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The New York State Psychological Association is pleased to present this Annual Report for 2016.

The mission of the New York State Psychological Association is to further the scientific and professional advancement of psychology, maintain standards within the profession for the public and to provide opportunities for fellowship and the exchange of ideas among members. Furthermore, the Association seeks to advance the science and practice of psychology as means of promoting human welfare. NYSPA is affiliated with the American Psychological Association.

While this Report does not pretend to cover every detail, achievement and activity of the past year, it does provide an overview or highlights of many significant achievements and activities.

NYSPA has 16 Divisions and 17 Committees, all of which have very active leadership, programs and goals. All of those Divisions and Committees were asked to submit content for this Report. As you will see, some Divisions and Committees chose not to provide a report, and therefore are not included in this Annual Report.

For further information about NYSPA, visit www.nyspa.org.
When I was asked to write an Annual Report, the word “Reflections” popped into my head as I began to replay in my mind’s eye the multitude of things that transpired over the last year.

The word “resilience” resonated heavily as a starting point in this brief report. Resilience – the ability to bounce back from difficult experiences and adapt to traumatic or stressful occurrences – played a significant role throughout my presidency.

Last year got off to an ominous start when Blizzard Jonas forced me to cancel my very first Council Meeting on January 23, 2016. But we soon enough had a make-up meeting on March 5. Some of the Council Reps participated electronically via Zoom video conferencing.

In retrospect, I am grateful for the early adversity and challenge. Many people pitched in, and we emerged stronger for it. We also opened the door to appreciating the role that high tech could play in going forward with NYSPA business and promoting the Association.

It’s all about teamwork.

I wish to extend a special note of thanks to our hard-working staff in Albany:

Diane “Dee” Fisher-Golden
Interim Executive Director
dfisher@nyspamail.org

Jerry Grodin, PhD
Director of Professional Affairs
jgrodin@nyspamail.org

Lori Coté
Executive Assistant
lcote@nyspamail.org

Sara Wheeler
Membership and Communications
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I also would like to acknowledge Tom Coté, MBA, CAE, who served as NYSPA’s Executive Director for approximately 2 years and 9 months and whose last day at NYSPA was on December 23, 2016.
HERE ARE SOME OF THE HIGHLIGHTS OF OUR ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2016:

We had an Executive Lobby Day on January 25, 2016 in Albany.

As mentioned earlier, our first Council meeting scheduled for January 23 had to be scheduled because of a blizzard. We had a make-up Council Meeting on March 5, 2016.

The Council met April 16, 2016, for the second time this past year at the AMA Convention Center in New York City.

Along with other NYSPA leaders and staff, I attended the four-day long State Leadership Conference in Washington, D.C., beginning February 27, 2016, and culminating with a visit to Capitol Hill. The conference was sponsored by the American Psychological Association and APA Practice Organization. The conference theme was “Expanding the Practice Spectrum.”

The most lasting impression was the trip to Congress. In all, there were nine appointments in which we sought support for the following legislation:

2. Bipartisan Mental Health Reform Legislation – supported by H.R. bill 2646 and Senate Bill 1945.

NYSPA’s Annual Convention was held at the Westchester Crowne Plaza in White Plains on June 3-4, 2016. There were 20 presentations, two keynotes, an ethics panel and several opportunities to network and socialize. The Convention was titled: “Advancing the Practice of Psychology: Ethics, Risk Management and Innovative Methods.” We provided many presentations reflecting the state-of-the-art practice of psychology and innovations, with a keen eye on ethics and risk management – keeping our patients, society, and ourselves safe.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH
A search for a new Executive Director was pursued vigorously in the closing months of 2016. As incoming NYSPA President, Dr. Herb Gingold assumed the point position on this effort.
LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS
Robust legislative efforts were addressed under the able leadership of Dr. John Northman, chair of the Legislative Committee. NYSPA enjoyed strong grassroots growth and development this past year spearheaded by the Legislative Committee’s Grassroots Subcommittee chaired by Dr. Dinelia Rosa.

