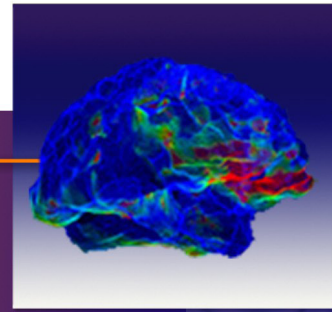




Massachusetts
Neuropsychological
Society



<http://www.massneuropsychology.org> • Fall 2009

The Fall 2009 MNS Newsletter is dedicated to Edith Kaplan, a treasured friend, mentor and colleague who died on September 3, 2009.

Profile of Edith Kaplan, Ph.D., ABPP/ABCN

Marlene Oscar Berman, Ph.D.

Edith Kaplan, Ph.D. passed away on Thursday, 3 September, 2009. Throughout her 50-year career in psychology, Dr. Edith Kaplan made invaluable contributions to the promotion of clinical neuropsychology as a specialty area in psychology. Her impact on our field is widespread, and encompasses many different domains. She has made significant contributions to our knowledge of brain-behavioral relationships through her scholarly research in such areas as aphasia, apraxia, developmental issues in clinical neuropsychology, as well as normal and abnormal aging. Dr. Kaplan has served as a role model and mentor for many women psychologists. And, of course, through her clinical practice, Dr. Kaplan has made immeasurable contributions to the lives of many patients and their families.

Dr. Kaplan was a Professor in the departments of Neurology and Psychiatry, and in the Behavioral Neuroscience Ph.D. Program at

Boston University School of Medicine. In addition, Dr. Kaplan was Professor of Psychology at Suffolk University, and she was Affiliate Professor of Psychology at Clark University, Worcester, and a member of the Psychology Department at the Baycrest Hospital in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Through her teaching, Dr. Kaplan played a vital leadership role in the education and training of neuropsychologists worldwide. From 1976 to 1987, Dr. Kaplan was the director of Clinical Neuropsychological Services at the Boston Veterans Administration Medical Center, where she was responsible for the development of an internationally renowned pre- and post-doctoral clinical neuropsychological internship training program. In those 11 years, she trained 52 interns, many of whom are now recognized neuropsychologists who have made significant contributions to the field and are involved in their own training programs. Later, at Suffolk University, Boston University School of Medicine, and Tewksbury Hospital, she continued with her dedication to student education, research, and clinical training. Through her volunteer efforts in national organizations, she helped to promote psychology and neuropsychology in the public's interest through her efforts with the National Head Injury Foundation and the World Health Organization.

Dr. Kaplan made revolutionary contributions to clinical neuropsychological assessment. Bringing her intensely observant clinical eye and her research rigor to the assessment of neurological patients, she made observations about patient behavior and test strategies that evolved into a philosophical school of neuropsychological assessment, called by most people "The Boston Process Approach." Prior to the introduction of the process-oriented approach, clinical neuropsychological assessment followed a fixed-battery global-achievement approach, and stressed quantitative interpretation of test results. The process-oriented approach offered a revolutionary advance in test interpretation, stressing the qualitative aspects of patients' performance profiles. The introduction and

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promotion of this alternative approach to clinical neuropsychological practice has served to expand our knowledge of brain functions, as well as to generate much scholarly discussion about diagnostic issues in clinical neuropsychology.

Dr. Kaplan developed and co-authored numerous tests such as The Boston Diagnostic Aphasia Examination, The Boston Naming Test, The Boston Stimulus Board, The California Verbal Learning Test (Adult and Children's Versions), Microcog: A Computerized Assessment of Cognitive Status, the Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale-Revised, as a Neuropsychological Instrument (WAIS-RNI), the Wechsler Intelligence Scale for Children- III, as a Neuropsychological Instrument (WISC-III-NI), The Baycrest Assessment of Neuropsychological Status, and The Delis-Kaplan Executive Function System.

Dr. Kaplan was one of the founders of the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology and was among the first to be awarded the Diplomate in Clinical Neuropsychology. Dr. Kaplan was president of the International Neuropsychological Society, president of the Clinical Neuropsychology Division of the American Psychological Association (Division 40), and president of the Boston Neuropsychological Foundation, which she co-founded in 1983. The Boston Neuropsychological Foundation was established to provide continuing education opportunities in clinical neuropsychology, and uses proceeds to fund pre- and post-doctoral internships

She received many awards, including the following:

1993: The National Academy of Neuropsychology

Distinguished Clinical Neuropsychologist Award.

1994: The Edith Kaplan Neuroscience Scholarship Fund established by MeritCare Medical Center, Fargo, North Dakota.

1996: The New England Psychological Association first annual Distinguished Contributions Award.

1998 The Massachusetts Psychological Association Career Contribution Award.

1999: The Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society Career Contribution Award.

