

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE TREATMENT OF SEXUAL ABUSERS

11.20.2015

1 – 3:00 P.M.

Attendees

Paul Spizman, Linda Paxton, Myrna Pinedo, Michael O'Connell, Holly Coryell, Ken Henrikson, Gerald Hover, Angella Coker, Jay Williamson, Rachael Behrens, Dan Knoepfler, Rhiannon Brill, Carol Almero, Margaret Ahlquist

Introductions: Attendees participated in brief introductions

Business Items

1.5 Continuing Education credits will be offered for attendance

Updates:

Michael discussed aspects of the SOPB, such as the request for sexual deviancy reports to be made public and the Board is addressing this concern. He also discussed how different agencies are discussing leveling procedures in Washington state. There is also a general request from the governor regarding sexual offender policy and was asking for any input.

Program Committee- None.

Additional upcoming training opportunities: None.

Membership committee- None.

Policy / Legislative Committee

- See board meeting minutes.

Budget Committee – None.

New Business

None at this time.

The main focus of the meeting was for a recap of the ATSA presentations that people attended.

- Holly discussed the SOCCPN (Sex Offender Civil Commitment Program Network) meeting at ATSA. She commented a pressing concern among these programs across the country is providing less restrictive alternative community placements. Other topics addressed were challenges staff in civil commitment programs may be under.
- Dan discussed his recent PCL-R training
- Michael discussed a presentation regarding approaches to sexual offender therapy, such as whether a program incorporated individual, group, or combined individual and group treatment sessions (and how individual treatment alone yielded the lowest recidivism rate, with only group sessions having the highest recidivism).
- Michael discussed a presentation on childhood aggression as related to later sexual offending and how it would be beneficial to intervene when individuals are still children.
- Michael discussed a session regarding what people find sexually arousing. He discussed another program related to social factors involved in sexual assaults, such as alcohol in campus assaults.
- Michael next discussed a session on risk among sexual offenders and a common language for communicating risk, providing for five different levels, based on criminogenic needs.

- Michael then discussed providing treatment for psychopathic sexual offenders. He commented on prior research that demonstrated it would actually increase the risk of a psychopath to provide treatment and how this belief is old and outdated. He discussed approaches that are valuable with psychopaths, such as motivational interviewing.
- Michael discussed a session he attended on personality disorders in sexual offenders and how treatment can involve making yourself available interpersonally to the client. Another session he discussed was neurocognitive factors in sexual offending, such as how intelligence is related to offending (e.g. as a responsivity issue). He and Holly then discussed a session on Dialectic Behavioral Therapy with sexual offenders.
- Michael then discussed a presentation related to the public perception of sexual offenders, such as the impact of media on sexual offenders.
- Michael then discussed a presentation on the work in Germany (where they do not have mandatory reporting laws) and there was a discussion of how there has been a harm reduction seen in reduced recidivism among men that have voluntarily enrolled in treatment.
- Finally, Michael discussed a presentation on how stable risk factor measures assist with incremental validity when added to an actuarial risk measure.