



The American Academy of Couple & Family Psychology

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Intervention and assessment in Couple & Family Psychology embracing the total family system including individuals, couples, families, and the intergenerational system.

Welcome from the President

As we get ready for the holidays, I am happy to update you about many of the changes that have been implemented by the Board of the Academy already, and our plans for the coming year. It is a pleasure to work with the new Board. Due to the passing of the new by-laws, we now have a complete Board that has added Karen Prager and Anthony Chambers as at-large members. In order to alternate years, Karen's position is for one year and Anthony for two years. However, both have options for renewals. They are already providing important input into our activities.

I also want to acknowledge Rachael as our newsletter editor and Martha as co-editor. Their first issue was just outstanding and we have received numerous compliments for their work. I hope you enjoy this second issue as much. Please send our editors brief articles, letters to the editor, newsworthy information to update our members, or other announcements as we continue to publish our newsletter.

In the last few months, we have begun to implement our agenda. At APA, we had a very successful joint reception with Division 43; food, networking and the presentation exceeded our expectations. We hope you can come next year. Three publishers of relevant journals helped us with the funding as co-sponsors: APA Journals, Taylor & Francis Group/Routledge, and Springer Science. We appreciate their second year of co-sponsorship!!

One of our goals is to expand training opportunities and to offer more advanced workshops. Our first effort occurred in September in San Diego, CA, in conjunction with and just prior to the 18th International Conference and Summit on Violence, Abuse & Trauma. The workshop was entitled, "**Advanced Techniques and Ethical Issues in Child Custody Evaluations.**" The presenters are all members of the Academy: Lenore Walker, Andy Benjamin, David Shapiro, and me. This workshop was highly rated and the evaluations were quite positive. Now we are beginning to plan similar activities for 2014. Please let us know if there are specific topics, speakers, or even events to piggy back with for future trainings. We are hoping to set a regular schedule where all of you would know about them in advance and

can set schedules accordingly, and obtain discounts as members of the Academy.

Another goal is to recruit more family psychologists to apply for the diplomate. We are in the process of setting up a mentoring process and committee to oversee this, so please talk to colleagues and encourage them to apply. We are working with the ABPP Board of Couple & Family Psychology as they review the examination process, our specialization, and issues that come up with ABPP. Not only increasing our numbers of diplomates, we are also taking proactive steps to ensure that those who have diplomates in couple & family psychology also become fellows of the Academy. We now have the largest percentage of members who have indeed paid their dues as fellows this year than in the past several years, but we still are striving for more.

Lastly, as I mentioned in the prior newsletter, another major focus for us is improving the identity and recognition of family psychology nationally and internationally, and enhancing our influence on major policies. We have realized that many training programs which do focus on marital therapy or clinical psychology with a family emphasis do not necessarily identify themselves as family psychologists. We need to change this mentality. This is important for the Affordable Care Act and its implications as we learn more about the changes that will be occurring in reimbursement and treatment. It is also important to ensure that those psychologists who do evaluate or treat family members in a variety of settings, including forensic ones, are indeed trained in family psychology and identify as such. However, this is not always the case. Thus, the Academy will be reviewing possible policies and ways to help ensure that such training and identification is more widely recognized so that psychologists and others untrained in these areas would not be chosen to do this type of treatment or evaluation. This is just one area we hope to have more influence concerning policies in the coming years.

I look forward to an exciting and productive year!! Please let me know if you have concerns or issues that you would like to see the Academy address or focus on.

Take Care,

Bob Geffner, Ph.D., ABN, ABPP, President

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American Board of Professional Psychology



A MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR



Hello American Academy of Couple & Family Psychology members! Welcome to the second issue of the newsletter! This issue recaps the recent the recent changes that have been made to the Bylaws, features our newest board members. In addition, we have included an article honoring fellow AACFP member, Dr. Nadine Kaslow who has been elected APA President for 2013-2014!

On a personal note, I would like to thank Andrew Benjamin, J.D., Ph.D., ABPP, and Martha Ruiz, Psy.D. for all of their time and hard work assisting me with this newsletter. I feel it is an honor to be involved in this prestigious organization. As your newsletter editor, I welcome your articles, photographs, and input to help keep the newsletter entertaining and informative. Please send your information to silverman.rachael@gmail.com.

