

July 2012



International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals

The Experts' *Express*

Upcoming Events

IARP Webinar Series:
Upper Extremity
Impairment
Considerations in Life
Care Planning
August 16, 2012

2012 International
Symposium on Life Care
Planning
Denver, Colorado
Sept. 22, 2012

2012 IARP International
Conference
San Juan, Puerto Rico
Oct. 25-27, 2012

Visit RehabPro.org/events

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IARP

Announcements

IARP Awards – Submit Your Nomination

IARP is accepting nominations for Awards to be presented at the IARP International Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico on October 25-27, 2012. **Deadline for award nominations is today: July 31, 2012!** Complete details on page 11.

Now Accepting Applications for Gale Gibson IARP Educational Scholarship

In honor of Gale Gibson's memory, IARP, along with his family, instituted the Gale Gibson IARP Educational Scholarship last year. The goal of the scholarship fund is twofold: to provide funding for IARP members for professional growth opportunities; and to provide scholarship recipients venues to share their new knowledge with IARP members. Available to any IARP member, the [deadline to apply in August 18](#).

Remembering Brian Preston

Brian Preston, a long time member of IARP and good friend to many of us, passed away on July 25, 2012 at age 51 from mesothelioma. Brian is survived by his father, brother, three children (Ben, Abby and Deirdre) and his girlfriend Mia.

Brian served on the Forensic Section board from 2004-2007 and was the chair in 2005-2006. He was also the program chair of an excellent Forensic Section conference in Nashville TN in 2005. Brian was present at all IARP conferences and LCP symposiums in recent years in his capacity with Learning Services, as he was an exhibitor at every program. Brian also conducted breakout sessions on subjects pertaining to traumatic brain injury and was an active researcher in his field until his illness.

Brian's interests extended beyond the field of rehabilitation counseling, as he was a member of a rock band and connoisseur of music (still listening to his older music on the original vinyl, which he said allowed the music to sound the way it was intended).

During Brian's illness, he kept a journal on [Caring Bridge](#), which allowed his friends and family to share his ups and downs and have a deeper understanding of what he was facing. Brian displayed an uncommon grace, literally until the end of his life. We will all miss our friend. [Full obituary](#). Also, friends remember [Brian on IARP Connect](#).



IARP - Uniting Rehabilitation Professionals

The Experts' *Express*

Important OIDAP Update

As you are all now aware, Social Security did not renew OIDAP's charter and the Panel has disbanded as of July 5, 2012. At their final teleconference meeting held on July 5th, four stakeholders provided public comment: Lynne Tracy on behalf of IARP, Cynthia Grimley on behalf of ABVE, Rick Wickstrom on behalf of APTA and Jeff Truthan.

Although OIDAP will no longer provide insight and recommendations to SSA, their staff will continue to develop an OIS for their disability adjudication purposes. Based on statements made by the Associate Commissioner – Office of Program Development & Research, David Weaver on June 4, 2012 during an OIDAP meeting, there are now concerns that SSA may go back and reconsider adapting the O*NET rather than creating a new OIS. This would be a complete reversal of the direction SSA had been going in for more than 10 years and against the recommendations of OIDAP. Therefore, we do need to stay vigilant in making sure a new OIS is scientifically-sound, useable and legally defensible.

Additionally, GAO has completed its study of the SSA disability programs and released its report on July 19, 2012 entitled 'Modernizing SSA Disability Programs: Progress Made, but Key Efforts Warrant More Management Focus'. GAO had been asked to assess SSA's efforts to update its medical criteria and develop a new occupational information system, and to identify other steps taken to modernize disability determination criteria.

According to GAO, they "...reviewed relevant publications and federal laws and regulations; assessed agency plans, cost estimates, schedules, and other documentation against established project management criteria; and interviewed SSA officials, experts, and stakeholders."

This report may provide some insight into possible reasons SSA may be going in another direction. GAO was critical of delays in SSA meeting their target dates for certain activities and that their cost estimates were not comprehensive enough. Among their recommendations are several that are disturbing and threaten the usefulness and legal defensibility of this new OIS for our purposes. These include leveraging O*NET, adjusting the scope of the OIS to reduce costs, and limiting data collection methods. For the full report:

<http://gao.gov/assets/600/591701.pdf>.

