



Association of VA Psychology Leaders

Volume 2006, Edition 1 (July)

New Orleans! New Orleans! New Orleans!

Inside This Issue

	Page
AVAPL Officers and Advisory Committee	2
APA Related Announcements	3
President's Column	4
Winter Conference Meeting Minutes	7
Meet the AVAPL Presidential Candidates	12
AVAPL Membership Application	15

APA

August
10-13
2006



**See enclosed
schedule for key
AVAPL
meetings at APA**

&

**Division 18/VA
Section
meetings**



Association of VA Psychology Leaders

OFFICERS

President	Kathleen McNamara, Ph.D.
President-Elect	Jamie Adler, Ph.D.
Past President	Terry Keane, Ph.D.
Secretary	Pamela Fischer, Ph.D.
Treasurer	June Malone, Ph.D.

Advisory Committee

Webmaster	Jeffrey Burk, Ph.D.
Newsletter Editor	Ann T. Landes, M.S.
Leadership Conference Chair	June Malone, Ph.D.



***AVAPL Activities and Related Events of Interest to VA
Psychologists
APA Convention – New Orleans
August 10-13, 2006***

Note: AVAPL will have a Suite at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside where certain meetings and events will be scheduled. Since the location/room number will not be known until the Convention begins, this information will be posted in the lobby of the hotel on one of the placards listing the various APA Division Suites.

Thursday, August 10, 2006

- 3:30 - 4:15 Executive Committee Meeting (AVAPL Suite, Hilton)
- 4:15 - 5:00 Executive Committee and Advisory Group (AVAPL Suite, Hilton)
- 5:00 - 7:00 Social Hour (AVAPL Suite, Hilton)
- 6:30 - 9:00 Education Directorate Reception to Honor Dr. Paul Nelson (retirement)
(Marlborough Suite A, Hilton New Orleans Riverside)

Friday, August 11, 2006

- 10:00 - 11:50 AVAPL Annual Business Meeting (Melrose Room, Hilton N.O. Riverside)
- 1:00 - 2:50 VACO Update (Melrose Room, Hilton N.O. Riverside)
- 3:30 - 4:30 Division 18, VA Section, Business Meeting (Division 18 Suite, Marriott)
- 5:00 - 7:00 Social Hour (AVAPL Suite, Hilton)

Saturday, August 12, 2006

- 9:00 - 10:30 Planning Committee, Psychology Leadership Conference
(AVAPL Suite, Hilton)
- 11:00 - 12:30 Directors of Training (AVAPL Suite, Hilton)
- 5:00 - 6:50 60th Anniversary Celebration for Division 18 (Balcony L and M, Marriott)



President's Column

Kathleen McNamara, Ph.D.

Aloha, AVAPL Members!

I am very pleased that we again have our Newsletter back in circulation, and I want to thank Ann Landes for volunteering to serve as our Editor.

AVAPL has been involved in a number of important ways over the course of this year, on behalf of psychologists working in the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). The AVAPL leadership and other members who have contributed have been ever mindful of our primary goals - providing the highest quality of care to our veterans, promoting excellence in training, and advancing clinical care through encouraging program development and research. Our activities clearly are undertaken to support our members and psychologists across the system. However, which activities are selected are those which challenge us in ways which move us forward to higher levels of excellence, as we carry out the mission of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

There have been two major events over the course of this year which serve to highlight how AVAPL carries out its mission: Executive Committee meetings in Washington and the annual leadership conference. The regular mid-winter meetings in Washington, D.C. bring members of the Executive Committee into discussions with VACO

decision-makers, various officials of APA, members of Congress and/or their key staff persons, and representatives of some of the Veterans Service Organizations (VSO). These meetings have been scheduled annually for many years, beginning when AVAPL was still the Association of VA Chief Psychologists. The meetings serve many purposes - allowing AVAPL members to improve their understanding of the initiatives and projects which are on-going at the national level, enhancing the understanding of the VACO, APA, Congressional and other national officials about the role that VA psychologists can play in meeting the challenges and promoting the success of those initiatives, and conveying to decision-makers a clear picture of the issues and concerns of VA Psychology while seeking their support. This year's meetings were scheduled during a time when the political scene in Washington was focused on the returning troops and the new generation of veterans, and on issues related to post traumatic stress disorder and the cost to the government of this disorder among veterans from previous wars. It also was a time when Washington was witnessing tremendous partisan conflict over budget items relating to veterans. Despite the conflict and the turmoil, the Executive Committee was greeted in VACO with respect for the knowledge,



