

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

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I had no idea at the fall meeting of A.P.A.P. in Washington, D.C. that National and Program P.A. activities could be as forever changing and exciting as they are today. Since the fall meeting, the National Office has wasted no time in preparing for the activities of the upcoming year. Approximately 1950 square feet of office space has been leased in Suite 210 of the Gelman Building, 2120 L. Street, Washington, D. C., 20037. The furniture has been ordered and we should be in full operation in May.

Assisting me during this formative period is a most capable individual, Mr. Denny Radifeld. Denny is affiliated with George Washington University Medical Center and is employed by the National Office in a part-time capacity as my administrative assistant.

Some time ago, the National Office and the American Academy of Physicians' Assistants worked with our attorney in preparing the necessary documents to file for tax exempt status (501C-3) for the Academy. This has been submitted and we are now awaiting I.R.S. final decision. Again, the Academy, with some National Office input, submitted a manpower study to the U.S. Department of Labor. We expect this proposal to receive funding in the later part of the final quarter of this fiscal year.

Currently, the National Office is actively working with several medical organizations in developing the National Commission on Certification of Physicians' Assistants and also in laying groundwork for generic accreditation for physicians' assistant programs. Since these activities are germane to the livelihood of physicians' assistants, it is the position of the National Office to support and endorse them both. At the Second Annual Conference in New Orleans you will have an opportunity to address these activities.

As Executive Director of the National Office, I believe that A.P.A.P. and A.A.P.A. must be available to assist you and your program in meeting your needs and objectives. We must provide the necessary leadership to encourage all P.A.'s and P.A. programs to support their organization, as well as provide meaningful service to our membership.

We would like to hear from you. We would like to meet your needs, and only with your help and your willingness to communicate with the National Office will we be able to provide leadership necessary to keep our association one of which you and I will be very proud. Do yourself a favor---communicate with your National Office. See you in New Orleans!!

Association of Physician Assistant Programs

Executive Committee Meeting

October 12, 1973

The meeting of the Executive Committee was called to order by the President, Dr. Piemme, at 10:25 a.m. All members of the Executive Committee were present (Greenberg, Jewett, Mullican, Piemme, Sadler, Stanhope).

The minutes of the last meeting were approved as mailed.

The treasurer's report was accepted as presented (Addendum I).

Dr. Piemme mentioned that there will be a bill of approximately \$1,200 for legal services to date.

It was voted that activities incurred by the Executive Committee in behalf of the Association would be reimbursed by the Association if approved by the President and if no other resource were available.

Colonel Mullican distributed a draft of his committee's proposed By-laws revision. Discussion on the proposed By-laws was postponed until the Special meeting.

Mrs. Greenberg reported on the activities of the Evaluation Committee (Addendum II and III). There was a great deal of discussion of the meaning of the Survey results and it was agreed that Mrs. Greenberg would prepare an article for publication in the Physician Assistant journal, adding information on percent of responses by specialties and geographic distribution. The committee will meet again on the 19th. A report with recommendations will be presented to the Association meeting on November 7.

The Survey results elicited discussion by Committee members regarding the relationship of physician assistants to Residents in Family Practice. Some programs have encountered difficulty in this area as Residents became aware of the abilities of the physician assistants. Others had not observed any conflict in the area to date, but felt they should be alert to possible problems.

Dr. Sadler raised the issue of whether it was feasible to train Family Practitioners and Physician Assistants. It was felt that further discussion on this subject might be warranted at a later date.

Mr. Stanhope reported that the Committee on Selection Criteria will meet in St. Louis on October 26. He has conducted a survey of the admission policies of all programs. Mr. Cipriano, of the Medex Communication Center, is putting together a summary of the survey for the meeting on the 26th. Mr. Stanhope plans to divide the group into two committees - one to discuss the process of selection and one on evaluation of the outcome of selection criteria. He will make a report to the Association on November 7.

