



ASSOCIATION OF PAROLING AUTHORITIES INTERNATIONAL

JULY 2010

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

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THINGS TO DO

- **Renew APAI Membership**
- **Register for 2011 Chair Meeting in Louisville, KY, September 22-23, 2010**
- **Save the Date for the Annual Training Conference, May 15-18, 2011, San Antonio, Texas**

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

I would like to begin this letter by telling you what an honor it is to once again be selected by the members of this Association to serve you as your President. I promise to move APAI forward despite the tough economic time we all find ourselves working in.

I would also like to thank all of you who attended our 26th Annual Training Conference in Savannah, Georgia. You took time from your busy schedules and some of you made great financial sacrifices to come learn and network with us as we seek to improve the field in which we work.

I must also thank the many men and women who worked so hard to make this event possible and a great success. The host committee from the Georgia Board of Pardons and Parole is to be commended for the many hours they put into this event. We had a record number of exhibitors that helped with the expenses for the Conference.

And we must acknowledge the support of the National Institute of Corrections, the Pew Center on the States, and the Office for Victims of Crime and the Bureau of Justice Assistance for supporting our excellent speakers. We cannot forget that many of the presenters volunteered their time to come forward and share their knowledge and experience with us. The evaluations have been tabulated and it appears that the speakers and presenters messages were very well received.

I would also like to congratulate our award recipients. You can read more about them later in this newsletter.

Congratulations to Elizabeth Robinson of Iowa who was once again elected Treasurer and with whom I look forward to serving the next two years. I also look forward to serving with Vice President Garland Hunt, who is now Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice and Secretary Jeri Costa of Washington State as they continue to serve APAI.

As many of you know, at the conference I announced the appointment of Rissie Owens of Texas as Chair of the Council of Paroling/Releasing Authorities (COPRA). I have appointed Caroline Mudd, Chair of the Kentucky Parole Board to replace her as Regional Vice President for the Southern Region.

I must also acknowledge the hard work and dedication of Lisa Holley of Rhode Island who served the Association as President from 2006 - 2008. Ms. Holley had to step down from her role as Immediate Past President. Pursuant to our Constitution, I have asked Cranston Mitchell of the U.S. Parole Commission to assume the duties of this office. He served as President from 1994 - 1996 and has graciously agreed to serve in this capacity. All other Regional/Sectional Vice Presidents have been asked and have agreed to continue their service to APAI. Renee Collette, Ed Reilly, Jeff Peterson and

Barbara LeMaitre will all continue in their current roles.

I plan to reconstitute our various committees at APAI. To this end I have asked Richard Dugger of Oklahoma to Chair the Professional Development Committee during my next term. He has received his mandate from the Executive Committee and is actively seeking committee members. I have also asked Gale Buckner of the Georgia Board of Pardons and Parole to Chair the Standards Committee. She has accepted this responsibility and has been in contact with Cyndi Mausser, Chair of the Ohio Parole Board and APAI's designated representative on the ACA Standards Committee.

I hope to see my fellow Chairs in Louisville, Kentucky September 22-23 at the 2010 Chairs Meeting/Training. Thanks to Caroline Mudd and the Kentucky Parole Board for agreeing to host this event.

Last, but certainly not least, I am pleased to announce that the 2011 Annual Training Conference will be held on the Riverwalk in beautiful San Antonio, Texas, May 15 - 18, 2011. A special thanks goes out to Chair Rissie Owens and her crew at the Texas Board of Pardons and Parole for agreeing to host this event. Please plan to join us in San Antonio.

Sincerely,

2010 APAI AWARD RECIPIENTS

Another APAI Annual Training Conference has come and gone. By all reports the sessions and workshops were well received and provided an excellent opportunity for practitioners in the field of parole and community corrections to receive current information about what is happening across the world in their field.

This was also a time where APAI takes the opportunity to recognize those who have made significant contributions to our field by bestowing upon them various awards in recognition of their work. This year's recipients were particularly deserving.

James D. Johnston, Chair and Executive Secretary of the Air Force Clemency and Parole Board, received the Ben Bear Award. This award is named after a former Chair of the U.S. Parole Commission who fought for fair and equitable treatment of offenders and protection of the public.

Jim, a graduate of the Boston University School of Law,

retired from the Air Force in 1995 after a succession of judge advocate assignments. With this background, it is not surprising that when selected to lead the Air Force Clemency and Parole Board he initiated a renaissance in the Board's operations and military corrections.

In addition to establishing and maintaining an extraordinarily efficient board decision-making process, he initiated significant changes within the Department of Defense corrections community and reached out to our "civilian partners" to improve their understanding and appreciation of the military corrections system. Since 1995, he has been parole's innovative voice within the Department of Defense's corrections leadership.

For these reasons and many more Jim was awarded the 2010 Ben Bear Award from APAI.