daily contributions, and professionalism of our membership, as well as a sense of appreciation for our role as partners in achieving the overall DVA mission. This positive response to Psychology was evident across programs, offices and health care lines, and individuals, from mental health to research, from primary care to seamless transition, from education to rehabilitation. The positive tenor of the meetings continued to be evident throughout the meetings with APA officials and with the VSO representatives. In our role as adjuncts to the APA in advocating for the services which will most adequately address the psychological issues facing our veterans, the Executive Committee addressed issues ranging from C&P examinations to prescriptive authority to homelessness, from veterans with serious mental illness to the brain injured, and from polytrauma patients to recent returnees with acute problems of depression and anxiety. The meetings showcased VA Psychology at its best. The Minutes are included in another section of the Newsletter.

AVAPL is a co-sponsor, along with the APA Practice Directorate and APA's Division 18 (Public Service Psychologists), of the annual VA Psychology Leadership Conference. This year was the ninth annual conference, and was exceptionally well attended. The program included presentations by and discussions with VACO officials, including the newly-appointed leadership in the Office of Mental Health, Drs. Ira Katz and Toni Zeiss, and Dr. Robert Gresen in his new position as the Associate Chief

Consultant for Psychosocial Rehabilitation, and Dr. Robert Zeiss in his new position in the Office of Academic Affiliations. Content presentations focused on new models of care, and topics covered included chronic pain, integration of psychological services in primary care settings, and the unique needs of the OEF/OIF veterans. There also was a panel on new models for leadership in behavioral health, and lunch discussions among psychologists at sites having been funded through the newly allocated mental health enhancement funds. A half-day workshop on Providing Care to OEF/OIF Veterans was held on Sunday. Many of the power point presentations are available on the AVAPL web site (see Conference Highlights). The conference is an excellent forum for gaining or reinforcing knowledge and skills, but also an excellent opportunity for building a strong network of colleagues across the system. Next year will be the tenth anniversary, and the conference is again planned for the Spring (date soon to be set) in Dallas where it all began ten years ago! I sincerely hope that those of you who have attended in the past will be able to join us again, and those of you who have not yet experienced the enthusiasm and optimism about VA Psychology which permeates this Conference will join us for the first time. While the Conference and the mid-winter Executive Committee meetings are highlights, covering such a broad range of subjects, AVAPL also has been involved in other activities in support of its members and Psychology more broadly within the VA. For example,



when the most recent RFPs were issued for Integration of Mental Health into Primary Care, the AVAPL web site carried documents and power point presentations as resources for those in the field seeking supporting information or templates. AVAPL members were participants in the joint Division 18-AVAPL Working Group that developed model Functional Statements for eventual distribution through VACO to the VISNs and then the field so that psychologists can comply with Hybrid 38 requirements. After much open discussion among attendees at prior and the most recent leadership conference, and separate discussions among the Executive Committee and the Advisory Group of Past-Presidents, AVAPL decided that it is appropriate to pursue prescriptive authority for psychologists within the VA. AVAPL leadership is working with APA to develop and implement a plan which will responsibly pursue this as part of the scope of practice for VA psychologists. Drs. Steve Holliday and Ken Adams have been working on a mentoring project, with an emphasis on leadership succession planning. Related to this, it has been most satisfying to see an increasing number of interns, postdoctoral fellows and early career psychologists attending the Annual Leadership Conference –welcome to one of the most rewarding professions and to one of the strongest organizations of psychology leaders! Dr. Jeff Burk has continued to be responsible for the web site and for the listserv – if you have not visited it lately, it has a wealth of information. It has been an exciting and productive year for AVAPL! And, one

of the more gratifying activities will occur at the upcoming Annual Business Meeting, scheduled during the APA Convention. AVAPL will recognize certain of its members with Awards for: Leadership, Professional Contributions, Special Contributions, and Distinguished Career Contribution. If you cannot attend the meeting, watch the web site for the announcement of the recipients. Activities of special interest to VA psychologists during the VA Convention have been posted separately in this Newsletter.