Mrs. Greenberg presented the three applications for membership which she had received since the last meeting. It was voted to recommend to the membership that Touro College be approved for a one year period - Dr. Piemme will write to them about the Association's concern in regard to

its relationship with a medical school teaching base and the nature of the preceptorship experience. It was voted to propose to the membership that the St. Louis program be accepted, pending documentation of their didactic and clinical curriculum. It was voted to recommend to the November meeting approval of the Hahnemann program.

The discussion of the program applications raised the issue of Association goals. Issues such as the proliferation of programs, quality, type of training were all areas which the members felt needed further discussion. It was decided to draft an Association position paper on the objectives of physician assistant training, and the requirements of institutions which would be engaged in such training. Dr. Jewett agreed to accept responsibility for this effort.

Dr. Piemme had received inquiries about joining from two specialty programs, the University of Oregon Medical School and Division of Urology at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center. An application was sent to the latter, but no further word has been heard from them. Mrs. Greenberg will send an application to the University of Oregon.

Mr. Stanhope reported on the site committee activities. It was moved and seconded to hold the Annual Meeting in New Orleans from March 27-30, 1974, in St. Louis from April 9-12, 1975, and in Atlanta from April 7-10, 1976. The vote was unanimous in favor of the sites and dates named.

Colonel Mullican reported on the finances of the conference in Wichita Falls in April of 1973 (Addendum IV). It was voted to place the remaining money \$2,943 in a special interest account to be used as seed money for the next annual meeting.

Dr. Piemme appointed two members to the Program Committee for the Second Annual Conference on New Health Practitioners to be held in New Orleans. (Jack Ott and Bill Stanhope). Mr. Moson had joined the group shortly before as a guest and agreed to appoint two Academy members to work with the Association members on a program for the Annual meeting. Colonel Mullican handed over the mailing list from the past meeting to Mr. Stanhope. Suggestions on program content should be sent to Mr. Stanhope.

Dr. Piemme reviewed the Foundation correspondence to date. Three foundations, including Robert Wood Johnson, have agreed to help fund a National Office pending a decision by the Internal Revenue Service on the tax status of the organization. Because of legal restrictions it is necessary to have more than one foundation supporting such a project.

Dr. Piemme reported on his extensive discussions and correspondence with the Internal Revenue Service. It is his and the attorney's considered opinion that a favorable decision will be forthcoming (probably in about one month's time) after the submission of the revised By-laws. It was the consensus of the group that Dr. Piemme should be congratulated for his patience and tact in dealing with the written requests of the Internal Revenue Service.

Dr. Piemme will discuss the issue of the tax return for the Registry with the attorney and advise the Treasurer of what needs to be done. Because of the large amount of legal consultation needed, particularly at this state of the Association's development, it was moved, seconded and voted to retain

a lawyer for Association business.

Dr. David Lawrence (Medex-Seattle) on the invitation of the President joined the meeting at this time.

Dr. Piemme presented the abstracts and/or papers selected for the Association of American Medical Colleges Scientific meeting. The Committee expressed approval of the selection and thanked the Program Selection Committee for its work.

Discussion was then raised as to the lack of participation on the Joint Review Committee of the American Medical Association in regard to program approval. The Committee members were particularly concerned because of the disapproval of the Indiana program. One of the Committee members had been a site visitor and assured the group, that although it had some recommendations for improvement of program, the site visit team had recommended approval of the program and Dr. Sadler for one had been surprised to discover that the program had been disapproved. This raised the question of how the Joint Review Committee could evaluate a program it hadn't visited and reverse the site visitors recommendations. It was voted that Dr. Piemme write a letter to the American Medical Association expressing regret at the disapproval of the Indiana program and asking on what basis such a decision is made by the Joint Review Committee when it is contrary to the site visitors' report. He will also request once again Association impact on the Joint Review Board.

It was pointed out that the Office of Education has not yet acted on the American Medical Associations request to be appointed the approving body for primary care physician assistant programs.

Dr. Jewett raised the issue of the decision of the American Medical Association not to accept the request of the American College of Surgeons to have their essentials for surgical assistants run through the same process as those for the Assistant to the Primary Care physician.

