STUDENT REP UPDATE

SCCAP RECAP OF THE APA CONVENTION AND DISTINGUISHED CAREER ADDRESS: THE STUDENT PERSPECTIVE

By Elizabeth Moroney and Leigh Spivey SCCAP Student Representatives

This summer's APA convention in San Francisco was a success for the student members of SCCAP, particularly given outgoing SCCAP President Steve Lee's goal of improving student mentorship. As such, the Student Advisory Board hosted two successful events for student members during the convention: a Mentorship Program Meet and Greet/Q&A, in which current and interested mentors and mentees of our Mentorship program came together to socialize and discuss the program, and a Speed Mentoring session in which SCCAP students received short mentorship sessions from five members of SCCAP's Executive Board related to applying to graduate school and clinical internship, current research projects, and professional development. Feedback from attendees was extremely positive.

At the convention, SCCAP also acknowledged a number of students for their distinguished professional achievements, giving four student achievement awards in research (one undergraduate and three graduate student winners) and a new clinical achievement award for outstanding accomplishments in evidence-based clinical practice and bridging science and practice. In addition, SCCAP awarded five poster awards in different categories for students presenting at APA, many of whom attended the SCCAP Awards Ceremony to accept their certificate and network with SCCAP members.

Also at the SCCAP Awards Ceremony, Carolyn Webster-Stratton, Ph.D., creator of the Incredible Years program, delivered the SCCAP Distinguished Career Address: "38 incredible years." The innovation of the Incredible Years Programs: Where have we been and where do we go from here?"

Webster-Stratton introduced her talk with the help of her puppet friend Wally Problem Solver (puppets play a large role in the Incredible Years curriculum for introducing and practicing skills). Her lively demeanor

continued throughout her presentation and conveyed her lifelong passion for service delivery to at-risk families. Webster-Stratton shared her story of how she became an innovator, including her family's history of bringing about change to flawed systems and experiences integrating modern medicine with traditional approaches in Sierra Leone, Alaska, Canada, and other parts of Africa. She discussed the impact of mentors throughout her career, as well as the importance of understanding a family's goals and background in order to bring about change She also emphasized the use of technology, especially video, as a therapeutic tool and how to persist through the "messiness" that ultimately leads to innovation.

Webster-Stratton described the Incredible Years program as a system of evidence-based interventions that is expanding to new horizons: Incredible Beginnings for children as young as one year and their day care providers; home-based delivery of Incredible Years; prevention programs for babies; and a teacher classroom management program modeled after IY. She stressed the importance of coaching, consultation, and practice for increasing fidelity in treatment. She encouraged continued research to investigate the effects of quality support, peer coaching, accreditation, and organizational support for promoting group leader fidelity delivery, expanding the Incredible Years system to developing countries, and evaluating outcomes that have not yet been explored within the framework, such as the impact of the Incredible Years program on increasing healthy lifestyles.

Webster-Stratton represents innovation in all the best ways: she has unlimited passion, understands how to persevere through the messy parts of the innovative process, and is not afraid to enlist the help of her support system (human or puppet) to help her achieve her goals.



Carolyn Webster-Stratton, Ph.D., delivers the SCCAP Distinguished Career Address with the help of her puppet friend, Wally Problem Solver.



Executive Board member, Tim Cavell, Ph.D., meets with an SCCAP student member during Speed Mentoring.



Executive Board member, Adam Miller, Ph.D., provides guidance during Speed Mentoring.