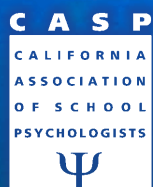


# California Association of School Psychologists

ANNUAL REPORT | 2016-2017



## **CASP Vision Statement**

*The Vision of the California Association of School Psychologists is to foster the social, emotional and academic wellbeing of all students by collaborating with families, school staff, and the community to ensure that students are educated in schools that support equity, access, and respect for all.*

Adopted by the Board of Directors in November 2014

## **CASP Mission Statement**

*CASP's Mission is to provide high quality educational and leadership programs that maintain high standards of practice for school psychologists through legislative advocacy, professional development, communications, publications, ethics guidelines, and direct services to members, to enable the growth and development of the profession, and to ensure safe, healthy, and successful outcomes for the children, schools and communities we serve.*

Adopted by the Board of Directors in December 2014

## **CASP Executive Committee**

President: Tom Sopp  
[tsopp@lbschools.net](mailto:tsopp@lbschools.net)

Past President: Troy Xavier Leonard  
[loveandxradio@gmail.com](mailto:loveandxradio@gmail.com)

President-Elect: Pedro Olvera  
[dr.pedro.olvera@gmail.com](mailto:dr.pedro.olvera@gmail.com)

Seble Gebremedhin, Secretary-Treasurer  
[Seble.bg@gmail.com](mailto:Seble.bg@gmail.com)

## **CASP Executive Director**

Heidi Holmblad  
[executivedirector@casponline.org](mailto:executivedirector@casponline.org)

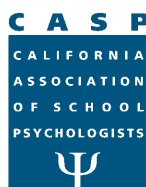
## **Contact CASP:**

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**Note to Readers:** This is the Annual Report of CASP’s activities for the academic and fiscal year that ended June 30, 2017. The CASP Board has achieved significant milestones as a result of its efforts, and these accomplishments will benefit the students of California and the profession of School Psychology. Thanks to all board members and staff who contributed to this effort.



## CASP Accomplishments in 2016-2017



At CASP's August 2016 retreat on the Queen Mary in Long Beach the Board came together to develop a list of goals that it wanted to accomplish during the year. CASP President Tom Sopp compiled a list of tasks and these were achieved during his 2016-2017 term:

- Completed first year of mentorship program pairing new psychologists with seasoned professionals in the field.
- Re-started Riverside and Kern affiliates.
- Near meeting CASP's two-year goal of 2,000 members in the first year; with a high mark of over 1800 members.
- Operation ACSA: Laid plans to market school psychologist expertise and LCAP skills, top-down.
- Hosted more than over 1,000 participants at the CASP Annual Convention; a level of attendance not accomplished since 2005.
- Recognized an Outstanding School Psychologist from every region at CASP Convention 2016.
- Began measuring affiliate health (pre-, mid-term, and post-test) via a survey.
- Recruited Convention Chair Amy Balmano to a board appointed three-year position.
- Enhanced member data collection.
- Published a new online LEP Directory at [CASPOnline.org](http://CASPOnline.org)
- Initiated a dialogue with CDE regarding lifting the Larry P. ban and expanded the stakeholders (see below).
- Started paper on virtual counseling in schools.

### Strategic Plan Update

The Board replaced its five-year strategic plan with a two-year plan to better reflect the changes happening in student mental health services. At the halfway mark of the 2016-18 Strategic Plan, board members and staff have made strides in the membership, marketing, advocacy and resources goals.

**Membership:** The Membership Committee is exploring competitions, surveys, partnerships with other states and other recruitment efforts to increase association membership. See the Membership Committee report on page 14.

**Marketing:** Membership marketing tools were updated and placed online for Board members, Alumni Club members and others to use in recruitment efforts. Board members participated in a contest in which the person with the highest number of presentations on CASP membership will receive a one-year CASP membership.

**Advocacy:** Invited special education directors to bring PPS teams to the convention, updated the student section of the CASP website.

**Resources:** Developing an agreement with Alliant University to provide new webinars for the CASP website. Plus, resources are continually being updated.

## Appointments, Meetings, Advances

In December, CASP President Thomas Sopp, Legislative Committee Chair Doug Siembieda, Executive Director Heidi Holmblad and lobbyist Laura Wasco met with California's new Director of Special Education Kristin Wright. Among the topics discussed were Local Control Funding Formula and the Larry P. case and how it affects school psychology.

In April, the Larry P. case was again the focus at a meeting with attorneys from Fagen, Friedman and Fulfrost regarding violations found in Oakland and Berkeley by the state Department of Education. CASP was represented at the meeting by Region II Representative James Hiramoto, Former CASP President Brandon Gamble, CASP President Thomas Sopp, Legislative Committee Chair Doug Siembieda and Executive Director Heidi Holmblad. While the attorneys and representatives of the two school districts, other attorneys and lobbyists were interested in finding a way to allow school psychologists to test African American students for learning challenges, they soon came to an agreement with CDE regarding the school districts' violations.

However, CASP generated interest in the issue with CDE, attorneys with the School Boards Association and others. With the help of Lobbyists Laura Wasco and Jeff Frost, CASP Legislative Chair Doug Siembieda and former President Brandon Gamble were appointed to the advisory group for Significant Disproportionality in California.

