

## Membership Benefits

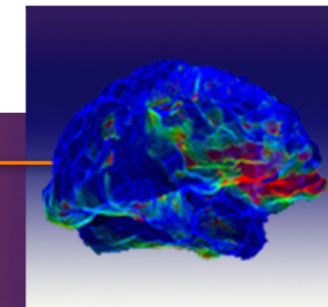
- Dual MNS/APA Membership Discount - Reduce your APA membership cost by up to \$70. Check your APA dues statement for dual membership details
- Receive information on national grants and other research funding opportunities through newsletters available exclusive through our association with The Federation 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

**Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society Newsletter**  
**Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital**  
**125 Nashua Street**  
**Boston, MA 02114**



**Massachusetts  
Neuropsychological  
Society**

<http://www.massneuropsychology.org> • Spring 2010



## President's Report

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

Dear members: I can't believe that my time as President of the Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society has passed so quickly. Only a few short months left, and still so much to do. It has been a great joy being your president, and having an opportunity to work with so many excellent people who are deeply committed to our organization. This year I personally have become all the more dedicated to the concept that Massachusetts, and its surrounding states, requires an organization such as ours that is specifically dedicated to the advancement and promotion of the practice of and research in neuropsychology. I hope you will join me and our board in continuing to strengthen the infrastructure of our society and broaden the influence of our organization in a wide range of spheres.

This year finds the Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society continuing in good health structurally and financially. To ensure that we maintain positive and responsible growth, we

have enlisted the services, on an as needed basis, of Attorney Robin Johnson. She comes with us with a wealth of experience and information regarding the law and nonprofit organizations, and reveals a true passion for promoting the integration of neuropsychology within the greater healthcare environment. In addition, we are enhancing our already very well designed and attractive website so that it will be able to meet our constantly evolving organization needs well into the next decade.

Your board members have been very committed to increasing the already impressive advantages of being a member. This has become a primary mission of our newly formed Planning Committee. We are very open to new ideas for additional membership incentives. As a member, you already had numerous advantages including the opportunity to link with other neuropsychologists via the MNS listserv, the MNS book raffle, and discounted parking for regular CE programs. Membership automatically includes discounted attendance to our always dynamic and current monthly seminars and continuing education workshops. You have had a direct voice to address a broad array of concerns that are pertinent to neuropsychologists today through the advocacy work of our Professional Affairs Committee. Your MNS board has maintained alliances with other state and national organizations. We continue to have a direct link to the Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences, through our board member Dr. Linda Zoe Podbros. In addition, to facilitate networking, the MNS board and MNS members have been fostering the development of special interest

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### Massachusetts Neuropsychological Society Board of Directors 2009-2010

#### Officers

President:..... Carol Leavell, Ph.D., ABPP-CN  
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 Newsletter Editors: ... Michael A. Cirillo, Ph.D., ABPP-CN  
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 MNS Federation Representative. Linda Zoe Podbros, Ph.D.  
 Member at Large:..... Randall L. Otto, Ph.D.  
 Student Representative..... Colleen Casey, M.S.

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groups, currently including a writers' group and a Speakers Bureau. Additional potential special interest groups include a pediatric group, geriatric group, and a technology group, among others.

To review some of the "Board Happenings," we held our first full session Open Board Business Meeting this past March, which was well attended by a solid group of our members. The atmosphere in this meeting was both powerful and positive, which was very inspiring for our hard working board. At the open business meeting, we had the opportunity to promote advocacy and networking through our special interest groups, and to update our members on all the activities of MNS, including our new website and professional affairs issues.

