



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
REHABILITATION PROFESSIONALS

OARP - OREGON CHAPTER OF IARP - NEWSLETTER WINTER 2014

President's Message

Greetings fellow OARP members and rehab professionals,

I hope you all have had a wonderful year so far. As the 2014-15 IARP-Oregon Chapter President, I would like to thank you for your continued support of our local chapter and your involvement with the vocational rehab community. This year, we have continued our focus on providing both members and non-members more frequent CEU opportunities. Our program committee has done an excellent job of coordinating such events for the remainder of 2014 and into early 2015. Please look for upcoming events on our website at www.oarp.org and watch for our informational announcements.

I would also like to thank our increasing student membership base for their participation and involvement. We are fortunate to currently have 12 student members from Portland State University. OARP would like to see these students transition into IARP Professional Candidate Members upon completion of their graduate program. We can all play a crucial role in this by reaching out to these students for continued networking and even mentoring. If you would like to take an active role in this, please contact myself or any of our board members.

As valued IARP members, we want to hear from you and encourage further involvement in our local chapter as well as in the international rehabilitation community. Remember to stay connected through IARP Connect!

Sincerely,

Brendan Flynn

2014-15 Oregon Chapter President

Rehabilitation Community News

Sandy Schramm of Portland Community College is retiring on December 1st. While known by most as the director of Occupational Skills Training, Sandy is also the Director of the Culinary Assistant training Program, a 45 credit program designed to train students with disabilities who have significant barriers to employment in entry-level food service occupations.

Originally from Texas, Sandy received her Master's degree from Fresno State in California. She has worked in Rehab in Connecticut, Arizona, California, and Oregon. She has fought to provide training to everyone and served on the OST Taskforce that aligned all the OST programs in the State and helped set up a framework so we could continue to put students in internship programs throughout Oregon and Washington.

Sandy's commitment to OARP has spanned many years; she has held every office and led every committee at least once. Her support of OARP while working for PCC has been unparalleled. Sandy was named OARP Rehabilitation Professional of the Year in 2004.

Sandy's work and influence can be felt throughout the vocational rehabilitation community and she will be sorely missed.

This year also marks Ed Hickock's retirement from the OARP Board of Directors. Like Sandy, Ed has served many years on the Board and has made great contributions to the rehabilitation community. He has served as our Chapter President at least three times (who's counting?) and was OARP's Rehabilitation Professional of the Year in 2005. We greatly appreciate all of Ed's contributions to our organization.

The next time you see Sandy or Ed, make sure to thank them for their contributions to OARP and their advocacy on behalf of our profession.

Connecting With Other Rehabilitation Professionals

Have you ever wanted to pick the brains of other vocational rehabilitation counselors in the state of Oregon to assist you on one of your cases? Have you ever come across a perfect job opening for an injured worker but find that it is not appropriate for anyone on your current caseload and thus wish to share the job opening with other counselors? Did you ever want to learn more about Oregon case law or rule interpretation that might assist you in your practice?

One of the benefits of being a member of Oregon IARP is that you automatically have access to "Oregon Connect" which is essentially a messaging system for Oregon chapter members only. You also have access to IARP Connect as well, where you can glean information from the international membership. We encourage everyone to review the instructions for this valuable resource and begin using Oregon Connect to enhance your knowledge of what is happening here in Oregon as well as with the profession in general.

Click [here](#) to access the IARP Connect Quick Start Guide (or if you're reading a printed version of the newsletter, see the attached).

IARP Student Membership and Membership Benefits

OARP and IARP membership continues to provide valuable benefits to rehabilitation professionals. In particular, IARP members have benefited from:

- IARP's mentoring program
- Access to several hours of continuing education units
- Access to The Rehabilitation Professional and Journal of Life Care Planning
- The diversity of the various rehabilitation member sections
- IARP being widely recognized by legal, government, and industry entities, providing members with heightened status, professional clout, and career enrichment
- Access to professional liability, dental, long-term care, major medical, and even pet insurance

IARP recognizes that students truly are the future of the profession. We are also very familiar with the fact that students have different financial realities than practicing professionals. That's why IARP has created a special membership category just for students!

Any individuals enrolled in a rehabilitation program at an accredited institution can join as a student member. Student Membership includes all the benefits of Associate Membership in IARP PLUS membership in the Special Interest Section of your choice! A limited number of Scholarships are available to Student Members.

Please visit the [IARP student website](#) to check out the easy application process.

OARP Legislative Committee

Last year, OARP's Legislative Committee was instrumental in promoting a successful proposal for a change to the Oregon Administrative Rules regarding temporary disability compensation. We would like to hear ideas from the rehabilitation community regarding other items that the legislative committee can address. If you have issues you wish to bring to the OARP Legislative Committee's attention, please send an email to the attention of the OARP Legislative Committee at oarp@hillandshaw.com.

Upcoming Events

Save the date...

The annual Holiday Social and Educational Event will take place on Thursday December 4th. Since our customary venue is undergoing renovations, this year we will be meeting at the Oregon Medical Association building located in Southwest Portland.

Development is underway for the 2015 Annual OARP Spring Conference on April 24th. Keep an eye out for more details on the [OARP website](#) at www.oarp.org.

If you have any interest in being a speaker at an OARP event , or if you have a request or recommendation for a speaker, please email [Colleen Cormack](mailto:Colleen.Cormack@hillandshaw.com), our Program Committee Chair, at colleen@hillandshaw.com.

Other Educational Opportunities

There is currently a free webinar available on the IARP website titled "Tools of the Trade: Using Testing Statistics to Select and Interpret Tests." This is a replay of a past event that is available at no charge. The program is two hours long with two CEUs available.

Additionally, CEUs are available through the IARP Certification Maintenance Program. IARP has resumed its program that allows individuals to read articles in the Rehabilitation Professional Journal and earn CEUs for them. The cost for IARP members is \$30 for three CEUS from CRCC, CVE, CCAA, CWA and two CEUs from CLCP and CCMCT. The non-member price is \$40. This is a quick and inexpensive way to learn and earn CEUs.

We'd love to hear from you! If you have any questions, feedback or suggestions for the OARP board, please email us at OARP@hillandshaw.com.