



VA PSYCHOLOGY  
LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

## ***20<sup>th</sup> Annual VA Psychology Leadership Conference***

### **“The 20th Anniversary of the VA Psychology Leadership Conference: Engaging Partners in Shaping the Future of VA Integrated Care”**

**Sponsored by the Association of VA Psychologist Leaders (AVAPL), the American Psychological Association (APA), and APA Division 18: Psychologists in Public Service**

**May 17 – 20, 2017**  
**The Westin Riverwalk**  
420 W. Market Street  
San Antonio, TX 78205  
Phone: 210.224.6500  
[www.westin.com/riverwalk](http://www.westin.com/riverwalk)

### **Pre-Conference: Wednesday, May 17, 2017**

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 8:00 am – 5:00 pm | <b>APA Site Visitor Training (separate registration)</b><br><b>Olivares</b>                  |
| 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm | <b>Registration and Reception</b><br><b>Hidalgo Ballroom &amp; Hidalgo Pre-Function Area</b> |
| 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm | <b>Dinner: 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Banquet</b><br><b>Camino Real</b>         |

## **Conference Day 1: Thursday, May 18, 2017** **Navarro Ballroom**

7:00 am - 8:00 am 7:15 am – 8:00 am	<b>Continental Breakfast</b> <b><i>Welcome Breakfast (for first-time attendees)</i></b> <b>Room: Zapata</b> <b><i>Introduction to the Conference</i></b>
8:00 am - 8:30 am	<b>Welcome and Overview</b>
8:30 am – 9:15 am	<b>Keynote Address (no CE)</b>  <b><i>20 Years: A History of the VA Psychology Leadership Conference</i></b>  <b>Rodney R. Baker, Ph.D.</b> Former AVAPL Archivist/Historian Chief of Psychology (Retired), San Antonio VAMC
9:15 am- 9:45 am	<b>Invited Address (CE)</b>  <b><i>VA Mental Health: Current Directions and Future Initiatives</i></b>  <b>David Carroll, Ph.D.</b> Executive Director Office of Mental Health Operations, VA Central Office
9:45 am – 10:00 am	<b>Break</b>
10:00 am – 10:45 am	<b>Invited Presentation (CE)</b>  <b><i>Collaborating to Serve Veterans in the Justice System</i></b>  <b>Melissa Fitzgerald</b> Senior Director Justice For Vets

**Please note that only some sessions provide continuing education (CE) credit. Throughout the program, sessions that provide CE credit are denoted with (CE). Those that do not provide CE credit are marked as (no CE).**

10:45 am – 11:15 am

**Invited Address (CE)*****A View from Washington: Update on APA's Veterans Advocacy*****Heather O'Beirne Kelly, Ph.D.**Director, Military and Veterans Health Policy  
American Psychological Association

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

**Breakouts – Session A****Breakout 1: (Navarro) (CE)*****Getting Involved with Advocacy Nationally and Locally*****Ronald Girona, Ph.D.**Assistant Chief of Mental Health and Behavior  
Sciences and Chief of the Psychology Section, James A.  
Haley Veterans' Hospital; President, AVAPL**Thomas Kirchberg, Ph.D., ABPP**Chief, Psychology Service, Memphis VAMC  
Past-President, AVAPL**Mary Beth Shea, Ph.D.**Local Recovery Coordinator & Training Director,  
Orlando VAMC  
President-Elect, AVAPL**John McQuaid, Ph.D.**Associate Chief of Mental Health for Clinical  
Administration, San Francisco VAMC  
Secretary, AVAPL**Samuel Wan, Ph.D.**Training Director, Postdoctoral Fellowship Program  
San Francisco VA Health Care System  
Treasurer, AVAPL**Russell B. Lemle, Ph.D.**Psychology Director  
San Francisco VA Health Care System**Heather O'Beirne Kelly, Ph.D.**Director, Military and Veterans Health Policy  
American Psychological Association**Kathleen M. McNamara, Ph.D., ABPP**Lead Professional (Retired)  
Pacific Islands Health Care System

**Jay L. Cohen, Ph.D.**

National MH Technical Assistance Specialist  
Office of Mental Health Operations, VACO

**Breakout 2: (Olivares) (no CE)*****A Conversation Hour with the Past Presidents  
of AVACP/AVAPL*****Rodney R. Baker, Ph.D. (Moderator)**

Past President of AVACP, 1982-83

See separate handout for a list of Past Presidents and  
their bios.

