From the Desk of the President

Dear Fellow ASCH Members:

I want to share with you some important news about our organization. We had our first in-person meeting of our board since before the pandemic during our strategic planning session in Annapolis, Maryland, last month. It was such a pleasure to be able to see people in person, shake hands, hug, dine together, and get a great deal of future planning done. ASCH Executive Director Molly Alton Mullins and I shared with the other board members information about our new management company.

On August 1, 2022, ASCH’s management company, SEVEN12 Management, was acquired by Kellen, one of the largest association management companies in the world. I spoke with the SEVEN12 CEO (Molly) beforehand and signed off on this change, as it was an emergent situation. We are pleased to report this is very good for ASCH and will bring a wealth of new services and resources to our organization.

Kellen’s focus following the acquisition of SEVEN12 is to work with the staff teams to ensure no disruption of services and to identify opportunities to add value through the following:

- Efficient operations on a global scale: Kellen has offices in Atlanta, Chicago, New York, Washington D.C., Brussels and Beijing.
- 300+ employees with diverse staff and expertise
- ASCH will be able to leverage new access to shared services, technology platforms, and association management best practices
- Our fee structure, terms and conditions, and existing arrangements remain the same.

Molly Alton Mullins has joined Kellen's executive leadership team and the SEVEN12 staff remain working in client service, including the ASCH portfolio. SEVEN12 staff have become part of Kellen’s Washington, D.C. team and the staff is incredibly excited for the new opportunity ahead for them.

You can read more about the strategic planning meeting in this newsletter. Molly is happy to answer any questions or provide any detail you might need, and I look forward to great things to come for ASCH.

Sincerely,

Joseph Tramontana, PhD
ASCH Board of Directors Meets to Plan Organization’s Future

In late August, the newly formed ASCH Board of Directors traveled near and far to gather for the organization’s strategic planning meeting. During the course of eight hours, this collective group of highly dedicated and accomplished individuals discussed everything from ASCH’s competitive value to its organizational goals and educational offerings. Time was spent analyzing how the field of hypnosis is evolving and the role ASCH plays related to education and training. Board members offered their insights on ASCH’s communications and services, as well as ASCH’s biggest growth opportunities and potential partnerships.

“This was the first time we had ASCH’s leadership together in a room in some time, and the first time ever since launching our new governance structure,” said ASCH President Joe Tramontana. “We felt it was critically important to focus on strategic planning right now as this organization enters its next evolution and chapter of success.”

Shape the Future of ASCH and Volunteer to Serve on New Divisions

At the start of the year, ASCH began a new chapter, sunsetting its former leadership structure and launching a new Board of Directors. The goal of this change was to allow the organization to nimbly adapt, change, and provide more leadership opportunities for the ASCH membership. Under this new format, the Board is comprised of various divisions, which focus on the management of crucial ASCH programs. These divisions are the heart and soul of the organization, and we need your help.

ASCH is currently looking for volunteers to join our divisions to help chart the course of the organization. Where does your interest lie? Education and training? Do you prefer to engage with the certification process or membership verification? Perhaps building the connection with components? No matter the interest, ASCH has a home for you.

Simply click and complete the form below and let us know where you’d like to engage. We cannot thank you enough for your interest as we build the ASCH of the future.

YOUR NEWSLETTER, YOUR VOICE
Member Submissions Welcome for ASCH Advisor

ASCH members are invited to submit news, reviews, letters to the editor, and other material for inclusion the society’s quarterly newsletter. Submissions may be edited for clarity, consistency, and to conform with ASCH’s editorial style guide. Please include photos and images as appropriate.

The next issue will be distributed in mid-December. Please send any submissions — and reach out with any questions — to marketing@asch.net. The submission deadline is November 21, 2022.
ASCH Board of Directors Meets to Plan Organization’s Future

During the meeting, ASCH’s new division structure was discussed at length, including outlining charters and directives, terms of service, recruitment efforts, and overall results. Currently there are eleven divisions, ranging from membership to certification to ethics to finance. You can see more here (link to attached).

“Getting ASCH members involved in the divisions structure is critically important to ASCH’s future growth and overall success,” continued Tramontana. “This meeting helped us strategically plan why we made the changes to governance and leadership that we did, and how this will benefit ASCH and the field of hypnosis for years to come.”

