

2019 Past Presidential Summary

It has been a privilege to serve SDPA as President in 2019. Our focus was on increasing Diversity and Inclusion, completing our new 5 year APA Continuing Education Sponsorship Application (CESA) and updating our practices to comply with new guidelines regarding accessibility and diversity/inclusion, and supporting the Organizational Restructure, led by Dr. Cynthia Cotter and the Mission/Vision Committee.

We began the year with a Board Retreat facilitated by Dr. Steven Jones of the Jones Group. During this retreat, the Board members explored issues of exclusivity and inclusivity, our goals for the organization and barriers to change. I am grateful to Dr. Jones and the Jones Group who continued to support leadership development for our Board throughout the year. Thank you Dr. Jones! Throughout the year, the discussion of Diversity and Inclusion was ongoing at the Board level and our Cultural Diversity Committee was reconvened under the new chair, Dr. Darlene Townes.

SDPA's application for Sponsorship of APA CE credit was approved for another 5 years and we have recruited an excellent CE Committee Chair and Board Member at Large, Dr. Ed Neuhaus. We hosted many excellent CE events and provided 5 CE credits at no additional charge this year, something I am very proud of and that serves as a model for how we might utilize our most valuable resources to provide more value to our dues paying members while still welcoming our colleagues.

We also worked hard on developing collaborations with other professionals in our community. We partnered with CSPP San Diego on two CE events in 2019 with National Leaders in Psychology. The first, a 2 day event with APA CEO Dr. Arthur Evans and Dr. Oliva Espin on Reducing Health Disparities in our Communities. During this event, Dr. Evans presented an Emerging Framework for Healthcare and our members had an opportunity to meet and talk with Dr. Evans at a networking reception. At the second event, Dr. Jean Lau Chin spoke about Global and Diverse Leadership and led an intimate round table discussion with professionals and students. Both of these events highlighted the efforts of our leadership team to incorporate our commitment to Diversity and Inclusion into our CE schedule.

Our Fall Conference on Integrating Sexual Health into Clinical Practice was well attended and well received. We continued our collaboration with The Navy Seal Foundation, providing APA CE sponsorship, another example of how we can use our vital resources to fund excellent and timely training for our members and our professional community here in San Diego. I'm excited about where our CE program is going and so happy to welcome Dr. Neuhaus to the team.

Our efforts to complete the Organizational Restructure continued during the year, culminating in the revision of the Articles of Incorporation and Corporate By Laws, and continued work on updating our Policies and Procedures Manual to reflect current changes. Led by the Mission/Vision Committee, created for this specific purpose, we

employed the services of a Parliamentarian as well as our own legal counsel, David Leatherberry to develop more clarity and continuity in our documentation. The Board approved the creation of a Governance Committee and Board Member at Large-Governance to take over the task of monitoring and updating our documentation from the Mission/Vision Committee when they complete this monumental task. I want to thank the members who served on the Mission/Vision Committee for their faithful stewardship.

As I close, I want to again thank all the folks who served SDPA during this time of change. It has been such a powerful learning experience for me professionally and personally and I have been humbled by the hard work and commitment shown by those who have served. I want to thank all our members for showing up for SDPA this year, providing the much needed engagement that organizations like ours depend on. Thank you all so much and best wishes to those joining the organization and undertaking leadership positions and to those who continue to serve.

Respectfully Submitted,

Diane K. Pendragon, Psy.D.