Our Planning Committee has continued to meet regularly to address ongoing board related issues but, as indicated above, is primarily focused on increasing the value of our membership. The committee consists of a group of dedicated board members and a "non-board" member volunteer, Dr. Stefanie Monahan Blout (thank you!) We are also working to find new ways to establish connections between members by developing further speaking and social venues. In addition we have developed new "membership perks". As a part of your membership fee, you will now be entitled to two vouchers for free attendance to our regular continuing education meetings. We continue to work on establishing new membership perks that we believe will be of value to you. Further details will follow. As a part of the activities of the Planning Committee, we sent out a detailed questionnaire to our members in order to attain a direct feedback on your interests and needs. The response was amazing, and we are still collecting and collating the surveys. Thank you to Anya Potter for her superb statistical work on the survey. While we are still compiling the results, two areas of concern and interest were immediately apparent. Our members continue to be extremely concerned about the place of clinical and research neuropsychology within the context of current changes in insurance and in healthcare/public policy in general. In addition, our members also love our educational opportunities. In the survey you requested more educational meetings, to be offered within a variety of timeframes and with an array of formats and venues. You gave us great ideas for a broad range of clinical, practice and research related topics. We share the commitment and enthusiasm for broadening the educational opportunities for our members. It is my opinion that educating our members and the general public regarding the practices and principles of neuropsychology is the cornerstone of our organization.

In response, this year we established an expanded Education Committee to address the continuing education needs

of our members and to explore and promote a variety of educational resources. The Education Committee is co-chaired by Dr. Maureen O'Connor and Dr. Sandie Shaheen, and they have been working hard to continue to maintain our high quality programs. You, our members, have supported our monthly seminars by your excellent attendance. However at this point we simply need more manpower to follow through with the many other areas of interest for our members. I would beg you to consider volunteering to help us with this effort. There are an array of tasks that need to be done, from establishing the goals and principles for the Educational Committee, to developing a database of potential speakers and assisting with technical details associated with scheduling and implementing a meeting. Please contact me or the chairs of the Education Committee if you feel that you could help out in any way.

MNS has continued to make progress in adapting to policy change, increasing our exposure locally and nationally, and establishing our presence within the larger healthcare field. The Professional Affairs Committee remains extremely active. We continue to be deeply indebted to its co-chairs, Dr. Kira Armstrong and Dr. Michelle Imber, and we appreciate the persistence and steadfastness of the entire Professional Affairs board. They provide us with updates on their numerous activities in the current newsletter.

Drs. Jennifer Turek Queally and Randy Otto continue to work hard on our membership committee and have established an updated membership list which is available on our website. Speaking of website, as indicated above, Dr. Queally has spearheaded the development of a new website, which will actually incorporate all the fantastic features of our old website with new and dynamic innovations. This website is under construction as we speak, and further information will be forwarded to you as soon as possible.

We have also been very fortunate to have the active involvement of our student membership. Colleen Casey, our MNS student representative on the Board of Directors, has played an invaluable role in her contributions to the board. She recently hosted a very successful student presentation on "Becoming a Neuropsychologist." Colleen also has been very instrumental in gaining student volunteers for all of our efforts. We think her for that, and also thank our volunteers.

Dr. Sigmund Hough continues to function as the ultimate professional in his role of treasurer for MNS. His activities have included facilitating fiscal management efforts, including financial planning and cost containment. He is currently working on the paperwork that will stabilize our status as a nonprofit group.

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K-12 education and the middle school gap, and energy and behavioral interventions.

The annual meeting always includes invited guest speakers, which I find to be a highlight of the day. This year the first guest was Dr. Howard Moss, Associate Director for Clinical and Translational Research, National Institutes of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Dr. Moss explained that 45% of NIAAA's grant portfolio is behavioral and social science, as alcohol consumption is a behavior. The next speaker was Dr. Jeremy Berg, National Institute of General Medical Science Director and Co-Chair of OPPNET. Dr. Berg talked about the new five-year initiative, Basic Behavioral and Social Science Opportunity Network (OPPNET). Money will come from all Institutes and Centers except CIT, CSR, and CC, and will be based on their percentage of base appropriations. The goal is to have multiple success stories by 2014 that will confirm and engender further support to continue the program. He emphasized that the OPPNET group has not made any definite plans, but right now they are talking about how best to create a strategic plan, including how to best reach out to the community to identify gaps in the NIH research portfolio that OPPNET can fill.