Since my Presidency will end in August at the time of the Annual Business Meeting, I want to take this opportunity to share how rewarding it has been to serve for this year. I want to thank the very hard-working members of the Executive Committee – Drs. Terry Keane, Jamie Adler, June Malone, and Pamela Fischer – who have been a strong team and have supported me in so many different ways across this year. Thank you also to the members of the Advisory Group, our Past-Presidents, whose wisdom has been invaluable. As I have gotten to know more of you from among our AVAPL general membership, and have heard about and seen the contributions that you make in your individual medical centers, your research sites, your training programs, within your VISNs or at the VACO level, I am continually impressed with the dedication, the creativity, the innovativeness, and the persistence in the pursuit of excellence that psychologists bring to accomplishing their part of the mission of the DVA. I am pleased to be among such incredible



professionals! Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much).

Kathleen M. McNamara, Ph.D.
President, AVAPL

Aloha,

It is not the position that makes the leader; it's the leader that makes the position.

~Stanley Huffy



AVAPL Mid-Winter Executive Meeting

Sunday, February 27, 2006
3:00 pm – 9:00pm

In attendance:

Terry Keane, Ph.D.	Past -President
Kathleen McNamara, Ph.D.	President
Jamie Adler, Ph.D.	President-Elect
Pam Fischer, Ph.D.	Secretary
June Malone, Ph.D.	Treasurer

Dr. McNamara presented the agenda for the meeting, as well as the schedule for the upcoming week of meetings.

Dr. Malone presented the treasurer's report which showed a present balance of \$13,204.75 in checking and \$25,496.37 in savings. The Board discussed current issues regarding the provision of quality care for veterans that we want to share with VACO leaders. We also discussed ways of increasing our membership and providing additional opportunities for members to be actively involved in the organization. The Board continues to be concerned about the difficulty of recruiting members to run for AVAPL office and the necessity of providing more opportunities for early and mid-career psychologists to become involved in the organization.

Department of Veterans Affairs Headquarters Meetings

Monday, February 27, 2006

The Mid-Winter schedule began with meeting with **Antonette Zeiss, Ph.D.**, the newly appointed **Deputy Chief Consultant, Office of Mental Health Services**. Dr. Zeiss has been an active member of AVAPL and contributed significantly to the field of VA psychology (and psychology in general) over the years. We are delighted with her appointment. Dr. Zeiss updated us on the following:

- There has been a surge in the number of applications for unemployability related to PTSD for Vietnam Veterans.
- There will be no enrollment fee for veterans to receive medical care.
- There will be no treatment co-pay increase.
- More money will be allocated to research and training.
- Psychosocial Rehabilitation will be putting out a grant request.
- Each VISN will be developing level 2 polytrauma centers.



- Oversight committees for SMI, PTSD, etc. have been restructured, and each member of these committees will serve a limited term of 3 years. This has been done to rotate the membership on the committees.
- My HealthE Vet will be doing follow-up screening on-line and providing more basic education material.

Next, we met with **Colonel Terry Washam** from the **Office of Seamless Transition** and he explained his role in the Army Liaison Initiative. This office has been set up to streamline the transition from the military to the civilian sector post-deployment to Iraq or Afghanistan. The Post Deployment Health Assessment (PDHA) and the reassessment of veterans six months later are being done to identify mental health issues in veterans earlier than in wars past. He discussed Battlemind Training developed by Dr. Carl Castro who spoke at the VA Psychology Leadership Conference last year. A 24-hour telephone number for a Polytrauma Call Center at Dayton, Ohio, is now available.