IARP will continue to closely monitor the work of SSA on the OIS project, and report on their progress and developments to the membership.

Lynne Tracy
Chair, IARP's OIDAP Liaison Committee and IARP President Elect

IARP's public comments and those of Jeff Truthan's, with his permission, are herein reprinted.



The Experts' *Express*

OIDAP Update – Final Comments from IARP

June 29, 2012

Leola S. Brooks, Designated Federal Officer
Occupational Information Development Advisory Panel
Office of Program Development and Research,
Office of Vocational Resources Development Social Security Administration

Dear Ms. Brooks:

Over the last three and a half years since the OIDAP was chartered, the International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (IARP) has attended every Panel meeting and been an active participant in the process. We have presented to the Panel, conducted surveys and gathered data on topics of importance to the Panel's mission. We have provided public comment to OIDAP and SSA on numerous occasions during that time.

We are disappointed that the Panel's Charter has not been renewed as we have viewed their work and recommendations to SSA as thorough, thoughtful and invaluable to SSA's work to develop a new Occupational Information System for disability adjudication.

Although we understand the financial pressures on SSA and the government at large at this time, we are concerned that development of a new OIS without the OIDAP will now be derailed, diverted and watered-down. We are concerned that the end result will not be rigorous enough to stand up in court, and therefore, will not meet the needs of SSA nor the general public.

Recommendations

We would like to take this opportunity to comment on the recommendations of the Panel to SSA, specifically General Recommendation # 9.

We continue to support SSA in its development of a scientifically-sound, defensible, and relevant Occupational Information System for disability adjudication. In accomplishing this daunting task, IARP strongly concurs with General Recommendation # 9 made by the OIDAP.

1) The Science:

As rehabilitation professionals, we understand the importance of a scientifically sound and legally defensible OIS. It remains of utmost priority that the development of any occupational information system have a taxonomic content model that is strong enough to withstand legal challenge. Without this degree of rigor, the value of the OIS is questionable. We encourage SSA to use scientific and legal standards as they go forward in the OIS project.

We caution SSA from using poor and incomplete data. Data used in an OIS for disability adjudication should be representative of the national economy, reflect human needs, and be legally defensible. It should also be linkable to other databases, e.g., SOC, and be updated with regularity.

The development of an OIS should not be done and tested in a vacuum. Data needs to be gathered by qualified and trained field job analysts, and that data needs to be tested with real users of the data such as at the local DDSs and by Vocational Experts (VEs) in the field before it is formally rolled out. We are not in favor of using incumbent surveys, but rather encourage data collected in the field. Whatever data is collected also needs to be relevant to the needs of SSA.

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OIDAP Update – Final Comments from IARP

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As we have pointed out in our testimony to SSA and OIDAP in the past, there are thousands of vocational rehabilitation professionals who possess the skills to perform job analyses, many of whom are already familiar with SSA's adjudication process, and could be of assistance in data collection.

2) Transparency and Public Engagement:

It remains of critical importance to have transparency and public engagement in the process. The OIS data is of significant importance to people with disabilities at SSA and all disability benefit and counseling systems, nationally and internationally. Although the OIS is being developed for SSA's disability adjudication process, it is a known fact that this data will be used widely throughout various systems and by professionals in different disciplines, including, but not limited to, employers and insurance companies.

Although we encourage collaboration with other federal agencies in developing the new SSA OIS, we strongly concur with the OIDAP's findings that existing occupational information systems do not meet the needs of SSA for disability adjudication, nor can modification of existing systems, such as O*NET, meet the needs of SSA and provide a useful, useable and legally defensible OIS.

We request that SSA continue to be proactive in seeking input from and informing stakeholder organizations such as IARP on a regular basis through public forum webinars, informational sessions, and advertising in the Federal Registry and agency sources.

Finally, we wish to state that we are indebted to the OIDAP members for their commitment, insights and hard work over the last three and a half years. We also wish to thank SSA for having the wisdom to bring together such a group of professional subject matter experts to assist SSA over these recent years as they work toward a practical, legally defensible, and useable OIS, and for the opportunity to provide our input and recommendations on behalf of our members.

We continue to welcome opportunities to dialog, comment and work with SSA on this necessary and valuable project.

