



OSPA TODAY

THE NEWLETTER FOR OKLAHOMA SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS

OSPA Spring Conference 2011

The 2011 OSPA Spring Conference will be held at Francis Tuttle Vo-Tech in NW Oklahoma City on April 1st. Our guest speaker for the morning will be Dr. Amy McCart, associate to Dr. Laura Riffel and speaking on Positive Behavior. Dr. McCart will also have an afternoon break-out session on Bullying. In addition, there will be other break-out sessions on Ethics and a Q & A discussion panel for students entering the profession. All OSPA workshops are approved for NCSP renewals points. Lunch will be catered by Ted's Escondido and is included in the conference price. Go www.opsaweb.org for more information.

Award Nominations Needed

Nominations are needed for the *Faye Catlett Award for Outstanding School Psychologist*. Criteria are: OSPA and NASP member, provides school psychological services in line with NASP standards, performs job in an exemplary manner, membership or leadership in local/ state/national associations. Award nomination information is on the OSPA website (www.opsaweb.org). Contact Nicole Farnell for more information or for a copy of the nomination form. Due March 15th. Contact Nicole Farnell: nchristopher@putnamcityschools.org or 440-821-4588.

WebVolume 1, Issue 1 Feb. 2011

The OSPA Newsletter is changing publication formats to a monthly one-page electronic newsletter. Submit any brief articles or information to Karen Farmer, farmwifek20@yahoo.com.

FYE: for your entertainment...

Who am I?



Newsletter Spotlight

NEW! JOB BOARD

Now Available! OSPA is now offering a Job Board for members and employers. Post your employment availability status and market yourself around the state to prospective school districts and employers. Go to www.opsaweb.org for more details.

A Freudian Slip is when you say something and mean your mother.



Happenings at East Central University

The East Central University School Psychological Services Certification Program wishes to welcome to our ranks a new face but an old friend. Dr. Santa Velez has decided to make the move from her service to the Norman Public Schools to faculty and co-program leader at ECU. We are excited, I am excited, and I hope you will all join the ECU family in congratulating Santa on her new project.

With Dr. Velez joining the ECU program, we will be at full faculty strength. We can resume our progress toward NASP accreditation. Once that is complete, all three school psychology programs in Oklahoma will be NASP accredited.

The future of the profession of school psychology is bright. The future of school psychology in Oklahoma is bright. With the move to ECU by Santa Velez, the future of school psychology at ECU is bright. -Rich Putnam

NCSP BONUS STIPEND VICTORY:

A VERY CLOSE CALL

By Candis Hogan, PhD, NCSP, LPC

NASP GPR Central Region Representative

hcandis@juno.com
405-819-9063

Last summer, State Supt. Sandy Garrett did not fully fund the NCSP/SLP Bonus Revolving Fund. After consulting with Mona Ryan, OSHA's GPR Chair, it was hard to obtain the amount of money in the fund from the State Dept. DEA lobbyist Pat Smith checked often with the State Supt., reassuring she would "take care of us." In Dec., Mona Ryan discovered our fund was roughly \$3 million short of the amount to fully pay the \$5K NCSP/SLP bonus stipend. Later, Garrett told Mona she would add up to \$500K to the fund and any "leftover funds" AFTER she paid the Nationally Certified Teachers the full \$5K bonus stipend. At the 1/27/11 State Board of Ed. Meeting, questions arose as to the Legislature's intent to fund nationally certified educators equally/differently. After revealing favor of equity, the Board voted UNANIMOUSLY for funding all nationally certified educators equally. We are thankful we earned this vote for our equity issue. OSPA's ongoing collaboration with NASP, DEA and OSHA were important in achieving this victory. We owe gratitude to those who contacted State School Board members on our behalf—superintendents, administrators, school psych's, SLP's and others. This was an opportunity to educate State School Board members and our new State Superintendent about school psychology as a profession. This issue, as well as the recent APA Model Licensure Act threat, underlines need for a strong OSPA Government and Professional Relations committee, with members from every state region. Yearly, the State Supt. decides on funding to put in the NCSP-SLP Revolving Fund. Please contact me with questions, more info, or to join OSPA's GPR committee. For the NCSP bonus stipends to continue, OSPA must monitor these issues affecting OK school psychologists on a continued basis. Lay a positive foundation in Oklahoma school psychology by educating school administrators and legislators about the NASP Practice Model (www.nasponline.org/standards/practice-model/Practice_Model_Brochure.pdf).

Important Dates

- **Mar. 31st** OSPA Board Mtg
- **Apr. 1st** OSPA Spring Conference
- **July 11-13th** NASP Summer Conference Indianapolis, IN
- **July 25th-27th** NASP Summer Conference Atlantic City, NJ

Questions or Comments or Feedback? Please contact Karen Farmer: farmwifek20@yahoo.com