The third guest speaker was Dr. Ivy Estabrooke, Office of Naval Research. The Office of Naval Research supports the Navy and Marine Corps and started by funding basic research. 40% of funding is dedicated to discovery and innovation. ONR funding is split between university and industry research. Grant applications are peer reviewed, with an eye toward what is needed in the field. Project managers are encouraged to take on riskier projects, with the only guidance being: "Does the research fall within the strategy of ONR." Right now, ongoing research highlights include rapid training; teaching accurate, rapid decision-making; human capitol planning and effective selection procedures in the context of the Navy and Marines; inoculation of brain/mind injuries; understanding how people respond to reports and how to make reports more user friendly; quick and effective data exploitation; understanding socio-cultural environments; and neuro-markers of trust, to name a few. The last two guest speakers were Drs. Allison Smith and Darren Wilson, Department of Homeland Security. Dr. Smith talked about how this division uses social and physical science to improve identification and analysis of threats and how it serves the broad Department of Defense community. Some examples of current social and behavioral research include identifying group characteristics and establishing consistent definitions, as well as developing a better understanding of certain communities in order

to develop countermeasures. Dr. Wilson introduced his new division whose mission is to maximize human performance and safety in the field. Current research includes optimizing technology for more accurate threat detection and training TSA screeners. Finally, there was a conversation with the new Director of the National Science Foundation's Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences Directorate (SBE), Dr. Myron Gutmann. The staff of SBE are here to help the community and are always interested in hearing about the cutting edge work in our fields. Priorities for the future include interdisciplinary research, technological improvements, data and data sharing, increased infrastructure (referring to databases or shared resources), innovation, and capacity building for the next generation of SBE scientists. Dr. Gutmann highlighted the importance of communicating the contributions of basic behavioral and brain sciences to the public and policy makers.

As I have noted before, it is impressive to see how FABBS and its Foundation go about meeting the various needs of behavioral scientists and behavioral research. Problems are identified, often by constituent societies, and are addressed effectively, often by influencing people who make decisions.

I will continue to inform the MNS membership of Federation news regarding advocacy efforts, as well as education and communication activities and funding opportunities for the brain-behavior sciences.



*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: Beth Caillouet, Ph.D., Roger Cohen, Ph.D., Murdo Dowds, Ph.D., Margaret Lanca, Ph.D., Carol Leavell, Ph.D., Betsy Leonard, Ph.D., Joseph E. Moldover, Psy.D., Clare O'Callaghan, Ph.D., NP, Dana Penney, Ph.D., Linda Podbros, Ph.D., Joel Rosenbaum, Ph.D., Sandie Shaheen, Ph.D., and Jeff Sheer, Ph.D.

## Membership Director Update

*Jennifer Turek Queally, Ph.D.*

Our membership continues to grow and we are excited to welcome several new members over the past few months. For additional information on membership or for 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 2010 MNS Membership Drive: We will continue with our "Get Connected" drive throughout the membership year. Invite a lapsed MNS member to reconnect OR invite a new regular member to receive certificates for CEs or reduced membership dues. Please see the membership page of the website for additional information and rules.

~ The Board of MNS would like to welcome the following new members since October of 2009. We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming MNS events.

### Regular Members

Jessica Leavell, PhD  
Susan Parks, PhD  
Sheba Kumbhani, PhD  
Peter Entwistle, PhD

### Associate Members

Michael Goldberg, PhD  
Edward Barnoski, PhD  
Laura Brown Coulam, PhD  
Doriana Chialant, PhD

### Student Members

Beth Caillouet, PhD  
Joe Poler, MA  
Patricia Lee, MA  
Mirella Diaz-Santos, MA

## Report on the Annual Meeting of the Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences

*Linda Zoe Podbros, PhD*  
*MNS Federation Representative*

Once again, I represented MNS at the annual meeting of the Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences (FABBS) in Washington D.C December 7, 2009. The day long meeting, held in the APA building in the midst of Capitol Hill, had a full agenda that included a summary of the year's activities, proposed plans, and talks from invited guests. Highlights of the day follow.