Happy Reading!

Rachael Silverman, Psy.D.

NEW BYLAWS!

Members of the Academy voted to replace the 1992 version of the Bylaws with the draft forwarded for ratification in August 2013.

Among the changes, the new Bylaws accomplished the following:

- 1) They increased the size of the Board of Directors to include two additional members at-large
- 2) They changed the parliamentary rules to Keesey's Rules from Robert's Rules of Order
- 3) They permitted the Board to establish the limited Task Forces to produce specific recommendations to the Board.

The latest version of the Bylaws are posted at our website. Please feel free to review them!

http://www.familypsych.org/aacfp/academy_bylaws.html

Interested in Board Certification?

Psychologists: If you are interested in board certification in Couple and Family Psychology, I would encourage you to go to <http://www.abpp.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageid=3359> in order to download and review the ABCFP materials.

There are three pathways to demonstrate specialty education, training, and experience, including the Senior Track for individuals with over 15 years of experience who meet specified criteria. Our board is committed to creation of a positive and professional application and examination process. If you decide to pursue board certification, you may have a mentor assigned to assist you through the process, if you so desire.

Clinicians: Involved in educating and training psychology students in a predoctoral or postdoctoral venue that includes a Couple and Family Psychology emphasis, we invite you to consider ABCFP board certification.

Faculty members: In a doctoral program that includes a Couple and Family Psychology track, we encourage you to consider board certification as a demonstration of your competence in the specialty and as part of your modeling of postdoctoral certification. Finally, we encourage you to enlist your students in the ABPP Early Entry Program (see below).

Pre-licensure individuals: Students or recent graduate of a program that included a track or emphasis in Couple and Family Psychology, we encourage you to start the process of progression toward board certification through ABPP at a reduced fee. See information on the Early Entry Program at: <http://www.abpp.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=3299> and start the process now.

We appreciate your interest in board certification in Couple and Family Psychology. Please contact any member of the ABCFP board if you have any questions or concerns about the process. We are happy to respond to your inquiries.

Bob Geffner, Ph.D., ABN, ABPP
President, AACFP
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Don't forget to visit
our Website!
www.familypsych.org

AACFP Board Members 2013-2014

President: Robert Geffner, Ph.D., ABPP, ABN



Founding President, Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute (FVSAI)
 Founding President, Institute on Violence, Abuse, & Trauma (IVAT)
 Distinguished Research Professor, CSPP, Alliant International University
 Co-Chair, National Partnership to End Interpersonal Violence Across the Lifespan (NPEIV)
 President, American Academy of Couple and Family Psychology
 Past President, Trauma Psychology Division, American Psychological Association
 Licensed Psychologist, and Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist
 Diplomate in Clinical Neuropsychology, and Board Certified in Family Psychology

Dr. Geffner is a licensed clinician (Psychologist and Marriage & Family Therapist in California and a Licensed Psychologist in Texas) and directed a full-service private practice mental health clinic in East Texas for over 15 years prior to relocating to California 15 years ago. Dr. Geffner has trained mental health professionals, judges, attorneys, and others for over 28 years. He is President and Founder of a nonprofit international resource and training center (the Family Violence & Sexual Assault Institute in Texas and now in California), the Founding President of the Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma at Alliant International University, a Distinguished Research Professor of Psychology at Alliant International University in San Diego, and editor of five professional journals (including the *Journal of Child Sexual Abuse*, *Journal of Family Violence*, and the *Journal of Child & Adolescent Trauma*; he is also in the process of becoming the editor of the *Journal of Child Custody*). He has a Diplomate in Clinical Neuropsychology from the American Board of Professional Neuropsychology, and is Board Certified in Couple and Family Psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology. He has lectured extensively on the subjects of child abuse, domestic violence, trauma, forensic psychology, child custody, and diagnostic assessment. Dr. Geffner is a past president of the American Psychological Association Division of Trauma Psychology, and he is currently co-chair of the National Partnership to End Interpersonal Violence Across the Lifespan (NPEIV) and president of the American Academy of Couple & Family Psychology. He has served on numerous state, national, and professional committees and task forces concerning family violence, child abuse, interpersonal violence, family law, child custody, and family psychology.

