Thursday April 28, 1989
Certification Meeting

Members Present: Robert Weinberg (president), Ron Smith (past-president), Dan Gould (president-elect), Robin Vealey (secretary-treasurer), Charles Hardy (publications-membership director), Dan Kirschenbaum (intervention/performance enhancement chair), Bonnie Berger (health psychology chair), Frank Smoll (substituting for Brenda Bredemeier as social psychology chair), Len Zaichkowsky (certification committee chair), and Vikki Krane (student representative).

1. Call to Order and Day’s Agenda. The meeting was called to order at 8:40 AM as Ron Smith welcomed everyone and set the schedule for the two days. Smith acknowledged that Smoll was sitting in as social psychology chair for Brenda Bredemeier who could not be present. Chair responsibilities were turned over to Zaichkowsky as the day’s agenda dealt with the AAASP certification document. Zaichkowsky indicated that he had received 8 written responses and 3 telephone calls from AAASP fellows regarding the certification document. Zaichkowsky distributed copies of the written responses as well as a summary document of fellow responses to certification that he had drawn up to integrate/organize all the comments. Fifteen minutes was provided for the board to read and study these materials. The objective of the day for the board was to propose modifications in the certification document based on the responses of the fellows to the document.

2. General Comments. Appreciation was extended to Zaichkowsky for organizing/summarizing the fellows’ responses for the board. Kirschenbaum suggested that a letter of appreciation be sent to the fellows that responded to the certification document. The board felt that the preamble of the document and the rationale needs to be expanded in order to clarify the purpose of the certification document. It was emphasized that the goal is to certify individuals by AAASP, not to ensure competency or accredit university graduate programs. Gould suggested that it may be helpful to state
specifically in the preamble what certification by AAASP will mean as well as what it will not mean. Zaichowsky agreed to modify/extend the rationale in the preamble and send it to the board members for reaction. It was emphasized that board members need to be extremely familiar with the certification document and the rationale for the document so as to be prepared to field any questions at the September conference. Specific discussion of the certification document was organized around the following five sections of the document.

3. Title Position. Zaichowsky indicated that several fellows had expressed concern with what they feel is a lack of meaning associated with the title "Certified Consultant". Kirschenbaum emphasized that the legal issue is paramount and the attorneys have made it clear that if we certify individuals as psychologists, or sport psychology consultants, we would be challenged by state licensing boards. The board felt that the rationale should be expanded to make it clear to the membership why this title was chosen. The board unanimously agreed on the title position with the understanding that Zaichowsky would firm up the rationale for the title position. Hardy emphasized that the board and membership should realize that the title is a compromise, that it will not please everyone, and that we should realize this and support it positively based on the extensive work and discussion that has gone into achieving this title position.

4. Role Definition. Zaichowsky pointed out that most of the fellows were pleased with this area of the certification document. The board discussed Yukelson's suggestion that "personal development" be more strongly emphasized in the role definition. The board agreed that "personal development" was an important part of the services provided by individuals achieving AAASP certification, but after reading over the role definition the board felt that "personal development" was included in the definition as it stands.

5. Criteria for Certification. Zaichowsky stated that this area was discussed most frequently in the responses from the fellows. Questions were raised regarding the depth of knowledge needed for certification (e.g., what is "substantive knowledge"?), and also regarding a perceived lack of flexibility in the criteria (e.g., is training in psychopathology necessary?). Krane stated that she was concerned that students could not complete the requirements based
on the lack of availability of certain courses and considering institutional program requirements. It was suggested that perhaps some of the requirements could be met via undergraduate coursework, and also that it needs to be made clear that one course is not necessarily required to meet each item criteria.

**Motion:** It was moved (Kirschenbaum), seconded (Berger), and passed (10-0) that the following modification be made in the first paragraph under criteria for certification:

"Necessary levels of preparation in the substantive content areas generally require successful completion of at least three graduate semester hours or their equivalent (e.g., passing suitable exams offered by an accredited doctoral program). However, up to four upper-level undergraduate courses may be substituted for this requirement (unless specifically designated below as requiring graduate credit only [items 7, 8, and 10 will be designated by asterisk as requiring graduate credit]). It is not always necessary to take one course to satisfy each requirement (e.g., see items 2 and 9).