Paula Skedsvold, PhD, Executive Director, said that President Obama made a commitment to double the federal investment in science. Although his focus has been on the funding of physics, engineering, and biomedical research, FABBS has been working to ensure that behavioral and brain sciences are included on such agendas. As part of its advocacy efforts, FABBS continually works for sustained and future funding opportunities for the sciences of mind, brain, and behavior. FABBS advocates for these sciences in a number of ways: coalitions, Congressional testimony, and Congressional visits.

The FABBS Foundation supports the educational and communication mission of FABBS. During this past year, the Foundation completed work on a book, *Psychology and the Real World: Essays Illustrating Fundamental Contributions to Society*, to be published in early 2010. This book contains essays from many prominent researchers explaining the importance and relevance of the behavioral and brain sciences in the real world. Worth Publishers will publish the book and package it with introductory psychology texts. I recommend that consideration of this book by those of you who teach. It will also be available for purchase separately, with all royalties being paid to FABBS.

In September, the FABBS Foundation hosted a Science Café, *Relieving Stress: Research Helps Children and Adults Cope*. The Café was the first event to be webcast live to a broader audience outside the DC area. Shelley Taylor (UCLA) and Ellen Galinsky (Families and Work Institute) were the speakers for the Café. In the coming year, the FABBS Foundation will develop new ways to educate the public about our sciences, with a focus on "new media" and interactive communication channels. Also, the FABBS Foundation continues to support and investigate the idea of a Psychology X Prize. Some ideas for the X Prize challenge are communication with neurology "locked-in" patients,

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In June we are once more looking forward to a very exciting Science Symposium. We are very happy to provide our members with a fascinating speaker, Dr. Ann McKee. At the Science Symposium, we will have our always interesting and well-attended poster session, and we will also provide attendees the opportunity to view a video of Dr. Edith Kaplan's memorial service. Thanks are gladly given to Dr. Michael Cirillo and Dr. Shaheen for their countless hours and persistence devoted to creating a stimulating and collegial Science Symposium presented in a warm and sumptuous setting.

A thank you is also in order to Dr. Maxine Krenzel, our Past President, for the many and various way she has supported the organization in this past year.

And of course, we would not have this newsletter at all if it wasn't for the effort of our estimable newsletter editors, Dr. Cirillo and Dr. Cynthia Levinson. Thank you for an inclusive, thorough and interesting publication. This newsletter is a 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 to you. Most importantly, we are also seeking ways to streamline publication costs through offering an electronic only 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.

Members, again, as in the fall, 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. 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 to help us 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 on the listserv can be found through e-mailing [admin@massneuropsychology.org](mailto:admin@massneuropsychology.org). Above all, please stay involved by visiting our new website when it is available! Feel free to contact any of the individuals on the board if you have any questions, concerns or input. Contact information and benefits of membership can be found on our website: <http://massneuropsychology.org>.

And finally, thank you members, for being members! I look forward to continuing my service on the Board as Past President. I will continue to collaborate directly with our next

year's president, Sandie Shaheen, whom, as you can see from all of her efforts this year, is in fine shape to take on the reins of president next year!

## 2010 MNS Science Symposium

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

The MNS Board of Directors is excited to announce the 2010 Science Symposium to be held at Veronique in the Longwood Towers on Tuesday, June 8, 2010. Veronique is a beautiful space located at 20 Chapel Street in Brookline, MA 02446. You can get a sneak preview of the room by visiting their website at <http://www.longwoodevents.com/Venues/Veronique/>

Under event suites click on "The Club" to see the particular room where we will hold the event. We will be offering hors d'oeuvres this year rather than a formal sit-down dinner. In addition, the event has been shortened and the cost significantly lowered in part due to very generous support from Pearson Assessment.

You can register for the event at the MNS website.

As noted in a recent announcement this year's guest speaker will be Ann McKee, M.D., Associate Professor of Neurology and Pathology and Director of the Neuropathology Core at Boston University School of Medicine Alzheimer's Disease Center. Her intriguing work examining the neuropathology of former NFL players who have suffered multiple concussions has been the recent focus of attention in national news and media, including the CBS news program 60-minutes and a cover story in Time Magazine. Dr. McKee will present new and exciting findings from her data in her Science Symposium talk entitled: *Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy in Athletes: an update*

Also as part of this year's Symposium we are pleased to again host a poster session. The poster session will provide a forum for researchers in neuropsychology to share their work with local scientists and clinicians, and an opportunity for our membership to keep abreast of current neuropsychological research.

