This is the first report of the Section on Counselling Psychology.

The organizational meeting of this section was held at the June 1987 CPA meeting in Vancouver, with twenty-seven counselling psychologists and interested observers participating. Two officers were elected at this first meeting, Mary Schoenberg, Memorial University, as Division Chair and Lee Handy, University of Calgary, as Secretary-Treasurer. It was also decided that communication between counselling psychologists would be greatly improved by publication of a section newsletter. The first issue of MATRIX, edited by John Friesen and Jennifer Cole A. Newman, both of the University of British Columbia, appeared in January 1988.

The Division Chair named Lyle Eide, University of Manitoba, to chair a committee studying training and accreditation issues for Counselling Psychology. Members of this Committee include Lise Chislett (University of Ottawa), F. Patrick Clarke (University of Calgary), Naida Hyde (Simon Fraser University), and George Hurley (Memorial University). This will be a standing committee, with a first report scheduled for the June 1988 Section meeting.

The CPA Section Chair wrote to Jim Hurst, Chair of Division 17, APA, suggesting the appropriateness of ongoing contact between CPA’s Section on Counselling Psychology and APA’s Division 17 (Counseling Psychology). The matter will be an item on the agenda of the June meeting of the Section, but in the interim Mark Schoenberg has appointed George Hurley to liaise with Division 17 representative, Henry Borow (appointed by Jim Hurst).

The Discipline of Counselling Psychology is large and diverse. Discussions at the inaugural meeting of the Section reflected the diversity, making it clear that one of our principal objectives must be that of ensuring that the interests of the board constituency are adequately represented and addressed.

Although we have made good progress in this first year, we believe that the annual business meeting in Montreal will provide the opportunity to build on the organizational base set into place at least year’s meeting.

At the end of the first year, membership in the section includes 83 full and 39 student members.

B. Mark Schoenberg