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### 2008-02-08 PCA President's Report

Pennsylvania Counseling Association

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PCA President's Report  
February 8, 2008

I would like to start this report with a special thanks and congratulations to Ami Hooper-Knox for her service to PCA for the past few years and her recent appointment to the Pennsylvania State Board of Social Workers, Marriage & Family Therapists and Professional Counselors. We will certainly miss her commitment and dedication to the PCA Executive Council and to PCA in general. It will be reassuring, however, to know that the voice of Professional Counselors will be heard on the licensure board. One of our tasks at this meeting will be to determine how to replace Ami on the PCA Executive Council.

It appears that our effort at the annual conference to increase PCA membership has had some positive results. My goal was to see PCA membership reach at least 600 members to enable us to support a responsible legislative agenda. From all indications, it appears we surpassed that goal. However, with significant increases to the PACP budget projected over the next several years, we need to continue to implement strategies that will continue to support membership growth. Pending a review of the current budget, we need to consider restoring funding to PACP for this year to the \$10,400 level as we have discussed in the past.

I got a quote in late December of \$1152 for follow-up postcards to our letter in October to LPCs. This quote included printing, postage, and mailing and is based on 3200 names. A few PCA members still remained on the LPC mailing list that we used in our mailing initiative (one of the drawbacks of comparing lists manually) and we have added some members since so we would be looking at a smaller overall number, probably between 3000 – 3100. If we decide this is something we want to do, contributions from divisions and chapters would be welcomed.

We are poised to begin offering job opportunities and postings for our members. We have also received our first payment for a listing of a training. More about these efforts are contained in Don and Michelle's reports. Announcement of these services will need to be included in the next issue of PCA, Inc.

I have also been pursuing (without much luck) whether we can offer an insurance benefit program similar to what ACA offers its members. In particular I am looking at group health, auto, and home insurance coverage.

I have started to work on developing a draft of policies and procedures for PCA. Christine Liebers will be sorting through the PCA Council meeting minutes for the last 4 years and pulling our all board action so our policies and procedures can reflect most recent changes. While I had hoped to have this done by the end of my term, it may take a bit longer because of the magnitude of the task.

I'll soon be mailing out information to educational programs regarding the Graduate Student Leadership Initiative. As you may recall, we did eliminate the requirement that

candidates be in their final year of their degree program and permit departments to recommend candidates considered to have leadership potential and commitment to the field of counseling. If you are a counselor educator, please consider taking part in this effort by referring a qualified student candidate.

**Items to address at this meeting**

1. Replacement for Ami Hooper-Knox as PCA Secretary
2. Agreement for the company to handle the employment features of the PCA Website
3. Reallocation of funds to restore cuts to 2007-08 PACP budget
4. Approval of appointment to replace the Ethics/Bylaws Chair
5. Consideration of a second mailing to LPCs
6. Discussion of group insurance benefits through PCA
7. Follow-up on the discussion to help new graduates locate clinical supervisors
8. Follow-up on PACES initiative to develop a supervisor training module