We are now calling for submission of poster abstracts from any area of neuropsychological research. Research that represents a collaborative effort and/or work that has been previously presented at other meetings is welcome. Accepted posters will be displayed from 6:00 PM until about 7:15 PM at Veronique. Please plan on a 48" by 48" maximum size (unless you presented a larger poster at INS which you would like to use). An MNS review committee

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will enter all posters having a student or fellow as senior author into a judging competition. **One student/fellow will be awarded the Nelson Butters Award for Scholarship in Neuropsychology for best poster, along with a cash prize of \$250.00.** Please note: Poster submissions are welcomed from all; BUT, *only student/fellow first authors* will be eligible for the Nelson Butters Award.

**DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF ABSTRACTS IS:  
Friday, May 14, 2010.**

Please submit poster abstracts electronically to Michael Cirillo, Ph.D., at michaelcirillo@hotmail.com. Additional documentation and a poster abstract submission form was distributed to all members in an earlier email. Feel free to e-mail or call Dr. Cirillo at 508-791-3677 if you have any questions. Please encourage all your colleagues to submit abstracts.

**The evening's events will unfold as follows:**

Registration and poster set-up: 5:00PM - 6:00PM  
Poster Session and Reception: 6:00PM - 7:15 PM  
Announcements and Guest Speaker: 7:30 PM - 8:40 PM  
Nelson Butters Award and closing remarks: 8:40 - 8:45 PM  
Event ends at 9:00 PM

Be sure to set aside Tuesday, June 8th on your calendars. We are looking forward to a great event and hope to see you there!

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## Continuing Education Update

*Maureen K. O'Connor, Psy.D., ABPP-CN,  
and Sandra Shaheen, Ph.D. ABPdN  
MNS Continuing Education Program  
Committee*

### **New Topics, New Speakers Attract Record Attendance at Continuing Education Series!**

This year's lecture series spans topics in adult and pediatric neuropsychology, oncology, sports concussion, psychiatry and professional affairs. Our lectures have attracted record attendance and our new pre-registration system ensures that you get a seat! Given the high number of attendees at our recent series this year we encourage members to register on-line.

MNS welcomes Dr. Robb Mapou on April 13 from 7 to 9pm for a talk on "The Case for Comprehensive Assessment of Learning Disabilities in Adults." Dr.

Mapou's book, Adult Learning Disabilities and ADHD: Research Informed Assessment was released by Oxford University Press in 2008. Dr. Mapou received his Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Emory University and completed pre- and post-doctoral training in neuropsychology in Atlanta and in Boston. He is a clinician in Silver Spring, MD, where he specializes in the evaluation of adolescents and adults with learning disabilities and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). Dr. Mapou served as Vice President (2002-04) and then President (2004-06) of the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology. He holds faculty appointments in the Department of Neurology at Georgetown University School of Medicine, and the Departments of Psychiatry and Neurology at the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. Dr. Mapou will discuss the research basis for assessment of learning disabilities and present a rationale for comprehensive evaluation.

**\*\*Please NOTE that Dr. Mapou's lecture will be held at an earlier starting time of 7pm.**

On May 4, 2010, Dr. Rhoda Au, our honored Kaplan speaker of 2010, will speak to us about "Implementing Qualitative Neuropsychological Scoring methods in a large community based cohort study: Lessons from the Framingham Heart Study." Dr. Au was nominated for this prestigious award by the late and much missed Dr. Edith Kaplan, who expressed gratitude for Dr. Au's work to bring qualitative scoring methods to the Framingham project, as well as her strong commitment to mentoring future neuropsychologists.

We look forward to June 8 Science Symposium speaker Dr. Ann McKee who will speak on long-term encephalopathy associated with traumatic brain injury. Please see more detail in other sections of this newsletter.

