



**Notes from the Chair—Steve Shry, Ph.D.**

After a decade on the Arkansas Psychology Board, I want to thank the staff consisting of Rebecca and Janet for all of their assistance over these years.

I enjoyed working with the Attorney General Representatives, most recently, Amy Ford and the Board attorney, Jim Ammel; both of whom were invaluable on many occasions. I appreciate their professionalism and we are fortunate to have their expertise.

When I first arrived on the Board, I had no idea of the amount and complexity of the issues that a member has to deal with. We were faced

with several contentious issues which previous Boards had tended to avoid. I noticed that just as a member was learning what was going on with various lobbying interests, his/her term expired. Thus, members would rotate off the board just as they were gaining the knowledge to act in the best interests of the public. I would hope that in the future, new board members might be provided more extensive background information to prepare them for the upcoming issues.

There are a number of future situations that the Board will need to address. For example, there is a proliferation of

new “graduate programs” nationwide that I believe are not very discriminating in their requirements for admission. Once individuals obtain graduate degrees the licensing board is faced with some who cannot pass the EPPP without

numerous attempts and have much difficulty on oral evaluations.

The Board has also dealt more frequently with the continued and increased use of distance learning. Because of time and money, many students, especially those who are older and going back to

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**Announcement of APA Accreditation for UCA School Psychology Program**

The Ph.D. program in School Psychology at the University of Central Arkansas (UCA) was notified on April 25, 2006 that it received accreditation by the American Psychological

Association (APA). The APA is the world’s largest association of psychologists with 150,000 members. It accredits doctoral-level training programs, pre-doctoral internship sites, and post-

doctoral positions in school, clinical, and counseling psychology. UCA is the second university in Arkansas to receive this national recognition of program quality.

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Season's Greetings

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## Notes from the Chair, continued

school, will be obtaining degrees from nontraditional college settings. This will likely be considered a legitimate way to an advanced degree by the public, business, and other professions. The Board will increasingly need to establish guidelines regarding the acceptance of credentials from such programs.

Another issue is more local: should the rules/requirements for licensure by the Psychology Board

and rules/requirements for licensure with the Counseling Board become more convergent and consistent?

The Board has had several issues involving what terminology can be used in advertising their services and other boundary



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issues. The role of Psychological Examiners relative to Psychologists is another ongoing area that will need to be addressed. I believe the legislature is tiring of the ongoing internal strife between the two groups. Hopefully, there can be some consensus taking place in the near future.  $\psi$

## Announcement of APA Accreditation for UCA School Psychology Program, continued

According to the APA report sent to UCA, "the program uses a scientist-practitioner model that clearly values the integration of science and practice as demonstrated in its curriculum, practical experiences, and the modeling of its faculty."

**The Masters program has received national recognition through approval by the National Association of School Psychologists.**

The Department of Psychology & Counseling at UCA has trained graduate students in school psychology for over 25 years. The Masters program has received national recognition through approval by the National Association of School Psychologists. After many years in the making, the Ph.D. program in School Psychology admitted its first group of students in the year 2000. The program's core faculty consists of four doctoral-level psychologists trained in school psychology. These faculty members are supported by numerous other doctoral-level psychologists in the department. A strength of the department

is its commitment to provide the graduate students in the masters and doctoral programs with a strong multicultural experience. In that light, the department has developed exchange programs with leading universities in Europe and Asia. These programs allow the faculty and students to experience a more diverse population and to conduct cross-cultural research. There are currently 17 students actively pursuing their doctorates in this program. So far, six students have graduated from the program with the majority actively providing psychological services in Arkansas.