Education was another fundamental discussion and a long topic of conversation. Leadership reviewed proposed changes to the Level 1 curriculum format, which will enable ASCH to measure the effectiveness of the classroom training with an in-person focus on small group practicums. These changes will also modernize our training delivery and better meet the needs of workshop attendees. The group reviewed blended learning formats, assessment improvements, curriculum revisions, and criteria for certification and approved consultants. Discussions also addressed faculty training and how to ensure workshop participants receive the highest level of training from ASCH.

“This organization’s foundation is built on education and ASCH has a reputation for offering the highest standard of training in clinical hypnosis,” said ASCH Vice President of Education and Training Joanna Truitt. “Learning is evolution, and how we teach the theory and practice of hypnosis should evolve with it. By looking at varied learning styles and new delivery formats, we are able to continue enhance that standard of training.”

Looking ahead to 2023, ASCH’s Board of Directors is planning to continue its path of innovation and making structural changes that benefit the future of its membership. Leadership also discussed ASCH’s relationship with component societies at length, knowing that working together and smart partnerships only advance the field of hypnosis. Look for more to come there.

“In the end, everyone in that room deeply cared about one main thing: helping our patients through hypnosis,” Tramontana said. “ASCH provides an incredible forum to share best practices amongst colleagues, and friends. That is extremely important, and something we cannot replace.”

Look for more details on ASCH’s strategic direction later this year. If you are interested in getting involved, you can submit your information here.

ASCH-ERF Holds Successful In-Person Workshops in June and September

The return to in-person learning continues for ASCH-ERF. In June, 54 faculty members and participants met in Alexandria, Virginia for Level 1, Level 2, and Advanced Workshops. A similar program recently wrapped up in Lincolnshire, Illinois, just outside of Chicago.

The American Society of Clinical Hypnosis-Education and Research Foundation (ASCH-ERF) sponsors three levels of instruction through its professional training in clinical hypnosis. For 2022, six workshops have been scheduled in both virtual and in-person formats. ASCH-ERF makes every effort to hold workshops in all regions of the United States.

The Level 1 workshop, the first part of a series in the certification program for clinical hypnosis, is intended for licensed health professionals, including physicians, nurses, psychologists, dentists, counselors, social workers, and those in related fields. This training is a requirement of full ASCH membership.

Level 2 workshops focus on strengthening skills, strategies, and applications of clinical hypnosis. Level 1 taught “how to” do clinical hypnosis, and Level 2 builds on this skill set and refines and furthers development to add the when, why, and where to the “how to.”
Advanced level workshops build upon the curricula from Levels 1 and 2; recent workshops have focused on behavioral medicine, health psychology, hypnosis and pediatrics, and mind-body medicine.

Session capacities are purposefully set low to ensure participants are given the opportunity for active participation and provides the required attention and oversight by faculty (especially in small group activities).

Is Back in Person

After several years of virtual Annual Scientific Meeting and Workshops (ASMW), leadership is pleased to announce that the spring 2023 ASMW will take place in person March 2-5, 2023, at the Marriott Jacksonville Downtown in Jacksonville, FL. This year’s program is designed around the timely theme: Making the Connection: Hypnosis and Its Interplay with the Brain, Body, and Awareness. ASCH will bring together clinicians dedicated to the field of hypnosis for four days of intensive training, education, and small group workshops focused on understanding the science and research necessary to effectively practice hypnosis and inform clinical applications.

This year’s conference also includes two Advanced Pre-Conference workshops, daily Plenary sessions, 30+ Advanced Workshops, and Symposium presentations. Specific clinical content areas will include military-specific methods of serving our Veterans, trauma, pain management, dental and medical applications, integration of hypnosis and psychotherapy, altered states of consciousness, metaphysical phenomena, and spirituality. Attendees will also enjoy networking opportunities, as well informative poster sessions, and ASCH’s Annual Awards program, recognizing the top contributors to the society and the field of hypnosis, as well as recognition for published works in the ASCH Journal.

Each year ASMW’s programming and faculty coordination is orchestrated by the incoming ASCH president. In 2023, Louis Damis, PhD, ABPP, has worked with a dedicated team of ASCH’s leadership and staff to develop a program that focuses on providing clinicians the absolute finest opportunities to share ideas, best practices, relevant research, and philosophical approaches to hypnosis that benefit their patients.