We met with **Bill Van Stone, MD., Associate Chief Consultant for Psychiatry, Office of Mental Health Services**, who discussed the mental health problems currently facing veterans, particularly depression and anxiety. We met with **Paul Smits, Associate Chief Consultant, Homeless and Residential Rehabilitation and Treatment Services, Office of Mental Health Services**, who emphasized the need to screen veterans more efficiently for potential homelessness. He also stated that the capacity for residential treatment services at each facility is needed. Future directions for the care of homeless veterans will likely include child care issues and permanent housing. He would like to see more peer involvement in the homeless treatment programs. There are currently three bills circulating in Congress addressing the issue of permanent housing for homeless veterans.

Our next meeting was with **Larry Lehman, MD., Associate Chief Consultant, Mental Health Disaster Response/Post Deployment Activities/PTSD, Office of Mental Health Services**, who discussed the three new Centers of Excellence for returning veterans to be located in Waco, Texas, Canandaigua, New York, and San Diego, California. He mentioned briefly the curriculum of Weapons of Mass Destruction that is being prepared for Mental Health.

Our next meeting was with **Robert Gresen, Ph.D., Associate Chief Consultant for Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Recovery Services, Office of Mental Health Services**, who talked about the Request for Proposals (RFP) for evidence -based practice in psychosocial rehabilitation. He reported that **Mary Jansen, Ph.D.** has convened a group to look at how to evaluate the new programs funded by this RFP. Dr. Jansen is also involved in the Advance Clinic Access Initiative and is the VA representative to the CARF National Steering Committee. Dr. Gresen said that there would be funds to hire additional peer specialists, and that they want to change the current image of Day Treatment Center programs to one of psychosocial rehabilitation services. Dr. Gresen



also talked about the importance of getting vocational rehabilitation services integrated into the Level 1 & 2 Polytrauma Centers. He said that there are substantial non-recurring funds for training.

We met with **Anthony Campinell, Ph.D., Director for Therapeutic and Supported Employment Services, Office of Mental Health Services** who presented information about the compensated Work Therapy and Supported Employment programs.

Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Our first meeting was with **Jonathan Perlin, M.D. Ph.D., Undersecretary for Health and Michael Kussman, M.D., MS, MADC, Principal Deputy Undersecretary for Health.** Dr. Perlin reported that he believes the VA is a positive environment in which to work and that young professionals can achieve a more balanced life style when working for the VA with planned holidays and shorter working hours. He also described his concern about the future of VA's electronic record. VACO management supports a federated model which allows the end users (clinicians and administrators) control over how the system works. Further, the electronic record system has the internal mechanism to interact with DOD which would facilitate the continuum of care as new veterans transition from DOD to VA for healthcare. VA's electronic record system clearly transcends other healthcare record systems and makes VA an innovative leader in tracking the health care status of patients. Dr. Kussman reported that the seamless transition program has made significant progress since 2003. There are fewer stigmas for OEF and OIF veterans seeking mental health care. He urged us to keep the focus on recovery and rehabilitation, as opposed to assuming that all combat veterans have PTSD. Dr. Kussman, who is familiar with the success of the DOD Prescribing Psychologist Pilot Program, is open to discussing psychologist prescription privileges. He also mentioned that now that the physician pay bill is complete, it may be time to consider raising psychologist pay.

Our second visit was with **Mary Park, HR Consultant, VHA Management Support Office,** who announced that the congressional review period for Hybrid 38 is over and they made no changes. The Secretary may now move forward in implementing the policies and procedures. This Directive and Handbook have not been updated with the additional hybrid occupations (although it will be once the policies are signed) but the reference for employee special advancements under Title 38 can be found on the VA Intranet at <http://vaww1.va.gov/ohrm/HRLibrary/HRLibrary.htm>

We met with **Adam Darkins, M.D., Office of Care Coordination,** Dr. Darkins reported that the three main areas of emphasis for his office at this time are: (1) home telehealth care, (2) polytrauma electronic/video consultation, and (3) telehealth access in the CBOCs via video-conferencing. He welcomed AVAPL's ideas and suggestions in any of



these areas. He also talked about the continued development of evidenced-based mental health modules for the Care Coordination Home Telehealth (CCHT) initiative.