International Association of Rehabilitation Professionals (IARP)

Steven D. Shedlin, M.Ed., CRC
President

Lynne L. Tracy, M.A., CRC
President Elect and Chair, IARP OIDAP Liaison Committee



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OIDAP Update –Comments from Jeff Truthan, SkillTran LLC

The following is a detailed outline (not a transcript) of Jeff's comments to OIDAP at it last meeting 7/5/2012.

Thank you to the panel members for the opportunity to speak today. I have already submitted written comments. I would like to expand a bit more on those items and add a few more. The sunset of the OIDAP Panel is premature. Continued public and independent input is essential to building a new Occupational Information System that meets the needs of SSA. ***My comments today are directed primarily to SSA - rather than OIDAP.***

- The final recommendation #9 as published is the foundation for a scientific framework and methodology that should deflect and survive legal challenge.
- Failure to adhere to these recommended standards will very likely lead to costly legal challenges.
- The implied "weight" of the argument "we ARE the federal government and no one can challenge us" did not stop the National Academy of Science in 1980 from publishing its book challenging the DOT. They criticized not so much the DOT constructs, but rather compromises made by federal managers during the data collection process.
- Any new work performed by SSA and/or DOL will be subjected to the same, and perhaps even more intensive scrutiny by the legal community.
- Do not proceed on this new O*NET path without a clear understanding of the scientific rigor by which new data must be collected.
- SSA will be challenged on this new data ... it must be prepared to defend properly collected and properly aggregated data.

Some facts about O*NET

There are many good aspects to O*NET, but we need to remember where O*NET came from ... it began with the same DOT published in 1991:

- 12,761 DOT occupations were collapsed into 1,100 different occupational groups.
- These 1,100 occupational groups were directly linked to the Standard Occupational Classification (SOC) system to be able to utilize labor market information collected by various other programs, including data collected by the Bureau of the CENSUS (household survey data) and OES (Occupational Employment Survey) collected directly from employers.
- These O*NET groups consist of anywhere from 1 DOT occupation to 1,587 DOT occupations.
- The four largest O*NET groups cover nearly 3,000 DOT occupations - or almost 1/4 of all of the DOT occupations in 4 groups!
- Obviously, many of the unique DOT occupations have gone away through automation, technology, off-shoring, consolidation with other DOT occupations and sheer obsolescence. Using existing government data sources, there are ways to synthesize and "read between the lines" of this occupation by industry data to determine which DOT occupations are the most likely to exist and not to exist. SkillTRAN has pioneered this newer process and has championed its adoption since mid-2008.
- Be wary of O*NET's improper reporting of the frequency of existence of occupations. O*NET reports numbers based only on its underlying SOC code (OES) group. These numbers often contain multiple O*NET subgroups. Unfortunately, onetonline.org reports the total number for the entire OES group, with no interpretation or even warning that more than one O*NET group may be a part of the statistics being shown. This could lead to a significant misinterpretation of the labor market information that O*NET reports. SSA claims decisions based on this erroneous data will lead to increased litigation costs and reversals at the costly hearings level.

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OIDAP Update –Comments from Jeff Truthan, SkillTran LLC

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Some of the existing O*NET data elements may be helpful to SSA, but most will require improved "tweaking" and certainly far more functional anchor points for the measurement scales. These new scales must correspond to the language used by treating health care and other professionals.

There is no existing factor in O*NET that covers even the basic concept of the Strength requirement. What are SSA's plans for addressing this critical missing element? As this new Strength data element is defined, take the opportunity to keep O*NET's good disaggregation of standing, walking, and sitting from the revised definition. It clouds the concept of functional strength. Consider isolating the revised Strength factor to a single element, such as lifting requirements.

Release the de-duplicated pool of Disability Evaluation Constructs (DEC). Not all of this data may be relevant nor should be captured in Job Analysis, but it will be helpful to understand the range of relevant factors submitted by many interested parties.

It is essential to use qualified professionals to collect, by objective measurement when possible, job analysis data or data that is supplemental to existing O*NET data directly from employer locations, when possible and appropriate. Legions of these people can be quickly trained up to the new criteria and assigned the hands-on process of Job Analysis. Rehabilitation professionals, such as members of the IARP and ABVE, are constantly in the field already collecting this same kind of data for worker compensation and insurance claims.

Use qualified, independent contractors to assist with project management, data collection, and data aggregation. This will still be a significant data collection effort, but it must be done, and it must be done quicker than the 10 year cycle of data collection currently in place at O*NET.