NYSPA PAC, chaired by Dr. Barbara Fontana, is a nonpartisan political action committee formed and governed by psychologists for the sole purpose of advancing our profession’s political agenda in New York. NYSPA collects voluntary contributions from psychologists all around our state, and then distributes them to the campaigns of candidates for the New York State Legislature.

Increased contributions are needed to help push NYSPA’s legislative interests. The Membership Survey results released in 2013 indicated that Advocacy was the top priority endorsed by those members who completed the survey.

For more information about NYSPA PAC and to make a donation, visit: http://www.nyspapac.com/Home.html

REGRETS
I have had a number of regrets. I guess that comes with package of serving as president. Perhaps the regrets that weighed most heavily were cancelling the Microaggressions and Public Safety Conferences in Manhattan, and the Conference in Rochester that was scheduled on November 4, 2016.

PARTING THOUGHTS
After serving as president for a year, I have more than a few thoughts about our association and its future. My counsel is as follows:

• Work collaboratively. Focus on teamwork. Brainstorm freely and arrive at measurable goals and objectives. These likely will be a work in progress subject to frequent revision and modification.
• Speak up for NYSPA. Be loyal to our association.
• Lead by example.
• There is value in everyone. If we can’t see it or have difficulty seeing it, it is our failing because we have not tried hard enough.
• If kindness is contagious, bring it on.
• It is understandable that we will not agree on everything. The expression of different views, thoughts and opinions is to be encouraged. No one should worry about speaking his or her mind. We do this politely and respectfully, without attacking people.
• Champion inclusiveness and build walls to keep divisiveness out.
• Champion diversity.
• Champion transparency and disclosure.
• Champion ethics.
• Every day is a gift. There is no writing on the wall as we start the day. To a large extent, we have a canvass to work with and at least some of what goes on it falls under our control.

Being NYSPA President requires a tremendous amount of commitment, dedication and time. For me, I did not anticipate that being President would be like a full-time job. There has not been a single day that I have not been involved in some NYSPA-related activity. The role of the President is to represent all members and promote an agenda that is committed to the advancement of NYSPA, its members and the profession.

It was a privilege and an honor to serve as NYSPA’s 2016 President. It continues to be my fervent hope that we all derive continued and increased benefits from belonging to NYSPA and prosper professionally.

To all NYSPA leaders and members during my tenure, thank you for your involvement and for all you’ve done, and my very best wishes to the next generation of leaders: Dr. Herb Gingold, President, Dr. Pat Dowds, President-Elect, all newly elected NYSPA and Division officers and Council Reps and Alternates, and all Committee and Task Force Chairs.
Scheduling & To-Do Lists
Track clinician schedules, patient appointments, notes, and billing. Appointments and other tasks are automatically added to your personal To-Do List. Sync your calendar to your smart phone to view your schedule on the go.

Patient Notes & EMR
Complete your notes quickly and easily. Our note templates have been uniquely designed for mental and behavioral health. Go paperless by uploading your patient files into TherapyNotes. All of your data is secure and encrypted.

Electronic Billing
Streamline your billing with seamlessly integrated electronic insurance claims, ERA payment posting, credit card processing, and more. Submit insurance claims with a single click. Easily generate patient statements, superbills, revenue reports, and more.

...AND MANY MORE FEATURES!
• Automatic text, phone, and email reminders to reduce no-shows and decrease expenses
• TherapyPortal, your own custom client portal for appointment requests
• Superior, unlimited phone and email support included with every TherapyNotes account

My experience with TherapyNotes this past month has been fantastic!
Firstly, the system is easy to navigate, thorough, flexible, and extremely clinically intuitive. Secondly, technical and customer support has been efficient, fast, and very personal. I am leaving another EHR system for TherapyNotes... gladly. I'm very happy that you've created such a quality product. Thank you!
Dr. Christina Zampitella, FT, Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Just want to say that I truly love the system!
It takes all the guesswork out of tracking paperwork. Being able to schedule appointments and then have the system take over and track what is due for each client is wonderful.
Kathleen Bremer, PCC-S

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The Division of Independent Practice (IPD) is a guild-oriented division centered on advancing the interests of psychologists in independent practice. The division holds conferences and workshops throughout the year and encourages active participation.
IPD engaged in a very productive year of professional education through programs and collaborations with several of our fellow divisions and, in particular, with President Roy Aranda.