Mailing Address: 3215 Lower Ridge Rd - San Diego, CA 92130 -

Past President and Nominations Chair: Lenore Walker, Ed.D., ABPP



Professor, Nova Southeastern University Center for Psychological Studies
 Independent Practice Walker and Associates, LLC, Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
 Executive Director, Domestic Violence Institute

Dr. Walker is currently a Professor at Nova Southeastern University in the Center for Psychological Studies where she is Coordinator of the Forensic Psychology Concentration in the doctoral program and Director of the Forensic Psychology M.S. Program. She also teaches in the Behavioral Science Track of the Criminal Justice Institute. Dr. Walker earned her Ed.D. degree in psychology from Rutgers, in 1972 and is Board Certified by the American Board of Professional Psychology in Clinical and in Couples and Family Psychology. She pioneered the use of Battered Woman Syndrome in the criminal courts with women who killed their abusers and then adapted the self-defense data to civil and family court matters and broadened it to include impact from other gender violence issues. Author of 20 books and over 50 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters, including three editions of the *Battered Woman Syndrome*, she has trained psychotherapists, forensic psychologists, lawyers, judges, and advocates in numerous countries around the world in assessment and intervention in gender and family violence. She has participated in the trials of several high publicity cases as an expert witness and consultant. Walker together with her students have authored the evidence-based *Survivor Therapy Empowerment Program* (STEP) program, originally designed to work with battered women and now adapted for abused men and children.

Mailing Address: Walker & Associates - 3860 Sheridan Street, Suite A - Hollywood, FL 33021 -

AACFP Board Members 2013-2014

President Elect 2014-2015: Michele Harway, Ph.D., ABPP



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Dr. Harway has been active in APA and psychology professional organizations throughout her professional career. She is currently the Divisional Representative to the APA Council of Representatives from Division 43 (Society for Couples and Family Psychology). She is a Past President of Division 43, Past Treasurer of Division 51 (Men and Masculinity), past Treasurer of the American Board of Couples and Family Psychology (ABPP) and is now the President-Elect of the American Academy of Couples and Family Psychology. A fellow of 4 divisions of APA, she is the author or editor of 12 professional books on gender, couples therapy and interpersonal violence.

Consultant to the AABCFP: Florence Kaslow, Ph.D., ABPP



Board Certified in Clinical, Couple and Family, and Forensic Psychology /
American Board of Professional Psychology

Dr. Kaslow is President, Kaslow Associates, a coaching and consulting firm, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, & Distinguished Visiting Professor, of Psychology, Florida Institute of Technology. Board Certified in Clinical, Family and Forensic Psychology, she is editor or author of 31 books, 60 plus chapters, and over 190 articles; a Past President of the International Family Therapy Association, International Academy of Family Psychology, Divisions of Family Psychology and Media Psychology of American Psychological Association. She is recipient of many professional awards including: APA Award for Distinguished Contributions to International Advancement of Psychology (2000), American Psychological Foundation Gold Medal Award for Life Achievement in the Practice of Psychology (2008). A sought after speaker, she has lectured in over 50 countries, is a Past Editor of Journal of Marital and Family Therapy, and serves on Editorial Boards of numerous U.S. and foreign journals.

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AACFP Board Members 2013-2014



Treasurer: G. Andrew H. Benjamin, J.D., Ph.D., ABPP

Director, Parenting Evaluation/Training Program (PETP)
Affiliate Professor of Law and Clinical Professor of Psychology University of Washington

While working with families engaged in high-conflict litigation and lawyers suffering from various mental health and drug abuse problems, and in various governance positions, Dr. Benjamin has received multiple awards from such groups as the Washington State Bar Association, the Washington State Psychological Association, and the APA.

