Message from the President

Transition and Maturation

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I am delighted to report that effective July 1, Degnon Associates, Inc. of McLean, Virginia has assumed management responsibility of the Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics. During a transition period, our former management company, Association Headquarters (AH), will retain responsibility for the management of our 2006 Annual Meeting in collaboration with Degnon Associates.

Last year, our Executive Council encouraged us to explore alternative management options for SDBP. Both we and AH felt that such exploration was appropriate, given concerns with the “goodness of fit” between AH and SDBP. We carefully examined 4 options for management support. I am grateful to my Executive Committee colleagues (Immediate Past President Heidi Feldman, President-Elect David Schonfeld, and Secretary-Treasurer John Duby) for their generosity of time and extraordinary efforts in reviewing proposals, conducting interviews, contacting references, and thoughtfully deliberating.

After an approximately 6 month process, Laura Degnon and Degnon Associates were selected from several superb options, based on their extensive experience with other pediatric organizations (e.g., the Ambulatory Pediatric Association, the Association of Pediatric Program Directors, and the newly-formed Council of Pediatric Subspecialties), their success in promoting the growth of these organizations, their clear commitment to our mission, their superb reputation among our pediatric colleagues and related organizations, and our familiarity, fondness, and respect for the Deg nons in multiple interactions over the years. Our new management company is family-owned and operated, was established in 1979, and has been in business for more than 25 years.

Despite its short term, our relationship with AH has been productive. As you recall, the growth of SDBP and its increasing complexity demanded a transition from our original management arrangement with our Executive Director, Noreen Spota, to the resources of a full-service organization. Noreen’s nurturing of our fledgling Society was ideally suited to our early, formative years. AH introduced a more structured management support.

Paul H. Dworkin, MD

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Submitted by: Laura Degnon

Degnon Associates, Inc., established in 1979 by my father, George Degnon, CAE, is an association management company providing a full range of personalized services to professional associations, national organizations, and international societies. Degnon Associates was one of the first firms in the nation recognized as a leader in the industry by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE) accreditation program. Working exclusively with medical, health, and scientific organizations focusing on education, research, patient care, and advocacy, our team of association management professionals partners with our clients toward achieving significantly higher organizational levels of accomplishment.

Before founding Degnon Associates, George was with the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) for almost 15 years. During his tenure at the AAP, he was the founding Director of the their Washington Office and was the AAP’s first Associate Executive Director responsible for all academy operations.

Not counting the early years when my brother, sisters and I would help my parents do newsletter mailings on the Ping-Pong table in the basement, I started working part-time with Degnon Associates while going to school. I have been working full-time for the company since 1993. I frequently attend training courses critical to successful management of not for profit associations, and this year I became a Certified Association Executive (CAE) joining less than five percent of all association professionals worldwide who have this certification. I am also active in the community as a Board Member and Treasurer of the ChildKind Day Care Center at the National Institutes of Health and serve as a member of the Advisory Board of The Business Bank in Virginia.

"...I am very passionate about the work SDBP members do for children; and in some small way the thought that I might contribute to future work in the field of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics is a source of great satisfaction."

To touch on a few of our clients, Degnon Associates has provided management support for the Ambulatory Pediatric Association for the last 26 years, under the leadership of my mom, Marge Degnon. Ten years ago Degnon Associates began managing the Association of Pediatric Program Directors (APPD), of which I am Executive Director. Recently I have played a role in the development of the newly created Council of Pediatric Subspecialists, in which SDBP members Drs. Paul Dworkin, Dan Coury and Forrest Bennett have been involved. This year, Degnon Associates has also become the home of the Lawson Wilson Pediatric Endocrine Society.

I am honored to be given the opportunity to work directly with SDBP and make a great organization even better. I am very passionate about the work SDBP members do for children; and in some small way the thought that I might contribute to future work in the field of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics is a source of great satisfaction.

I do look forward to bringing the organization to the next higher level in its growth and development. I believe my experience within the pediatric community will lead to bigger and better programs and services to SDBP members! We have a great team here at Degnon Associates and we really look forward to making a difference in our long-term relationship with SDBP.