Discussion ensued on the role of the Association of American Medical Colleges in the accreditation process. There was a great deal of discussion about their concept that all programs must have an affiliation with a Medical School in order to be eligible for approval. While no decision or recommendations were made in this regard, there was some feeling that this requirement might be a reasonable one to ensure that programs do not proliferate indiscriminately and that there be quality medical teaching in all programs.

The National Board of Medical Examiner's December 12 examination for physician assistants who are graduates of certain types of programs was discussed at length. Dr. Sadler stated that it was impossible for the committees to draft an examination in the time allotted to them which dealt with interpersonal skills and psychomotor skills as well as cognitive ones. Consequently, it was the decision of the Board and its committee not to attempt the first two areas and to concentrate on the third. Unfortunately, due to time and perhaps other constraints, no pretest of the examination has taken place. Dr. Lawrence explained that the Medex programs were very concerned about the test format and were concerned that it might only test one's

ability to take a test rather than the ability to work as a Medex or physician assistant. They have encouraged their graduates to take the test. However, they are concerned about the interpretation of the results of the examination and the dissemination of the test scores. Apparently, the American Medical Association has requested that the results be released to them also. The Committee and its guest were utterly opposed to this and it was agreed that Dr. Piemme would write a letter to Dr. Hubbard of the National Board of Medical Examiners regarding dissemination of the examination results. Discussion also ensued as to whether program directors should also write to the Board. It was felt that the Board has been quite firm about releasing the information to anyone beside the Medical Schools and individuals in regard to the Medical Boards and, therefore, it was decided to wait to see what Dr. Hubbard's response would be. All present felt it would be wrong to release the results to State Boards of Medical Examiners or other Boards approving physician assistants and Medex without indicating the experimental nature of the examination.

Dr. Sadler discussed the current National Board of Medical Examiners thinking on future eligibility for examination so that it might include persons who had received on-the-job training either in service or civilian life. It was apparent that this was a very difficult issue and that much thought was being put into the issue. Tentative criteria, such as four years of experience, appropriate function list, performance of duties within past year, are items being considered.

To date the National Board of Medical Examiners have received applications from about 650 persons.

It was decided that Dr. Piemme would write to Dr. Hubbard expressing the Committees concerns and requesting that a decision on the scores be made after the test results were in, as Dr. Sadler has indicated was the feeling of the Board. It was felt that on no conditions should the scores be released to the American Medical Association, only to program directors and the individual who took the examination. It is planned to discuss this further at the November meeting after contact has been made with the National Board of Medical Examiners.

The meeting was temporarily adjourned at 3:30 p.m. to allow for a special meeting of the Association to vote on the Revised By-laws. Eighteen members were present, either by proxy or in person. The By-laws were adopted as presented. However, several areas were flagged for future revisions. Article V, Section 2, Article IX, Section 2B relating to dues, and Article VI, Section 2. It was felt that the last part of the sentence could be deleted. It was also felt there should be some change in the section on guidelines for curriculum. (Article IV, Section G, paragraphs 1, 2 and 6). An additional phrase might be appropriate so that Medex programs can clearly be eligible. It also became clear that no provision for appointment of a nominating committee has been made and should be included. The Executive Committee was reconvened at 4:00 p.m.

Colonel Mullican had sent a letter of resignation as President-Elect because he will be leaving the service in January to go into private practice. His resignation was accepted with deep regret.

Dr. Piemme appointed a Nominating Committee to nominate a Candidate for President-Elect to be presented to the November 7 meeting of the Association. The Committee, chaired by Dr. Sadler, includes Dr. Jewett and Dr. Carter. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor and Mr. Stanhope will so note in the next edition of the Newsletter.

Discussion of the reimbursement for physician assistant services was discussed informally with Stuart Altman at a meeting in Idaho, earlier this year. An RFP (request for proposal) will go out shortly. Dr. Jewett felt that a business management consultant could be of help in looking at this issue. He has been impressed by one who is working with the Emory program and will discuss the matter with him. It was decided to try to set up a meeting with Mr. Altman immediately preceding the November 7 meeting (preferably Tuesday p.m.) to discuss the matter.