President-Elect Pedro Olvera was appointed to the AB 2785 Work Group, which is charged with creating a California ELL Special Education Manual.

Pupil Services Coalition: Heidi Holmblad continued as chair of the Coalition for the 2016-17 school year. The coalition invited the Mental Health Services Oversight and Advisory Commission Executive Director and staff member to a PSC meeting to discuss school based mental health services. The MHSOAC also held a focus group at a PSC meeting to get a more in depth understanding of mental health services in the schools.

AB 2246 implementation: CASP current and former board members Susan Coats, Richard Lieberman and Stephen Brock offered comprehensive comments regarding the regulations for the new law, which mandates that all school districts have a Suicide Prevention Policy in place by August 2017.

Operation ACSA: Set up a meeting with Alicia Ausura, ACSA Educational Services Executive, to discuss potential partnerships with the administrator group. This meeting was attended by CASP Board members Thomas Sopp, president; Doug Siembieda, Legislative Chair; Susan Coats, Crisis and Mental Health Specialist; Barbara D'Incau, Advocacy and Leadership Chair, as well as lobbyist Jeff Frost and Executive Director Heidi Holmblad. From that meeting, Operation ACSA was formed. CASP Region Representatives contact ACSA regional presidents to discuss and offer potential workshops and information on how school psychologists can assist with LCAP goals. Still in its infancy, the program is expected to continue next year. Also, CASP Legislative Chair Doug Siembieda was appointed to ACSA's Student Services & Special Education Council.

## Executive Director's Report and Fiscal Report

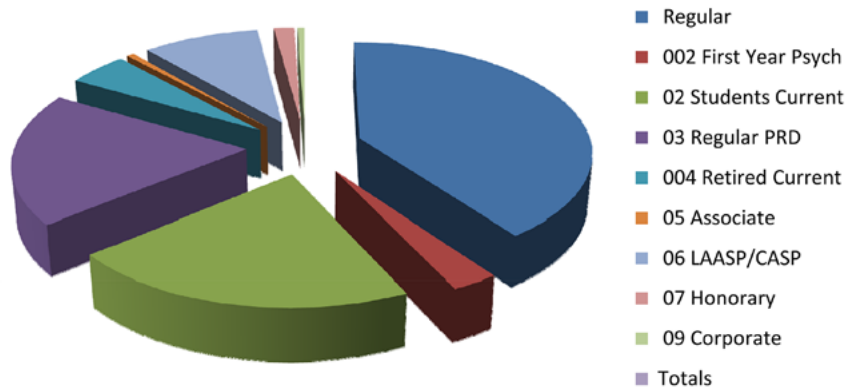


Executive Director Heidi Holmblad is completing her fourth year as Executive Director of CASP. Financially speaking, CASP remained in a holding pattern for much of the year, with an uptick in investments at the end.

CASP has continued its financial relationship with Wells Fargo Advisors and changed the slow-growth strategy to one slightly more aggressive – without changing the association's investment policy. This resulted in a doubling over last year of income from investments, with the fund now standing at \$110,000. CASP's annual budget for 2016-2017 was \$601,000. However, actual income was \$628,770, leaving CASP with net income of about \$45,000.

### Membership:

The goal was 2,000 members and CASP is well on its way to reaching that figure. By October 2016, CASP had 1,800 members, mainly because that is the month in which the convention was held. Since moving to a year-round membership, CASP's membership numbers change monthly, depending on CASP events. Here are the 2016-2017 average totals for the membership categories:



### Other CASP Accomplishments:

**CASP Convention 2016.** Strong presentations, fun networking opportunities and fundraising events are just some of what contributed to making CASP Fall Convention 2016 the most successful convention in seven years. The event held at Hyatt Regency Newport Beach brought in 1,035 attendees continuing its growth of attendees by 195 from 2015, and produced a net profit of \$215,500.

The Town Hall Meeting drew in its most attendees since the meetings began prior to the start of Spring Conference 2014. It explored methods that can be used to best solve trauma issues with guest panelists Dr. Pedro Noguera, Distinguished Professor of Education in the Graduate School of Education and Information Sciences at UCLA, and Dr. Regalena "Reggie" Melrose, psychologist and educational consultant. Moderated by California State University, Long Beach, Professor and former CASP President Dr. Brandon Gamble, the panel discussion with audience participation examined the role schools may in the issue.

After CASP President Tom Sopp's address, Convention kick-off day began with the General Session with keynote Dr. Noguera's keynote presentation provided a well-rounded background on the theme of the convention, "Advocacy and Intervention for Traumatized Youth." His inspiring presentation touched on the need to focus more on the strengths of



traumatized children saying that, “When we focus on the weaknesses we sometimes reinforce those weaknesses.” Dr. Noguera stressed the importance of centering in on the strengths of all students and getting them to a position where they can take control of their lives and be empowered, not just as learners, but as people.