School psychology professionals are trained to work in schools, clinics, hospitals, and other settings with children, parents, teachers, and other professionals on behalf of children with social, emotional, behavioral, and/or academic difficulties. Their

work includes prevention programming, behavioral and academic intervention planning and implementation, crisis management, individual assessment, counseling, consultation, and program development and evaluation. Masters-level professionals in school psychology are typically licensed as School Psychology Specialists through the Arkansas Department of Education or as Licensed Psychological Examiners through the Arkansas Psychology Board. Doctoral-level school psychologists are eligible for licensure as a Psychologist through the Arkansas Psychology Board. The UCA school psychology program faculty review applications for the doctoral program on February 10<sup>th</sup> of each year. More information about these and other graduate-level psychology and counseling programs at UCA can be obtained at

<http://www.uca.edu/psychology/>.  $\psi$

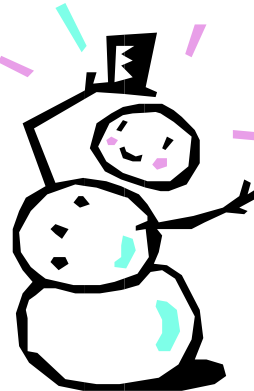




## Statement of Intent of Applicants- Joe Alford, Ph.D., Board Member

The Arkansas Psychology Board pays particular attention to the *Statement of Intent to Practice* in its review of applicants for licensure. In the initial review of the application, care is taken to ensure that the applicant's graduate training is consistent with the *Statement of Intent*. There should be evidence of both coursework and practicum and/or internship clinical experience in areas in which the applicant is seeking to practice.

The *Statement of Intent* also provides a focus for the oral exam. Applicants should be prepared to respond to oral questions involving clinical vignettes that examine areas in which they intend to practice. Most applicants pass their oral exams. When they fail, it is usually because their responses to questions



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about areas in which they intend to practice fail to demonstrate basic working knowledge of the area.

Our best advice is that the *Statement of Intent* should be realistic. The application process goes more smoothly when the *Statement of Intent* reflects genuine areas of competence. ψ

## Provisional Licensure of Applicants- Joe Alford, Ph.D., Board Member

After receiving a provisional license, applicants have one year to take the EPPP. While it formerly was administered twice a year, it can now be taken online throughout the year. The Board has noticed a recent trend to wait until the end of the provisional year to take the exam. Unfortunately, not every-

**"The Board strongly recommends that provisional licensees take the EPPP well before the end of the provisional year."**

one passes the EPPP on the first attempt. Recently, several provisionally licensed Psychologists and Psychological Examiners have requested extensions of their provisional licenses to allow time for further study and retaking the test. The Board does not consider this to be a valid reason for receiving an exten-

sion. Except in cases of real, documented hardship, the Board will not grant such extensions, and the applicant will have to re-apply for provisional licensure.

**The Board strongly recommends that provisional licensees take the EPPP well before the end of the provisional year.**

This will allow an applicant who fails to pass the exam to take it again during the year of provisional licensure. ψ

## Provisional Licensure Extensions and the EPPP - Janet Welsh, Executive Director

Recently, the Board has seen an increase in the number of provisional licensees who postpone sitting for the Examination for the Professional Practice in Psychology (EPPP) until the end of their year of Provisional Licensure Status, and then are unsuccessful in passing the exam. Subsequently they petition the Board for an extension of their Provisional License to allow them to continue practicing.

In years past, the Board has acquiesced and granted these extensions in a good faith effort so that the applicant may continue to provide services for an employer during the application process and to obtain supervised experience. Unfortunately, the Board is seeing applicants practice under a Provisional License for well over 18 months, and occasionally even two years. Recent statistics have come to light from the Association of State and Provincial

Psychology Boards (ASPPB) that indicates that the earlier an applicant sits for the EPPP after graduation or conferment of his/her degree, the higher the percentage rate is of passing the exam. Many applicants explain that they do not feel ready to sit for the EPPP right after acquiring a Provisional License. The ASPPB study suggests otherwise.

