

**AVAPL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING CALL  
AUGUST 20, 2015 (3:00 PM ET) 1-800-767-1750 x75493**

**Attendance:** Dr. Tom Kirchberg, Dr. John McQuaid, Dr. Ron Girona, Dr. Monica Cortez-Garland, Dr. Mary Beth Shea

**Review of minutes**

- A. July minutes have been approved and posted
- B. Executive committee continues to review APA business meeting minutes

**Treasurer's Report** – no new report from APA business meeting report

**Old Business**

- A. Travel costs for APA
  - a. Only 2 members of the EC were able to attend the APA business meeting due to cost, VA travel restrictions, and the international venue.
  - b. Members at the APA meeting suggested that AVAPL funds should be used to support the EC in attending the APA conference and other events. EC was supportive of this use of funds and will send out an email to membership for feedback
- B. VAPL conference 2016
  - a. Opportunities to discuss EC midwinter activities and current issues at the conference was again discussed. Dr. Kirchberg will contact Ameer Patel, VAPL conference chair, to discuss potential plenary and lunch slots
- C. Follow up call with VSOs
  - a. Teleconference with VSO representatives is scheduled for August 27<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Kirchberg to follow up Joy Ilem to review agenda and the potential for minutes. *Since the time of this call the meeting has been postponed to September 24<sup>th</sup>.*

**New Business**

- A. Midwinter 2016
  - a. EC committee will begin discussions with Dr. Heather Kelly regarding potential dates for the meetings in Washington D.C. with VACO, VSOs, APA, and congressional staff
- B. Topic of Privatizing VA
  - a. Committee discussed paper "The Iron Triangle." It was decided to send out the document to members for information and further discussion as needed
- C. New role for Psychology Training Programs
  - a. Discussed the recent dissemination of information regarding the guidance of psychology training programs to cooperate with the training of other mental health professionals (e.g., LPMHC, MFT)
  - b. EC discussed the balance of being collaborative and cooperative in interprofessional training efforts while also advocating for the specialization of psychology and our responsibility to serve Veterans to the best of our abilities
  - c. It was discussed that we should look in to the assumption that Psychology training programs and Directors of training are not being cooperative
  - d. It was also highlighted that there are national requirements for accreditation for these professions in regards to hiring and practice in the VA which is not related to Psychology being exclusive or unwelcoming

**Next Meeting Call – OCTOBER 15, 2015 (3:00 PM ET) 1-800-767-1750 x75493**

Monica Cortez-Garland, Ph.D.  
Secretary