The following day’s General Session featured keynote David G. Esquith, director of the U.S. Office of Safe and Healthy Students, described the challenges that school districts across the nation face in their efforts to improve school climate and safety. He delved into the issue of bullying, presenting data that showed it had gone down across the nation in the past three years, decreasing to 22 percent (one out of five kids) in the most recent statistics calculated in 2013. “It’s still a lot. But the fact that we made some improvement is encouraging. We assume that this has happened because there has been a lot of attention paid to bullying at the local, state and federal levels, and the collective efforts are paying off,” he said.

The featured workshops, mini-skills sessions, papers and posters were geared toward the best ways to understand and benefit traumatized youth the convention, Other activities included Casino Night with proceeds raised to fund the California School Psychology Foundation’s Paul Henkin and Cultural and Linguistic Diversity Scholarships. And CASP members joined on the last day of the Convention for an early morning 5k Fun Run/Walk through Newport Beach’s Back Bay to benefit the Political Action Committee.

Other activities included a special gathering for students and get together for the CASP Alumni Club - and those who visited the Exhibit Hall enjoyed exhibitors that offered services and products catered to the latest in school psychology.

**Spring Institute 2017.** More than 300 attendees joined in beautiful Sonoma Wine Country for CASP Spring Institute 2017, “The Alphabet Soup of School Climate,” on March 23-25. Attendance was close to last year’s amount and there was a slight increase in revenue producing a net profit of \$56,250.

Workshops helped school psychology professionals promote positive school climates in their districts by exploring the current academic, political and community-based trends in the schooling and mental health experiences of African American students and their families; Assessment of Students with Co-Morbid Disorders and Multiple Eligibilities Under IDEIA and ADA; special education mental health; suicide prevention and more.

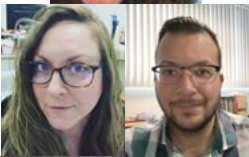
The Student Strand gave students the tools they’ll need to help them build credibility at their first job, find an internship, write reports and advocate for culturally and linguistically diverse learners.

Networking and relaxation opportunities were also well attended, such as the Job Fair, the Welcome Reception and Wine Tasting featuring wines by Enriquez Estates and luncheons with noted keynote speakers in the world of school psychology.

Spring Institute ’17 Day One included luncheon keynote speaker and founder/CEO of Seneca Family of Agencies Ken Berrick’s presentation which advocated the use of school psychologists as the coordinator of mental health services, which would include assistance from non-school agencies. The following day, National Association of School Psychologists (NASP) President Dr. Melissa L. Reeves addressed how school psychologists can help make a difference in the lives of students and teachers by taking “small steps.” Recent NASP updates and key initiatives were shared with the audience.

**THE  
ALPHABET  
SOUP  
OF  
SCHOOL  
CLIMATE**

## Election Results



Each year, CASP membership elects a President-Elect, the first step in a presidential cycle that spans three years. The President-Elect serves for one year and is charged with planning the Spring Institute and serving as Chair of the Personnel Committee, among other duties. The President-Elect becomes President of the Association the following year. In the third year, s/he serves as Past President. For the 2017-2018 term, **Dr. Brian Leung**, professor at Loyola Marymount University, was elected president-elect and will take office on July 1, 2017. On that date, **Dr. Pedro Olvera**, Director of Brandman University's School Psychology program, was to take the reins from Tom Sopp, Long Beach Unified School District school psychologist, as president. Sopp was to become past president.

In odd-numbered years, CASP regional members elect a representative to the board from each odd-numbered region (I, III, V, VII, IX). Each Region Representative serves a two-year term. Region Representatives may serve a maximum of two consecutive terms.

In April 2017, the following Region Representatives were elected and were to take office on July 1:

Region I – **Deanna Fontanes Halliday**

Region III – **Melissa Wood**

Region V – **Reynaldo Vargas**

Region VII – **Gabriel Gutierrez**

Region IX – **Arpita Mandal**

## 2016 Awards



The **Sandra Goff Memorial Award**, awarded each year in recognition of distinguished service in the profession of school psychology in California, was presented to Chapman University School Counseling Graduate Program Coordinator at **Dr. Michael Hass** for his longtime dedication to, knowledge of, and compassion for the school psychology profession. His long list of accomplishments have inspired his students and colleagues alike; they all agree that Dr. Hass' unique combination of compassion, unconditional positive regard for others, sense of humor and gentleness have made him stand out from the rest. With a positive aura and attitude, Hass became a remarkable counselor and, after graduate school, continued to train and study to develop expertise by exploring and perfecting several different theoretical orientations.



CASP officially recognizes the outstanding work of school psychologists through the **Nadine M. Lambert Outstanding School Psychologist** award. Only practicing school psychologists providing direct services to students, teachers, parents, or community agencies are eligible for the OSP award. Recipients must also be CASP members. The Nadine Lambert Outstanding School Psychologist awardees for 2016 were:



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## CASP ANNUAL REPORT | 2016-2017

Region I: **Annalise Puentes**, Windsor Unified School District

Region II: **Frank Worrell**, University of California, Berkeley

Region III: **Alissa Vasquez**, Fresno Unified School District

Region IV: **Mary Barry**, Los Angeles Unified School District

Region V: **Bridgette Meyers**, Long Beach Unified School District

Region VI: **Roger McCoy**, Riverside County SELPA

Region VII: **Rodrigo Enciso**, San Diego Unified School District

Region VIII: **Michelle Valdivieso**, Simi Valley Unified School District

Region IX: **Helen Fernandez**, La Habra City School District

Region X: **Manuel Penalzoa**, Elk Grove Unified School District



The **Paul Henkin Convention Scholarship** is a monetary scholarship awarded by the California School Psychology Foundation to one school psychology student and one first-year school psychologist to attend the convention. The student award was given to **Shannan Listberger** of National University and the professional award to **LaShante Smith** of West Contra Costa Unified School District.