**Motion:** It was moved (Zaichkowsky), seconded (Kirschenbaum), and passed (10-0) that items 7, 8, and 10 will be designated by asterisk as requiring graduate credit and item 3 be amended as follows:

"Knowledge of the sport psychology subdisciplines of intervention/performance enhancement, health/exercise psychology, and social psychology as evidenced by three courses or two courses and one independent study in sport psychology (two of these courses must be taken at the graduate level).

Krane suggested requiring individuals seeking certification to satisfy a certain percentage of competencies or criteria versus satisfying each criteria individually.

**Motion:** Krane moved and Weinberg seconded that prior to item 11 of the criteria for certification that the following statement be inserted:

"Individuals are required to satisfy 3 of the following 4 certification criteria."

The board felt that there is enough flexibility as the document stands and that all courses are important and needed for certification. The motion was defeated 1-9.

6. **Grandparenting.** Zaichowsky reported that overall most of the fellows were satisfied with the grandparenting procedures. Discussion ensued regarding item 1 in the grandparenting clause of the certification document (must have been an AAASP member two
of the past three years at the time of application). It was suggested that perhaps this requirement would be too limiting.

**Motion:** It was moved (Kirschenbaum), seconded (Vealey), and passed (10-0) that the membership requirement in item 1 of the grandparenting clause be changed from "AAASP member two of the past three years at the time of application" to "current AAASP member".

Discussion ensued regarding the 400 hour experience requirement stipulated in item 3 of the grandparenting clause. Berger voiced concern about this requirement for health psychology practitioners. It was also discussed whether or not to include teaching as partial fulfillment for the 400 hour requirement.

**Motion:** It was moved (Weinberg), seconded (Vealey), and passed (9-1) that the 400 hours of experience requirement stipulated in item 3 of the grandparenting clause be eliminated. The document will be amended to read "... This experience must have resulted in a substantial amount of direct experience with participants or coaches in exercise, physical activity, or sport in the performance of services stipulated in the AAASP Certification Role Definition." The rationale for this modification is that it will allow greater flexibility for individuals from all areas to be eligible for certification by grandparenting, yet it still requires direct experience and it will be left up to the certification committee to make the decision as to whether each individual demonstrates adequate experience.

Discussion ensued regarding item 6 in the grandparenting clause that requires relevant publications. Questions were raised about whether publications must be in scholarly journals or books or whether more applied, popular publications would be sufficient to meet this criteria.

**Motion:** It was moved (Gould), seconded (Kirschenbaum), and passed (10-0) to delete the parenthetical material from item 6 "(articles in scholarly journals; books or book chapters)". Item 6 of the grandparenting clause will now read "Contribution to professional or public knowledge of applied sport psychology demonstrated by relevant scientific or other publications". The parenthetical material was deleted as it suggests that only scholarly publications could be used to satisfy this criteria.

7. **Ethics.** Kirschenbaum distributed a July 1988 *American Psychologist* article submitted by the Ethics Committee of the APA entitled "Trends in ethics cases, common pitfalls, and published resources". After perusal by the board, the article was discussed in
relation to the establishment of guidelines to handle ethical complaints in AAASP. The board agreed that it was clear from the article that the AAASP ethics committee should serve only in an educational capacity, not in a disciplinary or policing capacity.

**Motion:** It was moved (Kirschenbaum), seconded (Gould), and passed (10-0) that the ethics section of the certification document be modified conceptually from a disciplinary/policing approach to an educational approach. Zaichowsky was charged with making these conceptual revisions in the ethics section of the certification document. The board also discussed the need for the committee to implement conference programs on ethics as well as submitting educational material regarding ethics for publication in the AAASP newsletter. In other words, the major role of the ethics committee will be to educate the membership about ethical standards and practice in sport psychology.

8. **Implementation.** Several implementation concerns were discussed with regard to the certification process such as application forms, insurance, fees, time line, and the review process (for grandparenting and nongrandparenting). Kirschenbaum suggested that perhaps an esteemed, well-known person in the field could be certified by the certification committee without submitting the necessary paperwork if the committee agrees unanimously with their selection. Smoll expressed the need for AAASP to aggressively promote and market the certification standards once they are voted in by the membership in order to establish credibility for the AAASP certification process. It was agreed that these issues would be specifically discussed at the fall board meeting.

**Saturday April 29, 1989**

**Executive Board Business Meeting**


1. **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes.** The meeting was called to order by Weinberg at 8:40 AM. It was moved (Kirschenbaum), seconded (Berger), and passed (9-0) that the minutes of the October 1988 executive board meeting, as mailed to the board and published in the AAASP newsletter, be approved.