A Clinical Professor of Psychology and Affiliate Professor of Law at the University of Washington, he has published 59 peer reviewed articles in Psychology, Law, and Psychiatry journals. He is the author of three books published by APA, and one book published by Sage. Two of his lectures about issues related to child custody are posted: <http://www.youtube.com/user/TheFoundation1020?feature=mhee>. More information about him can be obtained at: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/andybenjamin>

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Secretary: Cristopher P. Tobey, Ph.D., ABPP

Director of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at Island Hospital, Anacortes Washington and private practice

Dr. Tobey, ABPP has served as Secretary American Academy of Couple and Family Psychology 2010-present. He is the Director of Psychiatry and Behavioral Health at Island Hospital, Anacortes Washington. He also has a private practice working with couples and families. A major focus of Dr. Tobey's practice is evaluating parents who's children are in a dependency through Child Protective Services (CPS), making recommendations to remedy parenting deficits to develop better parenting skills and safety in the family. Dr. Tobey is licensed in Washington and Hawaii.

Mailing Address: 606 Commercial Ave Ste G Anacortes, WA 98221-1700 (360) 293-1177
cptobey@comcast.net

At-Large Board Members!

Karen J. Prager, Ph.D., ABPP



Dr. Prager is a counseling psychologist by training and a Board-certified couple and family psychologist. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin, where she also received an M.A. in Measurement and Evaluation. She is currently a professor of Psychology and Gender Studies at the University of Texas at Dallas where she has taught for over 30 years. Her current research addresses problems that couples have with conflict and recovery from conflict, with a special focus on strategies couples use to regain their intimate connection after conflict. She is also interested in how couple partners maintain their balance between generosity towards the other and compliance with the other's wishes while also remaining committed to their own personal aims. She has published two books; out in 2013 is *Dilemmas of Intimacy: Conceptions, Assessment, and Intervention* with Routledge Books. With Guilford Press, she published *The Psychology of Intimacy* in 1995. In addition, she has written over 30 articles and book chapters.

Professor of Psychology and Program Head in Gender Studies

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Anthony L. Chambers, Ph.D., ABPP-CFP



Dr. Chambers is the Director of the Couples Therapy Program, Director of the Postdoctoral Fellowship Program in Couple and Family Psychology (CFP), an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychology, a member of the MFT Teaching Faculty, and Staff Psychologist at The Family Institute at Northwestern University. Dr. Chambers received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Virginia, and completed his internship and fellowship at Harvard Medical School & Massachusetts General Hospital. He conducts 35-40 hours of couple therapy per week, engages in scholarly writing, and sits on the board of directors for several journals and professional organizations focused on CFP.

Director of Postdoctoral Clinical & Research Fellowship Programs in

Couple & Family Psychology and Marriage & Family Therapy

Director of Couples Therapy Program & Board Certified Couple and Family Psychologist

Core Faculty of the Graduate Program in Marriage & Family Therapy

Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychology

The Family Institute at Northwestern University

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EXTRA EXTRA READ ALL ABOUT IT!!!

Academy Member Elected President of APA



We are pleased that one of our diplomates from the specialty of couple and family psychology has been elected president of the American Psychological Association for 2014. Nadine J. Kaslow, PhD, was elected to the three-year progressive term from president-elect to president to past-president in 2012 and she will begin her term as president on January 1, 2014. She was elected under her theme of “Uniting Psychology for the Future,” focused on collaborative efforts to shape the discipline of psychology and the American Psychological Association to better serve APA members, upcoming psychologists, and the general public.

Dr. Kaslow serves as professor and Vice Chair for Faculty Development in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Emory University School of Medicine, as well as Chief Psychologist at Grady Memorial Hospital, among other roles. She is board certified in Couple and Family Psychology, Clinical Psychology, and Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology (ABPP). She has held many key leadership roles in psychology, including president of ABPP, chair of the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers, and president of three APA divisions.

In the specialty of Couple and Family Psychology, Dr. Kaslow has demonstrated outstanding leadership, including service as president of the Society for Family Psychology (Division 43) and editor of the *Journal of Family Psychology*, as well as achieving board certification in the specialty. She is the author of numerous peer-reviewed journal articles that relate to couple and family psychology and she received the Division 43 Award for Distinguished Contributions to Family Psychology. It is a pleasure to know that a leader who truly understands the issues and concerns of psychology from a systemic couple and family psychology perspective will serve as the 2014 president of the APA.

Congratulations to Dr. Nadine Kaslow!