

THE PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA VIRGINIA NEWS



A DISTRICT BRANCH OF THE AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2007



Steve Brasington, MD
PSV President

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Psychiatric Medical Practice has a wealth of evidence behind treatments for obsessive com-

pulsive disorder, major depression, bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, alcohol dependence and many other brain-based disabilities. The public has been slow to recognize the very real risk for trauma, work impairment, and premature death associated with untreated mental illness. Given a growing body of evidence that depression is a leading cause of lost wages and productivity, it is a curious fact many employers do not offer healthcare coverage for emotional illness on par with payment for physical disease. Recently, North Carolina passed a new mental health parity law, joining 23 other states to enact such legislation. As physicians, we understand the undeniable connection between alcohol/tobacco and cardiovascular disease. Effective medical interventions are now available for both alcoholism and cigarette smoking. Signaling the need for early reduction of risk factors for heart disease, the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services is starting to reward physicians, who offer tobacco cessation to their patients. How many patients do we treat, who destructively use alcohol, tobacco and drugs? I know many of my patients on the inpatient ward requiring acute care have the course of illness complicated by use of addicting substances.

According to the Center for Policy Alternatives, a non-partisan, non-profit resource for legislators, "health insurance discrimination exacerbates the stigma that discourages people from seeking treatment for mental disorders

and substance abuse". The recently released Department of Defense Mental Health Task Force, examining the state of the Mental Healthcare in the military, recommended dispelling stigma as a top priority. Creating cultural change in the workplace will be linked to employee expectations that treatment for psychiatric disorders should be as accessible as primary care. The temptation is for decision makers to refer patients to the lowest level of care, which is understood to be the clinician with the least amount of education and training. Psychiatrists have the optimal blend of medical education, supervised training and hospital experience to treat persons with potentially life threatening illness. The need for access to cost-effective quality medical care can easily shift to a narrow focus on cost-effective intervention provided by non-physicians.

At the Federal Level, H.R. 1424 and S. 558 are bills in Washington supporting Mental Health Parity. In Virginia, 2008 will be the year to defend the medical malpractice cap. The cap was established three decades ago in 1976, when some professional liability carriers were refusing to cover Virginia physicians. With malpractice rates rising, some medical doctors chose to leave the Commonwealth. The malpractice cap stabilized the price of malpractice insurance and encouraged many to continue practicing in Virginia. However, the cap will end on July 1, 2008 unless lawmakers pass a new bill. By the time the current law matures, the cap will reach \$2 million. Note that all 140 seats in the House of Delegates are up for re-election, creating the possibility that many new Delegates will not appreciate the history of the cap and its positive impact on the

malpractice environment. In particular, malpractice caps help ensure that insurance companies will continue to write policies. According to information provided by Scott Johnson, General Counsel for the Medical Society of Virginia, the Virginia Trial Lawyers Association seeks changes in the structure of the cap, which would create multiple avenues for larger awards in malpractice suits.

Alone, holding ground for our patients in the heated battle with the insurance industry and trial lawyers, is truly daunting. Together, we can defend against assaults on our ability to practice the highest quality care for patients. If the malpractice environment becomes untenable, it may not matter that mental health parity is attained when evidence-based practice has become an everyday reality for the Psychiatrist. Section three of our parent organization's code of ethics states, "A physician shall respect the law and also recognize a responsibility to seek changes in those requirements which are contrary to the best interests of the patient." This year, each of us has an opportunity to support the Psych MD Political Action Committee and candi-

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Letters to the editor and editorial contributions are welcome. Submissions may be sent to Jose Edwin Nieves, MD or to Kathleen Stack, MD via email at jose.nieves@med.va.gov or to kathleen.stack@med.va.gov. Paid advertising is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. To place your advertisement or to request a rate sheet, contact Beverly Bernard at PSV Headquarters via email at beverly@societyhq.com or by phone at (804) 565-6321.

A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

PSV welcomes new Co-editors, Kathleen Stack, MD and J. Edwin Nieves, MD as they take over the duties from James Krag, MD. Thank you, Dr. Krag, for all of your help!

Let's Get the Word Out!

By J. Edwin Nieves, MD and Kathleen Stack, MD

The Psychiatric Society of Virginia maintains the goals of access to high quality mental health care for all our citizens. One way this is done is by dissemination of information about policy and legislative proposals and encouraging advocacy in our members on issues which affect our clients as well as our members. As with all organizations, to assure our ability to be an effective voice in these areas, we must be active in recruiting and maintaining new members among our profession in the community. While the PSV supports the residency programs, there is a need for us to do more to show our relevance to our newest members. By elucidating the relevance and benefits of membership in the PSV, encouraging and modeling participation, we help to increase membership. Expanding membership is pivotal to ensure the ongoing advocacy, for our clients and our rapidly evolving profession.