Cynthia Mausser currently serves as Chair of the Ohio

Parole Board and received the 2010 Vincent O'Leary Award. This award is named after a man who served our field of parole from the 1950's through the 1990's. For over 40 years, he steadfastly fought against the abolishment of parole.

This award recognizes and rewards an individual who has made significant contributions to APAI and has demonstrated vision, leadership and commitment to the field of parole.

Cyndi received her Juris Doctorate Degree from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio and was admitted to the Ohio Bar in 1991. Cyndi began her career with the Ohio Public Defender's Office as an Assistant State Public Defender assigned to Prison Legal Services

In 1994, Cyndi began her corrections career with the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction as a Parole Hearing Officer and was appointed to the

Ohio Parole Board in 2001. In April 2006, she was appointed Chair.

Cyndi's major contributions to Parole exist within the exemplary job she performs on a daily basis as Chair of the Ohio Parole Board. She functions as a leader within the parole progressive State of Ohio and played a key role in Ohio's participation in NIC's first round of Transition from Prison to the Community projects.

Cyndi serves APAI as our current representative to the American Correctional Association's Commission on Accreditation for Corrections and participates regularly in our annual Chair's Meeting and Training Conference

For these reasons and many more Cyndi was awarded the 2010 Vincent O'Leary Award.

President Traughber chose to give 2 Presidents awards this year. This award is given to an active APAI member who has made a significant

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NEWS OF INTEREST

The National Parole Resource is currently reviewing applications from 17 states to be designated as one of four learning sites to receive technical assistance and training to help them enhancing their capacity for effective decision-making policy and practice. The NPRC Learning Sites initiative is designed to support participating sites as they strengthen their decision-making and supervision practices, and to generate lessons and insights that will be shared widely with other jurisdictions through the

NPRC web site and continuing training and technical assistance.

Available resources will allow the NPRC to provide two of the four states with expanded training and technical assistance to address the state's parole supervision function and to move toward implementation of 13 specific strategies for effective parole supervision.

The Center's goal is to have the sites selected by the end of July with work beginning in August of 2010. For more

information about this initiative as well as general information about the practice of parole visit www.nationalparoleresourcecenter.org.

APAI would like to announce the transition to a revolving membership, effective July 1, 2010. The means that your membership will now expire one year from the month you joined, rather than every December.

The National Institute of Corrections, Carleton University of Canada and

APAI will be designating two sites to serve as research sites as noted Canadian researcher Dr. Ralph Serin will seek to replicate research done in Canada regarding structured decision making.

Two investigators from Carleton University will travel to the sites and provide a workshop and training regarding the application of the Structured Decision Framework. The training will also address contemporary risk assessment issues and implications for establishing

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NEWS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL SECTION, BY RENEE COLLETTE

Thirty three of the 120 participants at the 26th APAI Annual Training Conference were from the International Section. Ten came from Bermuda, 12 were from Canada, and 3 were from Democratic Republic of Congo. Hong Kong and Zambia each sent 4 delegates. I wish to sincerely thank all of them for coming to Savannah and participate in the sessions and in many interesting discussions.

I wish to acknowledge in particular those you made a contribution to the program as speakers: Harvey Cenaiko, Chairperson, Marie-France Pellitier, Executive Vice-Chairperson and Brian Chase, all of the National Parole Board of Canada. We also heard presentations from Renée Gobeil from Carleton University, Canada, Doctor Franca Cortoni, School of Criminology, Université de Montréal and

Fredrick Chilukutu, Chairperson of the National Parole Board of Zambia.

Jean Sutton, Director of Professional Development and Decisions Process at the National Parole Board of Canada was presented with a President Award in recognition of and reward for the individual who has demonstrated significant service in the field of parole or community corrections. Congratulations Jean!

The membership of the International Section continues to grow and this is a wonderful trend. Currently we have 80 members in the International Section. I ask every member to encourage their colleagues to become members. Think about it. If each of us can sign up one member, we would double the international membership. **Up to the challenge?**

For this issue, I am pleased to call upon Caroline Douglas, Director of Communications of the National Parole Board of Canada to provide information about her Board:

Many APAI members took in a presentation by the Chairperson of Canada's national paroling authority at the Annual Training Conference in Savannah. Harvey Cenaiko spoke about transparency and rigour in the National Parole Board's member-selection process and mentioned that key to maintaining high quality standards in the parole decision-making process is ensuring that only highly skilled and qualified Board members are appointed to the Board.

The Board is happy to announce that 13 appointments and reappointments were

recently made to the National Parole Board, reflecting the key attributes of merit and ability that are essential to keeping Canada's communities safe.

