



SASKATCHEWAN COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

Annual Report

Spring 2006

REPORT FROM THE PRESIDENT

With roughly 450 members looking after the needs of a million people, we are extremely busy people. Consequently, everyone should be particularly grateful to all who sacrifice some of their scarce "free" time to the running of this organization. You can find out who they are by looking at the Committee list on the website. Their effort to assist the College with its mandate helps to maintain the highest standards for our profession. In part, because of this hard work, Psychologist continues to be a title that we can wear with pride.

I hope you found time to review our October mail out, which included in considerable detail, many of this year's accomplishments. I will highlight some additional items here. In November, we welcomed three representatives of the public to the Executive Council: Joan Dungeon, Mary Reeves, and Dr. Walter Streelasky. In February, we sent in what I hope will be a final version of the revised bylaws to the Department of Health for approval. You will note in this report that we will be submitting a regulatory bylaw change affecting Pre-Doctoral internship hours. Additionally, a change in policy respecting Pre-Doctoral Internships has been put into place effective immediately. Thanks largely to the work of the Ad-Hoc Committee, we now have a framework for addressing competency issues. A policy document will be forthcoming. The PCC has cleared most outstanding complaints. The Registration Committee and newly formed Oral Examination Committee were able in the past year to clear the backlog of Restricted Practice members waiting for oral examinations. Our response times in both these areas will be much improved because of this effort. I invite you to review the reports from each of our Committees in this annual report and to review regularly the SCP website for details about these matters. The Executive Council has been appreciative of the patience many of you demonstrated as we worked through our infancy. Dr. Randall quipped at one of our meetings "that we are landing planes as we build the runway." As our third year ends, I think it is fair to say that the "runway" is now built thanks to the hard work of volunteers and our terrific staff of Dr. David Randall, Karen Messer-Engel, and Wendy Petrisor.

The issue of whether liability insurance should be a requirement for membership is a matter of debate nationally. Presently four provinces require members to carry liability insurance. SCP is of the view that all members should carry their own liability insurance. For the public this insures that Psychologists can pay for damages. For the Psychologist, this reduces the possibility of financial ruin or stress from paying legal fees and/or damages. Many Psychologists erroneously believe that they are adequately covered by their employer

however, this is not likely true. Employer insurance carriers will be looking out for the best interests of the employer, not necessarily the employee. In addition, they do not always carry adequate coverage. Thus, it is in the best interest of every member of the College to carry their own individual liability insurance. Most Psychologists can acquire liability insurance through McFarlan Rowlands Insurance Brokers who have policies that cater specifically to Psychologists. You can access this insurance through membership with the Psychology Society of Saskatchewan or the Canadian Psychology Association. At present, the College executive is considering whether it should make liability insurance a requirement for membership.

During my term, many members have approached the College about matters that fall under the purview of advocacy. Indeed, it seems that many continue to be confused about the role of the College, which essentially is to protect the public by policing the profession of Psychology. As such, the College does not play a direct role in advocating on behalf of the profession; that important work is the responsibility of two advocacy groups: The Saskatchewan Educational Psychology Association (SEPA) and The Psychology Society of Saskatchewan (PSS). These groups do very important work for our profession. Consequently, I think it is the responsibility of every College member to join one, or preferably both of these organizations. We all have a stake in Psychology and its promotion, and these organizations deserve and need support from each of us. Clearly, there is a shortage of Psychologists in this province. Funding for training programs at our two universities is inadequate. Many citizens, government officials, and politicians do not seem to recognize or understand how critical mental health is to the overall health of our citizens. Nor do they seem to understand how much poor mental health costs every single facet of our society. Investment in Psychology saves money. If you are unhappy about how these issues are evolving, it is important that you join and support SEPA and PSS so they will have both the human and financial resources they need to carry out this important work. Each one of us has a huge stake in the health of this profession

We have all been very fortunate to have Dr. Randall as our Registrar for these first three years. His passion and concern about this profession is manifest. Unfortunately, he has decided to retire from the Registrar's position at the end of March. Dr. Randall's work and advice has been invaluable during these first three years. We will miss his wit and wisdom but are grateful for the legacy he leaves us. We wish him a healthy, long, and happy retirement. Karen Messer-Engel will be taking over as Registrar in April. The Executive Council was very happy that Karen agreed to take on this responsibility. She is well prepared for the position and is

looking forward to her new responsibilities. The new Executive Council will begin the search for a new Deputy Registrar early in its mandate.