Discussion of the proposed National Commission on Certification as proposed by the American Medical Association followed. There was concern about the composition of the commission and a question of its sponsorship. Mr. Moson and Dr. Piemme have been invited as observers. It was agreed to continue a dialogue with the group but take no other action at this time.

It was decided that the Registry no longer be a subsidiary of the Association. The Registry will be self-sufficient and should elect its own set of officers as it sees fit.

The Mississippi program has met opposition from the medical school following a speech before the Medical Society by the past president of the American Medical Association. Since Mrs. Greenberg will be seeing Dr. Fisher this coming week, she will find out the current status and ask if there is any way which the Association can be of help to the program.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Suzanne B. Greenberg, Secretary

ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAMS

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Boston, Massachusetts 02115

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SPECIAL MEETING

October 12, 1973

A special meeting of the Association of Physician Assistant Programs was called for the express purpose of voting on the Revised By-laws mailed to the member programs thirty days prior. Eighteen of the twenty-five programs were represented, either in person or by proxy.

Dr. Piemme, President of the Association of Physician Assistant Programs, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The revised By-laws were presented as mailed. It was moved and seconded to approve the By-laws as presented. Dr. Piemme called for a vote of those present. Those programs voting for approval of the By-laws as presented were, Alabama, Alderson-Broaddus, Baylor, Bowman Gray, Duke, Emory, George Washington, Indiana, Iowa, Johns Hopkins, Northeastern, Oklahoma, Santa Fe, University of Texas at Houston, University of Texas at Galveston, U.S. Air Force, Yale and Wichita State. There were no nays.

Dr. Piemme declared the By-laws approved. The special meeting of the Association was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Suzanne B. Greenberg, Secretary

Association of Physician Assistant Programs

Treasurer's Report

INCOME

22 Memberships at \$100 each		\$2,200.00
April 13 - October 11, 1973		
3 Memberships at \$100 each	300.00	
2 Application fees at \$100 each	200.00	
13 Renewal memberships at \$125 each	1,625.00	
18 Individual memberships at \$25 each	450.00	
Returned advance from Board of Commerce and Industry, Wichita Falls, Texas	<u>350.00</u>	
Subtotal	\$2,925.00	2,925.00
		<u><u> </u></u>
TOTAL		\$5,125.00

EXPENSES

Prior to April 13		399.76
Stamps	16.00	
Stationary & supplies	74.60	
Printing questionnaire	<u>264.00</u>	
Subtotal	354.60	<u>354.60</u>
TOTAL		\$ 754.36
BALANCE ON HAND		\$4,370.64

October 11, 1973

ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROGRAMS

Results of Massachusetts Survey

October 16, 1973

7,800 questionnaires sent to Massachusetts physicians
639 total number of replies received

Breakdown of Survey Results

451 physicians indicated they are not interested in hiring a trained physician assistant in the foreseeable future.
24 physicians indicated they are employing a physician assistant (or a nurse practitioner) at this time and are not interested in hiring another.
11 physicians responded that they would not be interested in hiring a trained physician assistant in the foreseeable future but could offer a clerkship.
153 physicians indicated interest in hiring a physician assistant.
639 total replies received

Physicians Indicating Interest in Hiring a Physician Assistant

Internal Medicine and Family Practice - 62 replies

16 physicians are interested in hiring a physician assistant now or within one year.
46 physicians would be interested in talking with a physician assistant about possible employment.

Pediatrics - 15 replies

5 physicians are interested in hiring a physician assistant now or within one year.
10 physicians would be interested in talking with a physician assistant about possible employment.

Obstetrics and Gynecology - 7 replies

- 1 physician is interested in hiring a physician assistant within a year.
- 6 physicians would be interested in talking with a physician assistant about possible employment.