The year 2016 marked the 25th Anniversary of the Independent Practice Division. We have been flourishing with over 440 members. Our annual Open House celebrated this milestone on November 5, 2016.

Our Open House theme was “Taking Back Our Profession and Moving Forward.” Guest speakers addressed ways we can organize and be advocates for psychology and the people we serve in these fast changing times. With the superb planning and organizing of speakers by our President-Elect Dr. Patricia Dowds, we endeavored to bring to our members the most up-to-date information on practice changes, along with supportive tools for practitioners. IPD also videotaped two of the presentations, which we are loaning to Dr. Dowds and the NYSPA Health Care Reform Task Force. Topics included “What You Need to Know in Changing Landscape of Integrated Care,” “Creating Systemic Impact,” and “Protect Your Future in This Era of Parity and Health Care Reform.” A sumptuous brunch presented a wonderful time for socializing and networking.

In the early spring, Dr. Frank Corigliano conducted a wonderful, well-attended IPD training event, “The Ethical Practice of Telepsychology & Telemedicine.”

We dedicated IPD to building coalitions within the complexity and diversity of our Association through donating funds, and co-sponsoring and promoting several events.

In May we co-sponsored an outstanding conference held by the Division of Psychoanalysis, “Psychoanalysis Meets Neuroscience: Clinical Implications and Applications.” We co-sponsored and helped fund planning for a Division of Culture, Race and Ethnicity conference on aggression, which will happen in 2017. IPD cosponsored the conference held by the LGBT Task Force on “Everything You Wanted to Know About Treating LGBT Clients,” and the “Faces of Trauma in Forensic Contexts” conference held by the Forensic Division, as well as the Group Division events, “Cultivating the Internal Secure Base,” and the 2017 event, “What, Me Run a Group? An Exploration of Resistances to Leading Therapy Groups.” We co-sponsored the June NYSPA Graduate Students (NYSPAGS) event, “Mind Your Mind: Are You Mind Full or Mindful?” Also in June, we co-sponsored a workshop at the convention of the Society for Light Treatment and Biological Rhythms.

In IPD leadership news, our 2017 President-Elect, Dr. Dowds resigned because she is now the NYSPA President-Elect, and our 2017 President, Dr. Deborah Barbiere, resigned due to family responsibilities. We held a special election, which fortunately gave us Dr. Leah DeSole as 2017 President and Dr. Suzanne Hirsch as 2017 President-Elect. We also have welcomed Dr. Vernon Smith to the IPD Board.

Our Division has been graced with wonderful veteran IPD members and leaders, some who are continuing to be active Board members in 2017.

IPD looks forward to a vibrant year ahead. We expect to initiate a process of holding some monthly Board meetings utilizing audio-video technology. This will enable increased input from Board members whose geographic locations make it difficult to regularly attend in-person meetings. We will also consider ways to increase our use of technology as we seek to increasingly engage our members from around the State.

David Byrom, PhD
2016 President of IPD
THE DIVISION OF GROUP PSYCHOLOGY AND PSYCHOTHERAPY

The Division of Group Psychology and Psychotherapy promotes scientific, clinical and practice goals for group psychology and group psychotherapy. The division works toward enhancing the efficacy and creativity in group psychotherapy to meet the needs for quality treatment of mental and emotional disorders in a humanistic way.
The Board of the Group Division has been meeting monthly to collaborate on division programming, membership growth, revising our mission statement and assessing the needs of division membership.

The Division of Group Psychology and Psychotherapy mission statement is as follows:

The Division aims to help New York psychologists, the public and government officials understand group treatment and interventions to improve the mental health of individuals, organizations and communities. The Group Psychology and Psychotherapy Division also serves as a professional forum and community for members with an interest in group psychology.