Finally, it has been a privilege for me to be on the Executive Council these last three years, two as a Member at Large and this last year as President. I am particularly grateful to my colleagues on Council and to the staff at the College. Though there is a fair amount of work with this responsibility, the people I have had the pleasure of meeting and working with these last three years have made it a very worthwhile and enjoyable experience.

Respectfully submitted,
Gary Halbert, M.Ed., R.Psych.
President

REGISTRAR'S, DEPUTY REGISTRAR'S AND REGISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Membership

We are pleased to report that the College membership has remained stable over the last year, despite the continued retirement from practice of some of our maturing members, and the departure of some Full Practice members from the province. In January of 2005 The Saskatchewan College of Psychologists included 358 Full-Practice members, 43 Non-Practice members and 47 Restricted Practice members for a total of 448 members. At the end of 2005, the numbers changed slightly with 470 members; 367 Full-Practice members, 50 Non-Practice members and 53 Restricted Practice members. The membership statistics as of February 1, 2006 are summarized below:

Full- Practice	366
Non-Practice	50
Restricted Practice	49
TOTAL MEMBERS	465

The slight drop in overall membership is the result of retirements, resignations and non-payment of fees.

Staffing Changes

The College currently employs a full-time Office Manager, a part-time Registrar, and a part-time Deputy Registrar. The office staff are Wendy Petrisor, Office Manager, Karen Messer-Engel, Deputy Registrar (50% time), and me as the Registrar (50% time). The roles of both the Registrar and the Deputy Registrar have continued to evolve, as the College tasks have grown. Significant work has occurred regarding the oral examination process, changes to the registration process, and the development of policies and procedures to support the work of the College.

I will be retiring from my position as the Registrar at the end of March 2006. Karen Messer-Engel has been selected by Council to assume the role of Registrar, and recruitment to the position of Deputy Registrar will be undertaken in the near

future. I have completed three years in the Registrar's position, under the presidencies of John Tom, Shelley Adams, and Gary Halbert. All have been a pleasure to know and work with in serving the public protection mandate of the College. Many hours of thought and work have gone into their terms, on their part, and on that of the office staff. There has been a steep learning curve, but we have all grown together, and with your patience, have produced a College recognised nationally and internationally. The result is that most of you will be able to hold your heads up in saying you are registered in this province, able to move with relative ease to other jurisdictions should you wish to do so. Our citizens are protected by your elected and appointed Council. Citizens and members have been appointed to Committees of Council to undertake the tasks associated with self government. I am pleased to be leaving the College in good hands, with an experienced member as Registrar, a Council and Committees in place, and Duncan Blackman and his Council of members and government appointed citizens ready to serve the public and in doing so, improve the public impression of our profession.

Council Membership

The College is pleased to announce the appointment of three Public Representatives by the Government of Saskatchewan. The Public Representatives will serve as members of Council. In addition, according to our bylaws, at least one Public Representative will serve on each of the Discipline, Registration, and Professional Practice and Ethics Committees to provide expertise and be able to testify that we serve the public as an administrative tribunal by establishing and maintaining high expectations for our practice.

As is the usual course of business at this time of year, a call for nominations to Executive Council was sent out to the membership in December 2005, with the closing date being January 6, 2006 at 5:00 p.m. Individuals were nominated in the positions of 2 Members-at-Large, and Secretary. As there was only one individual nominated for each position, they have been appointed by Council to the positions. The College is grateful to Wanda Lyons (Member-at-Large), Laura Vilness (Member-at-Large) and Florence Lalonde (Secretary) for their willingness to commit their time and talents to these very important duties in maintaining our status as a self governing profession. The position of President-Elect was not filled through the nomination process. Council addressed this situation by appointing a member to the position, following the expectations outlined in the College bylaws. I am pleased to announce that Dr. Mary Vandergoot has agreed to serve in the position of President-Elect.

I would like to encourage members of the College to consider becoming involved in your Council and the various Committees of the College. Member participation is an essential component of self-regulation. We have been very fortunate to have been given the gifts of time and talent of those who have come forward. However, there is a risk, and not a small one, that organisations that become self perpetuating and do not have a base in member choice may fall upon less attractive times. It is not wisdom to leave an organisation which has such power over your practice to risk that fate as the novelty wears off and some of the best and the

brightest start to wonder why they are working so hard and move on.