As a person, Dr. Kaplan was warm, funny, vivacious, charming, and generous. She was devoted to her son Michael and her cherished granddaughter, Rachel. Dr. Kaplan had a marvelous sense of humor, which punctuated her workshops and lectures. She loved to share her wealth of outrageous stories and jokes. She gave of herself and her time to anyone who asked it of her, particularly students. Her home, decorated with pictures and statues of owls, was open to all. She shared her home with foreign visitors, with students who had not yet settled in to Boston, and with applicants to the programs she ran. She also shared the exquisite objects of her knitting skills: scarves, neckties, and blankets were her specialties. Dr. Kaplan, with her energy, commitment, intellect, insight, generosity, and love, will be remembered in our hearts and minds.

In memory of Edith, Paul Spiers, who was quite close to her, was asked to share some fond memories in hopes that they would mirror the reminiscences of many others who were so fond of her:

Edith Kaplan

Paul A. Spiers, Ph.D.

As many can say, Edith Kaplan was probably the single most important influence in my professional life. When I was a new graduate student at Clark University, she and Harold Goodglass, another renowned aphasia researcher, came to lecture. I was blown away, and told her so. Her reply was "come and spend a summer with me," and so, I came to the VA as a summer clerk. And there I met many of the leading researchers of the day, including Nelson Butters, Laird Cermak, and, of course, Frank Benson. I also learned to examine patients in the unique way that Edith championed, by believing that the patient's behavior in arriving at a solution was as much, and sometimes more, important than the solution itself.

One night during supervision over Chinese food, she looked at me and said "You speak French don't you?" I admitted that I was fluent from my elementary education in Quebec. Edith shot back "Then, you should go and spend a year with Hecagen in Paris." Next thing I knew, I was a fellow at Hecagen's research unit in Paris, where we studied Acaculia together. One day he told me I would have to share my office with an old friend of his, as a result, Arthur Benton became my office mate for three months. Arthur, too, was fond of Edith, despite their differences of opinion, and for being one of her students I was already in good stead with Arthur.

The next year, while on internship with Edith at the VA, she commented that Norm Geschwind had liked my presentation to rounds one day. Next thing I knew, I joined the staff at the Behavioral Neurology Unit at the Beth Israel, when Sandy Weintraub and Marsel Mesulam were just starting to grow that service.

The opportunities and training Edith gave me, as she gave so freely to so many, were life altering. Perhaps more important than these opportunities, however, was her gift of believing in me, as she believed in all those who studied with her. Even when you made a mistake, it was a "process" error, one from which you could learn. Despite the snail's pace at which my research was moving, she believed in me, and remained my dissertation advisor. When I graduated at Clark, she personally handed me my Doctoral Diploma, and told me she knew I could do it, and that she was a proud "mother".

She also continued to believe in me, after my spinal cord and severe, traumatic brain injury. She encouraged me to submit research to meetings, to report myself as a case study in JINS, and when I was asked to teach by Marlene Oscar-Berman, Edith was my most enthusiastic student. She attended nearly every class the first few years that we gave the Forensic Neuropsychology seminar. She was interested, certainly, but I felt, as well, that she had come to watch over me. She believed in me, and I was grateful.

As recently as a few days before the hospitalization that ultimately led to her surgery, Edith had belatedly celebrated her birthday, again, at Dim Sum with Steve Nisenbaum and me. She was having trouble catching her breath and was even too weak to eat chicken feet! Nonetheless, she believed in her doctors, and believed we would celebrate her birthday again in 2010.

Words cannot begin to express my love for her, and how much I will miss her. She was a mother to me, and what is perhaps the greatest tribute I can pay her, I know that I was not alone in feeling like I must have been her only child.

President's Report

Carol A. Leavell, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

Dear members of the Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society, I am delighted to begin my year as your president, and to provide you with an update on the most recent activities of our estimable Society. I am honored to be your President, and to think that I have an opportunity to make a difference in the growth, promotion and maintenance of our society. I am also deeply honored to be a member of the Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society. It is the premier neuropsychological society in the country, and over the past several years the efforts of MNS have continued to expand the breadth and depth of our influence at the local and national level. Now more than ever, with the numerous personal and political challenges that have assailed us all, MNS has a critical role to play in serving our members, our profession, and the public domain.

In the past several years, our society has become stronger than ever and has been a continuing force in advocating for the maintenance and growth of our field in a wide array of both local and national venues, ranging from local insurance companies to national organizations such as INS and NAN. Among current goals of our society are to extend the MNS presence and influence to the broader community of psychologists, and to those who provide medical and/or mental health services or support in the greater New England area. At the same time, we are committed to strengthening our presence in the larger non-professional/medical community through "giving back" some of our considerable resources. We are committed to increasing the understanding and knowledge of neuropsychology in the general public by providing much-needed educational and consultative efforts. Ultimately, however, after much discussion, our board members have come to the conclusion that our most important goal this year is to serve and support you, our members, in any way possible that will allow you to maintain fundamental viability and even to thrive as members of our profession.