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SDBP is seeking a Membership Chair

If you are interested in the position of SDBP Membership Chair, please contact Laura Degnon at the SDBP office (laura@sdbp.org).
Planning the SDBP Annual Meeting provides an exciting opportunity to review both the latest research and new clinical or educational programs that Society members and colleagues are pursuing. The vibrant work being done in the field of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics and the Society's energetic members continue to be impressive. We received 29 submissions for pre-meeting workshops or meeting symposia and 82 research abstracts for platform or poster presentation. This represents a more than 25% increase in submissions in both categories.

This year's meeting will have a number of sessions that focus on the increasing understanding of how environmental factors influence the brain and development/behavior. The Lectureship recipient, Dr. Betsy Lozoff, will describe our increasing understanding of how iron deficiency in infancy influences biology and behavior. She will also moderate a session exploring the influence on brain biology and behavior of two other environmental factors, living in an orphanage and prenatal cocaine exposure. In addition, a concurrent session on the neurobiology of social cognition is being offered for those who want to further explore the brain-behavior relationship.

The Saturday morning workshop, Teaching Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics to Residents, is being supported by a grant from the Commonwealth Fund. This grant was a joint effort of the Program Committee and the Education Committee. It allows us to offer the workshop free to trainees, and at a discounted registration fee to all other participants. Please encourage all those in your departments who are currently involved in teaching developmental-behavioral pediatrics or will be doing this in the future to take advantage of this great opportunity to attend the workshop.

The Program Committee continues to focus on assuring that a diverse range of topics are covered in the meeting, including issues related to primary care, behavioral pediatrics, and developmental disabilities. Saturday afternoon's pre-meeting workshops speak to our commitment to assuring that the meeting reflects the broad field of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics. Topics include behavioral health services in the pediatric medical home, motivational interviewing, multidisciplinary treatment of feeding disorders, and an update on Prader-Willi syndrome and Fragile X syndrome.

I want to take this opportunity to welcome two new members to the Program Committee who helped plan this meeting: Robyn Mehlenbeck, Ph.D. and Ellen Silver, Ph.D. Finally, I would like to thank Susan Berger, Ph.D. who is stepping down this year, for her guidance and many years of service on the Program Committee.

"...Our new management company and Executive Director will facilitate the critical, next phase of Society maturation and development."

Our new management company and Executive Director will facilitate the critical, next phase of Society maturation and development. Discussions have already identified such important priorities as reviewing and refining our organization's policies and procedures; strengthening committee structure, function, and membership; ensuring optimal financial practices; promoting collaboration with related societies and organizations; enhancing communication with our Executive Council and membership; and revitalizing our ambitious strategic plan. We will benefit from Laura's experience, insights, and initiative.

We trust you are pleased with these developments and look forward to the continued growth and success of SDBP. As always, we welcome your comments, suggestions, and involvement.
Learn from experts in the field of developmental and behavioral pediatrics...refine clinical and research skills...become more attuned with issues pertaining to advocacy for children and families...

Hypnosis Workshop Highlights Include...
- Providing training in the use of hypnosis and its applications in clinical pediatric settings
- Emphasis on supervised practice of hypnotic techniques offered at introductory, intermediate and advanced levels
- 23 credit hours

Nationally recognized faculty...
- Daniel Kohen, MD
- Timothy Culbert, MD
- Judson Reaney, MD
- Leora Kuttner, PhD
- Melanie Gold, DO
- Laurence Sugarman, MD
- Candace Erickson, MD, MPH
- Howard Hall, PhD, PsyD

Annual Meeting Highlights Include...
- Lectureship Award Recipient: Betsy Lozoff, MD, University of Michigan

What's New in:
- Environmental Influences on the Brain, Behavior, and Development
- Risks and Benefits of Stimulant Treatment
- Neurobiology of Social Cognition

Update Your Skills in:
- Teaching Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics
- Treating Feeding Disorders and Obesity
- Motivational Interviewing
MAKING THE IMPOSSIBLE POSSIBLE

Submitted by: Georgina Peacock

Fernando was born with hypotonia. Six months later he had an episode of hypoglycemia and was comatose for a day. Following this his development was delayed. He had times during his adolescence when he was aggressive. He was once tested and found to have an IQ of 40 and autistic characteristics. Now he is in his twenties. He works with the assistance of a job coach at a bank, delivering mail and picking up envelopes to recycle in the mailroom.