Registrar's and Registration Committee Activities Since Last Year's Annual General Meeting

The Registration Committee has continued to be very engaged and active over the last year. Decisions about the suitability of applicants to the College and their progress toward Full Practice is a surprisingly challenging responsibility. The Chair of the Committee changed following the last AGM. Carmel Kleisinger agreed to assume the responsibility of Chair, and has done so very capably.

A number of interesting and complex issues presented themselves to the Registration Committee during 2005/2006. These issues are as follows:

The Committee was faced with a large number of candidates ready to go to oral examination and difficulty recruiting examination panel members from among the Full Practice membership. In the summer of 2005 a decision was made by Council in consultation with the Committee to establish an independent Oral Examination Committee (OEC). This Committee was formed and has taken over the responsibility for organizing and conducting oral examinations. This decision was made to reduce the demands placed on the already over-burdened Registration Committee, and to address the lengthy waiting times that candidates were experiencing as a result of difficulty the College was having finding examination panel members. The OEC works closely with the Registration Committee but reports directly to Council. The Registration Committee, as required in our bylaws, retains the final decision regarding admission to Full Practice after the completion of orals and recommendation of the oral panel members. The OEC has already contributed significantly to the College by conducting 16 orals, providing the template for a 17th, and has essentially cleared the backlog of candidates waiting for examination. They have developed the *Oral Examination Handbook for Examiners* and the *Oral Examination Handbook for Candidates* and related procedures and forms which have made the tasks and expectations of both examiners and examinees so much less a matter of individual judgement. This clarity and improving overall objectivity and standardization has made it much easier to recruit examination panel members.

The Registration Committee dealt with applications of individuals presenting credentials that were obtained from institutions that were not consistent with the standards that the College recognised. This led to a clarification of what constitutes an acceptable academic institution, and the development of the Academic Credentialing Policy. This issue is not unique to the College, and as technology continues to advance we will be faced with more applicants who have obtained internet and other media communicated degree programs.

During the last year the College was approached by the National Register of Health Service Providers in Psychology (NRHSPP) and asked to provide recognition for National Register members under for similar fast track recognition to that offered to CRHSPP members under the MRA.

Discussion occurred within the Registration Committee, and consultation occurred with other Canadian Psychology regulators. The Committee recommended that College grant this privilege to members of the NRHSPP. In essence this allows applicants to the College, who are registered with the NRHSPP to be fast-tracked into the College as MRA equivalent applicants. At the current time this privilege is also extended to members of the CRHSPP and registrants of ASPPB member organisations who have been recognised by ASPPB with their portability program appraisal as eligible for the CPQ.

The Foundational Knowledge requirement was again a topic of concern. Council was advised by legal counsel that a regulatory bylaw is necessary to allow applicants to the College who do not possess this requirement at the time of application to be admitted to the Register and be permitted to meet this MRA agreed requirement during their period of Restricted Practice. Thus on January 14, 2006 Council passed a motion that prohibits anyone from being admitted to the Register without having all of the FK requirements met. It is anticipated that this change will affect a small number of applicants to the College.

The College has given consideration to the issue of CPA/APA accredited predoctoral internships as fulfilling the 1500 hours of supervised practice experience required for registration whether or not the internship occurs after the first registration eligible graduate degree in Psychology. Up until recently the predoctoral internship credit was only acceptable for those individuals who obtained the internship after a registration eligible graduate degree (Master's degree). Legal advice obtained by Council indicated that there is authority within the Psychologist's Act 1997 to proceed on this issue without a bylaw amendment. On February 11, 2006 Council approved a motion to address this inequity, thus accepting a CPA/APA accredited predoctoral internships as meeting the 1500 hours supervised practice experience requirement for those individuals with a Ph.D. who did not previously obtain a Masters degree. A bylaw amendment will also be sought to further clarify and set this issue. This change in recognition of experience will only apply to candidates who present CPA and APA accredited internships prior to their first registration eligible graduate degree. No other prior work experience will be recognisable.

Other Matters

We continue to wait for the bylaw amendments mentioned in the last Annual Report to be passed, e.g. changing membership category "Restricted" to "Provisional", clarifying the time frame allowed for applicants to stay on "Restricted" status (2 year limit – with possible extension to three, admitting applicants to the Restricted Practice Register prior to their completing the EPPP, and allowing the membership to vote on Council endorsed bylaws.