The Group Psychology and Psychotherapy Division achieves this aim through:

- Demonstrating the power of group psychology during NYSPA events
- Providing NYSPA Council representation
- Promoting awareness and knowledge of group psychology among NYSPA members and leaders, as well as the public
- Advocating for the work of group psychologists through lobbying state government
- Providing opportunities for psychologists practicing group psychology to assume leadership roles

The Group Division increased its membership by 17 percent in 2016 compared to 2015. Our programming efforts were extremely well-received and positive, with an experiential workshop on June 11, 2016, with Aaron Black, PhD, CGP, presenting on the topic of “Cultivating a Secure Base: Aligning Psychodynamic Technique with Attachment Theory in Group Therapy.” The Division held a networking event on a rooftop in downtown Brooklyn. It was a warm night where colleagues socialized and shared their work. The Group Division also created a Facebook page to keep members posted as to current happenings.

An upcoming program advertised to members, students and nonmembers will take place February 19, 2017, from 2:30-5:30 p.m. with an hour of networking to wrap up the day. The event is entitled “What, Me Run a Group? An Exploration of Resistances to Leading Therapy Groups.” The event is intended to reach out to private practice clinicians, as well as those working in institutions.

The program will be co-led by Division President Katherine Mitchell, PsyD, CGP, and NYSPA, Genesee Valley member, Marie T. Sargent, PhD from Rochester.

The Group Division has begun to explore collaboration with other Group Therapy communities such as the Eastern Group Psychotherapy Association. Prospective experiential group workshops for the spring and fall of 2017 include utilizing diversity in groups to deepen therapeutic benefits and attachment-based group therapy interventions.

The Group Division is a lively, energized group dedicated to increasing awareness and knowledge of group psychology throughout the state of New York.
The Early Career Psychologists Division is the first state psychological association ECP Division in the country! The mission is to provide a professional community to advance the development of psychologists entering the profession, while empowering its members through advocacy, mentoring and education. The ECP Division is fully engaged in NYSPA and is part of every aspect of governance, including a voting representative on the Council, which sets policy and is NYSPA’s primary governing body. ECP Division supports a member list serve; a three-part Private Practice Series; networking and social events; and ongoing representation on legislative, membership and other NYSPA committees.
THE DIVISION OF EARLY CAREER PSYCHOLOGISTS

The Early Career Psychologists Division of NYSPA had a productive 2016. Highlights include:

• Represented ECPs in council proceedings
• ECP Happy hour
• ECP family picnic
• Representing the Division at the Internship/Externship/Postdoc fair
• Partnership with NYSPAGS for their wellness event
• Partnership with the Clinical Division for their sex addiction event
• Partnership with and representation of NYSPA at ABCT annual conference

And the cornerstone of our 2016 efforts:

• Helping form the Post-Doc Initiative, which developed into a task force for 2017 presidential initiative.

We anticipate that 2017 will continue to build on these efforts. We have identified the following values and principles as guides for the direction of ECP:

• Diversity
• Social justice
• Advocate, educator, and vocal representative for ECPs within NYSPA
• Community

The ECP Division is looking forward to developing and hosting two important events in 2017

• A workshop/panel on growing and maintaining a vibrant professional social media presence (including the opportunity to obtain professional headshots)
• A workshop/best practice sharing event on supervisory skills and establishing peer supervision

The ECP Division looks forward to working with the other divisions and all of NYSPA in the coming year.
The Division of Women’s Issues was founded to provide a forum for professional, political and personal interests of women psychologists and others concerned with women’s issues. The Division represents all fields of psychology, with special efforts to include psychologists and psychology graduate students of different ethnicities, life styles and professional fields in order to create a diverse group spirit. As women have made gains in the workplace and in achieving equal rights in society, the Division has broadened its focus on women’s concerns from access and equity to such issues as social justice, work-family balance and leadership.
DOWI sponsored or co-sponsored a number of events in 2016.

