

Association of Physician Assistant Programs

Draft minutes of the Semi-Annual Meeting held on November 7, 1973, in Washington, D.C.

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Piemme at 4:30 p.m. He reported that the Association of Physician Assistant Programs has received a favorable ruling from the Internal Revenue Service relating to its 501(c)(3) tax status. This will allow the Association to accept foundation funds to establish a National Executive Office.

The Association has received grants from The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the van Ameringen Foundation and the Ittleson Family Foundation totaling \$195,000.

The American Academy of Physician's Assistants has been declared ineligible for 501(c)(3) status, therefore, they will not be able to administer the National Executive Office funds jointly as originally conceived. However, the Academy will move to develop a non-profit tax-exempt foundation which could work as a joint sponsor of the National Executive Office. The Association will continue to work informally with the Academy on many matters, and we all look forward to doing so.

Sites in Washington are being explored for the National Executive Office. A search committee for the Executive Director has interviewed a number of candidates. The committee of Drs. Piemme, Sadler, and Mr. Stanhope and the committee from the Academy have agreed to recommend that Dr. Donald W. Fisher of the University of Mississippi be selected. The Executive Committee of APAP approved of that idea. A motion was made and seconded that Dr. Fisher be appointed Executive Director of the Association of Physician Assistant Programs. This motion was unanimously adopted.

Dr. Piemme reviewed the latest appeal to the Joint Review Committee and the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association made by APAP to participate in their deliberations of approval of Physician Assistant programs. A response was received this past summer indicating that the Association would not be recognized as a participant organization. Individual Physician Assistants have been recognized. William Stanhope, Steve Turnipseed and Gail Speare are now serving on the Joint Review Committee.

The Executive Committee of the Association learned that the Physician Assistant program at Indiana was rejected by the Joint Review Committee. This caused considerable surprise because the site visit team recommended approval of the program indicating that the site visit team's recommendations were overruled by the Joint Review Committee. Dr. Piemme reported that he has written a letter to Mac Detmer of the AMA asking for clarification of this. Dr. Piemme has also learned that the AMA Council on Medical Education plans to apply to the Office of Education or DHEW in December for recognition as the accrediting agency for programs training Assistants to the Primary Care Physician. Dr. Piemme noted that the site visit process has improved considerably as a result of APAP prodding and that program representatives were now being asked to participate on site visit teams.

Dr. Piemme reviewed the details of the National Certification Examination for the Assistant to the Primary Care Physician being offered on December 12, 1973, by the National Board of Medical Examiners. In contrast to the approval of training programs, the National Board has brought in a number of people actively

involved in Physician Assistant training, Physician Assistant practice and Physician Assistant supervision. An examination review course was held in Washington during the past two days which was highly successful and was attended by a substantial number of Physician Assistants. Additional courses will be held at Hahnemann and Duke.

A special subcommittee of the National Board will be established to evaluate the results of the exam in January, 1974. A pass/fail level will be determined at that time.

Dr. Piemme pointed out that 27 programs are now members of the Association. Three applications are pending. He reported on receiving a letter from the Council of Medex Programs (Dr. David Lawrence) indicating their desire to join as long as they could share actively in the decision making process. APAP looks forward to welcoming the Medex programs into the organization.

Over the course of the last year, several programs that have not been established in medical schools have surfaced the issue of the appropriate affiliation for Physician Assistant programs and academic health centers. Dr. Piemme expressed the concern that we not repeat the mistakes of medical education in the early 1900's and asks for rigorous yet flexible standards in this area. This issue was discussed at the recent meeting of the Executive Committee of APAP and Dr. Robert Jewett agreed to draft a position paper to define the proper role of the academic health center in Physician Assistant training. Dr. Jewett asked that people send him suggestions on this subject. Dr. Piemme announced that after the position paper is completed it would be submitted to the full membership in April at the next annual meeting.

It was noted that some minor changes were needed in the By-laws. Dr. Piemme pointed out that the attorney in Washington who has advised APAP on the IRS classification argued that there should be no new changes made by the Association in By-laws at this time but be made in time for the April meeting. By-laws were rewritten by attorney E. Michael Paturis of Reasoner, Davis and Vinson so that they would conform with IRS requirements. Dr. Piemme asks that anyone interested in recommending By-law changes should send them in to him.

A motion was made and passed unanimously that attorney Paturis be retained for future legal work relating to tax matters.

It no longer seems appropriate for APAP to be associated with the American Registry of Physician Assistants. Dr. Piemme, with the concurrence of the Executive Committee, recommended that the Registry be turned over to the Academy so that the Physician Assistant profession itself could take over the registration of practicing Physician Assistants. We must continue to operate under the current By-laws until a new set can be drafted. He, therefore, recommended election of new officers who in turn would rewrite the By-laws and establish their own organization. A motion was made and adopted unanimously that a new election of officers take place and that the new officers rewrite the By-laws.