At the January 14, 2006 meeting of Council a motion was passed to charging a fee for oral examinations. There is significant cost involved in operating the orals and transporting panel members to them. The fee was set at \$250.00 per examination. This fee will be charged for each sitting of an examination, and will affect all new examinations

starting after January 27, 2006. Candidates from sittings previous to the end of January 2006, who must re-sit the oral examination will not be charged the additional fee.

Council has asked the Legislation and Bylaws Committee of the College to examine the need for further categories of membership (e.g. 'temporary practice', 'non-practising by reason of retirement', 'restricted member non-practising on leave'; etc.) to address the changing needs of members of the profession.

The College was recently granted the responsibility to register its members under the Professional Corporations and Limited Liability Partnership Acts. We are in the process of developing the infrastructure to support this responsibility, and will advise you as soon as we complete this preparation of when you will be able to take advantage of this opportunity.

The College will be looking at establishing a geographic location map on the website to assist the Public and other health service providers in locating Psychologists in their area and with the practice pattern or claimed competency they require. Identification of the members will be voluntary and with written member consent, and it will be the responsibility of the membership to inform the College of any changes to their listing after it is established.

The past year has been interesting and challenging one for the staff, Committee members, and Council. The role of the Deputy Registrar has evolved and expanded over the year to include ongoing support for the work of the Registrar, the development of policy and procedures for the College, support for various Committees of the College, and the provision of information and assistance to members, applicants and members of the public with regard to College matters.

*Respectfully submitted,
David Randall, Ph.D., R.D.Psych.
Registrar*

*Karen Messer-Engel, M.A., R.Psych.
Deputy Registrar*

TREASURER'S REPORT

Again this report is presented with sincere appreciation to Wendy Petrisor who does such an excellent job of managing the logistics of the day to day finances of the College in addition to her other roles in the College office. This year we are using a different auditing firm for the first time since the office was established in Regina. The audited financial statements are more aligned with our established reporting procedures and more closely reflect the information that Council works with throughout the year.

Our office is for the most part established. Staffing continues to be in a state of flux as our Registrar has decided to retire

from the helm. Appointing a new registrar and maintaining the other positions will have a financial impact as there will be salary implications while Dr. Randall takes his much deserved overtime and holiday time.

Our largest expense continues to be salary costs. The expenses related to office operation including salary costs are nearly 80 percent of our budget. Committee costs are highly variable depending on the tasks of the Committees in that year, the number of meetings, and the costs of connecting the members of the Committee. Conference calls and other electronic means are being used to increase the efficiency of the Committee work. A discipline hearing this year increased our Committee costs. We continue to budget for a contingency fund to cover the costs necessary to the functioning of a regulatory body.

The experience on Council has again this year been an interesting and rewarding one with an opportunity to participate in the College business and to work with committed professionals both staff and volunteers. I would encourage all members to consider involvement with Committee work and the Council.

*Respectfully submitted,
Judy Curry, M.Ed., R.Psych.
Treasurer*

PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT COMMITTEE REPORT

Mandate

The mandate of the Professional Conduct Committee (PCC) is to receive, review, and investigate written complaints against members alleging professional misconduct and/or incompetence. The mandate of the Committee is to decide whether a complaint warrants further action, is best referred to the Discipline Committee, or can be addressed in some other manner.

PCC Members

The regular PCC Committee consists of:

Chair: Greg Stevens (extended term expires Mar 2007)
Member: Jeannette Ambrose (term expires Jan 2007)
Member: Carol Eaton (term from Feb 2006–2008)
Member: Cathy Fieldgate (term expires Jun 2006)
Member: Shelley Hengen (term expires Sep 2007)
Ex officio: Karen Messer-Engel, Deputy Registrar serves in a staff/liaison function

Since the last report to Council, the former Chair's term expired (Don Berg), as did Committee member Lynn Corbett's. The contribution of both members was exceptional. They were active members, working professionally and thoroughly on tasks that were often difficult.

In addition, Gary Bridge resigned from the Committee due to health reasons. Gary's contribution and opinion were well regarded by the Committee.

The Committee has high praise for the thorough and professional support offered by Karen Messer-Engel, Deputy Registrar, who attends our meetings. The workload of Committee members is reduced immeasurably by Karen's participation on the Committee.

Alternates (the standard length of term for alternates has not yet been established):

Don Berg (Past PCC Chair, serves until current Chair's term expires), Catherine Arbutnott, Ruthanne Bell, Tim Landry, and Darlene Ware

In addition, Peter Hemingway, Heather Hadjistavropoulos and Don Saklofske were involved as alternates during the year, although they will no longer be available to the Committee.