We met with **Richard Suchinsky, M.D., Associate Chief Consultant for Addictive Disorders.** In the last two years there have been increased resources for addictive disorders expansion. He feels there has been a general recognition by management that not everyone can be treated as an outpatient and increases in residential programming are being discussed. There is also an expansion of opiate substitution practice and greater availability of naltrexone. Expansion of CBOC access to addiction services via telemedicine is a much-discussed topic right now.

We met with **Lucille Beck, Chief Consultant Rehabilitation Services,** who emphasized the need for every VA provider (particularly those in Primary Care) to be knowledgeable about and be able to recognize traumatic brain injury in returning veterans. She also explained the mission of the Polytrauma Centers. Each program has its own advisory office. Every Level I site will have a counseling psychologist, a neuropsychologist and a social worker on the team. Family members are integrated as a part of the team. Every VISN will have a Level II site which is dedicated to case management

We met briefly with Robert **Zeiss, Ph.D., Office of Academic Affiliations,** who will be working with Linda Johnson in coordinating the Rehabilitation Research Scholarship (\$25,000 dissertation research on rehabilitation). He will also oversee the Psychological Rehabilitation Programs that are expanding from three to six. These programs are interdisciplinary and focused on the veteran with SMI. Dr. Zeiss will also be reviewing training stipends for all associate health disciplines.

The Board met with **Madhulika Agarwal, M.D., MPH, Chief Officer for Patient Care Services.** Dr. Agarwal announced that the Emergency Disaster Services will take over the 10th floor of VACO and her office will be moving. Dr. Agarwal's greatest concern now is whether VA is prepared to take care of the young veteran. She feels VA must change its image and services to the meet the needs of the young veteran who may be returning with multiple injuries, including amputations, brain injuries, and blindness. These veterans need help readjusting to civilian life. Family support is also critical.

The Executive Board met with **Gerald Cross, M.D., Chief of Primary Care.** He reported that 200 patients have gone through the Polytrauma Centers. A video for the general public about the polytrauma centers called SURVIVE THRIVE ALIVE has been created and aired in Virginia. Dr. Cross believes strongly in following standardized procedures in conducting compensation and pension examinations for PTSD. He is proposing that a teaching modules be developed and those conducting C&P exams take these modules and pass a test before being allowed to do examinations.



We met with **Linda Johnson, RN, Ph.D. Acting Director, Associated Health Education Office** and **Gloria Holland, Ph.D. Staff Assistant**, about the status of training positions. Dr. Johnson stated that the postdoctoral security requirements are changing in that increased security measures are being called for. Postdoctoral applicants will be registered, finger-printed, and subjected to a background check. Dr. Johnson just sent out a notice calling for applications for additional postdoctoral positions available for 2006-2007. Towards the end of our meeting, the new **Chief of Academic Affiliations, Malcolm Cox, M.D.**, joined us. Dr. Cox emphasized the importance of interprofessional education and training.

APA Executive Offices

Wednesday, March 1, 2006

The AVAPL Board spent the day at the APA office meeting with the staff of the various Directorates for an update on their respective programs. We met with **Steven Breckler, Ph.D., Executive Director of the Science Directorate** and **Heather Kelly, Senior Legislative & Federal Affairs Officer** to discuss legislation regarding VA research. We met with the staff of the **Education Directorate: Paul Nelson, Ph.D., Deputy Executive Director, Susan Zlotlow, Ph.D., Associate Executive Director, Program Consultation and Accreditation, and Nina Levitt, EdD, Director, Education Policy** on issues of accreditation and funding for graduate and postgraduate psychology education. We met with members of the **Public Interest Directorate: Ellen Garrison, Ph.D., Director, Public Interest Policy** and **Deborah DiGilio, MPH, Aging Issues Officer**. **Gwendolyn Puryear Keita, PhD**, assumed the role as executive director of the Public Interest (PI) Directorate in December, 2005, after long-time director, Henry Tomes, PhD, retired.