The **Michael Goodman Memorial Research Award** is given to promote research and the scientist-practitioner model in school psychology. **Jessieann Hibbard**, along with co-presenters **Sarah Babcock** and **Dr. Shane Jimerson** of University of California, Santa Barbara, received this prize for their independent research.



**Cultural and Linguistic Diversity** scholarships are presented by the California School Psychology Foundation to encourage and assist students with diverse backgrounds to become school psychologists. **Jennifer Manlimos** of Loyola Marymount University was the 2016 award recipient.

## Region Reports



### Region I – Ryan Pepin, Region Representative

Ryan Pepin reported that his goals for 2016-2017 were met, which were:

- To increase CASP membership among SCASP members.
- To increase volunteers and opportunities for SCASP members to get involved in Spring Institute in Santa Rosa.
- To foster excitement for the Region Rep position and identify motivated individuals for the SCASP board to nominate for next year.
- To help SCASP operations align with CASP vision and practices.
- To continue to check on the progress of a potential creation of a new affiliate in Humboldt.



### Region II - James Hiramoto, Region Representative

Dr. James Hiramoto represents the Bay Area Association of School Psychologists (BAASP) affiliate. This year, his longtime work on making WebEx and Spark! available to Region II affiliates paid off, as they can now use the online websites to host their own meetings and workshops, free of charge, courtesy of a benefactor. If you are and a CASP affiliate in Region II or would like to start an affiliate in the region, and would like to use this meeting service for free, contact Dr. Hiramoto at [casp.region.ii@gmail.com](mailto:casp.region.ii@gmail.com) and he will set up the meeting time for you. If you are unfamiliar with how WebEx works, YouTube has a host of tutorials as does WebEx itself (Spark is integrated into WebEx). Bay Area Association of School Psychologists has the new webpage, [www.baaschoolpsychology.wixsite.com/website](http://www.baaschoolpsychology.wixsite.com/website).



### Region III - Amy Balmanno, Region Representative

Amy Balmanno, a school psychologist in the Central Unified School District, reported that Region III has seen steady membership this year. The three affiliates are viable and continue to grow thanks to strong leadership. Efforts to garner interest in establishment of a Tulare County Affiliate were unsuccessful.

The Kern Association of School Psychologists (KASP) held several workshops and social events this year. They have also seen steady membership. Sarah Rodriguez, President, has relocated to a new region. Melissa Wood will serve as the 2017-2018 KASP President. Melissa was also recently elected to the position of CASP Region III Representative.

The Central Valley Affiliate (CVA-CASP) saw an increase in membership. Activities included workshops held in September, January, and March, and social events in September, November, and May. Two newsletters were published. The executive board of CVA-CASP has

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worked hard this year to provide meaningful professional development activities that offer NASP- and BBS-approved continuing education units (CEUs). The 2017-2018 President of CVA-CASP will be Deeds Gill.

The Stanislaus County Association of School Psychologists (SCASP) has made significant advancements in their revitalization efforts this year thanks to the leadership of President Nel Romo. Nel has been reaching out to districts and SELPAs in the County to bring NASP- and BBS-approved CEUs to area trainings. The Board has been hard at work arranging its schedule of presenters for the 2017-2018 year. SCASP hosted a workshop on language assessments and how to use the WMLS-III, WJ-IV oral (Spanish), and the BVAT effectively and collaboratively, followed by a social event. Plans are underway for the 2017-18 year.



### **Region IV** – Jeannine Topalian, Region Representative

The affiliate, which encompasses the Los Angeles Unified School District, had a slight increase in membership and continued to work on increasing numbers. LAASP held its end of the year Outstanding School Psychologist (OSP) Awards and Retiree Luncheon in May 2017 and in 2016 hosted workshops on LEP preparation, Building Social Learning through Humor and, “Thinking about your Thinking (Metacognition)” with Christine Toleson (who retired this year and was a prior president of CASP and LAASP), and a roundtable discussion for those who are thinking about obtaining a doctorate degree. The affiliate welcomed new President Aimee Garcia Fuentes and President-Elect Lilia Roddis and the OSP winners for 2016-2017 are: Cindy Lawless – Northeast; Sofia Klotzman – Northwest; Haydee Ramos – East; Ely Rodriguez – South; Maria Elena Esqueda – Central.