"...Addressing the developmental and behavioral needs of the students has been a life changing experience. It has been especially inspiring to watch these children growing up to earn real wages and help support their families."

This could be the story of any child in the United States, but this is actually the story of a child in Lima, Peru. He has attended the Ann Sullivan Center (CASP) in Lima, Peru for most of his life. This school was started by Liliana Mayo 27 years ago in her parents’ garage. Her first students were 8 children with autism, mental retardation, seizure disorders and other issues thought at that time to cause a person to be unteachable. Dr. Mayo realized that each child had the potential to lead a successful, productive and independent life. The school now serves 450 children and adults. These children are not entitled to education in Peru because of their special needs. Without CASP, many would be in institutions or simply living at home or on the streets.

I’ve had the privilege of working at CASP for the past two summers. As a developmental fellow working on my Masters in Public Health practicum last year, I designed a program to teach the families, teachers and staff about the importance of good nutrition using as a guide the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s program “Five a Day.”

This year I returned with my family to help set up a medical system for the school. Many of the children and adults at the school do not have regular medical care. They might see a doctor if they have a crisis, such as uncontrollable seizures or aggression. We have begun to collect medical information to help their families understand the children’s needs. I spend much of my time talking with parents about general health such as how to treat colds or gastroenteritis, and how to address sleep, feeding or toileting issues. I’ve encountered very educated families who manage their children’s health well but I’ve met others who struggle to understand the whys and hows of their child’s disorder.

Addressing the developmental and behavioral needs of the students has been a life changing experience. It has been especially inspiring to watch these children growing up to earn real wages and help support their families.

Dr. Peacock is Clinical Assistant Professor at the University of Kansas in the Developmental Disabilities Center. For more information about the Ann Sullivan Center, please contact her at gpeacock@kumc.edu. 

SDBP Member News

After 22 years in Pittsburgh, Heidi M. Feldman MD PhD will be moving back to the West Coast to join the faculty in the Department of Pediatrics at Stanford University. She will be the first Ballinger-Swindell Professor of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics. She is charged with the responsibility of building a new program of Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics for the Department of Pediatrics and the Lucille Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford. Her new e-mail address, hfeldman@stanford.edu, will be operative on September 20, 2006, right after the SDBP Annual Meeting. Despite the differences in housing prices, she is excited about the professional challenges ahead. She is also extremely energized to explore the yoga scene in Northern California.

DB-PREP, THE COURSE, 2006

Submitted by: Pamela High

DB-PREP - An Intensive Review of Developmental-Behavioral Medicine was held July 20 - 23, 2006 in Newport Beach, California. The 4-day course was co-sponsored by the Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics and the American Academy of Pediatrics. A total of 209 pediatricians and allied health professionals attended the course, including many pediatric generalists as well as developmental-behavioral sub-specialists. The planning committee included Jim Blackman, Bill Cohen, John Duby and Lynn Wegner from the AAP Section on DBP, and Glenn Aylward, Linda Grossman and myself from SDBP.

Neal Halfon gave the keynote address, focusing on Neurons to Neighborhoods. Marilyn Augustyn presented on Environmental Influences, Violence Prevention and Promoting Healthy Development in the Electronic Age and provided an extra Commonwealth Fund supported session on using the Boston University Training Modules. Chris Johnson gave an update on autism, while Richard Tuck, Peter Rappo and Lynn Wegner provided training in Coding and Practice Management. Genetics sessions were lead by Ken Lyon Jones, Sleep and Behavioral Management were taught by Barbara Howard, Learning and Language Disability was presented by Dan Coury, Susan Levy led the sessions on Complementary Medicine and Laurel Leslie taught the sessions on ADHD and Research Methods. Mental health topics and psychopharmacology were presented by Sufen Chiu and Penny Knapp. Additional distinguished speakers included Kathleen Thomas, Paul Lipkin, Bob Jacobs, Marty Stein, Luis Montes, Martin Anderson, Bill Cohen, Jack Turman, Stephen Cederbaum, John Knight and Linda Grossman. Carol Berkowitz, past president of the AAP, provided the summative presentation on Legal Rights and Primary Prevention in a Child Focused Society.

