REVIEW OF MY AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES FOR 2002

Here is an outline summary of tasks, talks, travels and other events I did last year; some are common basic tasks for all APA presidents, the rest are those that I added to my agenda.

BASIC TASKS (For APA Presidents)
1) Agenda Planning and Meeting Leadership
   Board of Directors Meetings (eight in 2002, usually six)
   Council of Representatives Meetings (two)
   National Convention

2) Social Activities Planning for Two Board Retreats, and Consolidated Meeting
   (consisting of all Boards, Committees, & some Task Forces)

3) Answering Many E-Mails, Letters, Phone Calls, Conference Calls
   Re APA-Related Matters

4) Attending Meetings of APA-Related Organizations, Giving Greetings, Lectures, and Workshops
   CSSP (2) COUNCIL OF SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY PRESIDENTS
   (Elected to 2003 Board)
   PER (2) PSYCHOLOGY EXECUTIVES ROUNDTABLE
   BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS, Conference on “Changing Demographics in the United States”
   SLC, STATE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE,
   ELC, EDUCATION LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE,
   DLC, DIVISION LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE,
   CONSOLIDATED MEETINGS OF BOARDS AND COMMITTEES
   NEW YORK STATE PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOC., Keynote Address
   HAWAII PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOC., Keynote Address & Workshop
   CALIFORNIA PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOC., Keynote Address & Workshop (Will receive Life Time Achievement Award)
   ARIZONA STATE PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOC., Workshop
   IAAP (International Assoc. Applied Psych.), Singapore, Keynote Address
   NIDRR, NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF DISABILITY RESEARCH AND REHABILITATION, Keynote Address
   National Conference on Research Ethics (PMR&I), Keynote Address

5) Writing Monthly Presidential Columns in Monitor on APA

6) Awarding Presidential Citations and Commendations (see attached list)

7) Planning Annual Convention:
Assisting Board of Convention Affairs and Central Office Special Projects Staff in Planning Many Convention Programs and Activities
   Met with BCA, Convention Manager, New Cluster Chairs, Judy Strassburger (and her staff) many times
   Organized 10 Presidential Track Speakers (usual task for Presidents);
   Organized 18 Plenary Programs (selected topics, chair and speakers)
CONVENTION (continued)

   Organized 2 Evening Programs (first time at the convention)
   Organized Opening and Closing Ceremonies (worked directly with Second City Writers Preparing Psychology Skits)
   Introduced ‘Food for Thought”: APAGS-Organized Meals with Students and Presenters
   Introduced “The Mentor Tradition”, Four Prominent Psychologists interviewed by their Distinguished Students
   Arranged for Presentations by High Profile, Non-Psychologists
   Hosted Lunches with:
   Inter American Psychologists; Media and Psychology Panelists, TOPPS student prize winners
   Hosted Reception for Minority Students
   On Program 15 Times

8) Directing New Presidential Initiative:
   Creating a web-based Compendium of research demonstrating how “Psychology Makes a Significant Difference” in our lives.
   Organized task force to evaluate and expand the base set of items on our site.
   www.apa.org/science/research/compendium

9) Developing initiative for APA- published High School psychology textbook – delayed until funding obtained from NSF.

10) Oral History of APA Presidents:
    Contributed half dozen hours of conversation with APA Historian, Wade Pickren

SPECIAL TASKS (New Activities or Modifications of Standard Tasks)

11) New Chief Executive Officer Selection:
    Overall Leadership of CEO Search
    Negotiation of incoming CEO contract
    Negotiation of outgoing CEO termination package

12) Heading Task Force on Structure and Function of American Psychologist
    (Established by Dr. Johnson), results reported in special issue of AP.