In the service of the above goals, the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society has been working hard to evaluate and reevaluate our purpose and role in the profession of neuropsychology and in the greater community. We have established a Planning Committee with a broad but specific mission to review our greater goals and our society bylaws, and to develop a needs assessment so that we can best serve our members. We also have formalized an Educational Committee specifically to address our continuously evolving needs for continuing education and for other didactic needs and incentives. We are interested in enhancing our educational resources for our membership and, ultimately, for the larger private and professional community. Furthermore, we have enlarged the Membership Committee to address the goal of streamlining our procedures and increasing the efficiency of the membership initiation and management process. The Professional Affairs Committee maintains a high level of involvement in meeting the immediate needs of our members through interface with insurances and payer sources. The Professional Affairs Committee is also committed to assess the "larger picture" of the neuropsychologist as a professional and is developing a needs assessment for supporting all levels of "professional affairs" for our members. All of these committees were very active over the summer with the goal of "hitting the ground running" in the fall with new ideas, resources and incentives.

Ultimately, a continuing thread through all of our summer meetings and discussions was associated with the question of how to channel the considerable resources of the Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society for the good of our members. This also includes initiatives to enhance the accessibility and transparency of the activities of our board, and to develop ways to increase efficiency and streamline operational activities. You will be hearing more about the activities of these committees in the near future. Meanwhile, expect to see a listing of the "perks" of membership in your November dues mailing, along with a needs assessment survey addressing the above goals. In the interest of directly meeting the needs of our members, we need your input to proceed in the selection and execution of these new ideas and incentives. I would encourage each and every one of you to complete this survey as soon as possible. By doing so you will help fulfill our primary 2009-2010 mission: to enhance our importance and relevance to you our members.,

I am excited to introduce you to our Fall 2009 Newsletter, which includes a summary of our past educational activities and a schedule of our upcoming seminar events. Below is a brief summary of activities and an introduction to some of the material you will see in our fall newsletter:

MNS has continued to make progress in adapting policy change, increasing our exposure locally and nationally, managing membership recruitment and maintenance, and achieving financial strength and stability. The Professional Affairs Committee remains extremely active, and last year was deeply indebted to the co-direction of Dr. Kira Armstrong and Dr. Joel Rosenbaum. This year, Drs. Michelle Imber and Armstrong take the reins of this critical committee. They provide us with updates on their numerous activities in the current newsletter. We are also very fortunate to have board member Dr. Linda Podbros continue as representative of the Federation for Behavioral, Psychological and Cognitive Sciences. She actively participates in Federation committees and keeps the rest of us up-to-date with their activities. Dr. Podbros also has a summary of her activities in the current newsletter.

At MNS, we are continually looking to enhance and strengthen our continuing education program. Be prepared for further information on upcoming workshops, seminars and meetings. Last year, under the guidance of Dr. Sandie Shaheen and Dr. Erin Hill we had a strong and stimulating series of monthly seminars, along with very well attended workshops. This year, the Education Committee is chaired by Dr. Maureen O'Connor and Dr. Shaheen, and we are continuing that momentum of the 2008/2009 year with packed meeting rooms. We will continue to provide CE seminars and workshops this year, and are open to offering lectures in varying venues across Massachusetts.

In June we enjoyed a very stimulating and inspiring lecture on Emerging Wisdom featuring Dr. Bruce Price at our annual Science Symposium and dinner. This event would not have been so utterly successful without the ongoing direction and investment of Dr. Paul Spiers and Dr. Michael Cirillo. We are hoping to continue, and even exceed this pattern of excellence in our development of the 2009 Science Symposium, under the guidance of Dr. Cirillo, and Drs. Sigmund Hough, Maureen O'Connor, and Cynthia Levinson.

Dr. Jennifer Quealley, formerly Turek, continues to play a strong and critical role as membership chair. She is joined in those efforts by a number of board members, including Drs. Shaheen, Kregel,

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Randy Otto, Cynthia Levinson, and myself.

We have also been very fortunate to have a continued active investment of our student membership. Colleen Casey, our MNS student representative on the Board of Directors, has played an invaluable role in all board activities, but especially in establishing educational efforts and incentives for our student members.

Dr. Sigmund Hough continues to function as the ultimate professional in his role of treasurer for MNS. He has stayed very active as treasurer through facilitating fiscal management efforts, including financial planning, and cost containment. Furthermore, Dr. Hough has also played the role of “financial watchdog” on our behalf, through enhancing our documentation processes and by establishing a financial auditing system.

And of course, we would not have this newsletter at all if it wasn't for the effort of our estimable newsletter editors. This year this is a joint effort by board members, Dr. Michael Cirillo and Dr. Cynthia Levinson. Thank you for an inclusive, thorough and interesting publication. This newsletter is an absolute critical resource in providing much-needed information regarding the activities of MNS to our members. Under leadership of Drs. Cirillo and Levinson, we continue to pursue ways to make this newsletter a primary resource of general information of interest to our members. In addition, we are attempting to find other, less formal ways to provide information of interest to meet the needs of our members. Most importantly, we are also seeking ways to streamline publication costs through offering an electronic version of this newsletter. To help us in our efforts to facilitate this process, please make sure we have your up-to-date e-mail address in our database.