Physician participants were eligible for a maximum of 30.25 AMA PRA Category 1 Credit(s). The brochure can be downloaded from the AAP web site at: http://www.aap.org/pro-fed/2006-DB-PREP.pdf if you want to see what you may have missed. We’re planning the next DB:PREP for the summer of 2008, most likely on the East Coast. If you are one of the 300 DBP sub-specialists certified in 2002, you will need to recertify in 2009, and may want to attend this course.

"You get out of it what you put into it"

SDBP has 8 Standing committees: Advocacy, Communications, Education, Development, Practice Issues, Program, Research and Membership. We are seeking volunteers to participate on these various committees. Getting involved can be fun and rewarding. Want to make a difference? Contact Laura Degnon at the SDBP office (laura@sdbp.org) if you are interested in joining one or more of SDBP’s current committees.

Lawyer Mallory Curran reads with a young friend. The Community Advocacy Program, which Ms. Curran directs, provides free legal services to families at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland. Common issues include securing SSI benefits for disabled children and advocating for appropriate special education services. For more information, see www.mlporchildren.org.
INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION:
Dr. Schonfeld has received an inquiry from Dr. Ilgi Ertem from Ankara University in Turkey. Dr. Ertem would like to hold an international sub-specialty workshop at an upcoming annual meeting. Drs. Dworkin and Schonfeld reviewed an email survey that Dr. Ertem developed in order to identify potential international SDBP candidates. The Advocacy Committee is further exploring international opportunities.

SUBSPECIALTY COLLABORATION:
Dr. Dworkin attended the Federation of Pediatric Organizations (FOPO) subspecialty forum. Representatives from several different subspecialties discussed working together across the multitude of pediatric subspecialties.

PREEMIE HEALTH COALITION:
SDBP sent Dr. Kristin Hannibal to the Preemie Health Coalition Summit in December. A summary of the meeting notes were provided for the Council to review. Dr. Hannibal has a close connection with this issue and was very excited to attend the summit.

BPCA OUTREACH:
Dr. Paul Wang is SDBP’s representative for the Best Pharmaceuticals for Children Act (BPCA). In conjunction with that work, Dr. Dworkin has written to the NICHD emphasizing the importance of investigating the safety and efficacy of the following critical conditions: ADHD; depression and anxiety; and children with dual diagnoses, including cognitive disabilities and autism.

JOURNAL:
The Journal continues to benefit from the web based management system. Submissions continue to come in at a good rate and the acceptance rate hovers at about 20%. This year the Journal will publish two sponsored supplements. One new advertiser has come on board because of the autism supplement. Changes are afoot for the Journal. A subcommittee of 16 members of the editorial board is discussing possible changes, including increasing the size of the journal. The comments of the SDBP membership are welcomed; please contact Dr. Dixon through the Journal.

PRACTICE ISSUES:
The Practice Issues Committee has been focusing on the SDBP Survey on Practice Parameters and Financial Factors Impacting Developmental-Behavioral Pediatrics (DBP). The survey was re-piloted in April. The Committee has requested that the Council assist in delivering a strong message to the membership to respond to the survey [see the article by Robin Adair on page 10 in this issue].

RESEARCH COMMITTEE:
The Research Committee continues to engage primarily in 3 activities: Support for the SDBP Annual Meeting, Support for the SDBP Research Grant Award, and the Research consultancy. For the Annual Meeting, the Committee is sponsoring a symposium on qualitative research methods, to be led by Laurie Bauman. Committee member Joe Hallett also submitted a symposium proposal, on social cognition, which was accepted.