APA and District Branch Membership offer a variety of benefits to members in training and young psychiatrists. Some of these are tangible benefits such as free subscription to the APA Journal, Periodicals and other benefits such as online access to Residents Newsletters and Practice Management for Early Career Psychiatrists. The total value of these benefits is estimated at approximately \$500-\$600/year.

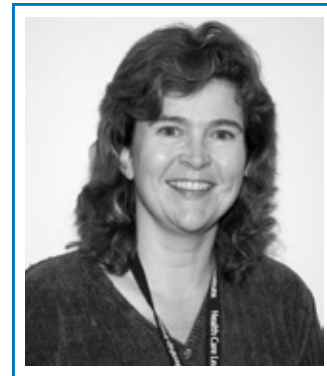
Other benefits which we wish to emphasize in the coming years are priceless; the availability of online mentoring by senior psychiatrists at the local and/or national level. Career Development sessions have been added at the national meetings and the APA Job Bank help our members and residents find the best match for their interests. Also, the APA offers the opportunity for resident and early career psychiatrist to participate in multiple caucuses.

We recently conducted a survey among residents in our residency training programs in Virginia to understand some of the reasons why residents were not getting involved in the PSV. To our surprise, many residents were not aware of Psychiatric Society of Virginia's existence. Many were unsure about the cost of joining (none) and/or how to join. This lack of awareness of the PSV and benefits of membership must be rectified by us, the current members in concert with our Member-in-Training representatives. Exploring resident recruitment and retention is further complicated by a soft data base. The AMA and APA maintain a database that lists the number of psychiatry residents in Virginia and how many of these are members of the APA as "Member-in-Training" (MIT's). As of June 2007, these numbers include 130 psychiatry residents, of which the APA lists 101 as MIT's. However, these 101 residents are widespread across the state and are not listed by a district branch. Further complicating accuracy, some of the MIT's may be in the process of upgrading to general membership. In summary, we do not have accurate resident membership database.

The Society is already taking steps to encourage and support resident participation. This includes a stipend to state psychiatric residency programs. Many of you support and encourage membership by role modeling and through your own personal involvement. However, we must make every effort to do more and encourage



J. Edwin Nieves, MD



Kathleen Stack, MD

residents and students to join.

Many current members may remember gaining this PSV exposure at the Southern Association for Research in Psychiatry, (SARP) which no longer exists. This void can be filled for the residents in Virginia with your help.

This year at our Fall Meeting in Roanoke, October 19-20, we will have our first resident scientific session. We want to encourage psychiatry residents in our district branch to participate in a poster session that will encourage scholarly activity while fostering exposure to the Psychiatric Society of Virginia. We have already sent a call for poster presentations to local residency programs. The application is available online on the PSV website (www.psva.org). With the participation of our learned members, this will afford residents the experience of participating in a scholarly activity and gained experience in attending a scientific program. This will be happening in a more supportive and a less intimidating atmosphere than national conferences and yet prepare them for such presentations. Please help us make this endeavor a success.

BE SURE TO VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6!

All 140 seats of the Virginia General Assembly will be decided on November 6, 2007. The House of Delegates and State Senate races are unusually competitive this year, with control of the House and Senate at stake. For information about important health policy issues, mental health topics, and legislative records, contact PSV lobbyist, Cal Whitehead at cwhitehead@whiteheadconsulting.net.

Some resources are listed below to help you register to vote and identify your Districts and Representatives:

Who's My Legislator?

<http://conview.state.va.us/whosmy.nsf/main?openform>

State Board of Elections

(Verification and Polling Locations)
http://www.sbe.virginia.gov/cms/Misc/Frequently_Asked_Questions.html

PLAN NOW TO ATTEND!

PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA FALL 2007 MEETING



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www.psva.org
for Meeting Updates



IN THE NEWS

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS



GENERAL MEMBER

Ahmed Sherif Abdel Meguid, MD, FRCPC..... Richmond
 Baljit S. Gill, MD..... Yorktown
 Mark D. Kilgus, MD.....Roanoke
 Sachinder Vasudeva, MD.....Roanoke

MEMBER-IN-TRAINING

Rownar Afroz, MD..... Richmond
 Amita Bhagat, MD..... Richmond
 Caroline V. Coster, MD.....Highland Springs
 Rakesh K. Shah, MD..... Richmond

APA ASSEMBLY REPORT - MAY, 2007

By Ram Shenoy, MD, DLFAPA

The APA Assembly met May 18-20, 2007 in San Diego, CA. As usual, the sessions took on a hectic pace. A total of 30 action papers were presented with four being defeated on the floor of the Assembly and one being withdrawn. Several others were postponed for consideration after being edited for the next Assembly session. One Action Paper of particular interest was presented by Drs. Shenoy and Shemo concerning the increasing access to treatment of PTSD. This was adopted, with minor changes in the nomenclature, by a resounding voice vote. Another Action Paper, *Medical Marijuana: Medical Use and Research*, was defeated after an unusually hot debate. The Assembly took a step toward integrating the fairly large Canadian membership by passing an Action Paper to address their unique issues with the Canadian Mental Health Systems.

Area Five Council selected Dr. Varun Choudhary as the area's Deputy Public Relations representative.

The Assembly was addressed by the San Diego Congresswoman, who apologized profusely for the unseasonable cold weather in the city. The concluding speaker was the President of

the Royal College of Psychiatrists, who talked about the National Health System in the UK.

The Assembly raised a record \$40,000 for the APA PAC to help members of Congress who support the APA philosophy. As usual, there was a lot of debate and reference to the Scope of Practice issues, including the recent events in Hawaii. The APA's Director of Lobbying the Federal Government, Nick Myers, gave an update of the efforts to fight non-physician prescription.

Drs. Shemo and Shenoy thank the membership for their support and encourage the general membership and the Board of PSV to submit ideas for Action Papers to present to the Assembly in the future.

GOVERNOR APPOINTEE

Governor Timothy Kaine recently announced the following appointment: Susan Kornstein, MD, Professor of Psychiatry and Obstetrics & Gynecology, and Executive Director of the VCU Institute for Women's Health at Virginia Commonwealth University, will serve on the Virginia Commonwealth University Health System Board of Directors.

NAMI VA NEWS

Mira Signer started as the new, full-time Executive Director of NAMI VA on July 9. She received her Masters in Social Work-policy, planning, and administration from Virginia Commonwealth University and her BA from James Madison University. Mira has most recently worked for Planned Parenthood in Virginia as Director of Advocacy. Her office is in Richmond, VA and her e-mail address is msigner@nami.org. Please send her a note welcoming her to her new position.

The NAMI VA State Convention will be held on Saturday, September 8, 2007 at the Holiday Inn Central in Richmond. The primary speaker will be Professor Richard J. Bonnie, Professor of Psychiatric Medicine and Director of the Virginia Institute of Law, Psychiatry and Public Policy. In addition, he serves as chair of the Virginia Commission on Mental Health Law. Professor Bonnie will update us on the progress of the Commission and the emerging issues in mental health law. If you are interested in attending or supporting the convention please contact msigner@nami.org.

The second annual NAMIWALK will be held on Saturday, October 13 at Innsbrook in Glen Allen (Richmond). Registration is at 9:30 AM and the WALK is at 10:30. The WALK is an awareness-raising program for those with mental illness. Last year we raised over \$117,000; this year we have established a goal of \$135,000. There are lots of ways to help - and we need your help! We invite you to form a team (or two!) and join us in the WALK and we also need sponsorship support. Please contact Carol Evans for more information at carolevans@beldar.com or visit <http://www.nami.org/Template.cfm?section=NAMIWALKS> and click on "Virginia".

NAMI VA members, Barry and Kathy Harkey, have established the *Joshua S. Collins Award of Excellence* in honor of

their son. Joshua lost his battle with mental illness in 2006 and will be remembered through this award. Two checks in the amount of \$500 will be awarded to local NAMI VA affiliates, individuals or established non-profit organizations that best provide services in a given year for the mentally ill. For more information on award eligibility and a nomination form please go to our website www.namivirginia.org or contact Bill Farrington at HFarr7245@aol.com

ANTHEM HEARING

The Anthem Hearing took place on Tuesday, July 10, 2007 in Richmond, VA. Please join me in thanking Jim Krag, MD for representing PSV at the hearing and also thank MSV for coordinating an impressive effort. Dr. Krag's testimony offered several important observations about service, accountability, and responsiveness. He drew helpful analogies to other service sectors to demonstrate the importance of local service and the responsibilities incumbent on Anthem. Dr. Krag also had an entertaining and effective question and answer session with SCC Commissioner Ted Morrison.