2. **Secretary-Treasurer's Report.** Vealey distributed copies of the Treasurer's report that included the period from 10/5/88 to
4/26/89. It was moved (Gould), seconded (Hardy), and passed (9-0) that the board accept the Treasurer's report. Kirschenbaum inquired about the financial status of the journal, and the board requested that Vealey get this information from John Silva the editor and report back to the board with this financial information.

3. **1989 Convention Report.** Smith distributed the 1989 conference information which will be published in the upcoming newsletter. The conference will be held at the University of Washington. The board toured the conference accommodations and meeting rooms later in the day and found them to be exceptional.

4. **1990 Convention Report.** Weinberg reported that he had perused proposals from 15 hotels in the San Antonio area. He narrowed this down to 4 hotels, visited these sites, and is now negotiating convention rates from these hotels. Weinberg estimated that the cost per person will be in the low 200's for a 4-night double occupancy that includes the wine and cheese social, a Mexican fiesta banquet, and breakfast each day. Weinberg felt it would be better to let people eat lunch and dinner on their own to take advantage of the proximity of the many interesting places in San Antonio within walking distance of the hotel. Discussion ensued on the best time for the conference (early or late Sept.). Overall, the board felt that later was better as it would not conflict with the start of the fall semester, but the board felt that this was a secondary concern to getting the best deal from a hotel for the conference. Gould expressed the need for AAASP representatives to document procedures for locating conference sites and negotiating with hotels. Smith mentioned the availability of the Banff Conference Center near Calgary (Canada) as a prospective conference site.

5. **Honoraria to Invited Speakers.** Smith discussed the current AAASP policy of providing a $300 honorarium to invited speakers contingent upon their submission of their paper to the journal. This policy has become problematic as speakers have been balking at presenting at the conference due to the stipulation that they must provide a paper. Concern was expressed by board members that we seem to be losing prestigious speakers that the membership is interested in hearing at the conference due to the paper submission policy. However, the board also liked the idea of having some type of mechanism to entice prestigious people to publish in the journal.

   **Motion:** It was moved (Kirschenbaum), seconded (Gould), and passed (9-0) that AAASP would provide a $300 honorarium to invited
speakers for presenting at the conference, and that an additional $300 would be given to invited speakers who submit their paper as a journal article in APA format at the time of the conference for publication in the *Journal of Applied Sport Psychology*.

6. Audio-Visual Policy. At the October 1988 board meeting, the original AV policy (AAASP will provide only typical AV equipment such as slide projectors and overhead projectors) was amended to state that AAASP will also provide additional AV equipment (e.g., VCR) if it is critical to the presentation. Discussion ensued over the pros and cons of this policy.

   **Motion:** It was moved (Gould), seconded (Kirschenbaum), and passed (9-0) to keep the AAASP AV policy as amended at the October 1988 board meeting.

   Also at the October 1988 board meeting, the board voted to reimburse presenters from the 1988 conference who personally paid AV costs when special equipment was not provided by AAASP. This reimbursement was carried out. John Silva, as 1988 conference site director, requested that the board re-evaluate this decision to reimburse presenters from the 1988 conference. The board reviewed copies of correspondence regarding problems that occurred regarding AV equipment at the 1988 conference and discussed the issue.

   **Motion:** To get a motion on the floor so the board could act, Smoll moved to reconsider the decision to reimburse these individuals. The motion died for lack of a second.

7. Invited Participants' Registration. Hardy presented the current AAASP policy of requiring professionals outside the field of sport psychology who are invited to participate in the conference program to join AAASP.

   **Motion:** Hardy moved that for invited participants outside the field of sport psychology to present at the conference; on-site registration would be required but not AAASP membership. Smith seconded the motion, and the motion was defeated (1-8).

   **Motion:** It was moved (Berger), seconded (Hardy), and passed (9-0) to amend the invited participants' registration policy as follows:

   "For invited participants at the conference not associated with the field of sport psychology, the registration and membership fee is waived and they will be provided with conference materials free of charge. Invited participant status must be submitted by the organizer of the conference presentation and approved by the AAASP section chair."
8. Audio and Visual Taping of Presentations. Hardy presented several options for providing audio/visual taping of conference programs. The board felt the idea was good, and asked Hardy to check into this area further regarding cost, quality, process, etc. Hardy agreed to report further on the matter at the September 1989 board meeting.

**Motion:** It was moved (Gould), seconded (Kirschenbaum), and passed (9-0) that we not offer audio-visual taping services at the conference at this time.