13) COUNCIL of REPRESENTATIVES:
    Added ‘Open Microphone’ Hours, Encouraged Members to Go Beyond Agenda to Think of New Visions, Encouraged New Timers to Speak More, and ‘Mike Hogs’ to Speak Less, added Organized Stretch Breaks, Entertainment at Lunch,
Introduced “Changing Demographics” Presentation at Lunch, Reduced Number of Meeting Hours During the Convention Summer Meeting
Supported: *Passage of Revised Ethics Code;
    *APAGS Student Representation on Council (voting) & Board (non-voting);
    **“Education” term added to APA’s Mission Statement;
    *Formation of Council Task Force on Governance;
    *Proposals to Increase Diversity Representation;

14) PRESCRIPTION PRIVILEGES:
Supported New Mexico State Psychological Association’s Successful Efforts, Sent letters of support to its members, to Governor, and frequent E-mail exchanges with NMSPA leadership

15) CONGRESSIONAL VISITS:
Met personally with Senator Inouye and Representative Baird, Also with staffs of California Congresspersons -- Feinstein, Pelosi, Boxer, Eschoo And with Condi Rice’s Security Advisors, House Appropriations Staff, Breakfasts with Senate and House Science Deputies and staff (group setting organized by CSSP), Scheduled to meet with Sen. Hillary Clinton and Rep. Nancy Pelosi in early 2003. Met with APA Congressional Fellows, and with APA-Public Policy staffers, Ellen Garrison, Geoffrey Mumford, Susan Brandon and others Opened the Congressional Briefing on Child Abuse

16) UNITY of Science and Practice:
Developed Shyness Brochure and Therapist “Niche Guide” for Div. 42, Practicing Psychologists, and distributed also as part of public education, and on APA web site (with collaboration of Dr. L. Henderson and Dr. E. Rodino).

17) DIVERSITY of Membership and Leadership within APA:
Obtained grant from American Psychological Foundation for minority student fellowships to attend National Multi-Cultural Summit Conference (2003), attended 2ndNMCS, will present at 3rd conference. Provided Hospitality Suite for minority students (at San Francisco Convention) and Reception (Chicago Convention) from my Presidential stipends.

18) INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY:
Gave Invited Lectures, Keynote Addresses at Caracas (SIP), Stockholm (ICP), London (European Congress of Psychology); Singapore (IAAP); Berlin (German Psych Assoc.), Acapulco (Mexican Psych Assoc.), Rome & Milan (Italian educational associations). Inter American Psychology: Arranged plenary session at Chicago Convention, met with psychology leaders from different Latin American countries, established an email network for sharing ideas, will co-edit special section of AP on contributions of Latin American Psychology. Made congratulatory video to commemorate the 50th anniversary of SIP (Society of InterAmerican Psychology).
19) ADDITIONAL LECTURES:
American Psychiatric Association; Positive Psychology Conference, Western Psychological Assoc.; Society of Personality & Social Psych; Alliant University, Tufts University; Stanford Alumni Clubs (Philadelphia, Boston, DC, and soon NYC, L.A.)
20) Encouraging collaboration between APA-APS (American Psychological Society):
Cooperation around issues of mutual concern and value, among them, High School Psychology Science Fairs, and the Compendium of Significant Differences. Met with CEO Alan Kraut, and also Bd. of Directors, communications with Presidents, John Darley, Susan Fiske, and Roddy Rodiger.

21) ETHICS:
Keynote Address to National Conference on Research Ethics (PRIM&R), San Diego (Audience of more than 2,400);
Support of APA New Ethics Code Revision, and Commendation to Celia Fisher, for her key organizational role in this effort.

22) EDUCATION:
STAFF BASIC PSYCHOLOGY SEMINAR: Gave a dozen presentations of lectures and discussions based around my PBS-TV video series, Discovering Psychology, to help educate staff about content of psychology High attendance and interest during these 90 minute lunch sessions (between 50-100 APA workers). Also offered as a token of respect by a leader of governance for the many services of these various staff members to Psychology.