The full time members are: Jacques Bouchard and Suzanne Chartrand - Québec, Keith Heming - Manitoba, Ulf Konrad Ottho - British Columbia. The part time members are: Bernard Leblanc - New Brunswick, Steven Dubreuil - Québec, Dina Dennis - Saskatchewan, Doreen Dinn - Newfoundland and Labrador, Linda Klein - Alberta, David Schioler - Manitoba, Tyler Shandro - Alberta, Bent Anderson and Beryl Jean Cusworth - British Columbia.

I look forward to continuing to serve as Sectional Vice President of APAI.

2010 APAI AWARD RECIPIENTS, CONT.

contribution either to the field of parole or to the Association

The **Georgia Host Committee** received this award for the many hours of work and preparation that went into putting on this year's conference. This group of employees from The Georgia Board of Pardons and Parole worked tirelessly to make sure that every detail of the conference was painstakingly handled. Co - Chairs Scheree Moore and Jay Lacienski accepted the award on behalf of the committee. Congratulations and thank you for all your hard work.

Jean Sutton of the National Parole Board of Canada also received the President's

Award. Jean serves as Director of Professional Development and Decisions Process for that Board.

Thanks to her dedication and hard work, the National Parole Board possesses an exemplary board training curriculum which is the backbone of the organization's reputation for quality conditional release decisions. By ensuring excellent training of new board members, she has contributed significantly to the mandate of public safety by helping Board members make informed judgments about the balance of conditional release and public safety.

Jean is described by her

colleagues as an executive who constantly seeks to broaden her knowledge and horizons so she can better contribute to high standards of professionalism and management excellence. She is an exemplary team player who supports and collaborates cheerfully both internally and externally wherever needed.

Congratulations Jean on receiving this well deserved award.

The Old Savannah City Mission (OSCM) of Savannah Georgia received the 2010 Community Service Award. This award is given to recognize and reward an individual or an organization which has contributed

significantly to the furthering of the rehabilitative efforts of parole.

OSCM, a non-profit gospel mission, was recognized for its Fresh Start Program, a year long residential transitional program with high standards, strong boundaries and clear direction. The program functions as a bridge from incarceration to re-incorporation. Its goal is for ex-offenders to become crime-free, tax paying citizens reconnected to family, church and community...never to return to prison.

APAI congratulates all of its well deserving 2010 award recipients.

parole conditions. A report regarding the findings (comparing the accuracy of existing decision strategies with the Structured Decision Framework) will be completed for each agency.

This research will also review parole decisions against a model reflecting evidence-based practice; hence, the parole agency will be in a position to evaluate the extent to which current decision procedures reflect contemporary practice.

For more information about the Structured Decision Making Framework visit www.apaintl.org/documents/nic.pdf

On July 26 -28, 2010 new parole board members will be attending training at the National Corrections Academy in Aurora Colorado.

This 40-hour program will help new parole board members gain knowledge and skills in the area of informed decision-making

through evidence-based principles and practices for determining offender risk and motivation for change. It will also help them evaluate the efficacy of release plans. The program emphasizes the critical role of collaboration and partnerships with stakeholders to increase offender success and public safety. The program uses a peer interaction process. Mandatory course components include online sessions, face-to-face training, and independent work.

While the application deadline for this session is passed, APAI will keep you informed of any further such training activities.

At the request of the National Institute of Corrections several members of APAI recently participated in the DACUM process. This is an initial step in the process being undertaken by NIC to develop curriculum that will be used to train Parole Board Chairs

throughout the United States. This is the same process that was used to develop the curriculum for the current New Board Member Training. Again APAI will keep you informed as this project progresses

APAI and the Kentucky Parole Board will host the Annual Meeting/Training of Parole Board Chairs and others with similar duties, September 22 and 23, 2010 in Louisville Kentucky. We are planning a program of education, peer interaction and networking that will be beneficial to those with leadership roles within their organizations. For more information about this event and to register visit www.apaintl.org/conference/chair/html.

Following the APAI Annual Training Conference in Savannah, members of the APAI Executive Committee met with members of the Executive Committee of the Association of State Correctional Administrators

(ASCA) and representatives from the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) to discuss ways in which our organizations could foster collaboration between Parole Boards and Departments of Corrections. As a result of these discussions, it is expected that these three organizations will soon be issuing some principles that should guide these two disciplines in their work. Stay tuned to this newsletter and the APAI website for further news about this exciting initiative

APAI and the Texas Board of Pardons and Parole, lead by Chair Rissie Owens will host the 27th APAI Annual Training Conference at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio located on the Riverwalk in beautiful and historic San Antonio Texas, May 15 - 18, 2011. Stay tuned to future editions of the newsletter and the APAI website for further information.



ASSOCIATION OF PAROLING AUTHORITIES INTERNATIONAL

Correctional Management Institute of Texas
 George J. Beto Criminal Justice Center
 Sam Houston State University
 Huntsville, TX 77341-2296

Phone: 877-318-APAI
 Fax: 936-294-1671
 E-mail: info@apaintl.org

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President
 Charles Traugher
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