I would also like very much to personally recognize the efforts of our outgoing board members, Drs. Joel Rosenbaum, Paul Spiers, Erin Hill, and Carmen Armengol for all they have done on behalf of the society, and for promoting what has been a remarkably smooth leadership transition.

Members, I believe that we continue to thrive because of our active and dedicated board, and because of the ongoing commitment and investment of each and every one of you, our MNS members. I want to once again emphasize that we want to hear from you, dear members. If you wish to have any influence on the direction or goals of any of our committees or subcommittees, please join up. We are looking for individuals to provide us with guidance and support with all of our efforts, but especially with direct, active involvement in our Membership, Planning, and Educational Committees. Another way that you can become actively involved in our activities and efforts is to join our listserv. Information for signing onto the listserv can be found through e-mailing admin@massneuropsychology.org. Above all, please stay involved by visiting our website! Feel free to contact any of the individuals on the board via the website if you have any questions, concerns or input. Contact information and benefits of membership can be found on our website: <http://massneuropsychology.org>.

Continuing Education Update

Maureen O'Connor, Psy.D., ABPP-CN
Sandra Shaheen, Ph.D.

In November (11/3/09) Dr. Angela Jefferson will be joining us to talk about the relationship between vascular risk factors, cardiac function, and brain aging. Dr. Jefferson will focus on the clinical implications of these factors and how knowledge of these factors can inform interventions. Dr. Jefferson is an Associate Professor in Neurology at Boston University in the Alzheimer's disease Center. This is sure to be a topic that will spark both professional and personal interest to many.

Mental Health Law specialist Attorney Robin Johnson presented on “Obtaining Financial Justice from Insurance Companies: Special Issues for Neuropsychologists” at the September 15 start to this year's lecture series. Ms. Johnson reviewed Massachusetts health law in the context of what insurers must do to provide appropriate services to members, and how this information interfaces with the concerns of neuropsychology clinicians and the MNS PAC agenda. Nearly 70 people attended our first preregistered regular meeting. Ms. Johnson, who practices law with Aceto and Johnson, PC presented procedures that will enable practitioners to avoid denials from insurance companies and to obtain payment on those claims that are wrongfully denied. Her practice focuses on nonprofit corporations and reimbursement, licensure, accreditation, and compliance on behalf of community mental health centers, hospitals, clinics, home health agencies, large physician practices, accreditation agencies, and professional associations of health care providers.

Many members were surely pleased to learn that we had rescheduled Dr. Tony Giuliano's important talk on “Neurocognition in Bipolar Disorder” for October 6th. The central purpose of this presentation was to provide a clinically relevant overview of the emerging neuropsychology of bipolar disorder. While many questions remain unanswered, several cognitive deficits, often independent of mood fluctuations, are present in all phases of the illness. The important effect of cognitive deficits on function and recovery were discussed.

Preregistration assured those interested in the talk of a seat in the Spaulding lecture room which was at capacity about a week before the talk. Preregistration also facilitates check in and tracking continuing education credits. It allows for the appropriate number of handouts to be on available. Look for preregistration opportunities for our line-up of fantastic speakers this year!

On December 1, 2009 we are looking forward to hearing Dr. Margaret O'Connor's presentation entitled Driving and Dementia: Clinical Guidelines to Assist the At Risk Older Driver. Dr. O'Connor is the Director of Neuropsychology in the Division of Behavioral Neurology and Center for Cognitive Neurology at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Associate Professor of Neurology (Neuropsychology) at Harvard Medical School. Dr. O'Connor is a developer of the DriveWise Program, a program designed to help older adults and their loved ones make careful decisions about driving safety and manage the emotional and practical consequences associated with these decisions. Dr. O'Connor's talk is a must for clinicians working with older adults.

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MNS board is actively looking for ways to expand our regular programming to include more social opportunities, workshops, and FUN! Stay tuned for announcements about upcoming events.

The CE Committee has a number of opportunities for volunteers. Any member is eligible to help, and associate and student members can always volunteer. To find out how to get involved, please contact Maureen O'Connor.

Announcements and updates regarding our Continuing Education series are always available on massneuropsychology.org, and through the MNS listserv. Contact Sandie, Maureen and Linda with suggestions for workshops, speakers or topics, and in order to volunteer.

Please remember to join us for refreshments prior to the talks from 7-7:30. This is your opportunity to catch up with colleagues and friends, and meet other professionals in the area!