The minutes of the April annual meeting were accepted as circulated. The minutes of the Special meeting of the Association were accepted as corrected. Mercy College of Detroit asked that the name of their school be added to the list of schools which voted by proxy to approve the By-laws. The Treasurer's report was circulated. A motion was made and adopted to accept the Treasurer's report.

Dr. Barbara Andrew representing the National Board of Medical Examiners responded to questions concerning the Physician Assistant certifying exam. She

stated that 880 individuals had registered for the December 12 exam which would be given at up to 45 test sites across the United States. She stated that the scores by name would go only to the candidates themselves. A profile summary of graduates would be sent to a program. Results will not be sent elsewhere unless a candidate requests so in writing. The second exam will be given sometime in the fall of 1974.

Mr. Mac Detmer of the American Medical Association was asked to comment on program approval of the AMA. He pointed out that the Joint Review Committee has representative Physician Assistant educators including Bill Stanhope, Steve Turnipseed, Katherine Anderson, Malcolm Peterson and Lawrence Kahn.

Dr. Sadler reported on a meeting with Mr. Stuart Altman who is Deputy Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation and his associate Mr. Stan Wallick, which was held on Tuesday morning, November 6, concerning the reimbursement of physician assistant's services under Medicare. Mr. Altman reported that a Request for Proposal was issued a week ago asking for a four-month study to determine the most efficient reimbursement level. He indicated that HEW would look very favorably on the Association of Physician Assistant Programs being involved in working with any of the groups who wish to do the study. He felt that Association input would greatly strengthen the proposal and suggested we could either collaborate with one of the competing groups or wait until one of the groups had been chosen and then serve as a consultant to them.

The HEW planning office is currently drafting legislation recommending that Physician Assistant services be reimbursable under Medicare. The legislation would specify that the Secretary's office of HEW be given authority to decide on the appropriate mechanism.

The Selection Committee chaired by William Stanhope reported that April 15 has been reaffirmed as the uniform selection date for applicants for Physician Assistant programs. Candidates should reply to programs before May 3. The question of regional interviews of candidates was discussed and left on a voluntary basis. His report was adopted as Association policy by unanimous vote.

The Evaluation Committee under Mrs. Greenberg reported on the survey in Massachusetts which asked physicians about their interest in hiring Physician Assistants. The study was circulated to all present. Individuals from Georgia, Pennsylvania, Texas, Oklahoma, Washington, D. C., and North Carolina indicated that they were interested in doing similar studies. It was also agreed that a graduate mobility study is needed since we do not have adequate information concerning where graduates are currently located in practice. It was agreed that the Association and the Academy would work with Richard Scheffler of the University of North Carolina in such an endeavor.

The Time and Place Committee under William Stanhope reported that dates had been selected for the Second Annual Conference on New Health Practitioners. The dates are March 27 - 29, 1974, in New Orleans. The 1975 meeting will be held during the first week in April in St. Louis, and in 1976, during the last week in March in Atlanta.

The Program Admissions Committee, chaired by Mrs. Greenberg, reported that they recommended approval of the Hahnemann, St. Louis University, and Touro College applications. All were voted into APAP unanimously, bringing the total to 30 programs.

A special Nominating Committee chaired by Dr. Sadler (including Dr. Jewett and Dr. Carter) reported on the problem of filling the vacancy for Dr. Charles Mullican who will resign as President-Elect in January, 1974. Dr. Sadler stated that because only a few months remained before the election of a full new slate of officers in March, his committee recommended that a President-Elect not be selected at this time. This would give representatives of new programs coming in the greatest opportunity to be represented. This recommendation was accepted by the membership.

Bill Stanhope reported on the newsletter which he developed as an attempt to improve communications among programs. The membership felt that this was an extremely useful device. Mr. Stanhope asked for information that program people wish to have distributed. The National Executive Office will take over the running of the newsletter when it opens in several months.

The proposal by the American Medical Association to establish a National Commission on Certification of the Primary Care Physician's Assistant was discussed. Dr. Piemme reviewed the fact that there was strong sentiment against this idea. Dr. Sadler reported that the National Board of Medical Examiners at its most recent Advisory Committee meeting was quite concerned about the directions that this Commission might take. A planning meeting will be held by the AMA on November 28 in Chicago at which Dr. Piemme will represent the Association. Mr. Paul Moson will be representing the Academy. A motion was moved and adopted that APAP oppose the interposition of any new group between the National Board of Medical Examiners and State licensure bodies. This motion carried with two negative votes. Dr. Piemme said that he would keep the membership closely informed with this development.