### **Region V** – Jackie Allen, Region Representative

Dr. Jackie Allen is Associate Professor in School Psychology at University of LaVerne, reports that affiliates Foothill Association of School Psychologists and the Greater Long Beach Association of School Psychologists continue to hold workshops and board meetings and plan for fall events. CASP President Tom Sopp and Mental Health Representative Dr. Susan Coats, CASP’s Crisis and Mental Health Specialist, visited the University of La Verne Spring School Psychology Symposium in April and made keynote presentations.



### **Region VI** – Ali Duerks, Region Representative

Ali Duerks spent her first term as Region VI Representative actively working on restarting her region’s affiliate the Riverside Association of School Psychologists. A small number of school psychologists in the area are assisting with networking and recruiting to have the affiliate up and working by the next school year. The affiliate is in the process of setting up a new Board and having more of an active online presence.



### **Region VII – Gabriel Gutierrez, Region Representative**

Region VII representative Gabriel Gutierrez reports that the San Diego Association of School Psychologists' (SANDCASP) membership is larger than it has been in many years with 335 members. SANDCASP saw a surge in membership with a PSW Town Hall in May 2016 and carried over to this year. In August, SANDCASP collaborated with San Diego USD to offer its members a free BRIEF-2 training. SANDCASP also collaborated with Institute on Violence, Abuse and Trauma (IVAT) to offer discounts to its annual conference. Alliant University and Brandman University began partnerships with SANDCASP to offer its members tuition discounts to further their education. In the fall and winter SANDCASP offered a dyslexia workshop with Dr. Cathi Christo, and a second dyslexia training of the year presented by Dr. Nancy Mather; both of which were sold out.

San Diego Unified School District and SANDCASP worked together to offer SANDCASP members a free training with Dr. Brandon Gamble on PSW and African American Assessments. SANDCASP offered a 2nd social event with North County school psychologists at the Pizza Port in Carlsbad. In December, a PSW Mini-Conference was held as a follow up to the PSW Town Hall with Jenny Ponzuric, Attorney Melissa Hatch, and Beth Varner. SANDCASP members were also offered a discount to attend a convention on Eating Disorders through the Renfrew Center. In January, the affiliate welcomed Dr. Stephen Brock and NASP President Dr. Melissa Reeves, who covered Emotional Disturbance assessments, DSM-V, and Cognitive Behavioral Techniques. SANDCASP held its first annual Job Fair with 15 school districts/hiring agencies and welcomed Carl Corbin who covered Hot Legal Issues.

For School Psychology Awareness Week (SPAW) Nov. 14-18, 2016, SANDCASP held its 2nd Annual SPAW Challenge where winner Shawn Dee Hartless of San Diego Unified School District focused on the NASP theme of "Small Steps Change Lives." Her program focused on goal setting for students, with assistance from teachers on strategies to reach those goals. At the end of the few weeks, Power Awards were given by the principal to the students who were observed using their strategies to reach their goal.



### **Region VIII – Lillian Hernandez, Region Representative**

Lillian is a bilingual school psychologist at El Rio School District in Ventura County, where the affiliate VCASP had another successful year. Five workshops were held, including legal updates, dyslexia (with presenter & fellow CASP member Catherine Christo), mental health assessments, and Patterns of Strengths & Weaknesses (with presenter & fellow CASP member Jenny Ponzuric). Elections were held in May at the last workshop of the year and the first workshop of the 2017-2018 schoolyear will be held September.



### **Region IX - Arpita Mandal, Region Representative**

Arpita Mandal is a school psychologist at El Rancho Charter School in Orange Unified School District. The Orange County Association of School Psychologists (OCASP) had another successful year thanks to its dedicated board of directors, members and CASP. OCASP began the school year with a workshop in September training school psychologists and education specialists on the Woodcock-Johnson IV. In October, the affiliate supported CASP and assisted in putting on the highly attended annual fall convention in Newport Beach. OCASP held a movie screening of “Paper Tigers” in November to highlight the conversation on utilizing a schoolwide trauma-informed approach. And for its annual winter workshop, the affiliate hosted a student-focused workshop on getting a job as a school psychologist and maneuvering through the first year. In April, OCASP collaborated with Greater Long Beach Association of School Psychologists (GLBASP) and the SoCal Diagnostic Center to present on mental health disorders in schools. OCASP looks forward to continuing to provide valued professional development opportunities for school psychologists in Orange County and surrounding areas this school year.



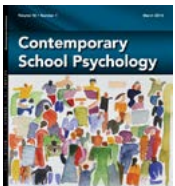
### **Region X - Maureen Schroeder, Region Representative**

Region X Representative Maureen Schroeder is a school psychologist at Elk Grove Unified School District. The Elk Grove Region Association of School Psychologists has several workshops lined up for members for the coming school year. Delta Area Association of School Psychologists (DAASP) is in the process of looking for Affiliate President. Vice President Kim Robinson has been working tirelessly to keep the affiliate up and running; she also has been connecting with local districts to work together for workshops.

## Committee and Specialist Reports



**CASP Today.** Dr. Brian Leung, Professor and Program Director of Loyola Marymount University School Psychology Program, continued as Research Chair and Editor of *CASP Today*, the quarterly newsletter of our Association. Christine Toleson became the editor of *CASP Today* this year. The newsletter is available online as well as mailed to all members in print version. Archived editions are available in the Members area of the CASP website, [www.casponline.org](http://www.casponline.org).