### **Recent speakers**

After a capacity turnout to hear Robin Johnson on Insurance Reimbursement matters for neuropsychology in September, members gathered on October 6, 2009 for the much anticipated talk by Dr. Tony Giuliano on "Neurocognition in Bipolar Disorder." Dr. Giuliano provided a clinically relevant overview of the emerging neuropsychology of bipolar disorder.

On November 3<sup>rd</sup> the society was pleased to hear Dr. Angela Jefferson, Associate Professor in Neurology at Boston University in the Alzheimer's Disease Center, talk about the relationship between vascular risk factors, cardiac function, and brain aging. Dr. Jefferson provided emerging evidence linking cardiac function to neurodegenerative

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disease in aging with a compelling focus on the clinical implications for our aging population. Dr. Jefferson's commitment to improving the science of aging in an effort to enhance the lives of our aging population was clear and we look forward to future findings from her ongoing endeavors.

Dr. Margaret O'Connor presented on "Driving and Dementia: Clinical Guidelines to Assist the At Risk Older Driver" at our December 1 meeting. Dr. O'Connor is a developer of DriveWise, 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. Members attending the talk gained a stronger appreciation for the importance of driving safety and evaluation.

MNS member and Director of the Neuropsychology Program at Children's Hospital Dr. Celiane Rey-Casserly started the new year with a thorough review in "Neuropsychological Outcomes in Childhood Brain Tumors." Attendees left with a comprehensive understanding of the classification of childhood brain tumors, common neurobehavioral outcomes, and current treatment.

Dr. Peter Entwistle presented on the new Wechsler Memory Scale and Advanced Clinical Solutions in a January 26 workshop. He described Pearson's interest using feedback from the Society on test length, modularity, and inclusion of scales measuring social awareness and motivation, both which are incorporated in the ACS product. Dr. Entwistle, clinical measurement consultant for New York and New England for Pearson Corporation has kindly provided previous workshops in new and new edition tests. He has invited member feedback in prepublication trials of the WAIS-IV and lauded the Society for organizing work groups which helped influence subtest inclusion for new tests.

### **APA Accreditation for the Continuing Education Program**

The continuing education committee submits program data annually to APA and works to ensure that we meet APA standards for continuing education for psychologists. Thank you for completing the assessment questionnaires to help us ensure quality and relevant programming. Announcements and updates regarding our Continuing Education series are always available on massneuropsychology.org.

### **Member Participation**

In the last year, we have been pre-registering monthly events to ensure space for the popular series. We have

offered two and three hour workshops for certain meetings, to address some member requests for longer programs. The CE Committee has a number of opportunities for volunteers. Any member, associate or student member is eligible to help. To find out how to get involved please contact Maureen K. O'Connor at maureen.oconnor@va.gov.

We are always interested in member suggestions for engaging speakers and formats and encourage members to contact us with proposals. Talks are open to non-members, too, so let your colleagues and students know about our programs!

Please remember to join us for refreshments prior to the talks from 7-7:30. This is your opportunity to catch up with your peers and meet other professionals in the area! Look for more opportunities to network, and to share ideas for participating in the INS program when it comes to Boston in 2011.

Thank you for your support! We look forward to sharing the Spring series with you!

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## Professional Affairs Note

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

Your Professional Affairs Committee (PAC) has continued to work hard on your behalf to address issues that affect the practice of neuropsychology in the state of Massachusetts and throughout the country. A full report of our recent and planned activities can be found on the MNS website in the Members-Only section, where you can find the slides from the PAC's recent presentation at the open board meeting on March 2. These activities range from renewing our collaborations with local, regional, and national neuropsychology groups; expanding our joint advocacy with the Massachusetts Psychological Association to include conversations with multiple insurance carriers; exploring new avenues for advocacy in conjunction with Attorney Robin Johnson; and creating a "toolbox" of forms and resources to help neuropsychologists newly setting up a practice in our state. Please see the slide handout in the Members- Only section of the website for more information about these and other issues, including some helpful tips on navigating the pre-authorization process. We also want to remind members to fill out the easy-to-navigate Insurance Incident Report Form if you have a problem with an insurance carrier, so that we can keep abreast of issues and problems affecting our members.

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