouraged to submit articles for possible publication.** Deadline for submitting copy to the Federation Office is the first day of the publication month. Copy must be edited, acceptable for publication.

Display advertising is available and publication is determined on a case by case basis by the Editorial Board. The Editorial Board reserves the sole right to accept or reject any submitted advertising copy.

EDITORIAL BOARD

Joseph Castiglioni, Jr., MD
 Edward L. Reilly, MD

MANAGING EDITORS

John R. Bush
 Debbie Sundberg

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