The contribution of all Committee members is appreciated greatly. The complaints brought before the Committee, and those issues that we address and consider otherwise, are often complex and always important. While the Committee work is demanding, all Committee members are dedicated, and express ongoing interest and satisfaction with the learning and challenges they face and appreciate the opportunity to interact with committed peers.

Complaints in 2005

The PCC entered 2005 with 15 active complaints.

During 2005 we added four new complaints to our roster of files, for a total of 19 complaints that were under the purview of the Committee during 2005.

As of this writing, the PCC has three complaints that are still active. A decision as to whether one of these complaints will be referred to the Discipline Committee is imminent. The remaining two complaints are under investigation.

The complaints added to our active files in 2005 involved:

- A custody and access report;
- Issues of confidentiality;
- Practicing without being registered properly; and
- Issues around adherence to professional standards regarding the training and use of psychological materials.

As part of dealing with a number of the existing and new complaints, the PCC addressed some issues for the first time. For example, under the new College, the Committee dealt with our first complaint from the Registrar and made our first referral of a complaint to mediation. Both cases required the development and/or the refinement of procedures.

The PCC referred one complaint to the Discipline Committee during 2005.

In summary, the PCC dealt with 17 complaints in their entirety during 2005, and currently has two complaints being investigated.

Other Committee Activity

In addition to dealing with a backlog of cases, and a relatively small number of new cases, the PCC considered a diversity of issues. Some of our discussions resulted in the development of new procedures or the refinement of existing procedures. For example, the PCC discussed, developed, and/or refined procedures around issues as diverse as:

- The College's authority over members who resign or retire;
- The responsibility for reporting PCC investigation to other jurisdictions;
- Complaints made by the Registrar and complaints made against PCC members;
- Notifying members of complaints;
- Decisional flowcharts and criteria on when to consider mediation and alternate dispute resolution approaches to complaints;
- The use of an independent investigator for complaints;
- Informing membership about the PCC's activity and opinions, etc.

In addition, the Chair of the PCC was invited to attend an Executive Council meeting in September 2005. The opportunity to present the activity of the PCC to the Executive, and to receive the Executive's support, was appreciated.

The Future

We believe that the PCC has reached a stage in its development where we can continue to refine our procedures, develop new procedures for unique situations, and respond in a more efficient and effective manner to complaints.

We were fortunate to have a relatively small number of new complaints in 2005. While we are now operating efficiently, we are concerned with the small number of active Committee members we have. Any influx of new cases would seriously tax our ability to conduct investigations in a timely manner.

*Respectfully submitted,
Greg Stevens, Ph.D., R.D.Psych.
Chair, Professional Conduct Committee*

PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE AND ETHICS COMMITTEE REPORT

Chair: Stephen Boechler Ph.D.
Members: Francis Stewart M.A., Evelyn Steginus M.A.,
Doug Jurgens Ph.D., Keith Powell, M.Sc.

The role of the Professional Practice and Ethics Committee is to provide input and opinions to Council and SCP members regarding issues of Professional Practice and Ethical Issues. In the past year, the Committee provided feedback to members and Council on a number of issues, including:

- Informing clients that information provided to a third party is no longer controlled by the Psychologist and that the third party is responsible for the use and disclosure of that information according to their mandate and policy
- Informing the public of our professional designation
- Clients right to choose to participate in psychological services and assessments
- Temporary registration designations for Psychologist from other jurisdictions providing services within the Province of Saskatchewan

At the time of this report the Committee is working on the professional practice issues of:

- Providing services to minors without parental consent: “mature minor”
- Providing services to minors when one parent is opposed to the service
- Psychologists’ responsibility to protect Psychology positions and ensure Psychologists are providing services in positions designated for Psychologists
- Standards and responsibilities for record keeping

The Committee has met on three occasions and conducts a portion of its work electronically.

I would like to acknowledge the work of the Committee members and express my appreciation of their contribution to the College.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen V. Boechler, Ph.D., R.D.Psych
Chair, Professional Practice and Ethics Committee

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT

The focus of the 2005-2006 Nominating Committee has been twofold:

- (1) Oversee the election to fill four positions of the SCP Executive Council (two members-at-large, secretary and president-elect, all two-year terms); and,
- (2) Consider the expanded role of the Nominating Committee (recruitment of volunteers to positions on College Committees).

