

Letter from ASPCP President (2000)

Dear ASPCP Members and Prospective Members,

As many of you already know, the American Society for Philosophy, Counseling and Psychotherapy has been in the process of restructuring in order to serve you better. Although we take great pride in being the first association to develop a certification program for philosophical counselors, we soon recognized that implementing an expanded certification program would necessitate making major organizational changes and undertaking work which might have deflected from our original mission. At the very least, we would have been forced to incorporate as a non profit corporation, carry insurance, and substantially increase our dues. After much discussion, the Board voted to discontinue our certification program, to rescind certificates already conferred, and to return to our original mission.

The ASPCP will continue to function as the national academic association for philosophical practitioners and to conduct meetings at the American Philosophical Association divisional meetings. It will also continue to promote scholarship in the area of philosophical counseling and practice, and to serve as a forum in which philosophical counselors and psychotherapists can explore commonalities and differences in their respective approaches to counseling.

Our professional counterpart, the American Philosophical Practitioner's Association (the APPA), which was founded by four ASPCP Board members, now serves as the national professional association for philosophical practitioners meeting the needs of those interested in certification. While the ASPCP and the APPA are wholly independent organizations, they are designed to complement one another in a spirit of cooperation. The APPA offered certification to all those philosophers previously certified by the ASPCP, and the ASPCP Board recently voted to explore new avenues of possible cooperation between the two associations.

On behalf of the ASPCP Board, I would like to thank our previous President, Tom Magnell for initiating the discussions which have led to the ASPCP restructuring and for his good counsel on these matters. We would also like to welcome our new President-elect, Jim Tuedio. Finally, we are all very pleased that Kenn Cust and Eliot Cohen have agreed to serve as Co-Directors of the ASPCP.

Now that the ASPCP restructuring has been concluded, the Board has agreed that the ASPCP should focus on encouraging greater involvement from its general members. To achieve that objective, we would like to form some standing and special committees. Standing committees might include: Program and Conference Planning, Publicity, Nominations, etc. Special committees might be devoted to planning programs or mini-conferences in specific areas e.g. Philosophy for Children, Philosophical Consulting, etc. I cordially invite those members interested in serving on such committees to contact our Co-Directors, and to discuss their ideas on our list-serv. We also hope that many of you will attend our business meeting at the APA Eastern Division in New York so that the Board can hear and respond, directly, to your ideas in this area.

In closing, I would like to thank our old members for their patience during the last year, to assure our foreign members that the ASPCP would like to explore

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new ways of fostering cooperation between the ASPCP and associations in other countries, and to welcome our many new members.

Sincerely,
Vaughana Feary, Ph.D.,
ASPCP President (2000)

New ASPCP President (2001) - Dr. James Tuedio, University of California at Stanislaus, is the current President of the ASPCP. He has served on the ASPCP Board of Directors for the past few years and was elected President-Elect last year. Dr. Tuedio can be reached at the Department of Philosophy, University of California at Stanislaus, Turlock, CA 95382. He can be reached by phone at (209) 667-3286 and fax ((209) 667-3720). He can also be reached by email at tuedio@altair.csustan.edu.

ASPCP President-Elect - Dr. Susan Robbins, St. Joseph University, has also served on the ASPCP Board of Directors for the several years. Dr. Robbins can be reached at 734 Bridgeton Pike, #43, Mullica Hill, NJ 08062. Her phone number and email address are (610) 660-1541 and srobbins@sju.edu.

International Journal of Philosophical Practice (IJPP) - Recently the ASPCP Board of Directors voted to have the *International Journal of Philosophical Practice* serve as the official journal of the ASPCP. Dr. Elliot Cohen and Dr. Kenneth Cust have joined efforts to create this new journal dedicated to philosophical practice. In addition to being founders of this new journal, they share editorial responsibility. As the official journal of the ASPCP, all ASPCP members may subscribe to the *IJPP* at the reduced rate of only \$25.00 per year, a \$15.00 per year savings. Moreover, the *IJPP* will publish papers presented at any of the three ASPCP annual meetings. All such papers, of course, must satisfy the editorial requirements of the journal. For further information on the *IJPP*, see the attached advertisement. You can also visit the *IJPP* web site at <http://www.ijpp.net>

ASPCP Call for Papers - The American Society for Philosophy, Counseling, and Psychotherapy (ASPCP) meets in conjunction with the three divisional meeting of the American Philosophical Association (APA). Papers are welcome on any topic concerning philosophical counseling and/or the private practice of philosophy, the philosophical critique of counseling and psychotherapy, including foundational and/or methodological issues that might arise within the larger domain of "talk therapy." In addition, contributors may also submit proposals for workshops. Finally, if you are interested in chairing a session, serving as a commentator, or participating in some other manner, please include this information with your submission. **Deadline:** Early submission advised. **Inquiries and Submissions:** Dr. Kenneth F.T. Cust, Co-Executive Director, ASPCP, Center for Applied & Professional Ethics, Warrensburg, MO 64093. (2001)