Professional Affairs Note

Michelle L. Imber, Ph.D., ABPP-CN
Kira Armstrong, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

The MNS Professional Affairs Committee (PAC) has been working hard throughout the summer to support neuropsychology within the state of Massachusetts and in collaboration with our national organizations such as APA's Division 40 and Practice Directorate, the National Association of Neuropsychology (NAN), and the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology (AACN). Locally, MNS's continued collaboration with the Massachusetts Psychological Association (MPA) has borne fruit in our mutual advocacy efforts with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts (BCBSMA) and our joint conference about conveying medical necessity (October 17, 2009). Additionally, the PAC is working to address a variety of practice-related issues that affect neuropsychologists in private practice as well as those working in other settings.

Advocacy: Members of our committee, in collaboration with MPA, have continued to meet with BCBSMA on a frequent basis to address the concerns resulting from their newly-adopted criteria for neuropsychological assessment. As reported in our last newsletter, following our advocacy efforts, BCBSMA agreed to increase their proposed number of authorized testing hours to 8-10 for adult/elder adult patients and 8-12 for children and adolescents, depending upon the medical history of the patient and the patient's assessment needs. No preauthorization is currently required for hospital inpatients. At present, these criteria are not being applied to members of PPO plans or those with Federal or Medicare-replacement policies. Based on our requests, BCBSMA also has made the neuropsychological testing form available as a fillable PDF on their website, BlueLinks; please note that the form must be faxed in and cannot at this point be submitted online. Attachment of additional documentation, such as a description of your patient's individual needs in light of their medical history is encouraged. BCBSMA has also clarified that they are not requiring us to bundle the hours for interview and feedback along with neuropsychological testing hours. In other words, you can bill for each of these services on the day they occur rather than on the last

day of service (as had previously been their policy). Finally, we have received clarification from BCBSMA executives that 96116 does not require pre-authorization. Our continued efforts with BCBSMA pave the way for conversations with other major third-party payers in this region, which are currently in the planning stages. We continue to work with local and national organizations to establish well-defined standards-of-care for the important work that we do.

We are pleased to report that the MNS BOD and PAC have forged a new and productive relationship with Attorney Robin Johnson, of Johnson & Aceto, LLP, who presented at September's MNS gathering about provider reimbursement. We are also in the beginning stages of developing a more formal relationship with Atty. Johnson. This will allow the MNS leadership to further help our organization understand and advocate for patient and provider rights in the state of Massachusetts.

Member Education: The PAC has continued to provide updates to the MNS community via the MNS listserv and the MNS website. The MNS listserv provides a low-volume source of information and a way for us to rapidly communicate new developments; if you are not already on the electronic mailing list, you can sign up through the MNS website.

Additionally, working jointly with MPA's Assessment Committee, members of the PAC have worked hard this summer and fall to bring you a conference on October 17 entitled "Documenting Medical Necessity, Making the Case for Authorization, and Helping the Patient Get the Assessment that is Needed." We hope that this will help our members to navigate the increasingly complex waters of preauthorization requirements efficiently and effectively, so that needed services can be provided to our patients.

How you can help: Drs. Maggie Lanca and Jeff Sheer have worked to create a database to provide more immediate input regarding insurance related issues. With their support, MNS has begun to collect data on member experiences with insurance companies, in an attempt to improve access to neuropsychological services for our patients and smooth the administrative aspects of prompt service provision. In order to accomplish this task, members are invited to complete the Individual Incident Insurance Data Form which is currently located in the Member's section of the MNS website. In the event that you have had difficulty working with an insurance company at the level of authorization, claims, or other aspects of the process, please complete the form so that we can attain an understanding of issues that are affecting our members. Your responses will be kept confidential. Please note that at this time, the society will not be specifically addressing your individual claims with the insurance company, but the data will be used to keep the professional affairs committee informed of trends and problem areas that you are experiencing, and potentially guide our advocacy efforts.

Change in PAC Leadership: As Dr. Joel Rosenbaum has rolled off the Board of Directors to take on new responsibilities on the Board of the MPA, he is passing the baton of PAC leadership to Drs. Kira Armstrong and Michelle Imber. He continues to play an active role in the PAC, and per the request of Dr. Leavell, he has remained available to consult to the BoD upon request regarding professional

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affairs. He notes, "I continue to have both MNS and MPA dear to my heart and remain committed to helping strengthen both societies and the collaboration between them." We thank Joel for all of his time and commitment to our advocacy efforts thus far, for working so hard to strengthen the ties with our sister organization, and especially for his instrumental role in revitalizing the PAC; we look forward to our continued collaboration.

Concluding Remarks: Professional affairs affect all of us, salaried employees and private practitioners alike. As we have seen over the last year, neuropsychologists in Massachusetts have tremendous power to influence local and national healthcare policy. We are stronger when we speak together, through our organization and in collaboration with other groups who are similarly concerned with providing good patient care in the current economic climate. We encourage you to become actively involved in professional affairs, either by joining the PAC or by volunteering to work on specific projects related to our advocacy movements. The coming years will pose a challenge to healthcare providers throughout the nation, and it is important that we continue to band together to ensure that neuropsychology has a seat at the table.