The winner of the 2006 Research Award will be announced at the 2006 annual meeting. The research consultancy offers consultation to colleagues and a research mentoring program at the SDBP Annual Meeting.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE:
Membership dues are down this year. In response, the Council voted unanimously to reduce the meeting registration fee for any new member who joins in conjunction with the 2006 annual meeting, and to defer billing the member until the fall of 2007.

BYLAW REVISIONS:
In an effort to strengthen the language in the SDBP bylaws the Council reviewed proposed bylaw changes. The bylaws went to the membership in conjunction with the 2006 election for formal review and approval.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL:
The Council agreed to hold the next Board meeting on Friday, September 15th at 12:00 NOON.
Akron Children's Hospital, a full-service pediatric medical center for children from birth through young adulthood, serving a population of 2.5 million in northeastern Ohio (www.akronchildrens.org) and affiliated with Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine, is seeking a full-time pediatric psychologist.

The successful applicant will be part of the multidisciplinary Division of Pediatric Psychiatry and Psychology, and have a primary responsibility to deliver consultation-liaison services to pediatric inpatient units. The position includes collaboration with physicians, nurses, and other health care professionals, as well as participation in medical service and multidisciplinary family and team meetings.

A secondary responsibility will be to deliver care to medically-fragile children/adolescents and their families on an outpatient basis. Include specialized psychological services in associated divisions within the hospital (e.g., Gastroenterology, Pulmonology, Rheumatology, Cardiology, and the Pain Center). Opportunities to develop psychological services with other medical populations are also available depending on the applicant's area of interest.

Additional opportunities for supervision, teaching, and training are available including: supervision of graduate students and postdoctoral psychology fellows; teaching of general pediatric residents; and training of child psychiatry fellows. Many research opportunities are available depending on the applicant's area(s) of interest.

Akron Children's Hospital is the 9th largest freestanding pediatric hospital in the country and the largest pediatric care provider in Northeast Ohio, serving a population base of 2.5 million in over 25 counties. Every year, Children's Hospital cares for about 400,000 patients and performs more pediatric surgeries than any other hospital in Northeast Ohio. Akron Children's operates as a full-service, 253-bed pediatric hospital and houses a regional burn trauma center for both adults and children, as well as a pediatric trauma center. The hospital provides state-of-the-art pediatric care in more than 30 areas of specialized medicine and surgery. Children's is a teaching and research hospital affiliated with the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine (NEUCOM), a community-based medical school which operates as an educational consortium with 18 community hospitals and three publicly-funded northeast Ohio universities. It also offers more than 100 advocacy, education, outreach and research programs.

Please refer to our website (www.akronchildrens.org) and click NewsRoom, About Akron Children's, for detailed information about Akron Children's programs and initiatives in Northeast Ohio.

Requirements: Ph. D. or Psy.D. in child clinical psychology including completion of an internship in an APA-accredited pediatric psychology program. Applicants who have completed a post-doctoral fellowship in pediatric psychology and with hospital-based work experience preferred. Must be license-eligible in the State of Ohio. Candidates from minority and diverse cultural backgrounds are encouraged to apply. Akron Children's is an affirmative action and equal opportunity employer. Competitive stipend and benefits package is provided.

We are currently accepting applications for the position, which has a flexible start date depending on the chosen applicant’s availability. Interested candidates should send a letter of interest, a curriculum vitae, and the names and contact information of three professional references to: Akron Children’s Hospital, One Perkins Square, Akron, Ohio 44308-1062, Attn: Georgette Constantinou, Ph.D, Division of Pediatric Psychiatry and Psychology.

DEVELOPMENTAL & BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICIAN
Los Angeles

Join Kaiser Permanente Southern California, and you’ll be able to gain experience you couldn’t get elsewhere. That’s because, as one of the world’s leading managed care providers, we’re constantly exploring and testing new patient care treatments and technologies, which means you will be, too. And, when you’re not at work, our comprehensive administrative support and balanced scheduling options mean you’ll be free to enjoy more of sunny Southern California.