9. Time Allotment of Conference Presentations. Kirschenbaum reported receiving correspondence from a conference presenter who through miscommunication received less time than originally allotted for his or her presentation. The board agreed that time allotments for conference presentations must be clearly communicated to presenters ahead of time and then rigorously followed at the conference.

10. Conference Evaluation. Gould reported on the conference evaluations from the 1988 conference. Forty evaluations were returned (55% professionals, 40% students, 5% unknown). In terms of overall quality of the conference, 86% felt it was very good or excellent. Highest ratings were given the keynotes in social psychology and intervention/performance enhancement, and responses were also favorable regarding the workshop and symposia formats. There was some concern about conflicting sessions and a lack of free time during the conference.

11. Conference Evaluation Forms. Hardy posed various questions for the board to consider about implementation of conference evaluation forms. The board agreed that evaluation was necessary, but a higher response rate was needed.

**Motion:** It was moved (Hardy), seconded (Smoll), and passed (9-0) that conference evaluation forms would be distributed and completed during the business meeting. Vealey agreed to modify the current evaluation form to shorten it for use at the business meeting and send it to Weinberg for approval before the 1989 conference. It was also agreed that the Secretary-Treasurer will be responsible for providing the evaluations and implementing their administration during the business meeting.
12. **Quality Control of Submitted Conference Presentations.** Berger discussed the difficulty in assessing the quality of submitted abstracts that were extremely brief. The board agreed that the abstract should be complete enough and contain enough information for the section chairs and committees to objectively evaluate the proposed presentation.

**Motion:** It was moved (Berger), seconded (Smith), and passed (9-0) to change the instructions for conference submissions to require "a one page abstract of at least 350 words for all submissions".

Berger also stated that some submissions are not research-oriented yet are not workshops as specified to be interactive and "hands-on". The board agreed that the submission guidelines should read "workshops usually involve ..." a hands-on approach and that these workshops "may range from 1 hour to 3 hours" to give the section chairs some flexibility in allotting program time.

13. **Exercise/Sport Network.** Weinberg distributed information about the Exercise/Sport Network (ESN) which was formed to enhance communication among the various organizations involved in research and scholarship in exercise and sport. The board discussed whether AAASP should continue association with ESN and who from AAASP should be our representative to ESN. Gould stated that there should be some continuity in our representative and suggested that our representative serve a three year term.

**Motion:** It was moved (Gould), seconded (Berger), and passed (9-0) that Weinberg would continue acting as AAASP's representative to ESN, and that when Weinberg goes off the board, the president-elect at that time will begin serving a three year term as ESN representative. This system will continue as each ESN representative goes off the board.

14. **Past-President's Report.** No report.

15. **President's Report.** Weinberg had no formal report, but stated that overall the interest in AAASP was positive and the organization was functioning very well.

16. **President-Elect Fellows Review Committee.** Gould reported that the fellows review committee (Gould, Kirschenbaum, Smoll, Berger) reviewed eight fellow applicants and accepted two applicants (Evelyn Hall and Robin Vealey) as AAASP fellows. Gould emphasized that the membership needs to be aware that recognition
as an AAASP fellow involves a sustained contribution over time in the field of sport psychology and that young members of the organization should not be discouraged but realize that fellow status will be obtained in time.

17. Publications/Membership Director Report. Hardy distributed information regarding the status of membership for the past year and the actions taken by the publications director. With regard to membership data, Hardy reported that we are ahead of where we were in 1988 with 409 members at this time (compared to 482 members at the 1988 conference). Hardy also provided results of the newsletter survey that were generally positive with regard to the newsletter columns and lay-out. Vealey inquired about the feasibility of sending the newsletter first class postage as several members have complained that they miss deadlines due to receiving the newsletter so late. The board discussed this issue, and Hardy pointed out that in the newsletter survey, the membership indicated that they did not want to pay first class postage for the newsletter. Hardy also reminded the board of the June 1, 1989 deadline for submissions to the newsletter. The publications staff is still working on a membership director and the new graduate directory should be ready by the 1989 conference.

18. Social Psychology Chair Report. Smoll reported that 20 abstracts were submitted for the 1989 conference, and he also called for more quality in conference submissions and greater quality control by the section chairs and committees in accepting submissions for the conference program.