**Breakout 3: (Zapata) (CE)*****Improving Morale and Increasing  
Psychological Safety*****Steven Lovett, Ph.D.**

Chief, Psychology  
VA Palo Alto

**Lisa K. Kearney, Ph.D., ABPP**

Associate Director for Education  
VA Center for Integrated Healthcare

**George Shorter, Ph.D.**

Chief, Psychology Service  
Malcom Randall VAMC

**Breakout 4: (Villa) (no CE)*****Getting a Job in the VA: A Guide for Trainees  
and Early Career Psychologists*****Stacy Pommer, LMSW**

Health Systems Specialist, Associated Health  
Education, Office of Academic Affiliations, VACO

**James Marfield, MBA**

VHA National Healthcare Recruitment Consultant,  
National Healthcare Recruitment Service (NHRS),  
Human Resources Operations and Oversight (HROO),  
Workforce Management and Consulting (WMC)

12:15pm – 1:45 pm

**Networking Lunches (1.5 hours)****General Lunch Area, including:**

- **Meet the AVAPL and Division 18 Officers**

- **Navarro**

**Lunch topics:**

- **Women in Leadership SIG**
- **Advocacy**
- **Diversity/Psychologists of Color**

- **Olivares**
- **Zapata**
- **Villa**

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm

**Breakouts – Session A:****(Breakouts 1-3 repeated; Breakout 4 below)**

(See previous descriptions and room locations)

**Breakout 4: (Villa) (no CE)*****Hiring in VA: A Guide for Chiefs, Hiring Managers, and Directors of Training*****Stacy Pommer, LMSW**

Health Systems Specialist, Associated Health Education, Office of Academic Affiliations, VACO

**James Marfield, MBA**

VHA National Healthcare Recruitment Consultant, National Healthcare Recruitment Service (NHRS), Human Resources Operations and Oversight (HROO), Workforce Management and Consulting (WMC)

2:45pm – 3:15 pm

**Brief Break and Anniversary Celebration – Move to Plenary (Navarro)**

3:15 pm – 4:15 pm

**Invited Presentation (CE)*****Measurement-Based Care*****Rani A. Hoff, Ph.D., MPH**Director, Northeast Program Evaluation Center (NEPEC)  
Office of Mental Health Operations (10NC5)  
Professor of Psychiatry, Yale University School of Medicine**Sandra G. Resnick, Ph.D.**Deputy Director, Northeast Program Evaluation Center (NEPEC), Office of Mental Health Operations  
Associate Professor, Yale University School of Medicine  
Investigator, VISN 1 MIRECC

