

Kutztown University

Research Commons at Kutztown University

PCA Board of Directors Meetings

Pennsylvania Counseling Association (PCA)

11-6-2015

2015-11-06 PCA Journal of Pennsylvania Counseling Report, October 22, 2015

Pennsylvania Counseling Association

Follow this and additional works at: <https://research.library.kutztown.edu/pcaboard>



Part of the [Counseling Commons](#)



PCA Report

Date: 10/22/2015

Division/Branch/Position: The Journal of the Pennsylvania Counseling Association

Chair Person Name: Richard "Joe" Behun

If chair is not attending, please indicate name of designee:

Action Item for Upcoming PCA Meeting: (please highlight one) YES NO

**Attending the Upcoming PCA Meeting in person: ((please highlight one)
YES NO**

If attending via skype, list skype name:

If attending via conference call, please provide phone number:

Summary/Update of Action Item:

1. In collaboration with the professional development committee, the JPCA has proposed to begin offering CE hours to readers of the journal. The application has been submitted to the NBCC and the \$300 application fee has been processed. We are currently in the process of awaiting approval from the NBCC and hoping to begin this professional development opportunity with the fall edition.

Additional comments:

Since taking over the JPCA on January 1, 2015 and with the help of the editorial board, the JPCA is currently undergoing a major renovation. The plan for the JPCA is outlined below:

SPRING 2015

1. Starting with the spring 2015 edition, the JPCA has undergone a major "facelift" and has been totally reformatted from front to back. It is our hope that new format will give the journal a more professional look and therefore be more appealing to our readers. Additionally, the new format has made the journal more consistent with other counseling journals (i.e., the Journal of Counseling and Development)

at the national level. Readers can now download the journal in its entirety or individual articles as they see fit.

2. Prior to the reformatting of the JPCA, the fall 2014 edition, in its old format, cost the PCA \$1362 which was paid to the University of Scranton Printing Services. The journal is now formatted internally which relieves the PCA from any cost. The JPCA is now operating on a \$0 annual budget (a savings of \$2724 in 2015). We have the option to publish as many editions a year as we see fit without incurring any cost to PCA.
3. The JPCA has, therefore, decided to grow from one annual edition to two editions a year (spring and fall) because it is cost effective, we have the submissions, and we have the staff.
4. Growing the JPCA to two editions meant adding more staff. In addition to adding several new ad-hoc reviewers, the JPCA has added two associate editors and two editorial assistants to meet the growing demand of the journal.

FALL 2015

5. The second edition for 2015 will be published in November (hopefully before the conference).
6. We have recently added three new ad-hoc reviewers bringing our total JPCA staff to one editor, two associate editors, two editorial assistants, and 16 reviewers representing 14 institutions.

SPRING 2016

7. The next step for the JPCA is to begin adding digital object identifiers (DOI) to its articles. A DOI is a unique alphanumeric string assigned by a registration agency (the International DOI Foundation) to identify content and provide a persistent link to its location on the Internet and is one of the newest requirements for a reference page based on the most recent edition of APA Publication Manual. The purpose of adding DOIs to the journal is to allow us the opportunity, "if" we choose, to make ourselves available to a larger audience via the Internet. It also will make the journal consistent with the high quality of other professional academic journals. We are in the early stages of exploring this item.

VOTES FOR THE EDITORIAL BOARD OF THE JPCA

1. By publishing twice a year, we now have the option to expand the JPCA online academic search engines and databases at the national level. Depending on an upcoming vote by the editorial board at our annual meeting, we have the option to expand our reader base to a national level.
2. We are receiving more submissions to the journal than ever before. This will most likely contribute to a lower acceptance rate (we currently have an 80% acceptance rate – mostly due to a low submission rate), in turn, improving the quality of the articles we publish. This will ultimately increase the academic caliber of the JPCA.