

VA Psychology  
Training Council  
VAPTC Update

May 13, 2010

# VAPTC Executive Council

- **Jeanette Hsu, PhD** - Chair
- **Wayne Siegel, PhD, ABPP** - Past Chair
- **Robert Goldberg, PhD, ABPP** - Chair Elect
- **John Beauvais, PhD** - Secretary/Treasurer
- **Jim Besyner, PhD, ABPP** - Admin. Committee Chair
- **Lisa Brenner, PhD, ABPP** - Clinical Advisory Committee Chair
- **Keith Shaw, PhD** - Member at Large, Postdoc Representative
- Antonette Zeiss, Ph.D. \*\*
- Bob Zeiss, Ph.D. \*\*

# VAPTC Missions

## Mission 1

- Facilitate sharing of information and resources among VA psychology training programs.

# Mission #1 Accomplishments

- Ongoing enhancement of the national SharePoint file sharing system with self-studies and other training related documents
- Development of a national Multicultural and Diversity Committee to identify and disseminate best practices to VA psychology training programs
- Facilitation of sharing of information and documents through the VA Training Director email groups
- Launching of new VAPTC website in November 2009  
[www.mentalhealth.va.gov/vaptc.asp](http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov/vaptc.asp)

# VAPTC SharePoint Site

- Website: [psychologytrainingcouncil.wss.va.gov](http://psychologytrainingcouncil.wss.va.gov)
- VAPTC documents
- Shared training resources
  - Self-studies
  - EBPs, Diversity – including sample curricula
  - Supervision
  - Evaluation, Recruitment/Selection
  - Policies, Procedures, and Forms

## Mission 2

- Solicit ideas for advancements in the evolution of psychology training programs.

## Mission #2 Accomplishments

- Executive Committee has regularly encouraged the membership to share their ideas and concerns through email and national meetings
- Development of an annual spring survey of the VAPTC membership to garner feedback and assess VA training program needs

# Mission #2 Accomplishments

- Ongoing work by the national Multicultural and Diversity Committee (MDC)
- Formation of two new workgroups in past year to develop and disseminate:
  - Training for interns and fellows in evidence-based psychotherapies – didactics series to be available in July 2010
  - Useful technologies to assist in the administration of psychology training programs

# Multicultural and Diversity Committee (MDC)

- Goal to develop "best practices" training guidelines and resources pertaining to multicultural/diversity issues and psychology training
- Plan to be available in July 2010 to the wider VAPTC
- Co-Chairs
  - Loretta Braxton, PhD, Durham VAMC
  - Linda Mona, PhD, Long Beach, VAMC

# Developing Workgroups

- Practicum training – development of policies/procedures and shared resources
- Small and rural training programs – needs assessment
- Integration of research training in internship – needs assessment

## Mission 3

- Promote the development of procedures and programs that facilitate program accreditation at the internship and postdoctoral levels.

# Mission #3 Accomplishments

- Mentorship program for new training directors will include helping to facilitate accreditation
- Posting of self-study examples on the SharePoint site and facilitating sharing of self-study materials between TDs
- Ongoing communication with APA Commission on Accreditation regarding proposed Implementing Regulations (IRs) as well as issues in VA postdoctoral program accreditation
- The national Multicultural and Diversity Committee (MDC) will help identify and disseminate best practices to help VA training programs meet APA CoA's diversity requirements

## Mission 4

- Facilitate the professional development and mentoring of training directors.

# Mission #4 Accomplishments

- The Clinical Advisory Committee Mentorship program has matched more than 34 newer training directors with more experienced TD mentors
- Dissemination of resources and references from the July 2009 competency-based supervision training
- A training in multicultural supervision will occur during the July 2010 VAPTC membership meeting

# VAPTC Missions

## Mission 5

- Facilitate the awareness and promotion of VA psychology training programs among eligible, accredited doctoral academic psychology programs.

## Mission 6

- Promote the views of VA psychology training to groups and organizations whose functions and objectives affect psychology training within the VA.

# A National Voice

- Attend twice-yearly meeting of CCTC – Council of Chairs of Training Councils
  - Forum through which all of the education and training groups (doctoral, practicum, internship, postdoc) within professional psychology could meet, communicate, and take action on areas of common interest
- Represented VA at the CCTC conference in February 2010
- Assist in planning for upcoming CCTC-sponsored conference on the future of education and training in professional psychology

# A National Voice

- Establishment of official liaison relationship to the APPIC Board of Directors
- Request to APA's Board of Educational Affairs to establish an official liaison relationship with BEA
- Responding to requests for comment by APA and CoA regarding proposed changes to the Guidelines and Principles and Implementing Regulations
- Continue to explore ways to promote VA psychology training to academic programs and VA psychology views to national organizations

## Mission 7

- Provide guidance to the Office of Academic Affiliations and the Office of Mental Health Services regarding needs for training in Psychology.

# Mission #7 Accomplishments

- Ongoing monthly conference calls of the VAPTC Executive Committee include Dr. Toni Zeiss (OMHS) and Dr. Bob Zeiss (OAA)
- Revision of OAA's process for yearly allocation of trainees – new process was implemented in Fall 2009
- Provide input and assistance to OAA in the allocation of new training positions

# Annual VAPTC Membership Meeting

- July 26, 2010, in Baltimore, MD
- Opportunity for networking
- Help set VAPTC agenda for the next year
- Half-day training in multicultural supervision

- Call or email any Executive Committee members to provide feedback or ask for consultation on any training-related matters
- Elections for new Chair-Elect and Member-at-Large positions still open – one vote per facility
- Get involved in new and established workgroups

*We welcome your input and involvement!*