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### **Provisional Licensure Extensions and the EPPP , continued**

The Board will soon be instituting new parameters for Provisional Licensure status. It will be valid for 12 months for masters level applicants and 18 months for doctoral level applicants. The additional six months at the doctoral level takes into consideration the year of post doctoral supervision. Both levels of licensure will not be granted extensions past the 12 or 18 months of eligibility unless the applicant has taken the EPPP and did not pass and needs to re-take the exam; or in the case of extreme documented emergencies, i.e., illness, or family emergencies, at the discretion of the Board. ψ

### **In Memoriam**

The Arkansas Psychology Board wishes to express their condolences to the families of three licensees who have passed away since our last newsletter. Shirl Brunell, Ph.D. of Texarkana passed away on December 18, 2005; Larry Withers, Ph.D. of Fort Smith, passed away on December 18, 2005; John Crist Elliott, Ph. D. of Little Rock passed away on December 22, 2005.

On February 16, 2006, the Board’s calligrapher for over 20 years, Rebecca Jaine Sage, lost her battle with breast cancer. Jaine meticulously hand-lettered every Licensure Certificate that was issued by this Board since 1984. Her talent and wonderful, bubbly personality are very much missed.

Mrs. Evelyn Bryan of Russellville, died September 13, 2006. She was a Senior Citizen Representative of the Board from February, 1993 through December, 1997. She was the widow of State Representative L.L. “Doc” Bryan. She worked for 30 years in the House of Representatives and was a valued member of the Psychology Board. ψ

### **Ming Fisher Award**

ASPPB is pleased to confer the Ming Fisher Award to Janet M. Welsh, Executive Director of the Arkansas Psychology Board. Ms. Welsh has served the Arkansas board since 1988 and as its Executive Director since 1992.

During her 19 years with the board, Ms. Welsh has worked with 14 Board Chairs and alongside more than 35 board members. During those years she has assisted the board in their efforts to establish a continuing education program, and as they began the process to be included with the ASPPB Agreement of Reciprocity, the CPQ and the National Register. She has organized workshops and retreats for the many revisions of Board Rules and Regulations, more than 140 board meetings, and most recently, the Board’s 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. She serves on the Complaint Committee and strives to maintain fairness and equality to both the complainant and respondent throughout the process.

Ms. Welsh has attended 23 ASPPB meetings since 1988 and two International Congresses. As an avid supporter of the newly formed Board Administrator’s committee, she provides valuable insight in enabling the State Board Executive Officers to facilitate communications and camaraderie between them, believing in the premise of conformity among jurisdictions in the licensure and disciplinary process. Many administrators have sought the advice and counsel of Ms. Welsh on subjects ranging from complaint investigations, to the PES application process, to provisional licenses. She is considered an extremely valuable resource to the Arkansas Psychology Board where

she is considered the “glue” that keeps the board functioning. ψ



**ASPPB**  
**2006 Award Ceremony**  
**46th Annual Meeting of Delegates**  
**San Diego, CA**





## Title Usage of Licensees and Provisional Licensees - Informational



An article regarding subspecialty license title usage in generic licensing states appeared in the American Psychological Association's February 2006 issue of "Monitor on Psychology".

The link to the article is:

<http://www.apa.org/monitor/feb06/ethics.html>.

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The article, "The Titles We Use", was written by Dr. Stephen Behnke, APA Ethics Director.



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## Annual Directory

Due to costs, the directory will not be printed and mailed this year. However, you can obtain the directory by email, on disk, or printed, by request. If a printed version is requested, the copy will be

made in the board office and mailed.

To request a copy, please call the board office at (501) 682-6167 or email at

[APBinfo@arkansas.gov](mailto:APBinfo@arkansas.gov).

We hope that this will improve our service to the licensees. As always, comments and suggestions are welcome. ψ

## Arkansas Psychological Association (ArPA) Award Recognition

The Arkansas Psychological Association proudly presents the first annual ArPA Honors for Outstanding Contributions. These awards were established to recognize individuals that have demonstrated commitment to the true purpose of our profession through their remarkable service to others in their community and/or state. ψ