There is no deadline for the SCC to decide on the Anthem petition to relax the restrictions on service location. We'll keep you posted.

Cal Whitehead
PSV Lobbyist

NEWS FROM NORTHERN VA

The Medical Society of Virginia Foundation (MSVF), through a five-year grant from the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation and with support from HCA Virginia, established the Claude Moore Physician Leadership Institute in 2006. This program is one of only a handful in the nation that is devoted to providing physicians with formal, ongoing leadership training. The goal of the Institute is to produce a network of physician leaders who work individually and together to effectively advance health and health care in Virginia.

The Institute is a twelve-month pro-

gram that begins in September and concludes with a graduation reception the following September. The Institute offers practical leadership training conducted by respected local, state, and national speakers on a variety of leadership topics, complemented by learning experiences which take advantage of national and state training opportunities, and local experts that guide participants through focused learning efforts.

This year's class includes:

Eric Steckler, MD: a child and adult psychiatrist in solo private practice. He is also President of the Northern Virginia Chapter, Washington Psychiatric Society and was awarded Psychiatrist of the Year in 2004 by the Washington Psychiatric Society for his annual lobbying efforts in Richmond. He recently attended the American Medical Association's campaign school. Dr. Steckler served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1976 to 1978 and was Chief of Child Guidance Service at William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso, Texas. He received his MD from Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York and his BA in biology from Lafayette College in Pennsylvania.

Edward D. Simmer, MD, MPH: a Commander in the Medical Corps of the United States Navy. He is the Director for Quality Management and the Command Intern Coordinator at the Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, VA. He is also a general and forensic psychiatrist, and has testified in numerous courts-martial worldwide. As head of the Navy Medicine East Special Psychiatric Rapid Intervention Team (SPRINT), he has participated in a number of responses, including Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and the U.S.S. Cole (DDG-67) bombing. He recently returned from a deployment to Camp Taji, Iraq with an Army Combat Stress Control Team. In 2006, he led the Naval Medical Center through the first-ever unannounced JCAHO Survey at a Naval Medical Center, which resulted in full accreditation. Dr. Simmer serves as the Ethics Chair for the Society of Uniformed Services Psychiatrists, a district branch of the American Psychiatric As-

Continued on page 12

HAWAII GOVERNOR VETOES PSYCHOLOGISTS RIGHT TO PRESCRIBE

The American Psychiatric Association (APA) joins the Hawaii Psychiatric Medical Association, other physicians and patients in applauding Hawaii Governor Linda Lingle's veto of legislation that would have allowed psychologists, who are not medical doctors, the right to prescribe psychotropic medications. We are additionally pleased that neither chamber of the Hawaii State Legislature sought to override Governor Lingle's veto, which demonstrates welcome and appropriate prudence in disposing of legislation that jeopardized patient safety.

AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION APPLICATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE
SEPTEMBER 1**

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- General Membership for at least five consecutive years
- Certification by the American Board of Psychiatry and Neurology, the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, or the American Osteopathic Association
- Three letters of recommendation from current Fellows, Distinguished Fellows or Distinguished Life Fellows

Applications and Letters of Recommendation should be sent to:
American Psychiatric Association
Membership Department
1000 Wilson Blvd, Suite 1825
Arlington, VA 22209-3901

Submissions can also be faxed to (703) 907-1085 or via email to membership@psych.org

**APPLICATION FOR FELLOWSHIP
can be found on page 10**

MEMBER-IN-TRAINING

By Andrea Bandfield, MD
Eastern VA Medical School

I am honored to be serving as the PSV Member-in-Training Representative this year. I served as Eastern Virginia Medical School's representative to the PSV Board of Directors last year, an opportunity which was far more rewarding than I thought possible.

Like many other residents, prior to that opportunity, I didn't know much about the Psychiatric Society of Virginia. I hadn't realized that the PSV was a meeting ground which created the collective voice of psychiatry in Virginia – complete with its own lobbyist to the Virginia Assembly. At each Board meeting were psychiatrists from Hampton Roads, Richmond, Charlottesville, the remote southwest corner of Virginia, and many places in between. There were private psychiatrists, military psychiatrists, inpatient and outpatient psychiatrists, psychoanalysts, and residency program directors.

When I joined the Board meetings, I watched as these widely different types of psychiatrists – each unique in his or her personality, field of practice, and location of practice – passionately debated important issues which directly affect the practice of psychiatry in Virginia. I could see how the PSV is an instrument of change, keeping tabs on all activities relevant to psychiatry, and moving strategically to thwart those things that threaten our ability to practice successfully.