Create a national data bank of job analyses that are voluntarily contributed by professionals, associations, employers, insurers and particularly by worker's compensation agencies, including State agencies and the Federal Office of Workers Compensation (OWCP). This rich pool of recent data will supply some additional insights and possibly open the opportunity to do on-site job analysis in some locations.

From the SSA-RFI-12-1022 early this Spring, SSA did receive some responses from parties and teams of collaborating partners (SkillTRAN was among the respondents) interested in helping SSA with this work. Those parties remain interested in assisting with this mission critical work at SSA.

Data collected, or at least the summary of this collected data (at the occupational level) should be in the public domain. This will promote greater adoption of the new data elements. Create a new set of standards for data collection. Encourage these other parties to use the new standards and to share data they collect with SSA and/or DOL.

Promote use of those standards within the Human Resources community, which already voluntarily has developed its shared standards (available at HR-XML.org). SSA can lead the way to establishing voluntary standards that employers could choose to follow when developing its job postings on the internet. This would ultimately help in SSA's RTW efforts as well as supplement data collection efforts.

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OIDAP Update – Jeff Truthan's Comments

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SSA's role in the disability community is not only one of adjudication. It is also an agent for rehabilitation, as witnessed by various programs that it funds for RTW efforts, including Ticket to Work (TTW), Plan To Achieve Self-Support (PASS), and the Benefit Offset National Demonstration (BOND) program. New data collected should include Aptitudes and Interests, as these are fundamental to career exploration and the identification of other occupations a person might be able to perform with suitable training.

Numerous prior studies have repeatedly shown that better rates for RTW can be achieved by inviting applicants to consider vocational rehabilitation services at the same time as the claim is filed. This helps to promote independence, not an ever increasing number of claims that are rapidly depleting the disability fund.

SSA has received plenty of excellent input from the OIDAP committee and from hundreds of stakeholders. Take all of it, use what remains relevant, but do actually DO SOMETHING. The time for continued study is over. Get on with what needs to be done!

.....
IARP appreciates Jeff's contributions in this area and for granting permission to reprint his comments.

Industry News – IARP Launches Industry Calendar for All Rehab Professionals

IARP is pleased to announce the availability of a new feature on the IARP Web site (www.rehabpro.org).

We have added a new calendar feature to the site and are now publishing not only IARP events but also those events of other rehabilitation-focused associations. We hope that this will prove to be a valuable planning tool.

To see the calendar, please visit:
<http://www.rehabpro.org/events/industry-events>

If you have an event we should add, please send the details to iarp-hq@tcag.com.



Questions recently discussed on IARP Connect

Forensic Discussions:

Disfigurement - burns/scars and econ loss

Disclosure

Medical marijuana; how to handle "employability"

Defense oriented VEs

SS-VE Discussions:

Telephone solicitor: public or not?

SSVE Lobbyist update and SSA update

Full time vs. part time

Revisiting the issue of off-task behavior

DOT help needed.

Association News

Final meeting of OIDAP

Coffee Talk

Fishing, snorkeling, sightseeing in San Juan BEFORE the conference?



The Experts' *Express*

SS-VE Government Relations Update

On 7/20/2012, I was in Washington DC and met with Senior Congressional Staff Members on the Senate and House side to discuss SSVE issues, our role and function in the disability adjudication system, the OIG report on Vocational Experts, the GAO report on SSA program (this report contained information on the OIDAP panel and the development of a new OIS- Occupational Information System for SSA).

OIG report <http://oig.ssa.gov/sites/default/files/audit/full/pdf/A-12-11-11124.pdf>

GAO report <http://gao.gov/assets/600/591701.pdf>

Our representatives from Akerman Senterfitt, Jeanne Morin and Lou Enoff set up appointments with:

Senate Finance Committee/ Subcommittee on Social Security, Pensions, and Family Policy:

Tom Klouda, Professional Staff Member for Social Security

Claire Green, Social Security Detailee

House Ways and Means/Social Security Subcommittee:

Kim Hildred, Majority (R) Staff Director

Kathryn Olson, Minority (D) Staff Director

All had many questions regarding what VE's do, who the VE's are (education, background, other rehab services they provide etc), what happens in a typical hearing, how we deal with the outdated DOT and what our input was regarding SSA redesigning the OIS system. The Senate Finance Staffers and House Minority Staff Director were more interested in the contracting aspect of our issue (how could SSA offer a fixed price contract without review/oversight for all of these years) and the House Majority Staffers had more questions about the fraud, uneven use of VE's, SSA's screening of VE's and how vocational services might be able to get more people back to work who are on benefits.