**Contemporary School Psychology.** Dr. Michael Hass continues as the editor for CASP's journal, which is published by Springer Publications, published 37 articles in 2016; 27 of them were original research and the remainder were essays, reviews or case studies. Four issues of the journal are published annually and articles are placed online by Springer as they become ready for publication. CASP members have free access to the journal through the Members Area of the CASP website.



The journal currently has more than a year's worth of backlogged articles that were accepted but not yet published. Given the success of the journal its page budget was increased for 2017 so that more articles will be published per issue. In addition, there are four special issues in the works, which are: School-Based Approaches to Cultivating Mindfulness, School-Based Threat Assessment, Evidence-Based Assessment in School Psychology, and School Psychologists and the Opportunities and Challenges of Serving Dual- and English-Language Learners.

### Membership Committee – Rodrigo Enciso and Barbara Lewis Mill, Co-chairs



Rodrigo Enciso formed a Membership Committee that made use of the many opportunities to be creative in the analysis and execution of CASP President Tom Sopp's strategic plan. Committee members are Ponzuric, Kristin Makena, Armando Fernandez and Christine Toleson. Jenny Ponzuric led the development of a yearlong competition between CASP's board members to make at least two contact presentations with school psychologist groups. The committee created a member benefit/services survey to measure desired membership benefits. Possible collaboration with the Nevada Association of School Psychologists school psychology regarding prospects of dual-membership was explored. Other efforts included increasing in student membership by automatically adding those who registered for Spring Institute 2017. Overall, there was a slight increase in membership this fiscal year. Refer to membership breakdown for detailed updates on membership information.



### Legislative Committee – Doug Siembieda, Chair



CASP worked with other education groups to amend two bills that would have added reporting requirements for mental health services schools may provide using Medi-Cal funds. CASP also endorsed a bill that would set up an office within CDE on mental health funding. This bill, plus another that sets a deadline for translation services and others that have to do with Medi-Cal funding for psychological services are now two-year bills, meaning they will not be decided until the 2017-2018 fiscal year. CASP also made sure school psychologists were represented on the CDE Dyslexia Guidelines Work Group, the Student Mental Health Services PolicyWork Group and in the formation of the AB 2246 Suicide Prevention Model Policy. This is in addition to closely monitoring the School Climate policies of the Local Control Accountability Plan, under review by the State Board of Education.

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### Professional Standards/Employment Relations – Barbara Thomas, Chair



Barbara Thomas, past CASP President and retired school psychologist from Fresno, responded to member questions on legal, ethical and practice issues throughout the school year. As Professional Standards Chair, she worked on teleassessments to provide the Assessment Chair background information for a potential policy paper on the subject. She is currently working on coordinating the Q&A documents.

### Crisis Intervention and Mental Health Specialist – Susan Coats, PhD, Specialist



Dr. Susan Coats submitted the following 2016-2017 highlights as CASP chair on Mental Health and Crisis Consultation:

- Became 2016-17 NAMI'S "On Campus High School Club Advisor"; first in East San Gabriel Valley.
- Two articles published in CASP Today, which were: "Book Review: Psychology in the Cyber Age" and "Ideas for Mental Health Awareness: Start a NAMI Club on Campus."
- Received 2016 U.S. Congressional recognition by NAMI for On Campus High School Club by Congresswoman Grace Napolitano.
- Represented CASP at the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Torlakson's Student Mental Health Policy Workgroup quarterly meetings in Sacramento.
- Conducted a Loyola Marymount University Graduate School Psychology presentation.
- Was keynote luncheon speaker at School Psychology Symposium at La Verne University.
- Presented CASP Spring Institute 2016 Workshop: Suicide Prevention and AB2246.
- 2017 Each Mind Matters Grant Award
- 2017 NAMI California Grant Award
- Youth Mental Health First Aide trainings for 11-12th graders, first in California
- Attended 2nd Annual Breaking Barriers Symposium in Sacramento.
- 2017 Advocate of the Year Award, California Mental Health Advocates for Children and Youth, Asilomar.
- 2017 Azusa Pacific University Mental Health Panelist
- 2017 Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) Meeting, Riverside.

### Alumni Club – Lynne Aung



The CASP Alumni Club was founded in 2014 to encourage active CASP retirees and other interested CASP members to maintain professional contact with CASP, to support the Vision and Mission of the School Psychology Foundation, and to provide an additional revenue source for political action campaigns. The Alumni Club currently has 39 members.

Alumni Club members' opinions are solicited on major legislative issues that affect school psychologists and your influence is being seen. This year, Alumni Club members continued to donate their time to the "What School Psychologists Do" program, in which they visited university classes to spread the word about the need for school psychologists. All presenters said that they had very positive outcomes from their appearances, which encourage us to continue and expand the program. The club held a reception at CASP Convention 2016 to socialize, renew memberships and entice new club members.

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### Leadership and Advocacy



In August 2016, President Tom Sopp created a new specialist position: Leadership and Advocacy, and appointed Barbara D'Incau as specialist. Among other tasks, the position was created to:

1. This specialist position will align with NASP's Domain # 5: School-Wide Practices to Promote Learning.
2. To create a bottom-up advocacy base of knowledge for school psychologists, with a focus on is grass roots advocacy.

