SECTION 24  Counselling Psychology  CPA/SCP  Psychologie du Counselling

CHAIR'S REPORT TO THE ABM FOR THE 1991-1992 YEAR

This is the completion of our fifth year as a Section. Since our inaugural meeting in Vancouver in June, 1987, we have accomplished a good deal. Perhaps most notable over the last few years is the fact that Counselling Psychology has been recognized by CPA as an accredited specialty. Doctoral Programs in Counselling Psychology may now be CPA accredited under defined CPA accreditation standards. This accomplishment has also given impetus to University Counselling Centres to seek accreditation as CPA accredited Pre-doctoral Professional Psychology internship sites.

Internal Organizational Matters

Over the fall, the Executive worked to develop a viable electronic mail (Email) infrastructure that would allow the Executive and committee Chairs to cheaply and efficiently contact one another. As well, our standing committees (Professional Affairs, Training and Accreditation, Program, Awards and Recognition, Newsletter) became operational and much needed new committees (Students and Membership) were added. The Section newsletter FORUM is now being published twice a year.

Section dues increase initiative. A mail out ballot was sent to Section members last fall with a proposal to raise dues to $20/year. I am pleased to report that this initiative passed. Section members will now be assessed $20 on their Section dues portion when annual CPA dues come out in December.

Section activities at the 1992 CPA meeting in Quebec City. Section members stated that they wished to have forums for professional exchange in addition to the usual paper and poster presentations vetted through the Section. We therefore planned three new Special Interest Group (SIG) meetings Saturday afternoon, June 13th and a Section reception following immediately after the Annual Business Meeting at 4 PM. As well, a student award of $100 for best counselling presentation will be presented at the Section Business Meeting. These structural changes should substantially improve general communication among Section members as well as enhance professional and social exchange.

External Initiatives by the Section

Beyond the above-noted internal organizational efforts, the Section has also addressed external enquiries from such organizations as Bell Canada, sought to enhance relevant liaisons (e.g., some of our executive attended the Division of Counseling Psychology, APA Executive meetings while they were at APA) and addressed Section member’s individual professional issues to such organizations as SSHRC via the Scientific Affairs Committee of CPA.

Upcoming Challenges

As a Section, we need to engage more counselling psychologists in Canada in our activities. The Section can serve to the extent that it engages the needs of its members and would-be members. Increasing Section participation I believe should be this coming year’s highest priority.

Final Notes

Finally, I wish to thank all those individuals who have contributed to the success of the Section 24 - Counselling Psychology. Do continue to freely offer your comments, ideas, criticisms, and—most of all—your time and expertise.

George Hurley, PhD  
Chair, Section 24 - Counselling Psychology

Canadian Psychological Association/Société canadienne de psychologie
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Chair’s Report to the Section ABM  
May 29, 1993  
Montreal

This is my last report as Chair of the Section as my term has reached its conclusion. In reviewing this time, I am pleased with both our "outreach" efforts and our internal organizational work over the last two years. Despite the tight financial times, I believe we have advanced some of the aims of the Section and I am optimistic that we will continue to prosper over the medium and long term.

The Section Newsletter FORUM was published twice last year and twice this year under the able editorship of Mark Schoenberg. (A special thanks to BMS for his many contributions to Counselling Psychology as he nears his retirement this fall and a congratulations for his receipt of Professor Emeritus status at Memorial University.) FORUM continues to operate as our major vehicle of communication within the Section, within CPA and, to some degree, within APA as we keep our many colleagues and friends apprised of our activities. Particularly important and noteworthy among other items this year is the Section's pledge to contribute $500 over the next two budget years to the upcoming CPA-sponsored 1994 National Conference on Applied/Professional Psychology. As well, the Section received notification from CJS to that the word "counselling" will henceforth appear in the mast head of the Journal as one of the major areas that the journal addresses. All these actions have raised the profile of the Section on Counselling Psychology and the contributions of Counselling Psychologists to the profession and science of psychology.

Internally, revision of our Section By-Laws was a major agenda item this year. Bob Hall spearheaded this project with a mandate from last year’s Section Business Meeting to incorporate the required elements of the New CPA Model By-Laws for Sections while maintaining the spirit of our original 1988 Section By-Laws. The revised Section By-Laws (which were included with the last issue of FORUM), have been reviewed and endorsed by the Section Executive. Results of the Section vote on the Revised By-Laws will be announced later during our Annual Business Meeting.

1993 CPA CONVENTION: SECTION 24 PROGRAMMING

Our Section Program Chair, Dr. Mike Doyle, again scheduled a series of Special Interest Groups (SIGs) as a second major forum of programming for the 1993 CPA convention in Montreal. Each SIG was designed to encourage discussion of relevant issues facing the specialty of Counselling Psychology.

Following the Section Business Meeting, a Hospitality Suite will be available for counselling psychologists and any other interested individuals to spend some time visiting one another. (We especially encourage our Division 17, APA Counseling Psychology colleagues who are presenting at CPA to drop by.) Finally, the Section is presenting a Best Graduate Thesis Award. As always, we invite and encourage you to join in all or any part of our Section activities.
Chairperson’s 1994-95 Annual Report

The activities of the Counselling Section for 1994-95 reflect the challenges facing the psychology profession in North America. As the roles and responsibilities of psychologists whether in private practice or in institutions change, their identities as psychologists are changing. The section through Forum: the Newsletter, published twice each year, has attempted to educate members about these issues particularly challenges evolving from the Mississauga conference.

The executive of the section are committed to the developmental concept that an evolving identity requires a strong core of principles and knowledge of our professional roots, thus efforts are being invested in developing a greater awareness of our historic identity as counselling psychologists. Two projects reflect this emphasis. The first organized through the efforts of Beth Havercamp, Ph. D. and Bonita Long, Ph. D. involves a compilation of classic counselling research articles by Canadian counselling psychologists to be utilized as the basis of core curriculum in graduate teaching. The second is the recording of our evolution as a section which is being spearheaded by archivist, Michael Doyle, Ph. D.

Our professional identity continues to be strengthened through the presentations and workshops at CPA’s annual conference. For the past two years, the reviewing of submissions and the organization of the conference activities has been superbly handled by Brian Sveinson, Ph. D. Counselling psychology gains as researchers and practitioners share their findings and perspectives through conference presentations, collaboratively funded pre-conference workshops and scholarly publications. These presentations and other research publications reinforce the unique contribution counselling psychology offers through its developmental approach to treatment. The applied research of many counselling psychologists provides a unique and utilitarian perspective to the profession, as psychology meets the challenge of developing core curriculum in training programs and core competencies for psychologists based on the research findings in two crucial areas, treatment effectiveness and the identification of the critical components of the art of healing.

As a professional organization, one of the most significant lessons psychologists are learning, is that more can be accomplished when we unite our talents, energy and efforts towards a common goal. The Counselling Section executive includes representatives from all regions of the country and members have joined in efforts separately and together to promote the development of counselling psychology. They have also participated in professional liaisons with other organizations within and without CPA to promote greater understanding of our mutual needs and support for initiatives which are mutually beneficial. Though these efforts are fledgling beginnings, they represent the future; a future of collaborations and coalitions.

Respectfully submitted,
Lilly J. Walker, Ph. D. C. Psych. Chairperson

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