Residency is a unique period in the path to becoming a psychiatrist. It is a time of tremendous personal growth and idealism. As I enter my fourth year of residency, I feel a desire to linger in this time of growth and idealism.

I believe that the Psychiatric Society of Virginia is a place where that growth and idealism continues. It is a place which protects growth and idealism in the practice of psychiatry. For that reason, psychiatry residents need the PSV as much as the PSV needs the voice of the residents.



Andrea Bandfield, MD

President's Message

Continued from page 1

dates aligned with doctors and patients, not trial attorneys. Note that our colleagues in OB/GYN need our support as the Neurological Birth Injury Fund faces a \$132.2 million deficit, which threatens the stability of the fund. Ophthalmologists expect to see a challenge from optometrists, who want to perform eye surgery. As your medical society, we can protect the best interests of patients seeking care from physicians in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Another facet of your commitment to maintain high ethical standards is your promise to pursue lifelong learning. The Psychiatric Society of Virginia is well positioned to provide first rate live medical education. The fall event on October 20th in Roanoke brings together practicing psychiatrists with members-in-training, who will be presenting research in a poster session. The Champion of this resident section for our medical scientific meeting is Dr. Edwin Nieves, who was chosen in June as Teacher of The Year by residents at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk. This year PSV has offered grant monies to the five training programs from Norfolk, Portsmouth, Richmond, Charlottesville and Roanoke. In keeping with tradition, the Southwest Psychiatric Society will be co-hosting the event in their area. I urge you to attend our upcoming conference and participate in this special poster session, so you can meet the future faces of psychiatry. In addition, I invite you to take the time to learn more about political races in your area. Cal Whitehead and Hilton Graham are available for specific questions about how you can support the candidate of your choice or the Political Action Committee of the Psychiatric Society of Virginia. This year promises many opportunities to positively impact the practice of medicine for many years to come. I am hopeful for the state of Psychiatry in the Commonwealth, because I know the members of PSV will take action to protect the interests of patient and families seeking freedom from the burden of mental illness.

PSV would like to thank

Wyeth Pharmaceuticals

for their support of the PSV 2007 Fall Meeting

RESEARCH POSTER SESSION FOR RESIDENTS DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION SEPT. 7, 2007

ATTENTION ALL PSYCHIATRY RESIDENTS! (OR THOSE OF YOU WHO WORK WITH RESIDENTS!)

The Psychiatric Society of Virginia will be having a Research Poster Session for Residents at its Fall Meeting in Roanoke, Oct. 19-20, 2007. Residents, this is a great opportunity for exposure, networking, and beefing up your CV, especially if you win First Place or Honorable Mention! Just submit your abstract to Andrew Mann by September 7, 2007. Send by email to: Andrew@societyhq.com or mail to 2209 Dickens Road, Richmond, VA 23230. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr. Mann at 804-565-6325.

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To learn more about all our patient assistance programs, call toll-free 1-800-545-6962, or visit our Web sites at: www.lillycares.com and www.lillymedicareanswers.com.

The Lilly logo, featuring the word "Lilly" in a stylized, cursive script.

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DISASTER COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Ed Kantor, MD

In response to the April 16, 2007 shootings at Virginia Tech, the Psychiatric Society of Virginia initiated a call to their members asking for volunteers to counsel students returning home seeking psychiatric help.

The list of 36 willing providers was given to the Student Counseling Committee at Virginia Tech and also to the State Mental Health Department. Thanks to all of our members who volunteered their time during this tragic event.

There is continued communications with the University of Oklahoma and DMHMRSAS to do research in areas regarding 'Disaster Mental Health,' particularly in regards to children and their families.

If you are interested in serving on the PSV's Disaster Committee, please contact Ed Kantor, MD at EMK2E@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu.

Help Keep Us In The Know!


Send your news items for
upcoming issues to Andrew Mann.


Email: andrew@societyhq.com


MINDGAMES IS A BIG WINNER

The University of Virginia Roanoke Valley - Carilion Clinic Residency Program in Psychiatric Medicine took fourth place in the nation in the first "Jeopardy"-inspired *MindGames* at the 2007 Annual Meeting of the American Psychiatry Association held in San Diego, CA in May. The team consisted of Drs. Sachin Mehta, Jay Bobbar and Angeline Vharma.

