

Members Town Hall Meeting Monday, December 15, 2014

Participants: Mark Aoyagi, Mitch Barton, Angel Brutus, Gualberto Cremades, Sean Fitzpatrick, Larry Lauer, Jack Lesyk, Kathryn Longshore, Sam Maniar, Duncan Simpson, Lauren Tashman, Justine Vosloo

Moderator: Rob Schinke

Q1: What are the key issues/challenges facing the field in the next 3-5 years?

- Jack Lesyk suggested that AASP make sure that private practitioner is well-represented in the group directly participating in the Strategic Plan
- Is AASP more of a trade organization vs. a scientific organization? During the previous Strategic Plan process, the group thought that AASP should be more of a trade organization than a scientific/academic organization. AASP hasn't really moved in that direction over the past few years.
- Promoting the AASP-CC to the public; make sure AASP can help individual members develop a business plan to promote their services to coaches, athletes, parents. Need stronger and vigorous efforts in this area.
- Split between performance and exercise psychology within organization. Should AASP try to be the professional home for both segments? There is a need to crystallize AASP's identity.
- Lack of common nomenclature/job title of what people in our field can call ourselves – most common is “sport psychologist”, but that cannot really be used legally in many states. Is there one title that we could get behind?
- Still a split between sport psychology and sport science
- Field has evolved and AASP hasn't evolved fast enough with it. For example, there are still many conference programming about standard goal setting (which we've seen over and over) and a lack of presentations about cutting edge techniques or approaches such as neurofeedback/biofeedback.
- Sam Maniar indicated that he has just returned from an NFL Summit where the goal is to have at least 1 sport psychologist on staff – hasn't been proposed to owners yet
- Identify key competencies that our professionals should have when working in the field. Competencies are even more important than title in that respect

- Supervision – more recommendations on who is competent and qualified to supervise. Push from higher ups in academia to get more students in program; how do we make sure we are training these people well and who is qualified to supervise these students?
- Define who are consumer base/target market is – who are they and understand what services they are looking for from us. Unless we do this, all the other challenges become secondary

Q2: How would you suggest AASP address these issues/challenges?

- Producing position statements – i.e. domestic violence, child abuse as they relate to sport psychology. Helpful to take stand on issues that transcend sport to let people know that we exist and what we stand for.
- ACSM faces similar challenges to AASP – serving a wide variety of sport medicine professionals. Consult with them to see how they have handled some of these challenges
- Consider redefined focus areas within organization that are different than the original ones created

Q3: Other comments or suggestions?

- Consider requiring CC-AASPs to have training in Supervision