

2012 CPA Counselling Psychology Section Annual Report

Section Executive

The 2011-2012 Executive Committee consisted of José Domene (Chair), Ada Sinacore (Chair-elect), Helen Massfeller (Secretary-Treasurer), Jennifer Thannhauser (Member at Large – Review Coordinator), Jessica Van Vliet (Member at Large - Student Awards), and Lara Cross (Student Representative and list-serve manager). Our Web Master is Sasha Lerner, and our Newsletter Editor is Michael Huston.

Membership

As of April 26, 2012, the Section had a membership of 391, consisting of 200 Members, 173 CPA Student Affiliates, 2 CPA International Affiliates, 8 CPA Special Affiliates, 7 CPA Fellows, and 2 CPA Honorary Life Members/Fellows. These numbers are approximately the same as last year.

Awards

The 2011 Counselling Psychology Section Best Dissertation/Thesis prizes were awarded: Chantelle Quesnelle, University of Calgary, for her research titled "Evaluating the Therapeutic Alliance: What matters to Teens?" Danielle Brosseau, Trinity Western University, for her research titled "The Moderating Effect of Relationship Quality on Partner Secondary Traumatic Stress Among Couples Coping With Cancer." Radha Messmer, University of British Columbia, for her research titled "Marital Satisfaction across the Transition to Parenthood: The Relationship Between bed-Sharing and Marital Satisfaction for First-Time Parents." Additionally, the annual Best Doctoral Poster was awarded to Touraj Amiri, OISE-University of Toronto, for his poster titled "The Role of Personality and Emotional Regulation on Psychological Health in Trauma Survivors," and the Best Masters Poster was awarded to Nichole Pickett, University of New Brunswick, for her poster titled "Exploring Quality of Life Changes and Counselling Utilization in New Brunswick Methadone Maintenance Treatment Programs."

Annual Convention Activities

The Section program at the 2012 conference in Halifax will include a Section Keynote address by Sharon Robertson, University of Calgary, titled "Building bridges between counselling and counselling psychology." Additionally, from the 59 abstracts that were submitted, the following sessions will be presented by the section: 35 posters, 10 symposium presentations, 7 workshops, 2 theory review sessions, and 2 conversation sessions offered by the section.

Past-Year Projects

At the 2011 Section SBM, concern was raised by the membership about the paucity of accredited pre-doctoral internships in Canada that accept counselling psychology interns. A committee, whose membership consisted of the clinical directors of all the CPA-accredited counselling psychology doctoral programs and a liaison from the Section Executive, was struck to examine the issue and make recommendations. They have

completed their work and are scheduled to deliver their report at the 2012 section SBM.

Additionally, it was voted at the 2011 Section SBM to fund a project to document and archive the history of the Section and Canadian counselling psychology in general. Freda Ginsberg, section member, agreed to head up this project and, in conjunction with several student section members, has begun to collect and convert into electronic form documentation related to the section from its inception to the present day. Longer-term goals for the project are to create an electronic archive of public section documents and to interview senior Canadian counselling psychologists for their perspectives on the profession over time.

Next-Year Projects

It is anticipated that a major focus of the section will be to follow up on the recommendations of our pre-doctoral internship committee. Additionally, the Section archive project remains ongoing.