Acknowledgments: Your MNS Professional Affairs Committee consists of the following hard-working and dedicated MNS members. We wish to thank each of them personally for their ongoing efforts to better the climate for practicing neuropsychologists: Roger Cohen, Ph.D., Murdo Dowds, Ph.D., Margaret Lanca, Ph.D., Joseph E. Moldover, Psy.D., Clare O'Callaghan, Ph.D., NP, Dana Penney, Ph.D., Andrea Piatt, Ph.D., Linda Podbros, Ph.D., Joel Rosenbaum, Ph.D., and Jeff Sheer, Ph.D.

Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences (FABBS)

Linda Zoe Podbros, Ph.D.

First and foremost, if you've been following closely, you'll immediately notice a name change. The old name, Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences was not a name easily remembered on Capitol Hill, in federal agencies, or in the general public. The new name, Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences, is not only easier to remember but it also comports with the terminology used by federal agencies to refer to research in our fields (e.g., the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research at NIH or the Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate at NSF). The Federation's associated Foundation is the Foundation for the Advancement of Behavioral and Brain Sciences, and is now referred to as the FABBS Foundation. The Federation supports the efforts of member societies and coalition partners by communicating with policy makers and the public about the importance and contributions of both basic and applied research in the sciences of mind, brain, and behavior.

Under the leadership of the Federation's current President, Leaetta M. Hough, Ph.D., there have been new efforts devoted to increasing the visibility of our sciences on Capitol Hill, in federal agencies, and among the public. Some highlights of the work of the

Federation since the last MNS Newsletter are as follows. There were two recent Congressional briefings which addressed science policy issues as an opportunity to educate Congressional Members. Last March, Federation President-Elect James McClelland addressed members of the U.S. House of Representatives Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee. He spoke of the importance of research in the mind, brain, and behavior sciences and the need for continued support at NIH and other agencies. Also, in May, the Federation provided support for an NIAAA Congressional Briefing on Alcohol and Pregnancy: An Overview of the Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders.

In July, I received a copy of a federal report prepared by a subcommittee of the National Science and Technology Council: Social, Behavioral and Economic Research in the Federal Context, a result of a Congressional Briefing organized largely by the Federation, that was circulated by NSF to every Member of Congress. If any MNS members would like to see this report, please e-mail me back channel, at lpodbros@neuropsych.us and I will be happy to make this available to you. In addition, Paula Skedsvold, Ph.D., the Executive Director of the Federation, is working on a process that will connect leaders of the Federations member societies (including Council reps) with federal agency representatives who can provide insights regarding our sciences within these agencies.

The FABBS Foundation continues to organize the very popular Science Café's, which serve to educate the public about the importance of research in our sciences. The most recent Science Café, Relieving Stress: Research Helps Children and Adults Cope, was held on September 25, 2009 in Washington, DC. Dr. Shelley Taylor described her research on risky families and how early family environments affect health in adulthood. Specifically, she discussed the effect of early life stressors on emotion regulation, biological systems that regulate stress, neural regulation of stress response in the brain, and gene expression. Also, Dr. Ellen Galinsky outlined components of an "effective workplace" and how such a workplace impacts on both work outcomes and individual health. The archived webcast of this Café can be accessed on the FABBS Foundation website, http://fabbs.org/Events/September_2009_Cafe/index.html.

MNS members can take advantage of the benefits of being a society member of the Federation. One benefit is the APA dual society membership, a savings of up to \$70.00. Another benefit is the Federation's e-Newsletter, which includes updates on funding opportunities, information about legislation that may affect the behavioral science community, and reports on national advocacy efforts on the behalf of the psychological and brain sciences. Past issues and instructions on how to subscribe to the Federation Newsletter can be viewed at <http://www.thefederationonline.org/newsletters.html>. Another benefit for MNS members is the opportunity to sign on to the Federation RSS Feed. The Federation is diligently working to increase its communication with member societies; it has created an RSS feed for any member of the Federation's constituent societies who is interested in receiving news and announcements relating to basic and applied research related to the mind, brain, and behavioral sciences. To find out more about the Federation feed and instructions on how to sign up, go to http://www.fbpcs.org/rss_info.html.

I will continue to post on the MNS list serve various issues and

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opportunities, as they are delineated by the Federation, that I think are of interest to MNS members. In early December, I will again be attending the Federation's annual meeting in Washington DC. At last year's meeting, I was asked how the Federation could be of benefit to our society. I will be asked that question again at the upcoming meeting. If any MNS member has needs or questions that he or she would like addressed at this meeting, please contact me at lpodbros@neuropsych.us.

Membership Director Update

Our membership continues to grow and we are excited to welcome new members the past several months. For additional information on membership or a membership application, please see the MNS webpage.

~ We are requesting that members join the MNS list serve to receive regular updates about advocacy efforts and upcoming programs. You can join the list serve through the "members only" portion of the webpage.

~ *Get Connected 2009 MNS Membership Drive* We will continue with our "Get Connected" drive throughout the membership year. You only have one month to get in during the 2009 year! Please see the membership page of the website for additional information and rules.