In April, Dr. Susan O’Malley, professor of English at CUNY and an expert on women’s studies, and the then current chairperson of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women in the UN NGO community, addressed Division members. She discussed the responsibility of the Committee to review, accept, and assign side events at the UN Commission on the Status of Women, as well as the role of women at the UN.

In June, Dr. Carolyn Springer, the winner of the Margaret Floy Washburn Award, gave an address related to her research: Using Community Voices to inform Mental Health Care and Practice. In December, Dr. Gwen Gerber, the current winner of the award, discussed her recent research at John Jay College on sexual assault.

DOWI also was a co-sponsor of the 9th Annual Psychology Day at the United Nations event on April 28, 2016. The theme of the event was: “From Vulnerability to Resilience: Using Psychology to Address the Global Migration Crisis.” In addition to a number of panelists, including several psychologists and UN speakers, two Ambassadors to the United Nations, H.E. Ruben Zamora, Permanent Representative of El Salvador to the United Nations, and H.E. Dr. Caleb Otto, Permanent Representative of Palau to the United Nations spoke at the event which was attended by over 450 people.
The Division on Addictions seeks to serve the needs and well-being of its members in four ways: as a professional home for psychologists who are working with addicted individuals and those who suffer from co-occurring disorders; to advance the use of psychological approaches and treatments in the treatment of addictive disorders; to further develop and disseminate knowledge of these practices through conferences, newsletters and other activities; and to represent psychology in the broader field of addiction treatment through dialogue and participation with other organizations and non-psychologist clinicians, researchers and policymakers. Membership is open to psychologists interested in addictions whether or not they are working in the field.
The NYSPA Division on Addictions spent its year hosting, supporting and planning a variety of interesting events. On April 1, 2016, the Addictions Division sponsored a conference at North Central Bronx Hospital titled “Psychological Treatments for Addictive Disorders.” Conference presenters used case material and practice demonstrations to both illustrate and illuminate several concepts that are commonly encountered in the treatment of substance use disorders. The areas addressed included: investigating the complexity found in treating individuals and couples, creating and navigating an effective collaboration between multiple treatment providers and organizations, exploring theoretical approaches to the concept of “remembering and forgetting” as experienced in the treatment of addictions, and demonstrating practical approaches to using narrative-based therapy models and urge-surfing toward growth and change. The conference was well attended by over 100 participants. As a result, we hope to return to North Central Bronx Hospital in the near future with another great program.

Additionally, NYSPA’s Division on Addictions participated as a sponsor in the 2016 New York REEL Recovery Film Festival. A multi-day event in September 2016, the festival showcased filmmakers who “make honest films about addiction, alcoholism, behavioral disorders, treatment and recovery.” Screenings included contemporary and classic films, documentaries and shorts from America and international producers, first-time filmmakers and industry veterans.

The Addictions committee has been working on organizing a one-day conference titled: “The Self and the System: Shifting Conceptions of Addictions and Their Treatment.” It will be held on March 31, 2017, in the Starr Foundation Hall at The New School for Social Research. Designed to be a collaborative, interactive conference, the conference will revolve around the exploration of conceptions of identity with specific respect to substance use. Questions investigated will include but not be limited to: how do client conceptions of his/her identity as related to substance use shift over
The New York State Psychological Association Graduate Student (NYSPAGS) was headed up by a capable and involved leadership team:

- **Ashu Kapoor**
- **Jennifer Lee** (Chair-Elect)
- **Ann Zedginidze** (Secretary/Treasurer)
- **Sandra Silvestre** (Training and Advocacy Coordinator)
- **Jennifer Yuan** (Member at Large (Previous Chair))

Alternate Rep to Council: Kathryn Belgiorno (Previous member at large)

Throughout the year NYSPAGS planned and organized socials to gather members, students, and various NYSPA organizations to promote collaboration and create new connections.

NYSPAGS had the opportunity to provide scholarships and sponsor members to attend the NYSPA Annual Convention.