Both sides (Democratic/Republicans and House/Senate) acknowledged that having fair, high quality decisions would be dependent on getting vocational expert opinions from VE's that had experience placing individuals with disabilities, were well versed in occupational information, understood the labor market and the SSA system. So overall we had excellent introductory meetings to the staff members of the two key committees that fund the Social Security System. They all seemed engaged and interested in VE's role and interested in our input regarding changes to the system. We discussed that IARP would follow up with the staff members after meeting with SSA management. So our next step is to have similar meetings with senior SSA management to discuss the OIG report's recommendations including reviewing the contracting process, basis for the VE rate, rotation of VE's and recruitment/retention of VE's and improving communication.

If you have not donated to the government relations fund--Donate now so we can make sure we have a full 12 months of government relations representation. **We are 90% there!**

[Donate now!!!](#)

Amy Vercillo

IARP SSVE Section Representative



The Experts' *Express*

Who Are Case Managers and What Are Some of Their Essential Job Functions?

As reported in last month's Experts' Express, the results of a survey conducted by the Case Management Section in October of 2011 reported an overwhelming majority of section members favoring a merger with the Disability Management Section. As part of this survey, respondents were asked to identify both their job titles and 5-essential job functions. The following is a synopsis of those responses.



According to the CM Section mission, the Case Management Section promotes the diverse practice specialties within rehabilitation case management. Several of the respondents reported their job titles that were inclusive of the term "case manager". Examples of these included the following:

- RN, CCM Case Manager
- Vocational Case Manager
- Medical Case Manager
- Disability Case Manager
- Independent Medical Case Manager
- Vocational/Disability Case Manager
- Case Management Manager
- Senior Vocational Case Manager
- Vocational Field Case Manager
- Medical Case Manager/Vocational Consultant
- RN, BSN, CCM for Workers' Comp Case Management

In addition to these one might expect, were several others whose titles are more specialty related. These included:

- Director of Rehabilitation Services
- Business Manager
- Case Consultant
- Vocational Consultant/Case Manager
- Rehabilitation Consultant Case Manager
- Disability Elder Consultant
- Catastrophic Case Manager, Life Care Planner
- Disability and FMLA Case Manager
- National Account Executive for Medical Management Services
- Medical/Legal Consultant
- Expert Witness/Rehabilitation Consultant

Indeed, the diversity in job titles covered the spectrum of proprietary positions reflective of the membership within the section. Not identified above were those owners, CEOs, and/ or VPs whose positions reflected major management responsibilities for companies focused on delivery of "case management services".

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The Experts' *Express*

Who Are Case Managers and What Are Some of Their Essential Job Functions?

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Likewise, looking at the identified top 5 essential job functions, respondents identified the most common that could be expected including:

- Case Management
- Transferable Skills Analysis
- Job Analysis
- Vocational Evaluations
- Vocational Counseling
- Job Placement and Development
- Labor Market Surveys

In addition, there were several essential job functions identified that expand the boundaries of case managers that included “consulting to rehab facilities regarding various forms of accreditation (such as CARF),” “designing metrics to measure performance,” and “deploying proactive safety programs.”

What becomes clear when reviewing these results is that members of the CM Section are using traditional Vocational Rehabilitation techniques and methodologies in their daily work. One would anticipate similar outcomes from such a survey in the DM section. The successful combined efforts of these sections in recent years for activities such as national conferences, has paved the way for a merger that will benefit both organizations by capitalizing on the many unique strengths and similarities that each has to offer.

Don't forget, opportunity for all members to engage in a discussion about the planning will be available at the 2012 International Conference in Puerto Rico.

In next month's issue, from a longitudinal perspective, we will look at the impact of merging the Case Management and Disability Management Sections.