As part of the first focus, members of the Nominating Committee met on October 14, 2005, in Davidson, to organize around tasks required for overseeing the election process. The schedule was set for the Call for Nominations, receipt of nominations, mail-out of the ballots and polling date, according to the Bylaws and Procedures. Subsequently on November 25, 2005, the Call for Nominations was mailed to the membership. Nominations closed on January 6, 2006. The present SCP Executive Council assumed the task of acclamation to positions of two members-at-large and

secretary as well as of appointment of a member to position of president-elect. No election was required or undertaken by the members of the Nominating Committee. The Committee members thank the four SCP members who agreed to serve on the Executive Council.

As part of the second focus of the Nominating Committee, members met on January 6, 2006, in Davidson, to organize around tasks required for consideration of the expanded role of the Nominating Committee. Committee members decided to prepare a brief submission of a ‘strategic’ plan on recruitment of volunteers for Council’s February, 2006 meeting. This brief submission will include generally, a summary of the problem of and common solutions to the recruitment of volunteers, and more specifically, a projection of the need for volunteers for the College, an example of a timeline of tasks of one of the College Committees and suggestions of specific solutions to reduce any barriers SCP members might face in volunteering for work on the College Committees.

The Committee members thank Rik Cherland, Liaison to the Nominating Committee, Executive Council, and Wendy Petrisor, Office Manager, for their support over the year.

Committee members include Debby Boyes, Connie Gerwing and Darlene Ware.

Respectfully submitted,
Debby Boyes, Ph.D., R.D.Psych
Chair, Nominating Committee

DISCIPLINE COMMITTEE REPORT

The Discipline Committee conducted its first hearing this past year. Results of this hearing are available on the website. Many interesting issues arose from this case. Members of the Discipline Committee received invaluable education and training from Merrilee Rasmussen. We received many reports from the Professional Conduct Committee that did not require action from the Discipline Committee.

Members of the Committee are: myself, Dr. Angelina Baydala, Professor of Psychology at the University of Regina, Dr. Wayne Schlapkohl, Psychologist with Adult Community Services, Battlefords Mental Health Centre, and, Dr. Peter Hemingway, Professor of Education at the University of Regina. A public representative was appointed by Council: Dr. Walter Streelasky. The Act specifies that at least three members of the College comprise this Committee, so the number of Committee members is minimal at this time. The chair requests that nominations be submitted to Council for additional members of this Committee.

Respectively submitted,
Mary Hampton, Ph.D., R.D.Psych.
Chair, Discipline Committee

AD HOC COMMITTEE ON COMPETENCE REPORT

The Ad Hoc Committee on Competence has concluded its second year of operations and appears to be nearing the end of its mandate. The core of our work was on developing a framework to guide Psychologists looking to change areas of competence after registration. The Committee developed a proposal that went to Council recommending that a series of guidelines be set out for the more basic areas of practice. These guidelines would allow those seeking such a change to think about their knowledge base and developed skills and determine whether there is need for them to do additional work to claim a change in competence.

The Committee was also asked to look at the current form being used to examine MRA competence in those registering in the province and being supervised. The key question was what the minimum standard would need to be for a new registrant to be deemed to have successfully completed their supervision prior to qualifying with the College. Recommendations were made on how the form could be adapted to make it more user friendly and to focus ratings on a minimum standard.

Finally, there was some change over in the makeup of the Committee. Vicki Schwean accepted a position with the University of Calgary and, as a result, had to leave the Committee. We thank her for her contributions. In her place we were pleased to accept Kelly Michalko to the Committee.

Committee Members: Tim Greenough; Lynn Loutzenhiser; Vicki Schwean; Colleen Quinlan; Robert Wilson, Kelly Michalko.

*Respectfully submitted,
Bryan Acton, Ph.D., R.D. Psych.
Chair, Ad Hoc Committee on Competence*

ORAL EXAMINATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The Oral Examination Committee was formed in June 2005. This Committee reports to Council but works closely with the Registration Committee and is responsible for the overall development of the oral examination process including the organization and conduct of oral examinations for Restricted members of the College and other members at the direction of the Registration Committee.

The present Committee consists of:
Co-Chairperson: Shelley Tamaki
Co-Chairperson: Tania Safnuk
Member: Heather Hadjistavropoulos
Member: Tammy Dusterbeck

We are thankful for the contributions of Sonya Corbin-Dwyer who was a member of the Committee until December 2005.