19. Health Psychology Chair Report. Berger reported that 21 abstracts were submitted for the conference program and expressed concern that several of these submissions were not related to health psychology. Berger asked the board if we should stipulate that the data be collected and analyzed prior to submission of the abstract. Krane felt that this made it difficult for many students involved in ongoing research and suggested that the board not make a firm policy on this but rather let members "take their chances" on submitting incomplete work (it is up to the section chair and committee to decide if the work warrants acceptance for presentation). The board agreed to not be explicit about this matter with regard to submission policies.
20. Intervention/Performance Enhancement Chair Report. Kirschenbaum reported that 54 abstracts were submitted for the conference program with the quality being similar to previous years and several workshops being rejected. He also stated that the appointment of new members to the committee was postponed until the new section chair is elected at the 1989 conference.

21. Student Representative Report. Krane reported that currently there are 12 student regional representatives and that they are working on implementing university representatives to work in conjunction with the regional representatives. The system of student regional representatives is working well. Two student symposia were submitted to the 1980 conference program: one on grant writing and the other on the effect of certification on students. The students are also interested in implementing a Job Board to advertise available positions in sport psychology. The board agreed that this would be most effective in the newsletter as the conference falls too early in the year.

22. Journal of Applied Sport Psychology. Weinberg distributed a report by John Silva, editor of the journal. Volume 1, No. 1 has been mailed to the membership and various institutions to encourage institutional subscriptions. Gould suggested that it may be effective to hold costs down to have a continuing cover for the journal instead of designing new covers for each issue (this could also increase the visibility of AAASP and the journal). The board also expressed concern (based on comments from AAASP members) about the lack of space for free submissions. Although the special issues help fill the journal, it seems that many people have not submitted manuscripts due the publication lag time caused by the special issues that use invited manuscripts.

New Business

23. Nominations for Election Slates. Weinberg reminded the board that board members should poll the membership to get ideas about people the board can nominate for election onto the board. Weinberg also expressed concern over the unwillingness of many people to run for office due to time commitments.

Motion: It was moved (Weinberg), seconded (Smoll), and passed (9-0) that the election slate nominated by the executive board will contain a minimum of five candidates for each office.
24. **Continuing Education Workshops.** Hardy suggested that the board establish a committee for continuing education with the rationale that as we move toward certification, workshops could be offered for CEU's to help members meet the criteria for certification.

**Motion:** It was moved (Hardy), seconded (Gould), and passed (9-0) that a continuing education committee be established for the executive board. The board asked Hardy and Gould to put together a specific proposal regarding the continuing education committee and present it to the board at the September 1989 board meeting.

25. **AAASP Graduate Directory.** Weinberg distributed a report by Michael Sachs on the updated Graduate Directory which will be ready for the 1989 conference.

26. **Past-President's Council (PPC).** Weinberg distributed a memo from John Silva requesting that the board consider organizing a PPC breakfast with representatives from other organizations at the 1989 conference around the theme of certification. Kirschenbaum stated that he felt the timing of a discussion on certification was a bit premature due to the upcoming discussion and vote on the certification document by the membership at the conference. Smith stated that he felt that such a discussion with other organizational representatives should be undertaken by the current officers/board members of AAASP.

**Motion:** It was moved (Smoll), seconded (Berger), and passed (8-0-1) that if the PPC meets at the 1989 conference, they will not discuss certification issues at that time.

As written in the AAASP Constitution, either the board or the president can activate the PPC, so Weinberg will communicate the position of the board to Silva. As the only other past-president, Smith felt that a meeting at this time is premature.

27. **Membership Function of Publication/Membership Director.** Hardy asked for empowerment to contract secretarial services for the publication of the Summer 1989 newsletter.

**Motion:** It was moved (Hardy), seconded (Smith), and passed (9-0) to empower Hardy to secure secretarial services for the Summer 1989 newsletter.

Hardy suggested that the board consider splitting the publication/membership director duties (adding another board member) or else letting the secretary-treasurer handle the membership duties. Vealey indicated that this would not be an
additional hardship if a computer was provided as well as empowerment to hire student secretarial assistance.

**Motion:** It was moved (Hardy), seconded (Vealey, and passed (9-0) that a constitutional amendment be proposed to the membership to move the membership director responsibilities to the secretary-treasurer. Hardy and Vealey will work on the wording of this amendment for the September 1989 conference.

28. **Meeting Adjourned.**

**Motion:** It was moved (Vealey), seconded (Berger), and passed (9-0) that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin S. Vealey, Secretary-Treasurer
AAASP