Tasks included:

1. Revisit the LCFF toolkit and provide added training for school psychologists, to include: a) How to advocate for LCFF funding to meet student's needs and increase psych service time; and b) Describe and advocate for how school psychologist can contribute to creating and maintaining a positive school climate.
2. Give a presentation to the California State Principal's Association (CSPA) on the role of the school psychologist in the LCFF's positive school climate.

During 2016-2017, the following Action Items were completed:

- Barbara D'Incau represented CASP at a California Dept. of Education State Board of Education meeting in September 2016 to address the Local Control and Accountability Plan (LCAP) Priority 6: School Climate. She outlined the unique skills school psychologists possess that support positive and safe school climates and student achievement. She advocated for school psychologists to be represented in addition to parent and student voices on the School Climate Task Force. Barbara was appointed by SBE to the School Climate Task Force.
- Met with Jean Ramage, CASP Past President and retired School Psychology Trainer who worked to revive School Psychology Educators Committee (SPEC). A SPEC meeting was held at the Spring Institute with Jean as Chair.
- Conducted a web-based survey of student school psychologists and interns. Presented the results at the Spring Institute in a workshop for students, entitled "What to Look for in an Internship - Besides Money."
- Advised and responded to legislation items such as ESSA, LCAP, and mental health services for students.
- Communicated with Beth Laurie, who as Student Representative Specialist continues to meet with students at the Convention and Spring Institute to hear concerns and address issues.
- Researched and archived NASP tools including a proposed evaluation rubric for School Psychologist that reflects the work school psychologists actually do. See: Kelly, S.R. (2016, October). Developing a More Relevant Evaluation Rubric. *Communique*, 45 (2).
- Coordinated activities with the School Psychology Foundation.

Barbara is preparing a toolkit and workshop to share at a future convention that will include outreach to school psychologists and local directors, encouraging them to support and attend CASP conventions.

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### CASP School Psychology Foundation

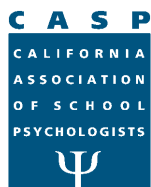
**Vision:** The Vision of the California School Psychology Foundation is to engage in the purposeful activity to create the scaffolding to build and sustain the image of the school psychologist and increase the visibility of the profession in the field.

**Mission:** The Mission and Purpose of the California School Psychology Foundation is to promote and advance the efficacy of School Psychology practice through scholarship and education, research and training, and outreach to educators, parents and the community to improve the wellbeing of children and youth.

The CSP Foundation completed several important actions during 2016-2017:

- In conjunction with the CASP Board, the Foundation sponsored Casino Night at the Convention 2016. Income from Casino Night ticket sales/donations was approximately \$1,000. However, the cost to host the event was \$2,000. This cost was borne by the association. The proceeds were split with 40% going to the Paul Henkin Scholarship fund and 60 percent to the Cultural and Linguistic Diversity (CLD) Scholarship fund.
- The Foundation funded two Mini Grants. Once the grant projects were completed, winners made presentations at the Convention and prepared articles detailing their projects for *CASP Today*. The Board developed a rubric for scoring applications, which will be used in the future. Applicants will receive information about their scores and reader comments.
- Reviewed the Foundation's strategic commitment to take a leading role in marketing the profession of school psychology in California. The Board discussed creating infomercials and testimonials of what school psychologists do. These infomercials would initially be directed at school administrators and school boards, but could also be used to inform parents, as well as recruit students to the profession.
- The Board plans to meet at the 2017 Convention to discuss marketing strategies.
- The Board also discussed holding a strategic planning retreat to identify ways to raise funds to support scholarships and projects, secure grants to promote the profession, and increase visibility of the Foundation's work.
- The Foundation changed the due dates for the Paul Henkin and CLD Scholarship applications to April 1 so that scholarships can be awarded at the Convention each year.

CSP Foundation Board Members for the 2016-2017 year were: Barbara D'Incau, president; public members Stella Roqueblave, Diana Fannon, Armando Fernandez and Kimberley Robinson; CASP Board members Thomas Sopp, Pedro Olvera and Troy X. Leonard. Heidi Holmblad is a member and treasurer of the Foundation.