For more information on registration, please visit www.asch.net. Registration for ASMW 2023 will open the week of October 31, 2022, and look for more details soon. The fee to attend ASMW is $650 for members; $845 for non-members (thus another reason to join). We look forward to seeing you in Jacksonville and thank you for being a part of this incredible organization, and industry.
New Members, Certificants, and Approved Consultants (JUNE 2022 – AUGUST 2022)

NEW MEMBERS

Stacie Allphin, MS, LCDC
Full Member

Eric Attard, PsyD, LPC
Associate

Howard August
Associate

Aline Bales
Student Affiliate Member

Maylin Batista, Ph.D., LMHC, CST, FCht
Associate

Amy Begnal
Associate

David Beirne, LPC
Associate

Stephanie Billings, MD
Associate

Virginia Brown, LCSW
Associate

Carolyn Carbone-Magnero, PhD
Full Member

Hsun-Hua Chou
Associate

Kimberly Cimino
Resident/Intern

Charles Cobble, BCD, LCSW
Full Member

Michele Cohen, LCSW, SEP
Full Member

Michelle Dillard, LCSW-C
Full Member

Virginia Dinsmore
Full Member

Irina Diyankova, PhD
Full Member

Katherine Double, LCSW
Associate

Jessica Duffel, PsyD
Full Member

Elexia Estrada
Student Affiliate Member

Lauren Fisher
Full Member

Megan Fletcher, LCSW
Full Member

Rochelle Frank
Full Member

Elise Gaul LPC, CT
Full Member

Tara Giamparesi
Full Member

Wendy Hubenthal
Full Member

Janet Johnson, LMFT, LPCC
Full Member

Kate Kinney, LCSW
Associate

Allyson Kloss
Full Member

Jeffrey Kragh Ph. D.
Full Member

Rhonda London
Full Member

Aurelie Lucette
Full Member

Lesley Marsal, PsyD
Full Member

Laura McMurry, MSW, LCSW
Full Member

Heike Minnich, PsyD, HSPP
Full Member

Natalie Parfrey
Student Affiliate Member

Adrienne Paulson, PhD, LP
Full Member

Heather Pearman
Full Member

Samantha Price
Full Member

Francine Pritt, MS, LPC, NCC
Full Member

Carol Quintana
Full Member

Joanna Rodes
Associate

Bita Saleh, DDS
Full Member

Lori Schram
Associate

Caroline Shearer
Associate

Samantha Silverberg
Student Affiliate Member

Lauren Stinson LPC, NCC
Associate

Bill Stoner
Associate

Karin Suesser, PhD
Associate

Christina Unger
Full Member

Lisa Van Triest, LCSW
Full Member

David Vu
Associate

Yulianna Zalisna, RN, PhD
Associate

NEWLY APPROVED CERTIFICANTS

Rebecca Cherry, MD
Ellen Cohen, MD
Michele Cohen, LCSW, SEP
Daniel DeSena, LMSW
Lisa Morphopoulos, LCSW
Leslie Thayer, PhD
Julie Visnich, MSW
Mary Edith Watkins, MA, LCMHC, NCC

NEWLY APPROVED CONSULTANT

Courtney Armstrong, Med, LPC
Advanced Teaching and Consultation Workshops Promote Greater Understanding, New Approaches

ASCH is offering a virtual Teaching and Consultation Workshop in October and an in-person advanced workshop in December.

Teaching and Consultation Workshop
October 6–7, 2022

The Teaching & Consultation Workshop (TCW) is a ten-hour virtual workshop designed for those individuals who have attained ASCH Certification and are seeking Approved Consultant status. The TCW includes an introduction that addresses professional continuing education standards, workshop learning objectives, and fostering of positive working relationships among participants and workshop faculty.

Registration is now open.

Utilizing Hypnosis to Improve and Enhance Performance
December 1–4, 2022

Instructors: Dana Lebo, PhD and Rob Staffin, PsyD, ABPH

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then an experience is worth a thousand pictures. This workshop will set the stage for participants to experience their work as a performance. Through a combination of didactic and experiential learning, they will understand and experience how “being hypnotic” enhances performance. Whether it is recovering from the pandemic, improving athletic, artistic, professional, or personal skills, or moving through a process of change, participants will leave the program with a toolbox of ideas, skills, and actions to enhance their own as well as their clients’ performance — and in the process — to boost mental health.