Currently, we have an opportunity for a Developmental & Behavioral Pediatrician in Los Angeles.

Cross-specialty collaboration and a comprehensive network of support are just a few of the advantages that make working with us so enjoyable. We also offer a highly competitive compensation and benefits package plus a location that’s known the world over for its amazing climate and natural attractions.

For consideration, please forward your CV to: Kaiser Permanente, Professional Recruitment, 393 East Walnut Street, Pasadena, CA 91188-8013. Phone: (800) 541-7946. Email: Glenn.Gallo@kp.org. We are an AAP/EOE employer. http://physiciancareers.kp.org.
**DEVELOPMENTAL-BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICIAN: MINNESOTA**

Park Nicollet Health Services is the largest group medical practice in Minnesota. The Alexander Center for Child Development and Behavior is a department of Park Nicollet and cares for children with a wide range of developmental and behavioral concerns. Our professional staff consists of developmental/behavior pediatricians, nurse practitioners, child psychologists, speech-language pathologists, an educational specialist, nurses, and dedicated support staff. Our mission is to care for the health, healing and learning of those we serve.

We are looking for a fellowship-trained, certified/eligible developmental/behavior pediatrician. We are particularly interested in individuals who have experience and strong interest in caring for children with cognitive and developmental delays, autism spectrum disorders, genetic syndromes, ADHD and learning disorders.

This position includes responsibility for clinical evaluation and management of children seen either individually or within a multidisciplinary framework. Program development, resident teaching and participating in the ongoing work of the department are required. Clinical research and an appointment in the Division of Pediatrics at the University of Minnesota are possible. Excellent communication, teamwork and writing skills are important.

Please submit letter of interest and CV to: Jenny Bredeson, Park Nicollet Health Services, 3800 Park Nicollet Boulevard, Minneapolis, MN 55416; Email: bredej@parknicollet.com; Phone: 952-993-2804; toll free (866) 874-3812. We are proud to be an EEO/AA employer M/F/D/V.

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**SOCIETY FOR EQUITY IN CHILD HEALTH (SECH)**

Submitted by: Peter Gorski

The Society for Equity in Child Health (SECH) was established this year by an interdisciplinary group of professionals, including many who are members of SDBP. SECH is committed to improving the health and well-being of children through equity research, education and advocacy. The mission of the Society is to integrate the principles of equity, social justice, and children's rights into child health practice. Our vision is a society in which there is full respect for the human rights of every child and just allocation of the resources required to ensure the optimal health and well-being of children. The Society will organize its work using a rights-based framework, built on the foundation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. It will seek close ties with the AAP and APA, link with the expanding global network of social pediatrics societies, and nurture involvement with other disciplines as well.

SECH will hold an informational membership meeting at the AAP National Conference and Exhibition in Atlanta on Sunday, October 8, 2006, from 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm at the Georgia World Congress Center, room B215. This time falls between sessions led by SECH officers (1:30pm-3:30pm "Applying Principles of Social Capital" and 4:00pm-6:00pm "Responding to Millennial Morbidities").

Interested SDBP members may contact me at pgorski@childrensboard.org or by phone at (813) 204-1701; or contact Hope Tackett, MPH, the administrative director of SECH, at the University of South Florida, at htackett@health.uef.edu or (813) 974-2005.

Dr. Gorski, a founding member and past President of SDBP, is also a founding member of SECH.—*eds.*

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**SDBP MEMBERS ONLY SECTION OF THE WEB**

Have you logged on to the SDBP Members Only Section Lately? One of the several items currently posted in this secure area of the website is the SDBP Membership Directory. If you forgot your Member ID and Password, Click on “Forget Your Login Info?” and your information will be automatically sent to the email address entered as long as it matches the one we have on file for you.
TREASURER'S REPORT

Submitted by: John C. Duby, Secretary-Treasurer

I am honored to have the opportunity to serve as your Secretary-Treasurer. Terry Stancin has done a tremendous job in this role for many years, and I appreciate the guidance and support that she has provided during our time of transition.

