AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2021

Planning and reporting on Interest Network activities designed to fulfil their purpose. (See the *Interest Networks Leadership Manual* for the purpose of the Interest Networks.)

Interest Network: Psychology

Lead Contact Person: Vincent Chesney, MS, FAAIDD

929 Pine Street Kulpmont, PA 17834 (570) 492-2145

vincentchesney@hotmail.com

Annual Report

For the year that **just ended** (July 1-June 30), indicate objectives met, activities completed, and funds used.

This year the Psychology Interest Network (PIN) **experienced a leadership crisis**. This exposed serious threats to our executive structure. While PIN was able to move beyond the crisis, items in our action plan were not met, including long-standing traditions and newly created practices. Steps were taken to correct this crisis in a dignified manner. Next year will continue our restructuring plan to fortify PIN against future crises.

At AAIDD 145th Annual Meeting we provided two scholarships for deserving students:

- Julianne Myers, from Seattle Pacific University, won for her presentation: "Predictors of Depression and Anxiety During Covid in Adults With DD" and
- Emily Tucker, from East Carolina University, won for her presentation: "Community-based Mental Health Services: A Systematic Review of Therapeutic Interventions".

Annual Plan: Goals, Objectives, Activities, and Strategies

For the **coming year** (July 1-June 30), describe the planned objectives, activities, and proposed expenditure of funds.

This year will see the long-awaited re-emergence of Psychology Interest Network (PIN). With a new structure and resurgence of members, PIN will develop talent to solidify its future as a continued strength within AAIDD.

- The PIN executive board will be expanded.
 - o In addition to Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary, a Social Media Director, Recruitment Manager, and possibly additional roles will be created to both diffuse responsibilities as well as create a continuance of governance structure if a chair cannot perform.
- A membership survey was developed and will be sent to members via email.
 - o Results will assist in developing new programs and structure of PIN.
 - o Results will be compared to PIN 2018 membership survey to determine trends.
- More active social media platforms. PIN currently has Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest.
 - A Social Media Director executive position will be established to focus solely on creating viable posts.
- Students and early career professionals will be engaged regularly to encourage more involvement in various initiatives.

AAIDD Interest Network Annual Plan & Yearly Report: 2021

- o Scholarship award winners will be contacted.
- o Top-tier IDD programs have been contacted regarding our interest in students and staff becoming more involved with PIN.
- Monthly conference calls with follow-up minutes that are published electronically will motivate members.
 - o The minutes can be scavenged for bullet points to further promote on our social media platforms.
- Members who presented posters or PowerPoints at AAIDD conferences will be encouraged to film a 5-minute video of their presentation and submit it for uploading to various social media platforms.
 - If the video presentations are popular, an online symposium will be considered for new presentations.
- At least two conference scholarships will be awarded to deserving student presentations to attend this year's annual meeting.
- A plated meal luncheon will be served during the PIN meeting at the AAIDD annual meeting.
 - o Wolf Wolfensberger Valor Award will be presented at meal.
 - o Scholarships will be presented at meal.
- Wolf Wolfensberger Valor Award will continue, following established criteria.
 - o A committee will be formed to evaluate candidates.
- Greater involvement in the AAIDD annual meeting through pre- or post-conference seminars. As always, PIN wishes to thank AAIDD staff for their support and excellent work.