Ribbon-Cutting to Open New Laboratory for Animal Psychological Research, and lecture at Walt Whitman H.S., Bethesda, Md.
Seminar at APA Office for Walter Reed Hospital Student Residents of Officer/ Psychologist Debra Dunivin

Wine and Cheese Tasting Receptions for Senior Staff, to educate them about California and Italian wines

23) MEDIA:
Keynote address in workshop on Media and the Social Sciences by The Federation of Cognitive, Behavioral, & Social Sciences, and APA Discovering Psychology PBS –TV video series, Updated Edition in 2001 (Emmy award winner as host for Educational Television);
NBC-TV Psychological consultant (Prepared one new Pilot Program, Only Human; negotiating to have APA distribute their Dateline videos on Psychology topics; advising on other programming; consulting on documentary of the Stanford Prison Experiment, expect Feb/March airing); Interviews with NPR, BBC-TV; Spiegel German TV;
Div. 39 Media Achievement Award
Received Carl Sagan Award from CSSP: Promoting Public Understanding and Appreciation of Science.
24) TERRORISM:
Support of Dr. Ron Levant’s Task Forces on Terrorism and Resilience
Met with a group of NYC therapists doing pro bono treatment for survivors and families of 9/11 attack on World Trade Center
Met with Brooklyn Heights Station fire fighters and Head of Mental Health services for NYC Fire Dept. (gave Presidential Citation to one of these heroes)
Letters to clergy of 15 major religions in U.S. about APA resources available to them and to support for their counseling efforts following 9/11 terrorist attacks.
CSSP Science-Terrorism Briefing: Told President’s Science Advisor, Dr. John Marburger and Colin Powell’s science advisor of the central roles of Psychology in understanding and combating terrorism, not just “hard science” and technology (Marburger later reported in a public speech that social sciences were important in the war on terrorism).
Wrote several Op Ed essays in S.F. Chronicle, and Monitor columns related to terrorism issues.
Keynote lecture on Evil and Terrorism, Louisiana State U. Health Sciences Center.
Organized four APA Convention Plenary sessions on themes related to Terrorism.
Conferred with CIA, FBI, and DARPA staff about possible research projects.
Co-Founded National Center for Disaster Psychology and Terrorism (NCDPT), helped organize its first conference (Oct. 2002). Center supporters are from the Palo Alto and SF VA, Stanford Psychology and Psychiatry Departments, Pacific Graduate School of Psychology, S.F. Temple Emanuel, and others. The Center will focus its efforts on human-induced disasters, training of a national mental health services corps, research, public education and prevention programs. Expect to work with the Surgeon General’s office and Veteran’s Administration.

25) TASK FORCE ON EXTERNAL FUNDING OF APA:
Encouraged Board of Directors to enable me to form a task force to explore establishing guidelines, standards, and procedures to minimize potential negative impact to APA of anticipated high levels of funding by pharmaceutical companies and other corporate entities.

24) PUBLICATIONS (2002):
Published several AP articles, Division Newsletter articles, Newspaper Essays, 10 Professional articles published/in press;
3 books published (2 textbook revisions, 1 new scholarly book on Violence Workers: Torturers and Death Squad Executioners in Brazil).

25) CONTINUING ACTIVITIES:
Co-directing, consulting role with The Shyness Clinic and The Shyness Institute in Palo Alto (www.shyness.com)
Invited lectures in various Stanford Psychology courses and to the Stanford Undergraduate Psychology Association (SUPA).
Personally answering the 50-100 emails received daily (unrelated to APA)
Heartfelt thanks go to my primary mentors at APA: Ray Fowler (CEO), Judy Strassburger (Exec. Dir. Governance Affairs), and Pat DeLeon (Past President).

In addition, I was enormously helped by becoming a consulting project of APA Division 13, Consulting Psychology, designed to improve my organizational leadership skills. I benefited from that instruction by Rodney Lowman and Sandra Foster, but especially from David Brewer, who tutored me up close and personal for more than a year, pro-bono, for love of his profession and of APA.

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