Registration opens September 26, 2022.

Certification through ASCH must be renewed every three years. In order to renew your ASCH Certification, you must have completed at least 20 hours of ASCH-approved hypnosis training within the last three years. Additional requirements below:

- Hold at least a masters degree in a health care discipline considered appropriate by the Society and have licensure/certification in the state/province which they practice;
- Membership in a professional society consistent with a degree;
- Licensure or Certification by the state or province in which you practice to practice independently;
- Complete Level 1 and Level 2 ASCH approved Clinical Workshop training;
- Minimum of 20 hours of individualized training/consultation with an ASCH Approved Consultant;
- Minimum of two years of independent practice utilizing clinical hypnosis (2 years from the completion of the basic course).

Approved Consultant

All of the requirements for Certification in Clinical Hypnosis, plus:

- Minimum of 40 additional hours of ASCH approved Advanced workshop training;
- Completion of the 10-hour Teaching and Consultation Workshop (TCW);
- Minimum of 5 years of independent practice utilizing clinical hypnosis (5 years from the completion of the basic program);
- Minimum of 5 years of membership in ASCH, SCEH, or equivalent.

October 6–7, 2022
Teaching and Consultation Workshop
Virtual

November 3–6, 2022
Level 1 & Level 2 Workshops
Virtual

December 1–4, 2022
Wyndham Orlando Resort and Conference Center (Celebration Area) Kissimmee, Florida
Level 1 and Level 2 Workshops
Advanced Workshop: Utilizing Hypnosis to Improve and Enhance Performance

March 2–5, 2023
Marriott Jacksonville Downtown Jacksonville, Florida
Annual Scientific Meeting and Workshops
Advanced Pre-Conference Workshops, Daily Plenary Sessions, 30+ Advanced Workshops, and Symposium Presentations
Greetings Colleagues,

In my last article I encouraged all component society members to consider two important items. The first was who you want to be the next Component Society Division Chair. The second was to consider what you want our new Components Division to look like. We also discussed these topics in our Component Society Leadership meeting in May where we had eleven component societies represented. In the meeting each component reported on the status of their society. Based on the estimates provided by the eleven components in attendance, there are about 500 members with around 365 of those members actively involved in component activities. At this time, we don't have a full count of all component members since there were nine component sections that were not represented at the meeting. I’ve reached out to all component society leadership several times in the past 12-16 months and there are a few I have never received a response from. As we move forward in developing the structure of the CSD we will also be determining if all listed component societies are still active. Please know that without receiving a reply of any type we can only assume the non-response means the component is no longer active.

Another topic discussed in the meeting was the relationship between ASCH and the Component Societies. The current model allows for significant autonomy between component societies and ASCH however it also limits the mutual benefits and collaboration between component societies and ASCH. We are actively in the process of brainstorming what relationship between ASCH and the Component sections makes sense. If you look at different professional organizations in the healthcare field, the model we’ve functioned under is unusual. With the change in the bylaws and the organizational structure of ASCH it only makes sense to review and consider if retaining this model best serves the components and ASCH.

As I write this article the ASCH Board of Directors just finished a strategic planning meeting to layout the strategic direction for the Society for the next few years. We accomplished a lot and there is more to do. The above questions will continue to be discussed along with other areas as we lay out the foundation for the future. Please join us in actively developing our professional hypnosis community. I encourage any of you to reach out to me with ideas or suggestions about the development you’d like to see with the collaboration between ASCH and the Component Sections as well as if you are interested in getting involved with the Component Society Division.

Warm Regards,

Debbie Bensching,
LCSW
ASCH Component Society Division Chair
debbenweb@gmail.com

Component Society InFocus takes a closer look at the clinical hypnosis community across the country.
Your Generosity Ensures a Next Generation of Clinical Hypnosis Practitioners

ASCH-ERF currently manages two scholarship funds for students: the Mutter Scholarship Fund for Student and Early Career Professional Training and the Betty Alice Erickson & Kay Thompson Student Scholarship Fund.

At any given time these funds carry varying levels of money that is available to help students dependent upon the generosity of our donors. To learn more about these scholarships—and more critically—make a donation to ASCH-ERF, click the link below.

ASCH-ERF Scholarships

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