## CASP Board of Directors 2016-2017

### Elected Board Members

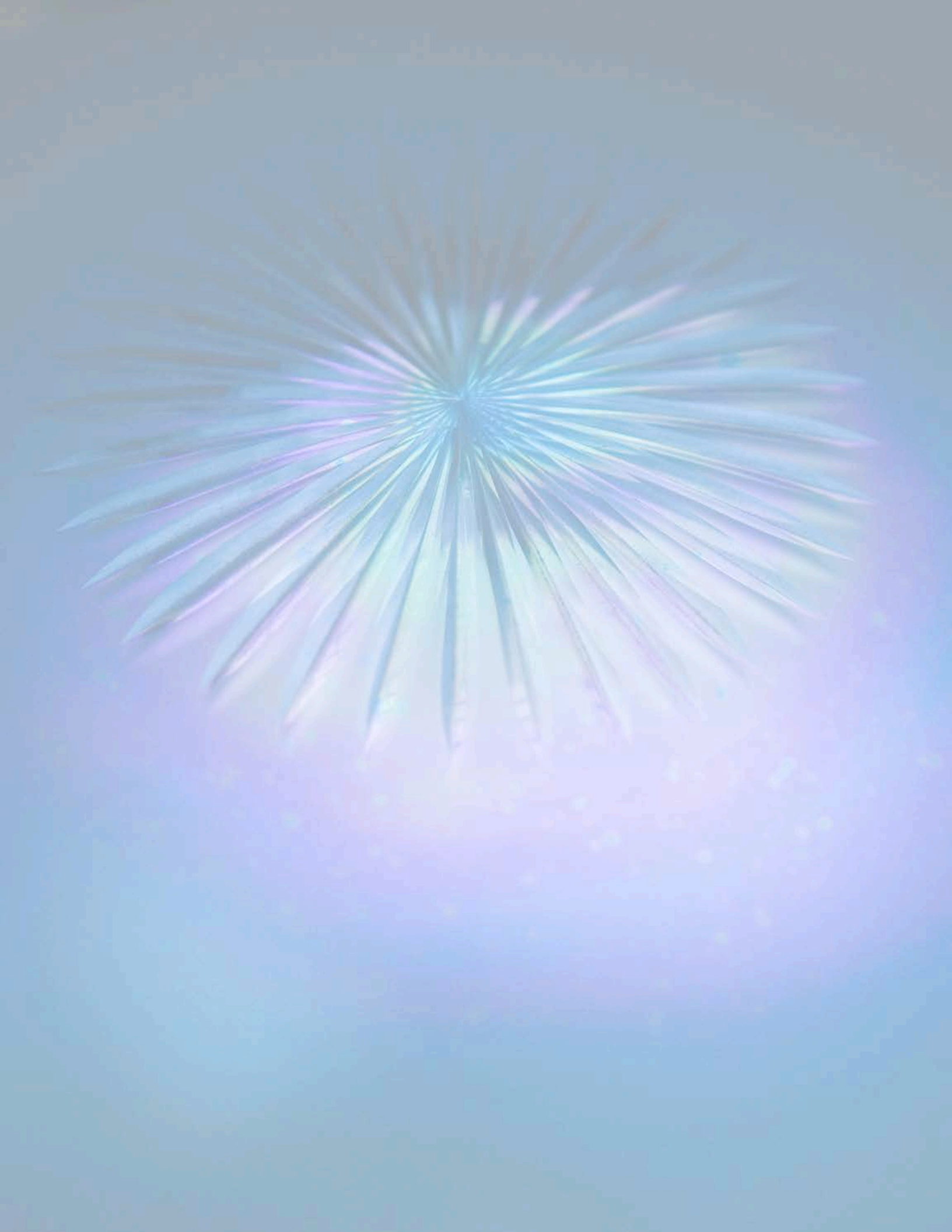
President: Thomas Sopp  
Past President: Troy Xavier Leonard  
President-Elect: Pedro Olvera  
Secretary/Treasurer: Seble Gebremedhin  
Affiliate Representative: Sarah Rodriguez  
Region I: Ryan Pepin  
Region II: James Hiramoto  
Region III: Amy Balmanno  
Region IV: Jeannine Topalian  
Region V: Jackie Allen  
Region VI: Glenn Schumacher/Ali Duerks  
Region III: Lillian Hernandez  
Region IX: Arpita Mandal  
Region X: Maureen Schroeder

### CASP Staff 2016-2017

Heidi Holmblad, Executive Director  
EJ Reyna, Member Services  
Josh Johnson, Technology Specialist  
and Webmaster  
Raina LeGarreta, Communications Specialist  
Kathy Little, Member Services Assistant

### Chairs / Specialists

Convention 2016 Co-Chair: Jana Baker  
Convention 2016 Co-Chair: Jenna Wood  
PAC Chair: Cathi Christo  
CSP Journal Editor: Michael Hass  
Publications and Research Chair:  
Brian Leung  
LEP Specialist: Chris Jones  
Legislative Chair: Doug Siembieda  
Student Leadership Council Advisor:  
Beth Laurie  
Student Leadership Council Representative:  
Lea Schlags  
Mental Health and Crisis Consultation Chair:  
Susan Coats  
Advocacy/Leadership Chair: Barbara D'Incau  
Cultural and Linguistic Diversity Chair:  
Beverly Williams  
Membership Chair: Rodrigo Enciso  
Ethics Specialist: Larisa Crookston  
Historian: Glenn Schumacher  
Assessment Specialist: Jenny Ponzuric  
Professional Standards Specialist:  
Barbara Thomas  
Preschool Specialist: Deni Camit  
Charter Schools Specialist: Catherine Ogden  
CASP Alumni Coordinator: Lynne Aung  
CA NASP Delegate: Maureen Schroeder  
SELPA Liaison: Benay Loftus  
CTA Liaison: Josie Malik  
Corporate Liaison: Ellen Murphy  
SPEC Liaison: Jean Ramage





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