Submitted By:

J. Patrick Decoteau, Case Management Section Board Member
and
Tony Morin, Case Management Section Board Member

Chapter News

IARP Wisconsin Announces Fall Conference

The IARP-Wisconsin chapter will be holding its fall seminar 11/9/12 at the Jefferson Street Inn in beautiful Wausau, WI. We are thrilled to announce that the esteemed Dr. Mary Barros-Bailey will be presenting on ethics and technology. Full seminar details and registration information to be announced and posted on our chapter website at a later date.

IARP CONNECT

Learn, Share, Collaborate



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The Experts' *Express*



IARP

Announcements

IARP Call for Awards Nominations

IARP is accepting nominations for Awards to be presented at the IARP International Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico on October 25-27, 2012. **Deadline for award nominations is today: July 31, 2012**

Award Categories

- Individual Professional Member Lifetime Achievement Award
- Outstanding Employer
- Outstanding Individual Professional Member
- Outstanding Rehabilitation Educator
- Outstanding Governmental Services Award

All Nominations Must Include:

1. Letter of nomination explaining the reason for nominating the individual or organization and specifying award category.
 2. Two (2) other letters of support for the nomination.
 3. OPTIONAL - Additional materials which support the nomination, describe the individual or organization, are also welcome and encouraged although not required.
- * Only IARP Members may submit nominations *

A brief description of each Award Category is below. The Awards Committee will consider all submissions and will reply to all nominators regarding outcome.

IARP Awards Category Descriptions

- **Individual Professional Member Lifetime Achievement Award:** For the individual professional member who has demonstrated a life-long commitment to the rehabilitation profession and has made significant and notable contributions both to the organization and profession throughout his/her career.
- **Outstanding Employer:** For the employer who best demonstrates proactive hiring of and/or achieves a successful, win/win return to work program for employees with disabilities.
- **Outstanding Individual Professional Member:** For the individual professional member who consistently exemplifies personal qualities and work behaviors/experience for the betterment of people with disabilities.
- **Outstanding Rehabilitation Educator:** For the rehabilitation educator in an academic setting who best demonstrates effective teaching qualities, knowledge of the industry, student mentoring, community service and contributions to the rehabilitation profession.
- **Outstanding Governmental Services Award:** For the Federal or State Legislator or individual, active in legislative/governmental services, who has significantly and positively contributed to disability legislation, governmental services or legislative activities on behalf of people with disabilities.

Submit nominations via mail to: IARP Awards, 1926 Waukegan Rd., Suite 300, Glenview, IL 60025-1770 or via email to Marcie McGlynn at marciem@tcag.com no later than July 31, 2012. Have questions? Call Marcie McGlynn at 847-657-6964 x 3016.



The Experts' *Express*

Welcome the Newest IARP Members

Please help us welcome the newest members of the IARP family. In July, we welcomed 12 new members into the association. To see more about a member, click on their name. This will take you to the new member's profile in the Member Directory on IARP Connect. Then use the Send Message link on their profile to send a welcome message.

Individual Professionals

[Dr. Darrell Severin Bruga](#)

California Chapter
Disability Management Section

[Dr. Jeffrey Fine](#)

New York Chapter
Case Management Section
Life Care Planners Section

[Robin Generaux-Verre](#)

Nevada Chapter
SSVE Section

[Leah Greenwood](#)

Pennsylvania Chapter
Forensic Section
Disability Management Section
(Joined April 2012)

[Sharon Gwinn, Ph.D](#)

Pennsylvania Chapter
Case Management Section

[Suzanne Hullender](#)

Members at Large
SSVE Section

[Gina Jaeger Dean](#)

Washington Chapter
Disability Management Section
Case Management Section

[Carole Lynn Larsen](#)

California Chapter
Case Management

Individual Professionals

[Robin Metcalf](#)

Virginia Chapter
Case Management Section

[Sheila Panozzo](#)

Illinois Chapter
Case Management Section

[Paul See](#)

Washington Chapter
Forensic Section

[Janet C. Sharpe](#)

Carolinas Chapter
Case Management Section

[Mark A. Williams](#)

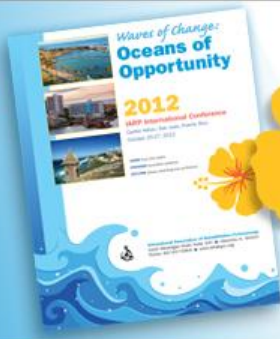
Alabama Chapter
SSVE Section



The Experts' *Express*

**Conference
Brochure Now
Available.
Registration
Is Open.**

[Click to download >](#)



2012 International Conference
October 25-27 • Caribe • San Juan, PR

Waves of Change:
**Oceans of
Opportunity**

Reminder: Special Early-Bird Conference Registration Rate Ends August 27, 2012!