In response to high stress and demand on students, NYSPAGS, along with the ECP and IPD Divisions promoted well-being, self-care, and the value it brings to, not only ourselves, but our clients and working environment through a Mindfulness event in June. Katrina Diaz, Jennifer Tantia, and Stephen Terracciano presented their knowledge and experience within this field.

Every year NYSPAGS is involved in creating an internship fair, which promotes and spreads awareness of local opportunities for students.
Current legislative initiatives include advocacy for:

- PLLC (public limited liability corporation), which would allow psychologists to form business partnerships with physicians
- RxP, which would grant psychologists prescriptive authority
- Duty to Protect, which would provide immunity from disciplinary action for breaking confidentiality if a client makes a serious threat of harm to oneself or someone else
- Out-of-Network Coverage, which would require insurers to offer out-of-network coverage as an option to any health insurance contract

As noted by the NYSPA lobbyist, most legislative initiatives require sustained effort across multiple years. Thus, Legislative Committee efforts to advance these initiatives will continue into 2017. As a new two-year legislative cycle will start with the beginning of 2017, each of these bills will need to be reintroduced beginning in January.

The Legislative Committee also closely monitors the introduction of bills that may adversely affect psychology and the people we serve. NYSPA has opposed, and continues to oppose, legislation that would permit master’s-level school psychologists to practice independently outside the school setting.

Recently telehealth legislation has been enacted, and there now come the next steps of 1) the development of regulations, and 2) the subsequent adoption by psychologists of methods of practice. The Legislative Committee continues to be involved with these efforts.

As New York is one of only two remaining states that do not require continuing education for psychologists, there is awareness that at any time there may be movement within the legislature to mandate Continuing Education. The Legislative Committee is now exploring mandatory Continuing Education, so that NYSPA can be prepared to help shape any legislative initiative coming from within the legislature.

The Legislative Committee’s functioning and effectiveness are largely based on “topical subcommittees,” one for each of the initiatives or specific topics currently before the legislature or related to legislative action. Each subcommittee is charged with developing recommendations and materials in regard to NYSPA positions and NYSPA legislative strategy.
LGBTQ TASK FORCE

The mission of the LGBTQ Task Force is to educate NYSPA members about the best practice with LGBTQ populations, to promote and disseminate research in this area and to create a safe and welcoming environment for LGBTQ psychologists in NYSPA.

The Division initiated regular peer consultation groups for NYSPA members working with, part of or just interested in LGBTQ issues. The groups have been well-received.

The Division held a very successful first conference: “Everything You Always Wanted to Know about Treating LGBT Patients but Were Afraid to Ask” on September 17, 2016. There were requests that this conference become an annual affair.

The group is an in-house watchdog as well as a resource for NYSPA members with concerns and questions about LGBTQ issues.

We are completing an LGBTQ Competency Survey, which received over 270 responses and is promising to reveal interesting insights. It has already generated questions that could be explored in further research.

Herb Gingold, PhD, Chair

POST-DOCTORAL EXPANSION TASK FORCE

An Early Career Psychologists initiative was launched this year to address the problems associated with New York State licensure due to inadequate opportunities for post-doctoral experience (the one-year post-internship “experience” requirement).

The central issue at hand is that recent doctoral psychology graduates in the New York State area face a prohibitively low percentage of formalized post-doctoral opportunities. In addition, restrictions exist to other means to have access to satisfactory supervised experience. As a result, budding psychologists’ ability to enter the profession (at least in the New York area) can be significantly deterred at a time when they are, simultaneously, the most (1) motivated to participate in the profession, and (2) vulnerable to pressures outside of their training (e.g., economic, developmental).

As an initial step forward to address this issue, Post-Doctoral sites joined the annual Externship/Internship Fair for the first time.

President-Elect Herb Gingold joined with ECP to support and further their efforts.

The NYSPA Task Force on Post-Doctoral Expansion was created (current members include Christopher Sbaratta (Chair), Herb Gingold, June Feder, Jennifer Presnall-Shvorin and Patricia Dowds).

