

Candidate Statements for SPA President-elect/Program Chair

F. BARTON EVANS, PH.D.

I am honored to be nominated to run for President of SPA, an organization that represents much of the best in what a learned international society can be. SPA brings together most of the distinguished practitioners and researchers in personality assessment. It is a unique and dynamic organization, which melds academic research and clinical practice and provides a forum where different points of view are openly discussed, respected, and thoughtfully integrated. My goal will be to maintain this atmosphere of intellectual excellence, open dialogue, and warm collegiality in the service of expanding professional goals.

SPA's future leadership in promoting excellence in personality assessment is inextricably tied to:

- Advocacy efforts to promote and protect the practice of personality assessment
- Increased sponsorship of research on the utility of personality assessment
- Greater professional visibility through Continuing Education, including new initiatives in the areas of proficiency certification in Personality Assessment
- Furthermore, I have always envisioned SPA as being uniquely positioned to serve the forensic psychologists within our membership.

In terms of advocacy, I strongly believe that we need a much stronger “seat at the table” with APA. While SPA’s Advocacy efforts have been strong, we need to move aggressively to gain formal recognition of personality assessment through APA’s College of Professional Psychology as a proficiency within professional psychology. Once receiving this recognition, SPA should actively promote the proficiency in personality assessment among practitioners and graduate educators.

It is my belief that the future also lies in developing a clear body of research to better establish personality assessment as an evidence-based practice. I am convinced that SPA needs to marshal resources to fund ongoing projects like the current Utility of Assessment Research Project. To do this SPA must have a strong financial base and then develop a research endowment from which to support such research.

In terms of experience, I am an SPA Fellow of the Society and have served on the Board of Trustees for eight years. I was the Chair and lead author of SPA’s Committee on the Status of the Rorschach and the Rorschach White Paper. I served as the Continuing Education Chair for SPA and three state psychological associations and am the Montana Representative on the APA Council of Representatives. I am the incoming Secretary on the Psychological Assessment Section of APA Division 12. In terms of management training, I completed the Program in Management Development at School of Business and Economics, UNC-Greensboro. Presently, I am a clinical and forensic psychologist in Bozeman, MT, where I founded the Northern Rockies Center for Forensic and Therapeutic Assessment. My practice is devoted to psychological assessment, including Therapeutic Assessment and forensic psychological assessment. I am the co-editor of the *Handbook of Forensic Rorschach Psychology* and published a book on Harry Stack Sullivan, as well as numerous articles and book chapters on psychological assessment.

RADHIKA KRISHNAMURTHY, PSY.D.

I am deeply honored to be considered for President of SPA, a society that embodies professional excellence and camaraderie like no other group I have known. My involvement with SPA over the last 18 years has brought the most enriching and gratifying experiences of my professional career. This is indeed a privilege to have this opportunity to serve an organization that has given so much to me.

I am currently a professor in the School of Psychology, Florida Institute of Technology and a licensed psychologist in Florida, having recently completed a term as Director of Clinical Training and Program Chair of Florida Tech's Psy.D. program. My teaching, research, and supervision/consultation activities have centered on psychological assessment. I have taught personality and intellectual assessment courses for 15 years and conducted research on the MMPI-A, MMPI-2, PAI-A, and Rorschach. I am an Associate Editor for the *Journal of Personality Assessment* and Consulting Editor for *Assessment* and *Psychological Assessment*. I was President of Section IX (Assessment Psychology) of APA's Division 12 in 2008. This year, I completed the requirements for the American Board of Assessment Psychology (ABAP) diplomate.

Within SPA I am a regular presenter at the annual meetings, past recipient of the Samuel J. and Anne G. Beck Award, and Fellow since 1999. I have served as Associate Editor of the *Exchange* and as Representative-At-Large and Secretary of the Board of Trustees. My work on the SPA board included organizing annual meeting workshops, chairing membership and student matters committees, and participating in initiatives such as the Utility of Assessment Research project, task forces on standards of practice and education/training guidelines in personality assessment, and advocacy efforts including serving as an advisory group member to APA's Practice Directorate on implementing the revised CPT codes for psychological assessment.

In the last several years, SPA has taken large strides in defining personality assessment competency and advocating on numerous fronts around training and practice issues. As President, I will strive to advance and expand these important directions. I would like SPA to be the central resource for professionals and graduate students engaged in assessment work and a highly recognizable organization within the psychological community and among the general public. To achieve these goals, we need to (a) further expand and solidify our membership base at the national and international levels – this should include increasing the number of women and ethnic/cultural minority members in congruence with the changing landscape of our profession; (b) strengthen our ties with APA, state organizations, and parallel societies, and forge new relationships with health service organizations and educational and training councils; and (c) increase our consultative and advocacy roles with third party payers, legislators, and educators. My constant priority will be to attend to members' interests and needs.

I envision SPA leading the way in re-establishing personality assessment as an indispensable component of psychology practice. I bring a strong and abiding commitment to SPA and our shared interests.
