

The Practitioner Connection

May
2016

KEY DATES

Peer Consultation Call

These calls are designed for us to be able to support each other in our community work and gather new ideas! RSVP: tom@tomwolff.com

- May 6th
- June 10th
- July 8th
- August 12th

Practice Monthly Call

- May 13th
- June 17th
- July 15th
- August 26th

*Don't Forget: The SCRA
Community Mini-Grants cycle is
now open:*

<http://www.scra27.org/what-we-do/practice/community-mini-grants/>

Welcome to the fourth issue of The Practitioner Connection! In the May issue, the newly elected Practice Council Secretary/Historian, **Debbie Ojeda-Leitner**, and Practice Council Executive Committee Representative, **Nicole Freund** are featured!! Also, updates from the April call, and the May hot topic are included! Do you have an idea that you would like to have featured in the next issue? If, so please email us at compsychpractice@gmail.com.

Updates and Notes

The April Meeting Notes are available online: <http://scra27.org/what-we-do/practice/about-practice-council/documents/2016-teleconference-meeting-notes/>

- Please vote in the SCRA Executive Committee Position Elections by June 13, 2016: <http://scra27.org/who-we-are/leadership/scra-2016-executive-committee-candidates/>
- Collective Impact (CI) Issues: Tom Wolff, who leads the Peer Consultation Calls, wrote an article in the Global Journal of Community Psychology Practice about collective impact and its challenges. This article has sparked a national-level conversation (and a response from the originators of CI)! We're so proud of the work that Tom and others have been doing and plan to do. There will be time on the next Peer Consultation Call to talk more about CI and the exciting work ahead of us!
- April's Hot Topic was "Brainstorming Canadian Community Psychologists for keynote speaking at the 2017 SCRA Biennial" which was led by Carlos Luis. This was quite an enlightening discussion and we learned about several Canadian Community Psychologists and their work.
- The Practice Council agreed to work collaboratively with the SCRA Early Career Interest Group (ECIG) to develop and administer a 'Career Trajectory' survey for graduates of community psychology programs and are doing work in community and academic settings. This initiative will also involve telling the often 'untold' stories of community psychologists who have taken diverse career paths. Please contact Ben Graham if you are interested in working on this initiative, benjaminagraham@gmail.com.
- The Welcoming/Recruitment Workgroup (Nicole Freund, Liz Stone, Ramy Barhouche, Carlos Luis, & Al Ratcliffe) reported out on the great work that they've been doing to identify plans for enhancing how we welcome and orient new members. The document titled "Welcoming and Recruitment Thoughts for Discussion" can be found here in the documents folder: <http://scra27.org/what-we-do/practice/about-practice-council/documents/>
- The Practice Council members discussed the language for the Nominations process for Executive Committee positions. The purpose of this document was to provide suggestions for how to enhance the current nomination process. Olya will be meeting with Bret Kloos (SCRA Past President) and others to share feedback. Thank you to all of the members who have provided input on the document either via email or over the phone! If you still want to provide feedback, email us: compsychpractice@gmail.com

Hot Topics

Practitioners we would like to use this space to identify hot topics in the news that we should be discussing as a council. Each month the call will designate time (15-20 minutes) to discuss a hot topic that was selected by members. Topics can include social justice issues such as gun control, voting rights, etc. Also, topics may stem around the community psychology field. What topic should we discuss in June? [Tell us here: http://goo.gl/forms/pfCk1xWVpc](http://goo.gl/forms/pfCk1xWVpc)

May Hot Topic: A chat with nominees for SCRA President-Elect positions. We've invited Vince Francisco and Yolanda Suarez-Balcazar to discuss their platforms and to answer your questions. Dr. Suarez-Balcazar will not be able to physically be on the call, but she has provided a statement that answers several major questions. Read more about these two candidates: <http://scra27.org/who-we-are/leadership/scra-2016-executive-committee-candidates/>. Don't forget to vote by June 13th, 2016.

Member Spotlight: Newly Elected Practice Council Leadership Positions

This month's member spotlight is dedicated to highlighting two Practice Council members who ran for leadership positions. Let's congratulate **Nicole Freund** (Practice Council Executive Committee Representative) who will start her position in August and **Debbie Ojeda-Leitner** (Practice Council Secretary/Historian) who will start her position in June 2016. We would like to thank Olya Glantsman and Jasmine Douglas for their two years of dedication and leadership in these positions! Interested in serving in a leadership position, email us: compsychpractice@gmail.com

Debbie Ojeda-Leitner

Hello! My name is Deborah Ojeda-Leitner (but you can call me Debbie). I am a second year Community Psychology graduate student at Wichita State University. I am graduating with my masters this year and continuing towards my doctorate. My interests include health, social justice, equality, social change community based interventions and advocacy. I just finished a project looking at health-related stereotype threats among the LGBT community. I am looking forward to being the historian/ secretary for the practice council. I am really excited to be involved in the organizational and leadership aspect. Thank you so much for this wonderful opportunity

Email: debb.ojeda@gmail.com



Nicole Freund

Nicole Freund has lived and worked in Wichita for 16 years. She earned an MA in English (2000) from Northern Illinois University and both MBA (2006) and MA in Psychology (2015) from WSU. Before coming to the community psychology program, she taught first year writing courses for Friends and Newman, and worked for The Coleman Company, Inc. for 11.5 years in marketing research and brand management. Since joining the department, Nicole has served as vice president of PGSO, treasurer and marketing director for the Community Psychology Association, and as the welcoming and recruitment director for the SCRA Practice Council. Her graduate work in the Community Research, Assessment, and Methodology lab includes research on the federal drug re-entry court in the District of Kansas (Kan-Trac) and her planned dissertation is a social network analysis for offenders re-entering communities in Kansas. She hopes to complete her doctoral work in 2017 and continue to contribute to research and evaluation in meaningful ways throughout the community. When not working, Nicole enjoys running and being outside, watching her kids in karate, and hanging out with her husband.

Email: nmfreund@gmail.com



Practice Council Leadership Team

Kyrah Brown: Co-Chair- ky.brown36@gmail.com

Olya Glantsman: Co-Chair (EC Representative)-
oglantsman@gmail.com

Jasmine Douglas: Secretary/Historian-
jasmine.douglas.wsu@gmail.com

Alaa Aldoh: Representative to the Website and Social Media Committee- alaa.aldoh@auegypt.edu

Nicole Freund: Recruitment Coordinator-
nmfreund@gmail.com

Carlos Luis: Past Council Chair-
carlosluisz@gmail.com