4:15pm - 5:00 pm

**Invited Presentation (CE)**

***VHA Mental Health Program Office Update***

**Wendy Tenhula, Ph.D.**

Deputy Chief Consultant

Office of Mental Health Services, VA Central Office

**David Carroll, Ph.D.**

Executive Director

Office of Mental Health Operations, VA Central Office

5:00pm – 5:15 pm

**Brief Break and Poster Set-up**

5:15 pm - 7:15 pm

**Social Hour with Poster Sessions 1 & 2  
(Navarro Ballroom Pre-Function Area)**

## **Conference Day 2: Friday, May 19, 2017** **Navarro Ballroom**

7:00 am – 8:00 am 7:15 am – 8:00 am	<b>Continental Breakfast (Navarro)</b> <b><i>Job Exploration Breakfast (optional)</i></b> <b>Room: Zapata</b> <b><i>Overview of Upcoming VA Job Opportunities</i></b>
8:00 am - 8:15 am	<b>Welcome and Housekeeping</b>
8:15 am – 9:00 am	<b>Keynote Address (CE)</b>  <b><i>Reframing PTSD as a Neuropsychological Construct: From Camp Lejeune to Bethlehem</i></b>  <b>Antonio E. Puente, Ph.D.</b> President, American Psychological Association Professor of Psychology, University of North Carolina Wilmington
9:00 am – 10:00 am	<b>Invited Presentation (CE)</b>  <b><i>Combating Threats to Veterans' Mental Health Care Through Strategic Partnership</i></b> <i>From Vietnam to Today: What Decades of Community-Based Service Have Shown Us</i>  <b>Michael Blecker, J.D.</b> Executive Director Swords to Plowshares
10:00 am – 10:15 am	<b>Brief Break</b>
10:15 am - 11:15 am	<b>Invited Presentation (CE)</b>  <b><i>Partnering to Meet the Mental Health Needs of Veterans and Their Families</i></b>  <b>Terri Tanielian, M.A.</b> Senior Behavioral Scientist RAND Corporation

11:15 am – 12:15 pm

**Breakouts – Session B:  
Breakout 1: (Navarro) (CE)*****Women in Leadership*****Antonette Zeiss, Ph.D.**

Retired

Former Chief Consultant, Office of Mental Health Services (2010 - 2012)

**Nicole A. Shiber, Psy.D.**

Supervisory Psychologist, Recovery Services and Outreach Program, James A. Haley Veterans' Hospital

**Allison Aosved, Ph.D.**

Internship and Postdoctoral Fellowship Training Director, VA Puget Sound

**Stacey Pollack, Ph.D.**National Director of Program Policy Implementation  
Mental Health Services, VA Central Office**Mary Beth Shea, Ph.D.**Local Recovery Coordinator & Training Director,  
Orlando VAMC

President-Elect, AVAPL

**Janna L. Fikkan, Ph.D. (in absentia)**

Associate Director of Training

VA Puget Sound, American Lake Division

**Breakout 2: (Olivares) (CE)*****Measurement-Based Care*****Rani A. Hoff, Ph.D., MPH**Director, Northeast Program Evaluation Center (NEPEC), Office of Mental Health Operations (10NC5)  
Professor of Psychiatry, Yale University School of Medicine**Sandra G. Resnick, Ph.D.**Deputy Director, Northeast Program Evaluation Center (NEPEC), Office of Mental Health Operations  
Associate Professor, Yale University School of Medicine; Investigator, VISN 1 MIRECC



**Breakout 3: (Zapata) (CE)*****Mental Health Access Now, Soon, and Sustained: Principles and Strategies for Successful Implementation*****Lisa K. Kearney, Ph.D., ABPP**Associate Director for Education  
VA Center for Integrated Healthcare**Clifford Smith, Ph.D., ABPP**Deputy Director  
Office of Mental Health Operations**Matthew Miller, Ph.D., MPH**Deputy Chief of Staff  
Saginaw VAMC**Breakout 4: (Villa) (no CE)*****Veteran's Choice Utilization*****Russell B. Lemle, Ph.D.**Psychology Director  
San Francisco VA Health Care System**Ronald Girona, Ph.D.**Assistant Chief of Mental Health and Behavior  
Sciences and Chief of the Psychology Section, James A.  
Haley Veterans' Hospital; President, AVAPL

12:15 pm – 1:45 pm

**Networking Lunches (1.5 hours)****General Lunch Area, including:**

- **Building Morale**

- **Navarro**

**Lunch topics:**

- **Early Career Psychologists**
- **Mid-Career Psychologists**
- **Psychology Training**

- **Olivares**
- **Zapata**
- **Villa**

1:45 pm – 2:45 pm

**Breakouts – Session B:  
Topics (Repeated)**

(See previous descriptions and room locations)