In 2017, the Task Force plans to
1. Solicit greater membership
2. Gather relevant data from NYSPA members (survey, longitudinal cohort effects), ECPs (qualitative/experiential), and the NYS Office of the Professions (descriptive stats)
3. Begin to develop and maintain an organized and up-to-date online database for post-doctoral opportunities
4. Compile a clear picture of the legal parameters/qualifications for New York State licensure vis-à-vis post-doctoral experience (the do’s and don’ts of post-doctoral supervision).
Westchester County Psychological Association had a very productive year. The following is a report of just some of the programs organized by the Association’s division heads.

In the 2015-2016, the clinical division started the year with a program on Tax, Accounting and Legal Issues for Mental Health Professionals with speakers Ron Freidman, MBA, CPA, and Brian Hand, JD. This was followed by a program on Psychological Issues for Patients with Cancer, with speaker Dr. Leslie Kim Cunningham.

The clinical division co-sponsored in collaboration with Westchester County Psychological Education (WCPE), a full-day Trauma program. Presenters included Peter Taylor, Ken Reinhard, Leo Lederman, Craig Haen, Ann Kliman and Lisa Salvi.

The Association co-sponsored with the Academic Division a program on Developing Clinical and Cultural Competency for Working with Transgender Community, with presenters Laura Jacobs and Emet Tauber. The academic division started the year with a program on sexual assault: “Everything You Need to Know about Sexual Assault,” with speakers Laura Murphy and Robin Gibbs.


The School Division started the year with a program on “Concussion Management,” with speaker Mark Herceg followed by “Adapting DBT to School Setting,” with speaker Alec Miler, followed by “School Refusal” presented by Lata McGinn, and then Ron Dumont spoke of “LD: The Role of the School Psychologist in Identifying It.”

Major updates to WCPA’s website initiated included creating a Members Only Section, the addition of education content including 16 authored articles on wide ranging topics, and the creation of a listserv, now consisting of 179 members.

Fall 2016 held several notable programs. A networking luncheon co-hosted by WCPA, Child and Family Institute and Rogers Behavioral Health; the book club read and discussed “Hillbilly Elegy: Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis;” and the School Division held a presentation of “Developing Grit, Self-Control and a Positive Mindset.” Be sure to see the WCPA website for upcoming programs, several planned for spring including a day-long conference on Violence.

Andrea Garry, PsyD
In October 2016, for the first time in the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (ABCT)’s 50 year history, NYSPA was represented at the conference by having a booth. It was staffed by Tom Cote, Deena Abbe, Shane Owens, and David Bricker. We greeted existing members and encouraged tri-state area psychologists, students, and therapists from other disciplines to join. We were very well received, and this did much to bust the myth that NYSPA is a psychodynamic-only organization. The Early Career Psychologist (ECP) and Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) Divisions co-sponsored this initiative with the Membership Committee.

This year, we have made significant strides in terms of marketing the association. We redesigned the brochure and created an infographic to display our benefits graphically. Sara Wheeler designed this for us and was very efficient with our feedback regarding the design. We investigated a redesign of the website but due to financial constraints determined that this was not the best use of funds. I am also pursuing a division booklet to have all divisions represented clearly in one concise and brand consistent document.

We had a very successful internship/externship fair in September and included post-docs, which was new and a selling point according to attendees. We had 140 attendees and 36 sites (most with multiple training opportunities) represented. Training directors from both externship sites and graduate programs provided very positive feedback at the last PSYDNYS meeting on October 21. They were interested in a survey to provide additional feedback, which is currently in development. The membership committee has also increased in size over the past year, including welcoming a NYSPAGS rep to the committee, Vanessa Lee. In 2017, we will seek to even further expand the committee by seeking committee members from each division and region in order to have greater assistance on the committee and to be sure we have representation at all NYSPA events. We are also excited to examine data from the Membership Survey, which Shane Owens constructed with input from the committee.

In 2017, the committee is excited to continue the initiatives above as well as holding a one-day think-tank meeting in order to reflect on the accomplishments of last year and create new initiatives for the coming year.

Amanda M. Spray, PhD, Chair, Membership Committee