We are also pleased that the Registrar and Deputy Registrar are providing support and assistance.

The Committee began by reviewing the existing oral exam process in Saskatchewan and in other provinces. Following this review, a number of modifications to the overall process were proposed with the hope of ensuring a more fair and standardized oral exam process. Revisions to the Candidate and Examiner Handbooks were made and included specific guidelines about the structure, content, timing and scoring of the oral exam.

These proposed changes to the oral exam process were implemented and evaluated during a group testing session held in Regina in November 2005. At this time, 10 Restricted Practice Psychologists were examined. Each member of the Oral Examination Committee chaired two examination panels along with several Full-Practice Psychologists who volunteered to take part in the process.

An evaluation of the process was conducted and suggested that the changes were generally well received by both Candidates and Examiners. Attempts to address concerns raised during the process (i.e., the need for adequate preparation time, redundancy in the process, improving the exam setting) were considered by the Oral Examination Committee and further revisions to the process were made based on this feedback from participants. A second round of testing was planned for January 2006. Once the number of Candidates awaiting oral examination in the province has been reduced, it is hoped that regular testing sessions (i.e., Spring and Fall) can be held and that these sessions will alternate between Regina and Saskatoon.

*Respectfully submitted,
Tania Safnuk, Ph.D., R.D. Psych.
Co-chair, Oral Examination Committee*

MENTAL HEALTH SECTOR STUDY WORKING GROUP REPORT

This Committee had one meeting in 2005, in June, to follow up on the report previously released. At that meeting, the decision was taken to strike a sub-Committee to organize a second phase of planning for the Committee and to bring those plans back to the larger group for its consideration.

A meeting to consider the plans of the sub-Committee was set for October 13, in Prince Albert. This meeting was cancelled because of the number of people who indicated their inability to attend. No further meetings have been called.

Discussion in the June, 2005, meeting raised the issue of employing people with generic training, for future health service delivery in Saskatchewan. Such employees would replace those with education in the established professions such as Psychology. This issue requires monitoring by SCP.

I have indicated to Council my wish to be replaced as the representative on this Committee. My recommendation is that Council name a replacement and continues to monitor developments and participate in the discussions of this Committee.

*Respectfully submitted,
Liz Ivanochko, Ph.D., R.D.Psych.*

LEGISLATION AND BYLAWS STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

The Bylaws Committee was formed on September 22nd, 2004.

The five Committee members were as follows:

Susan Robin (outgoing acting Chair)

Jim Arnold (Chair)

Ken Hardy (Council Representative)

Della Hunter (Recording Secretary)

Terrie Dumelie

The Committee considered the matter of internet degrees as one of the first items on the agenda. A number of other Councils were contacted as well as discussion with Dianne Neil regarding the registration of teachers on this matter.

Terrie Dumelie was to draft a description of the Committee for the SKCP website.

The Committee met in October and November at which time little headway was achieved regarding the issues before the group.

Due to unfortunate circumstances, the Chair, had to step down and the Committee needed to be reorganized. Della Hunter took over the Chair in February 2006 and will be working with Council to recruit additional members and set this year's agenda. Outstanding issues before the Committee include:

- regulations regarding internet degrees;
- the temporary registration of out of province Psychologists working in Saskatchewan;
- the potential for three new categories of membership: Retired, Restricted On Leave, and Restricted Non-Practicing;
- the question of whether Psychologists may have a contribution to make e.g. signing passports.
- Clarification regarding the removal of members from the register and the process of reinstatement.

*Respectfully submitted,
Della Hunter, Ph.D., R.D.Psych.
Chair, Legislation and Bylaws Standing Committee*

UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN SENATE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

The SCP appoints a representative to the senate for a three year term. The senate is composed of appointed members from associations and/or regulatory bodies such as ours, as well as elected members representing various regions around the province. The purpose of the senate is to liaise between the university and the representative bodies, and to provide feedback to the university's board of governors, and university Council on the operations of the university.

The senate meets twice per year on a Saturday, and at the April 23, 2005 meeting the primary focus was the financial and fundraising activities. The October 1, 2005 meeting centered largely around the outreach and engagement initiative undertaken by the university. Senators were asked to aid in facilitating engagement meetings across the province.

The 2006 meetings are scheduled for April 22nd and October 7th.

*Respectively submitted,
Shelley Adams, M.Ed., R. Psych.*