2:45 pm – 3:00 pm

**Brief Break – Move to Plenary (Navarro)**

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

**Invited Panel (CE)*****Best Practices from the Field: Improving Access to Quality Mental Health Services*****1. Adapting the Unified Protocol for the PCMHI Setting****\*Kelly A. Caver, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>****\*Nicola F. De Paul, Ph.D.<sup>1</sup>**Candice L. Barnett, M.D.<sup>1,2</sup>David G. Zacharias, M.D., MPH<sup>1,2</sup><sup>1</sup>Seattle VA Medical Center<sup>2</sup>University of Washington Medical Center**2. Assessment and Treatment of Race-Based Trauma among Ethnic and Minority Veterans****\*Hannah Klempner, Psy.D.**

Stephanie Crockett, Psy.D.

Asale Hubbard, Ph.D.

Kristine Burkman, Ph.D.

San Francisco VA Medical Center

**3. An Integrated Approach to Benzodiazepine Discontinuation: Shared Medical Appointments for Veterans Co-Prescribed Opioids and Benzodiazepines****\*Elizabeth (Betsy) Crowe, Ph.D.**

Lucille J. Carriere, Ph.D.

VA Tennessee Valley Healthcare System

**4. FLOW: Improving Access by Facilitating the Identification and Transfer of Stabilized or Recovered Mental Health Patients Back to Primary Care****\*Tracey Leone Smith, Ph.D.**

Terri Barrera, Ph.D.

Zenab Yusuf, M.D., M.P.H.

South Central MIRECC

**\*Denotes presenter(s)**

4:00 pm – 4:30 pm	<b>Invited Presentation (CE)</b>  <b><i>Office of Academic Affiliations Update: A 70-Year History of Training Psychologists</i></b>  <b>Kenneth R. Jones, Ph.D.</b> Director, Associated Health Education Office of Academic Affiliations
4:30 pm – 5:00 pm	<b>Presentation of the Patrick DeLeon Advocacy Award</b>  <b>2017 Recipient: John R. McQuaid, Ph.D.</b>
5:00 pm – 5:30 pm	<b>Wrap-Up/Passing the Torch</b>
5:30 pm – 6:00pm	<b>Open Discussion</b>
6:00 pm – 8:00pm	<b>Social Hour</b>

The presenters have reported no conflicts of interest or commercial support for this program.

This program is sponsored by the North Florida South Georgia Veterans Health System (NFSGVHS) Psychology Service. The NFSGVHS Psychology Service is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. NFSGVHS Psychology Service maintains responsibility for this program and its content.



Up to 11.75 Contact hour(s) of continuing education credit have been approved for this 2 day conference, depending on session attendance. CE credit will only be provided for creditable sessions attended.

For further information about this program, including information about target audience and level of instruction, please feel free to email the VA Psychology Leadership Conference Chair at [vapl.chair@avapl.org](mailto:vapl.chair@avapl.org).

## **CE Workshop Day: Saturday, May 20, 2017** **Navarro Ballroom**

7:30 am - 8:00 am

**Continental Breakfast**

8:00 am -12:00 pm

**Continuing Education Workshop (CE)**

***Compassion Cultivation***

**Jennifer Sippel, Ph.D.**

Spinal Cord Injury Informatics Program Manager  
VA North Texas Health Care System

The presenter has reported no conflicts of interest or commercial support for this program.

This program is sponsored by the North Florida South Georgia Veterans Health System (NFSGVHS) Psychology Service. The NFSGVHS Psychology Service is approved by the American Psychological Association (APA) to sponsor continuing education for psychologists. NFSGVHS Psychology Service maintains responsibility for this program and its content.



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4 Contact hour(s) of continuing education credit have been approved for this 4 hour workshop.

For further information about this program, including information about target audience and level of instruction, please feel free to email the VA Psychology Leadership Conference Chair at [vapl.chair@avapl.org](mailto:vapl.chair@avapl.org).