

The Practitioner Connection

April
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
Calls are held 2:00PM Eastern Time

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

Practice Monthly Call

Calls are held 2:00PM Eastern Time

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

Welcome to the third issue of The Practitioner Connection! In the April issue Vincent Francisco and Hana Shahin are featured in the member spotlight. Also, updates from the March call, and the April 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.

Practice Council Elections

For the past two months, we've been soliciting self and member nominations for the following positions: Practice Council Executive Committee Representative, and Secretary/Historian. *Thank you to those who submitted nominations!* Please show your support and vote for a candidate of your choosing at the following link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1ZrVHZM4NejmY8xZjX_722Dv8o2I2JW0ELgcpBWMiYyk/viewform?usp=send_form

EC Representative

Nicole Freund, Doctoral Candidate at Wichita State University

Secretary/Historian

Debbie Ojeda-Leitner, Doctoral Student at Wichita State University

Updates and Notes

The first ever Hot Topic discussion was held in March and hosted by Tabitha Underwood! The discussion was deeply engaging and beneficial to early careers and graduate students. Seasoned members shared the creative ways they are able to access academic resources when they are in practice settings.

The April **Hot Topic** will be: **Brainstorming 2017 Biennial Speakers**. This is a topic that was entered via the online submission poll. Members will discuss who they think would be a great speaker at the next biennial. *Our Hot Topic Host this month will be Carlos Luis!*

The SCRA Community Mini Grants 2016 grant cycle is now open. To learn more please visit the website here: <http://www.scra27.org/what-we-do/practice/community-mini-grants/>

Find the full March minutes online: <http://scra27.org/what-we-do/practice/documents/>

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 May?

Tell us here: <http://goo.gl/forms/pfCk1xWVpc>

Member Spotlight

This is a new feature to recognize all of our amazing members. We hope to soon have a Member Spotlight coordinator, until then members will be randomly selected for a highlight throughout the year.

Vince Francisco

Dr. Vincent Francisco is KHF Professor of Applied Behavioral Science and Senior Scientist with the Institute for Life Span Studies. He is Co-Director of the Work Group for Community Health and Development, a WHO Collaborating Centre at the University of Kansas. In his work, he uses behavioral science methods to help understand and improve conditions that affect population health and health equity. He is co-developer of the Community Tool Box, a widely used Internet-based resource for promoting community health and development.

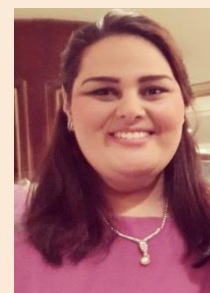


Description of Work

Dr. Francisco has experience in the research and evaluation of community-based intervention programs focusing on adolescent development, reduction of risk for HIV/AIDS, teen substance abuse, youth violence, teen parenthood, and chronic/cardiovascular diseases. He works with community initiatives to help them build capacity for systems change, create environments in which those organizations can succeed in accomplishing their mission, and evaluate those interventions within an open systems environment.

Hana Shahin

Hana Shahin has graduated with a Master's degree in community psychology from the American University in Cairo (AUC). Currently, she is teaching an undergraduate course, introduction to community psychology, at AUC and is the Alumni Coordinator and Civic Education Conference Coordinator for the Transformation and Partnership Programs at the Goethe-Institut Cairo.



Description of Work

Currently, I am working as the Alumni Program Coordinator at the Goethe-Institut in Cairo and also as the Civic Education Conference Coordinator. The Alumni Program was developed from some events that then turned into a series of bimonthly events that aim to build the Alumni Community through enriching their sense of community, building strong networks within the community and enabling their sense of control in creating individual and collective actions to create progressive changes in their communities. Another exciting project I am working on at the Goethe-Institut is the Civic Education Conference (CEC), which is organized by the Goethe-Institut, funded by the Federal Foreign Office, in partnership with the Danish Egyptian Dialogue Institute (DEDI), the German Federal Agency for Civic Education, Union des Tunisiens Indépendants pour la Liberté (UTIL) and the Tahrir Lounge. CEC 2016, which will be held in Tunisia, is a continuation of the CEC 2013 and aims to further develop the field of civic education and provide a platform for participants to exchange and plan additional steps for strengthening the civic education sector in the region.

Finally, I am most proud to be a community psychology instructor at the American University in Cairo (AUC). Teaching "Introduction to Community Psychology" is what I am most passionate about, as it gives me a chance to transfer my passion for community psychology to my students. I try my best to get the students to think outside the box by using experiential learning techniques, so that they get to think about the theories in actionable exercises. The most exciting project they will be working on this semester is contributing to the Community Tool Box; where they are going to meet with different non governmental organizations and collect examples for the different Toolkits. Also, teaching gets me to strengthen my knowledge of community psychology and brings me closer to theory; which then reflects in my practice.

Practice Council Leadership Team

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

Olya Glantsman: Co-Chair (EC Representative)-
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Jasmine Douglas: Secretary/Historian-
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Alaa Aldoh: Representative to the Website and Social Media Committee- alaa.aldoh@aeu.egypt.edu

Nicole Freund: Recruitment Coordinator-
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Carlos Luis: Past Council Chair-
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