The Board also met with **Russ Newman, Ph.D., J.D., Executive Director of the Practice Directorate** and **Randy Phelps, Ph.D. Deputy Executive Director** to discuss professional issues confronting VA psychologists. Dr. Phelps and his staff arrange our day with APA staff, as well as our meetings with legislators who have a special interest in veteran's health care. He is an invaluable asset for AVAPL and VA psychology in general. We also met with **Norman Anderson, Chief Executive Officer of APA** and **Michael Honaker, Ph.D., Chief Operating Officer and Deputy Chief Executive Officer** to discuss issues regarding veteran's health care.

A highlight of our visit to the APA office was an ethics presentation by **Stephen Behnke Ph.D., Director of APA's Office of Ethics**, who presented APA's position on the ethical duties of psychologists working with national security-related activities. Dr. Behnke emphasized the importance of this issue for VA Psychologists as they may be called upon to provide care and assistance for colleagues and other veterans who have been involved in interrogation activities.



Thursday, March 2, 2006

During our day at Capitol Hill, as guests of APA, we met with **Nick Bauer, Senator Barack Obama's Legislative Assistant; Kim E. Lipsky, Deputy Staff Director of Health Programs, Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs; Jeffrey Weekly, Majority Staff Director, Health Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs; William Cahill, Health Policy Counsel, Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs, and Linda Bennett, Minority Staff Director, Health Subcommittee of Veterans Affairs.** With all staff members we discussed how to best meet the needs of OEF/OIF returning veterans and their families. Senator Obama's Legislative Assistant was particularly interested in psychology's ideas regarding care for homeless veterans.

We met with **Pat Deleon, Ph.D., Executive Assistant to Senator Daniel Inouye and Past APA President and his congressional military detailee.** Dr. Deleon graciously took us to lunch in the Senate Dining Room and discussed current issues facing psychologists in maintaining quality care for veterans.

Friday March 3, 2006

We met with Joe Francis, M.D., MPH, Acting Deputy Research and Development Officer about current VA research projects and needs. We ended our mid-winter schedule of meetings with a working lunch with Veterans Service Organization professional staff members: **Cathleen Wiblemo from the American Legion, Michael O'Rourke, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and Joy Ilem from Disabled American Veterans.** This yearly meeting allows the Board to hear the current concerns of veteran service organizations and discuss ways in which all of our organizations might work together to further the best interests of veterans.

The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams.

~ Eleanor Roosevelt



AVAPL PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATES & STATEMENTS

STEVEN LOVETT, PH.D.



Dr. Steven Lovett received a Ph.D. in Psychology from Virginia Tech in 1983, interned at the Hutchings Psychiatric Center in Syracuse, New York, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Geriatric Mental Health at the VA Palo Alto Health Care System (VAPAHCS). He is currently the Chief of the Psychology Service and an Assistant Professor at the Pacific Graduate School of Psychology. During his 23 years at VAPAHCS, he has also served as the Director of the Inter-professional Team Training program and Coordinator of the Division of Vision and Aging, an outpatient, low vision rehabilitation program for older veterans.

Dr. Lovett is actively involved in the field of clinical geropsychology and has special interests in geriatric rehabilitation and coping with chronic medical disorders, especially heart disease. He also has a long-standing interest in the stress associated with caregiving for older adults and the training and development of health care teams. He has published research in each of these areas. He is a member of the American Psychological Association, the Gerontological Society of America, and Sigma Xi: The Research Society of North America.

Statement of Interest for the Position of President-Elect for AVAPL

I am a relatively new member of AVAPL and I have been very impressed from the beginning of my association with the organization by the accomplishments and opportunities that it provides to psychologists within the VA system. VA Psychologists serve in very diverse clinical, administrative, educational & research roles throughout the system and these roles are carried out in a very large, widely dispersed system of



healthcare facilities that have differing organizational structures, missions, and resources. AVAPL provides a means for VA Psychologists to address and influence the larger issues that define the current and future roles that psychologists can play in all areas of health care, both within and outside of the VA. As President-Elect, I would be committed to maintaining and enhancing this unique and important role of AVAPL

V ANN WALDORF, PH.D.