MindGames is the brainchild of Nancy Delanoche, Associate Director of the Office of Graduate and Undergraduate Education for the American Psychiatric Association. She patterned it after similar competitions held at annual meetings of other medical associations, such as the American College of Physicians' *Medical Jeopardy* and the *Neurobowl* of the American Academy of Neurology.



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Program Highlights...

- **The Health Services Research Track:** designed to highlight the implications of current health services research for psychiatric practice, introduce psychiatric residents to the field of health services research, and update clinicians on innovative and practical approaches for improving mental health care.
- **OMNA on Tour in the Gulf Coast Track:** Eliminating Mental Health Disparities in Diverse and Underserved Populations. Since 2005, OMNA on Tour has visited Washington, D.C., the Delaware Valley, and the Midwest to raise awareness of the manifestations of mental health disparities across the nation and to stimulate collaboration within communities to achieve optimal mental health for ethnically and racially diverse populations.

Register early and...

- Earn CME PRA and CEU credits
- Save on registration fees
- Network with colleagues and meet new friends
- Learn new skills to improve patient care
- Win a two-night stay at the New Orleans Marriott or dinner at Arnaud's Restaurant





American Psychiatric Association

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APPLICATION FOR FELLOWSHIP

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF COMPLETED APPLICATION
AND LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION - SEPTEMBER 1ST**

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

LAST NAME _____

FIRST NAME _____

MI _____

SUFFIX _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE/PROVINCE, ZIP/POSTAL CODE _____

OFFICE TELEPHONE (WITH AREA CODE) _____

HOME TELEPHONE (WITH AREA CODE) _____

OFFICE FAX (WITH AREA CODE) _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

DISTRICT BRANCH NAME _____

APA ID# _____

BOARD CERTIFICATION(S) - (ABPN, RCPS(C), AOA)

NAME OF BOARD & SPECIALTY _____

DATE RECEIVED & VALID THROUGH _____

NAME OF BOARD & SPECIALTY _____

DATE RECEIVED & VALID THROUGH _____

ETHICS

1. Has your license to practice medicine ever been revoked or suspended? Yes _____ No _____
2. Are you currently charged with illegal or unethical professional conduct by a regulatory or law enforcement agency or by a professional society? Yes _____ No _____
3. Have you ever been found guilty of illegal or unethical professional conduct by a regulatory or law enforcement agency or by a professional society? Yes _____ No _____

If yes to any of the three preceeding questions, please furnish details in a confidential communication to the APA Membership Committee Chair and attach details to this application. Inquiry will be made with the District Branch for relative information, including pending ethics complaints.

REFERENCES

List 3 Fellows, Distinguished Fellows, Life Fellows or Distinguished Life Fellows whom you have asked to support your application (go to the Online Membership Directory in the Members Corner to verify member status of APA colleagues: www.psych.org). The individuals listed below should submit confidential typewritten letters of recommendation directly to the APA, Membership Department, 1000 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1825, Arlington VA, 22209-3901 by September 1st. Letters may also be faxed to 703.907.1085 or emailed to apa@psych.org.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

AGREEMENT

I will hold APA, its District Branches, members, officers, employees and agents free from all damage and complaint by reason of action taken on this Fellowship application or by reason of any subsequent action on membership, including the sharing between APA and District Branches of information about my professional conduct.

SIGNATURE _____

DATE _____



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THE PSYCHIATRIC SOCIETY OF VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA NEWS

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DON'T FORGET TO RENEW YOUR PSV MEMBER DUES FOR 2007!

The Society (and the APA) relies on your member fee for funding of your benefits - including the newsletter, updates on the website, involvement in statewide current events and preparation for the Annual Fall Meeting.

Your renewal notice was mailed a few weeks ago. If you haven't already sent your payment, you may choose the convenient option of renewing your membership online with APA at www.psych.org and logging on to your Member's Corner account. If you have not used your Member's Corner account before, your default username is your APA ID without the preceding 0's and your password is your date of birth in MMDDYYYY format. Questions regarding membership may be directed to David Priel with APA at DPriel@psych.org.

- Adam T. Kaul, *Membership Committee Chair*

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sociation. He has received a number of military honors, including the Meritorious Service Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal (both in 2007), and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (2006). Dr. Simmer obtained his MPH from Eastern Virginia Medical School/Old Dominion University, his MD from Saint Louis University, and his BA from Hiram College in Ohio.

For more information about the program, please visit: <http://www.msvfoundation.org/initiatives/physicianleadership.htm>

2007 PSV FALL MEETING

October 19-20, 2007

Hotel Roanoke & Conference Center
Roanoke, VA