Surgery and Surgical Subspecialties - 46 replies

- 9 physicians are interested in hiring a physician assistant now or within a year.
- 37 physicians would be interested in talking with a physician assistant about possible employment.

Other (Psychiatry, Dermatology, Pathology, etc.) - 23 replies

- 7 physicians are interested in hiring a physician assistant now or within a year.
- 16 physicians would be interested in talking with a physician assistant about possible employment.

153 replies (of these, 76 physicians also indicated they could offer a clerkship)

Geographical Distribution of Replies

Internal Medicine and Family Practice - 62 replies

- 16 Urban Center (Boston, Springfield, Worcester)
- 17 City
- 22 Suburb
- 7 Rural
- 62 Total replies

- 47 Replies from Eastern Massachusetts
- 9 Replies from Central Massachusetts
- 6 Replies from Western Massachusetts
- 62 Total Replies

Pediatrics - 15 replies

- 4 Urban Center (Boston, Springfield, Worcester)
- 3 City
- 7 Suburb
- 1 Rural
- 15 Total replies

- 14 Replies from Eastern Massachusetts
- 1 Reply from Central Massachusetts
- 15 Total replies

Obstetrics and Gynecology - 7 replies

1 Urban Center (Boston, Springfield, Worcester)
3 City
3 Suburb
7 Total Replies

7 Replies from Eastern Massachusetts

Surgery and Surgical Subspecialties - 46 replies

19 Urban Center (Boston, Springfield, Worcester)
20 City
5 Suburb
2 Rural
46 Total Replies

~~38~~ Replies from Eastern Massachusetts
4 Replies from Central Massachusetts
4 Replies from Western Massachusetts
46 Total Replies

Other (Psychiatry, Dermatology, Pathology, etc.) - 23 replies

9 Urban Center
5 City
8 Suburb
1 Rural
23 Total Replies

18 Replies from Eastern Massachusetts
3 Replies from Central Massachusetts
2 Replies from Western Massachusetts
23 Total Replies

153 Total Replies

Percentage of Replies by Medical Specialty

1.7%	Internal Medicine and Family Practice
3.0%	Pediatrics
1.5%	Obstetrics and Gynecology
2.1%	Surgery and Surgical Subspecialties
0.9%	Other (Psychiatry, Dermatology, Pathology etc.)

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ADDENDUM IV

FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON NEW HEALTH PRACTITIONERS FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Receipts

Loans received as "seed money" from APAP and AAPA	\$ 500.00
Conference Fees Collected:	
234 @ \$50.00	11,700.00
1 @ 45.00	45.00
Banquet tickets (extra sold)	16.50
Total Receipts	\$12,261.50

Expenditures

Cancellation Refunds (3 @ \$50.00)	\$ 400.00
Repaid Loans APAP and AAPA	500.00
AAPA expense reimbursement	300.61
Transcribe Conference Minutes (Stanhope)	600.00
Printing-Postage-Typists-Travel (Admin)	563.21
Banquet-Cocktails W.F. Country Club	2,292.33
Reception-Officers Club 12 April 1973	300.00
Reception-Officers Club 13 April 1973	200.00
Base Exchange-Coffee and donuts	241.20
Guest Speaker Expenses:	

Draniff Airlines (Bradford ticket)	\$204.00
Blair Sadler	245.47
David Cooper	258.07
Edmund Pellegrino (Balance)	41.90
John E. Ott	265.34
W. A. Gammon	335.57
James W. Justice	101.47
James W. Justice (Balance)	56.00
L. Thompson Bowles	260.46
John P. Hubbard	299.30
William K. Seldon	255.07
Gwendoline MacDonald	214.10
Malcolm C. Todd	293.71
Richard D. Rosen	337.92
Barbara J. Andrew	250.20
Ray L. Casterline	369.26
Ramada Inn (Evelyn Bradford)	72.58

Total Speaker Expenses 3,930.42

Total Expenditures \$9,320.32

Balance	\$ 2,933.18
Balance in account--Board of Commerce and Industry (City National Bank)	2,938.01
Unaccountable overage	(+ 4.83)