Free CEUs: Invite a lapsed MNS member to re-connect with MNS and receive a coupon good for *Free CEUs for any 1 regular lecture in January, February or March 2010*, when the lapsed member is reinstated as a Full Member and names you as their "MNS Connection".

Membership renewal discount: Invite a friend to start a connection with MNS and receive a coupon good for \$20 off your 2009-2010 membership renewal when your friend is accepted as a Regular Member and names you as their "MNS Connection".

~ The Board of MNS would like to welcome the following new members. We look forward to seeing you are the upcoming MNS events.

Regular Members

John Fahey, PhD
Mary Acunzo, PhD
Laura Frakey, PhD
Maureen McCormick, PhD
Claudia Rutherford, PhD
Jolene Ross, PhD

Student Members

Karen Wachs, MA
Maximillian Schmidheiser, PhD
Lynn Shaughnessy, MA
Jennifer Smith, MEd
Jane Schreiber, PhD
MaryBeth Bailar-Heath, MS

Associate Members

Eva Jansiewicz, PhD
Emily Reid, BS
Eileen Crehan, BA
Michelle Lee, BA

Jennifer Turek Queally, Ph.D.
MNS Membership Director

Membership Benefits

- + Dual MNS/APA Membership Discount - Reduce your APA membership cost by up to \$70. Check your APA dues statement for dual membership details
- + Receive information on national grants and other research funding opportunities through newsletters available exclusive through our association with The Federation for Behavioral Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences
- + Professional Affairs Advocacy
- + Online Membership Directory

- + MNS Listserv
 - + Up-to-date practice advisory notices
 - + Stay in touch with current issues
 - + Connect with colleagues
 - + Get referrals

- + Membership Discount at Monthly CE lectures, and select reciprocity discounts with other organizations' events

- + Online book raffle
 - + Try your luck at winning a new book each month!

- + MNS Website
 - + Information on MNS happenings and other local events
 - + Website resources
 - + Simple dues payments
 - + One-click access to Board Members
 - + Members-Only Section

- + Free parking at Monthly lectures - just show your membership card to waive parking fees
- + MNS newsletter ~ Issued twice yearly

2009 Science Symposium Recap

In June we held the annual MNS Science Symposium. There was a nice turnout for a “school night” and good science on display from many sharp young minds and some sharp post-young minds. On behalf of the MNS Board of Directors I would like to thank all the researchers who submitted posters to the Symposium. There were many fine presentations and the quality was exceptional. It was a clear testament to the quality of researchers and research institutions in our area. A majority of the presenters were post-doctoral fellows, which bodes well for the future of research in neuropsychology and behavioral neurology. Following is a list of the poster presenters and the title of their posters:

	Presenting Author	Title
1	Héctor Y. Adamés*	Picturing words: ERP correlates of word imaginability in healthy young adults
2	Lauren Ayr	Feasibility of a Virtual Analogue of the Morris Water Maze to Assess Spatial Learning
3	Armin R. Azar	Vascular Risk and Major Depression in Older Primary Care Patients Receiving Mental Health Treatment
4	TS Bhojraj*	Structural Alterations in the Default Network and Cognitive Deficits in Offspring of Schizophrenics
5	E. Cobb*	Callosal Fractional Anisotropy: Convergent and Criterion Validity
6	Paul P. Costanza*	Examining Recollection and familiarity during single-item and multiple-choice recognition.
7	Eileen T Crehan*	A latent variable model to predict future neuropsychological test performance using fMRI measures
8	Jill Damon-Minow*	Cognition, mood, and fatigue in the classification of patients with multiple
9	Rebecca G. Deason*	Errorless Learning of New Flexible Knowledge in Patients with Alzheimer’s Disease
10	Angela Gustafson-DeBastos*	The Role of Semantic Clustering in Verbal Learning (CVLT-C) Is Age Dependent
11	Erin P. Hussey*	Examining discrimination and response bias following changes in study-test delay in aging and Alzheimer’s disease
12	Marie McCabe	Low-Level Lead Exposure and Attention Outcomes
13	JD McKeever*	Examination of Liberal and Conservative Response Bias using High-Density ERPs
14	Susan Mosher Ruiz*	Effects Of Alcohol Cues On Working Memory For Faces In Abstinent Alcoholic Men And Women
15	Martin Paczynski*	Neurophysiological Evidence for Use of Animacy in Verb Argument Processing
16	Anya I. Potter*	Distinct Neuropsychological and Symptom Profiles in IQ clusters of Schizophrenia
17	Erin Whitaker Reynolds*	Do Adults With Asperger’s Syndrome Have Flashbulb Memories for September 11, 2001
18	Manuel Sedo	Five Digit Test”: Implications Of Skewed And Kurtotic Curves For Clinical Populations
19	Manuel Sedo	Plurilingual Testing” In Trios Of Healthy Neighbors, Siblings And Schizophrenic (“Utiqay”) Native Populations Tested In Spanish Or In Quechuan
20	Manuel Sedo	Plurilingual Pre-Reading Educational Testing Of Reading Maturity On Brazilian Schoolchildren 4 To 7
21	Maximillian H. Shmidheiser*	The White Matter Connection: Relationships among Visuospatial Skill, Gender, and Cerebral White Matter Volume
22	John G. Smolinsky*	Are limitations in visual imagery ability preventing patients with Alzheimer’s disease from using this strategy to improve memory?
23	Karina Stavitsky*	Objective measures of sleep quality and cognitive performance in Parkinson’s disease
24	William S. Stone	Cognitive and clinical dysfunction in Chinese adult, nonpsychotic relatives of schizophrenia patients predicts deficits in a wide range of neuropsychological, social and clinical functions: Findings from the Changsha Study