Dwight Sperry, M.A.  
Community Mental Health Provider of the Year



Sabra Hassel, Ph.D.  
Licensing Board Member of the Year



## Continuing Education – Dwight Sowell, M.S., Board Member

Continuing Education as a requirement before license renewal began for the Arkansas Psychology Board in Regulations introduced in the early 1990's. Consistent with the accepted expectations of other professions, the intent was to encourage licensees in psychology to remain informed of current developments in the field, to promote the increase of skills as acquired for expanding practice, and to facilitate collegial contacts among licensees. During an initial trial period of implementation, Continuing Education activities were reported and reviewed without reference to license renewal. The variety of activities considered then ranged greatly from those of the traditional, formal education setting to the uniquely personal and experiential. Recommendations were subsequently published sharing the Board's guidelines for Continuing Education appropriate to the Regulations. While no activities, "workshops," for example, can be pre-approved by the Board and all are considered based on the content as actually presented or performed, few licensees have failed to recognize from now long-standing precedents those Continu-

ing Education opportunities consistently held to be appropriate by the Board. Just to point to a few examples—course work from an educational institution; conferences and workshops conducted by recognized professional organizations; first-time preparation and presentation of a topic to peers, students, or the public; preparation and publication of a journal article or book. If in doubt, please contact your Board office to confirm that an activity or a similar activity has been accepted previously. Recently rejected by the full Board have been such "training" as may be provided and mandated by an employer; including parking policies, workplace environmental safety, and retirement planning. "Lunch-and-learn" presentations, essentially promotional of pharmaceuticals or marketing ancillary services, have also been disallowed. The performance of routine job functions, however designated, rarely represents a



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Continuing Education activity as intended in the Regulations. The 40-hour requirement, to be accumulated and submitted bi-annually, remains the same as originally adopted. And Reports continue to be reviewed randomly in detail by a Continuing Education subcommittee and all late Reports reviewed with their required supporting documentation (certificates, etc.) in addition to a late fee of \$50.00. The Report submission date has been realigned to the calendar

with Reports now due on or before the 31<sup>st</sup> of January of each even-numbered year. Online reporting is available anytime throughout the bi-annual period at the Board's website, [www.arkansas.gov/abep](http://www.arkansas.gov/abep). To possibly increase knowledge of current licensing and regulatory issues for those interested, discussion continues on the appropriateness of accepting a limited number of hours credit from licensees attending a regularly scheduled monthly meeting of the Arkansas Psychology Board. Comments in this regard as well as licensees' participation or questions are always most welcome. ♪

## Welcome to the New Board Members

The Board welcomes two new Members. Dwight Sperry, M.A. of Texarkana, AR was appointed by the Governor replacing Larry Lawrence as a Psychological Examiner member of the Board. Ms. Jane English of North Little Rock, AR was appointed by the Governor as the Senior

Citizen Representative replacing Ernest Ballard, D.D.S.

**New Board Members**  
**Dwight Sperry, M.A.—Member**  
**Jane English—Senior Citizen Representative**

Dwight Sperry, M.A., was appointed to the Arkansas Psychology Board by the Governor in January 2006 and is serving a five year term. During the 2005

legislative session, he served on the Legislative Study Committee to review psychology licensing laws and recommendations for revision. Mr. Sperry was born and raised in Nashville, TN, where he received his bachelor's degree in psychology at Vanderbilt University. He then attended Texas Christian University in Fort Worth, TX, where he received his master's

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## Welcome to New Board Members, continued

degree in community psychology, and subsequently completed additional graduate work at East Texas State University. Mr. Sperry has worked in the public sector as well as the private sector. He has served on numerous boards bettering the lives of people and animals. His favorite hobbies and activities include golf, reading, computers and spending time with his dachshund Lucy. Mr. Sperry is married to his wife of over 32 years, Ann Trigg Sperry. They are the proud parents of Wesley Hull Sperry, II, DVM, and the late Sarah Ann Sperry.