We are pleased to announce that we had a great response for our special conference registration promotion that ended July 13. For those of you who have not registered for the conference, we wanted to bring your attention to another important money saving promotion – our early bird conference registration fee ends on August 27, 2012. [Download Brochure](#)



IARP

Webinar Series

Upper Extremity Impairment Considerations in Life Care Planning

Date: Thursday, August 16, 2012 [Register Online](#)
2.0 CEUs for: CRC, CVE, CWA, CCAA, CDMS, CLCP, MSCC, CCMC

In this presentation, Mona Yudkoff will discuss various types of upper extremity impairments. The interactive session will focus on specific considerations when developing life care plans for patients with upper extremity impairment. Among the topics of discussion are:

- Medical Surveillance
- Ancillary Services
- Special Equipment
- Functional Limitations of Upper Extremity Impairment

At the conclusion of this program, participants will be able to:

1. Identify different types of impairment to upper extremity function
2. Describe functional limitations of upper extremity impairment
3. Explain types of medical surveillance and equipment needs for upper extremity impairment patients

Featured Exhibitors

[Academy of Forensic Rehabilitation Research](#)

[American Board of Vocational Experts \(ABVE\)](#)

[Atlas Development Corporation](#)

[Bright Sun Technologies](#)

[Capital Law University](#)

[Cigna](#)

[EPI Rehabilitation](#)

[FIG Services](#)

[Gould & Lamb](#)

[National Association of Disability Representatives \(NADR\)](#)

[Skill Tran, Inc.](#)

[Touchstone Neurorecovery Center](#)

[UNUM](#)

Featured Sponsors

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[IARP Carolinas Chapter](#)

[IARP New England](#)

[IARP Virginia](#)



The Experts' *Express*

Calling All Volunteers

IARP realizes the strength and vitality of the association is powered by the volunteer spirit that resides within IARP members. To help organize and harness this volunteer spirit, IARP is introducing a new feature to IARP Connect – it's called Volunteer Central.

Volunteer

Welcome to the Volunteer Town Square where you can volunteer for projects that fit your interests, expertise and schedule. The process is easy!

- First, peruse the list of projects in the "Volunteer Opportunities" list below. You can also use the search filters to find the ones that suite you. To find out more about a specific project, click on the individual project where you will see more detailed information about each project.
- When you are ready to volunteer, click on the specific project you are interested in and click the words "Sign Up".
- Have fun working on your project. Simple as that.

Come back often to learn about new volunteer opportunities!

Filters

Interest Area	Travel Required	Time Commitment	Level of Effort
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Volunteer Category			
<input type="checkbox"/> Innovators <input type="checkbox"/> Planners <input type="checkbox"/> Proof Readers <input type="checkbox"/> Researchers <input type="checkbox"/> Writers <input type="checkbox"/> Show Closed Only			

[+ Add New Opportunity](#) [+ Alert Me](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

Title	Status
IARP Marketing Plan Proposal Review	Accepting New Volunteers
IARP Newsletter Contributors/Authors	Accepting New Volunteers

Rolling out in July, this new area on IARP Connect lets you see all the opportunities that are available across IARP for you to volunteer your time and expertise. Both short term projects and long term initiatives will be available. Watch your inbox for the official release!

IARP Staff Is Here to Serve You

Carl Wangman, CAE
Executive Director
E-mail: carlw@tcag.com
Phone: 847.657.6964 ext. 3058

Marcie McGlynn
Conference Manager
E-mail: marciem@tcag.com
Phone: 847.657.6964 ext. 3016

Pat Sistler
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Free Ethics Webinar Available Now

In late November, IARP produced a free Ethics webinar entitled **Technology Ethics: Basics, Clinical Application, and Decision-Making**.

Mary Barros-Bailey and Vilia Tarvydas led this 2-hour webinar, which received rave reviews.

The On-Demand Replay of this webinar is now available for all members to view. Just [click on this link](#), register, and you will immediately receive a link to watch the replay. CEUs are also available.