It is fair to say that I have always been a VA psychologist. My first career was in administration and finance for non-profit organizations, but once I devoted myself to the practice of psychology, from intern to associate director of a care line, my public service career has been with veterans.

My academic background includes a BA in Speech and Drama, from the University of Kansas and an MS and PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of New Mexico. I interned with the Southwest Consortium Predoctoral Psychology Internship in Albuquerque, NM and then joined the staff of the NMVAHCS in 1997. During my tenure here, I have served in several clinical capacities. I began as a staff psychologist for SMI patients on an acute, locked inpatient ward and as a consulting psychologist for the Psychiatry Primary Care team. My first leadership position was as the Coordinator, Substance Use Disorders Treatment Program. During that time I also served on the Training Committee of our consortium to include a one year term as Interim Director of Training. My current position is as Psychology Chief and Associate Director, Behavioral Health Care Line.

I feel honored to be considered for this position, as I have looked to AVAPL throughout my career, but especially in my current job, for guidance and inspiration and have never been disappointed. I believe that my combined background in both business and clinical fields could benefit VA psychology in this time of ever-increasing demand for resource and workload accountability. I appreciate your consideration.



Don't wait...

join today!





AVAPL Membership Application Information

Please join us and take advantage of the many AVAPL benefits. Make copies of this information and membership application forms, share with the other psychologists at your station, and encourage them to join. There are three categories for AVAPL membership: Active, Affiliate, and Honorary. Membership criteria for each of these categories are as follows:

ACTIVE MEMBER:

Any psychologist who

- i. is currently a supervisory psychologist, or
- ii. is currently an acting supervisory psychologist, or
- iii. is formally designated as responsible for the professional issues which ensure the integrity of the discipline of psychology (discipline concurrence in suitability for hire, credentialing and privileging, continuing education, or director of training for internship and/or post-doctoral training programs, where training programs exist), or
- iv. is designated in an acting capacity and responsible as in (iii), or
- v. is a program manager responsible for directing the activities of clinical personnel, or
- vi. is an acting program manager responsible as in (v), or
- vii. directs the provision of psychological services within a facility, program, or clinic, or demonstrates professional leadership by such activities as holding professional elective office, committee membership which sets standards or policies for the profession, or significant involvement in accreditation and licensing/credentialing bodies within the Veterans Health Administration of the U. S. Department of Veterans Affairs shall be eligible for election to active membership in AVAPL. Active members in good standing shall be entitled to vote, to hold office, and to participate in all business and scientific meetings of AVAPL. A person may remain an active member until the end of the membership year in which he/she ceases to function in one of the above roles.

HONORARY MEMBER:

Any former member of AVAPL shall be eligible for election to honorary membership. In addition, honorary membership shall be available to other persons who have distinguished themselves in promoting the purpose of AVAPL and who are nominated for such membership by a member of the Executive Committee. Honorary members shall be able to participate in the activities of AVAPL and shall receive all general mailings, but they may neither vote nor hold office.



For your convenience, **there are two ways to pay your dues.**

Send the completed form and dues (\$80 Active Member; \$30 Affiliate Member; no charge for Honorary Member) to:

**June Malone, Ph.D.
Treasurer, AVAPL
New Mexico VA Health Care System
Behavioral Health Care Line (116)
1501 San Pedro Drive SE
Albuquerque, NM 87108**

OR

Complete your membership form online and charge your dues to your credit card. Just head over to AVAPL's web site at <http://www.avapl.org>, and click on the Join/Renew button. AVAPL has partnered with PayPal to provide you with the ability to charge your dues, and your transaction will be handled through PayPal's secure web site.

**Association of VA Psychologist Leaders (AVAPL)
Application/Renewal for Membership**

Name: _____ Title: _____

Station: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ FAX #: _____

E-Mail: _____

Preferred mode of communication from AVAPL: E-Mail U.S. Mail

I am applying/renewing (circle one) membership as an Active Member* Honorary Member* Affiliate Member*

*See definitions of membership status on previous page.