As you know, the Society is also in another time of transition. I am looking forward to working with Laura Degnon, our new Executive Director, and with her colleagues at Degnon Associates, Inc. for years to come. During transitions, the Secretary-Treasurer is frequently called upon to be the institutional memory. Terry always knew why and how things had been done, and I hope that my experience as a committee chair and member of the Executive Council has prepared me for that role as well. Terry and I will be working together to assure that guiding policies are in place that will allow the Society to continue to advance its mission and goals.

I am excited about the Society’s future. We have taken a number of steps to assure our financial stability. Our annual meeting is growing in size and in quality. Our journal is exceptional, and continues to thrive academically and financially. We have made considerable progress in obtaining outside support for our activities, and we will continue to pursue creative ways to support our work. Additional opportunities focus around actively expanding our membership and identifying additional sources for charitable giving.

If you have suggestions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at jduby@chmca.org or at 330-543-8790.

MUCH-DELAYED PRODUCTIVITY SURVEY TO ARRIVE SOON

Submitted by: Robin Adair, Chair, Practice Issues Committee

The SDBP survey on practice parameters and financial factors impacting developmental-behavioral pediatrics and psychology will be sent to members in the next few weeks. Your participation in this survey is critical.

Chances are you struggle to meet productivity expectations of your department or practice administrator. Maybe you have had to defend your “numbers,” as they were held up against a national dataset. Or, perhaps you chafe at having to explain to others, time and again, why your appointments cannot be shortened so you can see more patients. Wouldn’t you like people to better understand what you do, and pay you better for it? The goal of this survey of SDBP members is to help you with this dilemma.

Just as immunizing one child fortifies community well-being, your individual participation in this survey is essential to strengthening the argument that developmental-behavioral pediatricians and psychologists should be paid appropriately for the important, and time-consuming, work we do.

The focus of the survey is on how many patients you see and the RVUs you generate. To make that information meaningful, it also includes a description of your practice.

You will receive a preparatory e-mail, then a few days later you will receive an e-mail with links to the three-part survey.

Please, make a commitment to participate in this survey. Numbers speak. Imagine the power of being able to say the survey represents 50%, or more, of the Society’s membership as we go to our employers, our payers, our community businesses who negotiate employee benefits, our peers in medicine and psychology, and even our legislators if necessary, to talk about what we do, how we do it, and what kind of productivity can be expected. This could well be crucial for our profession to survive, grow, and effectively serve the developmental and behavioral needs of children.

Want to get a head start? This is some of the information you will need to have on hand in order to complete the survey:

- What type of productivity data is collected about your clinical work? This could be total RVUs, physician RVUs, or other types of data;
- How many RVUs did you generate in the most recently reported 12 months? Were these “work” RVUs or “total” RVUs?
- Is any national benchmark data set used by your employer (MGMA, AMGA, Sullivan-Cotter, AAAP, other)?
- What is your payer mix, by percent (self-pay, uninsured, Medicaid/Medicare/SCHIP, third party, other)?
- How many patients do you see in a typical week, and what is the breakdown – i.e. how many are new evaluation first visits, new evaluation subsequent visits, follow-up patients, other types of patients?
- What is your overall “no show” rate for patients (appointments not kept, and not cancelled in advance)?
- What is the typical wait time between a family’s first contact with your office and the initial appointment with a D-B pediatrician?
SDBP RESEARCH GRANT AWARD 2006

Submitted by: William J Barbaresi

The Society for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics will again offer a Research Grant Award at the annual meeting in Philadelphia. This is the second year for this exciting new program! Financial support for this award was again provided by generous contributions from a number of former presidents of the Society, as well as by contributions from members of the Society (over $2000 was contributed by members of the Society at the time of annual dues payments).

The goal of the SDBP Research Grant Award is to promote research in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, by providing a research grant to a young investigator in our field.

In order to be eligible for the award, the applicant must be an SDBP member, must not have any prior extramural funding as a principal investigator, and must be a trainee (defined as fellows in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics; Post-doctoral fellows in psychology/other PHD programs); or a junior faculty who has completed post-doctoral training within three years of the date of submission of the proposal. This year, nine candidates have submitted grants, with the winner to be announced during the business portion of the annual meeting in Philadelphia.