Jane English of North Little Rock was appointed to the Board as Senior Citizen Representative in March 2006. Ms. English is an Economic Development professional with a background in corporate site selection, community and workforce development, military base closure redevelopment and association management. She has served in many capacities with the Office of the Governor and on several Presidential campaigns and is an active member of the



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Republican Party of Arkansas. Ms. English is a native of Lincoln, NE. She is married to her husband of 46 years, retired Army Colonel Don English. They moved to Arkansas in 1988 and have two children and three grandchildren. The Board welcomes both Mr. Sperry and Ms. English and looks forward to working with them over the next years. ψ

## 2006 Licensees

### Psychologists:

Marie Wood	06-01P
Catherine Stanger	06-02P
Courtney Ghormley	06-03P
Alan Budney	06-04P
David Derr	06-05P
Karen Lee	06-06P
Michael Davis	06-07P
Carlton Burge	06-08P
Lara Mattox	06-09P
Ron Dalrymple	06-10P
Stephen McCandless	06-11P
Jayne Bellando	06-12P
Gerald Cates	06-13P
Grad Flick	06-14P
Cara Hartfield	06-15P
Tanya Hough	06-16P
Kenneth Jones	06-17P
Shelia Smith	06-18P
W. Brian Thomas	06-19P
Andrea Todd	06-20P

Stephen Swender	06-21P
Susan Clemons	06-22P
Martha Foschini	06-23P
J. Lee Hoover	06-24P
Robert Morrissey	06-25P
Amy Gilbert Pollard	06-26P
Elizabeth Pulliam	06-27P
Ben Quick	06-28P
Dianna Moses-Nunley	06-29P
Christopher Bassin	06-30P
Thomas Brown	06-31P
Leah Carter	06-32P
Edward Engstrom	06-33P
Rebekah Farrar	06-34P
Susan Franklin	06-35P
Jerry Gullledge, Jr.	06-36P
Christina Scott	06-37P
Rebecca Walls	06-38P
Kelly Jarratt	06-39P
Lisa Linson	06-40P

### Psychological Examiners:

Brittany Blair	06-01E
Lindsey Brooks	06-02E
Hilary Childers	06-03E
Cathy George	06-04E
Elizabeth Kuhn	06-05E
Christine Lin	06-06E
Amy Parker	06-07E
Kerry Wood	06-08E
Catherine Coon	06-09E
Amy Flaherty	06-10E
Melissa Long	06-11E
Kenya Malcolm	06-12E
Amy Seay	06-13E

**Congratulations and Welcome to  
licensure in Arkansas!**

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**Arkansas Psychology Board**

101 E. Capitol Ave., Ste. 415  
Little Rock, AR 72201

Phone: (501) 682-6167  
Fax: (501) 682-6165

E-mail: [APBinfo@arkansas.gov](mailto:APBinfo@arkansas.gov)

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**Board Members**

Joe Alford	Ph.D.	Psychologist Member	Little Rock
Betty Davis	Ph.D.	Consumer Representative	Little Rock
Russell Dixon	Psy.D.	Psychologist Member	Jonesboro
Jane English		Senior Citizen Representative	Gravel Ridge
Sabra Hassel	Ph.D.	Psychologist Member	Fayetteville
Bettye Hoffman	Ph.D.	Psychologist Member	Hot Springs
Stephen Shry	Ph.D.	Chair Academic Psychologist Member	Russellville
Dwight Sowell	M.S.	Psychological Examiner Member	Conway
Dwight Sperry	M.A.	Psychological Examiner Member	Texarkana

**Staff**

Janet M. Welsh
Executive Director
Rebecca F. Wright
Administrative Assistant

**Website Update**

The Arkansas Psychology Board website has changed!  
The new website is more user- friendly and easier to read.

We now have our own look and style!

If you have any comments or suggestions,

email [APBinfo@arkansas.gov](mailto:APBinfo@arkansas.gov).

[www.arkansas.gov/abep](http://www.arkansas.gov/abep)

**Job Listings  
CEU Opportunities  
EPPP Study Aids**

Information is listed on our website.  
To post an advertisement for a position

Or

To submit a notice, please email

[APBinfo@arkansas.gov](mailto:APBinfo@arkansas.gov).