

Society for Personality Assessment Foundation
Spring Board of Trustees Meeting
March 4-5, 2009
The Westin Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL

PRESENT

Members: Virginia Brabender, Robert Erard, Irving Weiner, Barton Evans, Carol Overton, Bob Bornstein, Ginger Calloway, Ronald Ganellen, Jane Sachs, Martin Sellbom, Gregory Meyer, Bruce Smith, Jed Yalof

Central Office: Paula Garber (Administrative Director)

Visitors: Stephen Finn (UAR Committee Chair), Kevin Bradley (Taylor & Frances), William Haire (Travel Consultant).

Utility of Assessment Research Fundraising Update

The UAR Committee provided an updated written report. The original UAR project was withdrawn, due to unsuccessful recruitment of subjects. All but \$3,500 of the funding will be returned. The Committee reconvened and studied the proposal submitted by Steven Smith, who is currently working on revisions the Committee recommended. In this study, graduate students will be doing the consultations and the assessments. A concern is that use of students doing the assessments may dilute differences between groups. Jed Yalof asked if there is a way to build in a stage process of review. Bruce Smith said that this will be done, with Steve Smith providing regular reports and SPA providing incremental funding. If the study is going well the board could decide to increase funding to get larger groups. It was noted that the study uses a form of therapeutic assessment, which is not the focus of many practices.

Martin Sellbom suggested considering new proposals; however, Bruce Smith said such an endeavor would entail too long a process, as the current project was initiated in 2002.

The Board discussed the need for funding, and obtaining grant money. Greg Meyer said that test publishers were generally not interested in funding a study unless it used their instruments. We might explore the possibility of funding from the new federal agency looking into efficacy of treatment.

Barton Evans moved we accept the Smith project for funding. The motion carried, with two opposed. Robert Erard will mention this project in his remarks today and send a personalized letter to all who contributed.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Groves Overton

Society for Personality Assessment Foundation
Fall Board of Trustees Meeting
September 11-13, 2009
Westin Tyson's Corner

PRESENT

Members: Robert Erard, Radhika Krishnamurthy, Virginia Brabender, Barton Evans, Carol Overton, Ginger Calloway, Ronald Ganellen, David Nichols, Christopher Hopwood, Gregory Meyer, Bruce Smith

Central Office: Paula Garber (Administrative Director).

A motion was made to elect Radhika Krishnamurthy, David Nichols, Christopher Hopwood, and Steven Smith to the Foundation Board. The motion carried.

A. Exner Scholar Award Submissions

The Exner Scholar Award is not an honorarium, but is given for general research support, that is, not for a specific project. Awardees are researchers, early in their careers, whom the Board deems have promise in the area of personality research. Virginia Brabender suggested we have a mechanism for gauging the success of Awardees' programs, perhaps a synopsis of what their research activities were during the year. The Award Committee, comprised of Bruce Smith, Radika Krishnamurthy, and Steven Finn, will articulate such a mechanism.

The Award Committee was unanimous in suggesting that Dustin Wygant be this year's recipient. A motion was made that Dr. Wygant be elected as the 2010 John E. Exner Scholar. The motion carried.

B. Buena Vista Foundation proposals

1. Offering, through SPA Foundation, several small grants for research

The Buena Vista Foundation may be interested in offering small research grants, or a yearly award in Paul Lerner's name. If they have special interests we could assist them in putting out an RFT. Alternatively, Virginia Brabender suggested they sponsor some aspect of our conference, and Radika Krishnamurthy suggested they fund an SPA initiative. Bruce Smith will explore the possibilities.

2. Offering, through the SPA Foundation, money for a yearly award in the name of Paul Lerner

Some Board members were against a proliferation of awards, and suggested, instead, naming functions, for example, for Paul Lerner. We could ask the Lerner family if they would be in favor of a Paul Lerner Master Lecture.

C. Utility of Assessment Project

The Utility of Assessment Project has started data collection, although no funds have been requested as of yet. The Board should ask formally for the quarterly report we decided upon at an earlier meeting. Steven Finn will obtain the report and report back to the Board.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Groves Overton