

AVAPL Executive Committee Minutes

March 21, 2019

Present: Mary Beth Shea, Tracey Smith, Genevieve Davis, John McQuaid, Sam Wan

1. **Questions from Early Career Workgroup:** Group discussed questions posed to the group. Discussed use of personal emails regarding SIG/workgroup business and how it does not conflict with Hatch Act since SIG tends to not do political/advocacy work.

Action Item: TS will reach out to ECP and confirm use of professional email is fine for non-advocacy work and/or they could use personal email. Also confirm ability to contact listservs and suggest contacting the “owner” of the listserv.

2. **Logistics of Mid-Winter Packets:** Discussed how many packets, what to include in them, who to give.

Action Item: JM will get folders when in DC. Agreed to give packets to staffers and VSOs. Will include bios, fact sheet on role of psychology, and briefing sheet.

3. **Reviewed briefing sheet:** Reviewed briefing sheet and completed draft, including items on continuing to provide quality and integrated care in VA, tracking and improving quality care with non-VA providers, improving recruitment and retention of psychologists, and improving provider safety.

Action Item: TS will reach out to workplace violence prevention workgroup for input on provider safety section. Will continue to add as needed based on initial meetings in Mid-Winter Meeting.

4. **How are SIG interests being represented on briefing sheet:** SW brought this topic up. Discussed how this particular briefing sheet has specific “asks” and that over the year, the group requests feedback and questions to bring to these meetings. Agreed to continue discussing and thinking on what particular forum would be appropriate to bring particular overall SIG concerns (VACO meetings versus other).

Action Item: Will discuss in person next week at Mid-Winter

Post-Meeting Discussion: Committee voted to APPROVE Heather Kacos and Paul Korte to be current Early Career Psychologists (ECP) workgroup co-chairs (SIG co-chairs, pending submission and approval) with staggering terms.