25	Alison R. Thomas*	Impaired Learning and Memory on the California Verbal Learning Test in Persons with Schizophrenia, but Not Their First-Degree Relatives: Findings from the Consortium on the Genetics of Schizophrenia (COGS)
26	Trinity Urban*	Gender Differences in Alcoholics' fMRI Responses to Emotional Stimuli
27	MM Valmas*	Working-Memory Performance In Relation To Preference For Alcoholic Beverages And Drinking History In Abstinent Alcoholics
28	Jennifer R. Wolkin*	Therapeutic Neuropsychological Assessment in a Woman with a Silent Learning Disorder

*Student presenters

Thank you all for your participation. In a way it is a shame to have to pick only one winner but ultimately there could be only one best poster. That honor went to Maximillian H. Shmidheiser for his poster entitled, "The White Matter Connection: Relationships among Visuospatial Skill, Gender, and Cerebral White Matter Volume." Three judges scored each poster on a scale of 1 to 10 and Maximillian scored 28 out of 30 - almost perfect! For his successful effort Maximillian was awarded the Nelson Butters Awarded for Scholarship in Neuropsychology. Congratulations!

The evening also included a delicious dinner, and was punctuated by plenty of good conversation and collegiality. Bruce Price, M.D. was the evening's speaker presenting a talk entitled Measuring Wisdom. After dinner, MNS welcomed its new executive, President Carol Leavell and President-Elect Sandra Shaheen. All in attendance thanked Maxine Krengel for her fine work as President. Also honored were Joel Rosenbaum, and Raquelle Mesholam-Gately, whose Board terms had expired, and Paul Spiers, who retired from the Board.

The evening closed with the rhythms of Michael Addis and me, with special guest Joel "Soul Fingers" Rosenbaum. The seven or eight stalwarts proudly remaining at that late hour really seemed to enjoy it!

MNS wishes to particularly thank our sponsors, Pearson Assessment, and Ferrer USA, makers of Ceraxon, for their support. Paul Spiers worked closely with the MIT Faculty Club in coordinating the evening, and I organized and managed the poster session receiving some much-appreciated help from Jennifer Turek Queally on the night of the event. Dana Penney was, as usual, of invaluable assistance with the Award presentations. Thanks to all who attended, and we hope to see you at our 2010 Science Symposium - date, time and festivities to be announced...stay tuned!

Michael A. Cirillo, Ph.D. ABPP-CN
Co-organizer Science Symposium

Get Connected 2009 MNS Membership Drive

FREE CEs

Invite a lapsed MNS member to re-connect with MNS and receive a coupon good for *Free CEs for any 1 regular lecture in January, February, or March 2010*, when the lapsed member is reinstated as a Full Member and names you as their "MNS Connection."

THE RULES

- Both the current member and the lapsed member need to complete the brief entry form at the www.massneuropsychology.org membership page so we know who recommended whom.
- To receive Free CEs you have to be listed in the MNS database as a paid 2009 member.
- The lapsed member needs to be listed in the MNS database archive or be able to verify prior membership, for example via dues payment record.
- Entries need to be completed by December 15, 2009.
- Coupons will be e-mailed to members before the January 2010 lecture.
- Only one entry per member please

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DISCOUNT

Invite a friend to start a connection with MNS and receive a coupon good for \$20 off your 2010 membership renewal when your friend is accepted as a Full Member and names you as their "MNS Connection."

THE RULES

- The MNS Applicant needs to complete the regular membership application found at the www.massneuropsychology.org membership page and needs to name a current member as their connection.
- The current MNS member needs to complete the brief entry form found on the membership page and name the applicant as their connection.
- The member needs to be listed in the MNS database as a paid 2009 member to receive the discount coupon.
- Entries need to be completed before January 1, 2010.
- Only one entry per member please

CONNECT WITH COLLEAGUES THROUGH THE LISTSERV

The MNS Listserv is a vibrant discussion group in which you can learn the latest news, pose professional questions to colleagues, and stay connected with the society. Email admin@massneuropsychology.org for instructions to join the listserv. Be sure to include your full name in the email so the administrator can verify your membership in MNS.