A program committee to establish the agenda for the Second Annual meeting was established with Dr. Jack Ott, Dr. Archie Golden, and Bill Stanhope as members.

Dr. Don Detmer, editor of the Physician Assistant Journal, reported on progress in the Journal and asked that people who had articles of interest to the Physician Assistant profession be sure to submit them to him. He praised his editorial board for doing an outstanding job.

Dr. Donald Fisher was introduced. He gave a brief statement concerning his interest in taking the job as Executive Director of the National Office. He expressed considerable enthusiasm for the role and looks forward to carrying out the activities. He will come to Washington full-time in May of 1974. In the interim, he will be in Washington one or two days a week while he finishes up his commitment at the University of Mississippi.

Mrs. Greenberg indicated that the Secretary's office would prepare an updated list of programs and addresses as a result of a request from the membership.

Dr. David Lewis indicated that there were a lot of job opportunities for Physician Assistants in Florida if any senior students or graduates were interested. They should contact him directly.

A list of attendees is attached.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Alfred M. Sadler, Jr.

Suzanne B. Greenberg

Attendance List

David Major, M.D.	Hahnemann
Franklin E. Williams	"
Evelyn Major	"
V. J. Valgora	Wichita State University
Rex Montgomery	University of Iowa
Mike McCally	George Washington University
Tom Godkins	Oklahoma
Dave Lewis	University of Florida
Reginald Carter	Duke
Archie Golden	Johns Hopkins
Byron Willin	University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston
Donn Bosshart	"
Hu C. Myers	Alderson-Broadbudds College
Richard Scheffler	Econ. Dept., University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Dan Fox	Indiana
F. L. Schoen, M.D.	"
Karen S. Wampler	"
Jerry Wise	"
Don W. Fisher, Ph.D.	University of Mississippi Medical Center
David L. Glazer	Emory
John C. Delahunt	Health Service Center at Dallas
Kevin R. Sorem	George Washington University
Steven Turnipseed	S.A.H.P., Stony Brook, New York
Rogers T. Anderson	Johns Hopkins
Richard K. Tworek	Albany-Hudson Valley PAP
John N. Bennett	Community Health Medic, Gallup, N. M.
Darlene Jelinek, R.N., F.N.P.	" "
William A. Odegard, M.D.	" "
Thomas F. Johnson, Ph.D.	Howard University
Ivor H. Harewood, M.D.	Charles R. Drew Postgraduate Medical School - MEDEX
A. W. Horsley, M.D.	University of Iowa
Deborah Cestnik	University of Alabama in Birmingham
Alfred M. Sadler	R. W. Johnson Foundation
Bill Stanhope	Oklahoma
Robert E. Jewett, M.D.	Emory
Tom Piemme	George Washington University
Harriet Gales	Mercy
Robert Levine	Yale
Paul Moson	Yale - Academy
Suzanne B. Greenberg	Northeastern University
D. Detmer	University of Wisconsin
L. M. Detmer	American Medical Association
Barbara Andrew	NBME
Susan Horowitz	BHME
Margaret Kirklín	University of Alabama, SA Program

Note-Not all those present signed an attendance list. If your name has been omitted from the above list, would you contact the Secretary and it will be included in a revised list at a later date.

The Minutes of the Meeting of The American Registry of Physician's Associates

November 7, 1973

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Piemme, President of the Registry at 6:26 p.m. The Executive Committee recommended the following slate of officers:

President - William Stanhope
Vice President - Steven Turnipseed
Secretary - Jeff Heinrich
Treasurer - Gail Spears
5th member of the Executive Committee - Steven Joyner

There were no further nominations, and the slate was elected unanimously.

The Registry meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Suzanne B. Greenberg
Suzanne B. Greenberg

ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAMS

Robinson 202
Northeastern University
Boston, Massachusetts 02115

Telephone (617) 437-3195

November 28, 1973

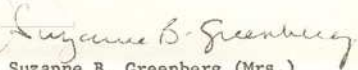
Dear Colleague:

We are enclosing one questionnaire for your program and an additional one for the Sociology or Psychology Department of your University or a related one which may be engaged in research on Physician Extenders. We would appreciate receiving the completed questionnaires in this office at your earliest convenience.

The questionnaire has been developed to compile an annotated bibliography of all research that has been done (and is being done) in the field in order to cut down on the number of inquiries we all receive.

We look forward to hearing from you and will be glad to send you a copy of the bibliography which we expect will be completed by early February, 1974.

Sincerely yours,


Suzanne B. Greenberg (Mrs.)
Chairman, Evaluation Committee

SBG/ms
Enc.