The award will be for $5,000 for a period of one year, beginning November 1, 2006.

"...The goal of the SDBP Research Grant Award is to promote research in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, by providing a research grant to a young investigator in our field."

MEETING REPORT OF THE OHIO CHAPTER, SDBP

Submitted by: Gerard A. Banez

After a brief period of inactivity, the Ohio Chapter of SDBP convened for a winter meeting at Columbus Children’s Hospital on 2/10/06. A total of 25 chapter members were in attendance. As we have in the past, our meeting began with numerous site updates, including announcements of new staff, services, and programs at the various pediatric programs in Ohio. This portion of the meeting was highlighted by news of Dr. David Schonfeld’s growing developmental-behavioral empire at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center. The majority of the meeting was spent on new clinical, teaching, and research innovations/initiatives, including the Maternal Depression Project (Columbus Children’s and Rainbow Babies and Children’s), the Incredible Years Program at Columbus Children’s (Dr. Jack Stevens), the Triple P Program at Akron Children’s (Dr. Nina Sand-Loud), the Cleveland Clinic Children’s Hospital Quality Outcomes Initiative (Drs. Gerard Banaz & Mara Richards), an updated resident rotation at MetroHealth Medical Center (Dr. Nabil El-Ghoroury), resident training in motivational interviewing at MetroHealth (Dr. Mariann Suarez) and the National Center for School Crisis & Bereavement at Cincinnati Children’s (Dr. Schonfeld). Following a review of the SDBP Newsletter and other forms of communication (led by Dr. Robert Needlman), Dr. Terry Stancin facilitated a discussion of the past, present, and future of the Ohio Chapter, including plans for a grand rounds speakers bureau and various special interest groups, including mental health in primary care, education, and advocacy. Our group thanks the staff in Columbus for graciously hosting us and has plans to meet again the fall.

MEMBERSHIP
Do you have a colleague who might be interested in becoming an SDBP member? If so, encourage them to apply by downloading the application from the SDBP website or by calling the SDBP office: 703-556-9222.
### 2006 - 2007 MEETINGS

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<tr>
<td>American Academy for Cerebral Palsy</td>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>September 13-16, 2006</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.aacpdm.org">www.aacpdm.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SDBP Hypnosis Workshop</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
<td>September 14-16, 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="http://www.sdbp.org">www.sdbp.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>SDBP Annual Meeting</td>
<td>Philadelphia, PA</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.sdbp.org">www.sdbp.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>AAP National Conference</td>
<td>Atlanta, GA</td>
<td>October 7-10, 2006</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.aap.org">www.aap.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Children with Attention Deficit Disorders</td>
<td>Chicago, IL</td>
<td>October 26-28, 2006</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.chadd.org">www.chadd.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Learning Disabilities Association</td>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>February 14-17, 2007</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.ldanatl.org">www.ldanatl.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>American Psychosomatic Society</td>
<td>Budapest, Hungary</td>
<td>March 7-10, 2007</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.psychosomatic.org">www.psychosomatic.org</a></td>
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<td><a href="http://www.adolescenthealth.org">www.adolescenthealth.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Society for Research in Child Development</td>
<td>Boston, MA</td>
<td>March 29 - April 1, 2007</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.srch.org">www.srch.org</a></td>
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<td>Ambulatory Pediatric Association/SPR/APS</td>
<td>Toronto, Canada</td>
<td>May 5-8, 2007</td>
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<td><a href="http://www.ambpeds.org">www.ambpeds.org</a></td>
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<td>SDBP Hypnosis Workshop</td>
<td>Providence, RI</td>
<td>September 27-29, 2007</td>
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<td>October 1, 2007</td>
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### Committee Meetings in Philadelphia

Plan now to attend one of the SDBP Committee meetings during our upcoming Annual Meeting. Most committee meetings will take place Sunday, September 17 from 7-9 a.m. and Monday, September 18 from 7:30 a.m.