From: Catherine Adler
To: Blume, Art; Joseph Trimble
Subject: Re: the letter from SIP to the APA
Date: Thursday, November 24, 2016 9:56:14 AM

Dear Art and Joseph,

I stand with you and SIP and would like to lend any energy that can bring about the sort of response that the Australian Psychological Association was able to so sincerely offer. These sorts of whole-hearted apologies are the medicine, the truth and reconciliation that does allow for some much to occur both inwardly and in the world.

Here is the letter that I have sent to my Division 39; I am a reluctant member of the APA since the torture situation, and have yet to pay this years dues; if being a member would better help me advocate, I will pay up.

Also, if my letter to division 39 was at all presumptuous or if I misquoted or misdirected please let me know so that I can can clean things up.

With Warmth and In Spirit,
Catherine

Dear Irwin, Alice, Denni, Donna, Marilyn and all,

Here is the letter from the Society of Indian Psychologists, forwarded first by Stephen Soldz from Joseph Trimble-
I wonder if we at Div. 39 could take up the requests of SIP, especially the request to offer an apology similar to the one mentioned in the letter that was issued from the Australian Psychological Association in it's oppression, complicit and otherwise, of aboriginal people.
Perhaps this is already underway by our division?

Here is the text from SIP's letter that quotes the work done by The Australian Psychological Association:

We, as psychologists, have not always listened carefully enough to Aboriginal and Torres Strait people. We have not always respected their skills, expertise, worldviews, and unique wisdom developed over thousands of years. . . . we sincerely and formally apologise to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians for: Our use of diagnostic systems that do not honour cultural belief systems and worldviews; the inappropriate use of assessment techniques and procedures that have conveyed misleading and inaccurate messages about the abilities and capacities of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people; conducting research that has benefitted the careers of researchers rather than improved the lives of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander participants; developing and applying treatments that have ignored Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander approaches to healing and that have, both implicitly and explicitly, dismissed the importance of culture in understanding and promoting social and emotional wellbeing; and, our silence and lack of advocacy on important policy matters such as the policy of forced removal which resulted in Stolen Generations.

Hopefully I will hear back from Joseph and Art today to gain further understanding and direction. Please let me know if you would like to be kept in this loop or would like to participate in listening more deeply to, learning from and responding to the needs outlined by the Society of Indian Psychologists. Conversely, if you are involved with this work would you keep me in your loop please and let me know if there is any way

I can help.

It seems now would be a good **time to issue a letter of support from our division** similar to the ones written by the faculties of Connecticut College, Columbia University, The New School, Stony Brook University, SUNY Binghamton, Syracuse University and many more. **If this is not already happening would anyone like to work on this with me?**

Irwin, Thank you so much for your calls. I am hearing from friends at Standing Rock that these telephone calls to the White House, state representatives, the police departments engaged with the Water Protectors, television stations asking them to cover this story…..all of these efforts are making a big difference, our actions are having an impact, our care and involvement big and small is supporting this important front line effort.

Thank you Donna for sending along the comprehensive list of how to **help at Standing Rock**; I've reposted it in the email.

The Society of Indian Psychologist web sight is an important resource for information as well as a form to fill out if you would like to help at Standing Rock and going forward.

There is a syllabus at this web site , New York stands with Standing Rock that can bring one up to speed on the history of Standing Rock. The Columbia teach in can be accessed as a series of You tube videos.

May we all be warm and safe this season and send some that warmth and safety onward into the world.

In Peace,

Catherine Adler, M.A.

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From: "Blume, Art" <art.blume@wsu.edu>
Date: Wednesday, November 23, 2016 at 9:40 PM
To: Joseph Trimble <Joseph.Trimble@wwu.edu>, Catherine Adler <0803catherine@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: the letter from SIP to the APA

Dear Catherine,

Below is the letter I sent to Marilyn Charles and my friend Usha in your division. We greatly appreciate your support.

Art

We so very much appreciate your support and please feel free to share my message with others far and wide. In my mind, the more messengers we have delivering a message of justice and fairness, the better for all of us. Not only have I been mystified/mortified by APA's recent messages to us by key people in the organization, I (and others) **have been astonished that APA has not taken a very strong and public stance against the hate crime wave that has occurred.** Our strategy has been to relentlessly challenge the inertia of APA on these issues. It has deeply fatigued us physically, emotionally, and spiritually. However, we are encouraged that others have joined with us, and hope they will be relentless in this pursuit as well.

As you may have noticed, APA still has not specifically addressed our requests, despite our messages. We understand those responses may take some time given the bureaucracy. This is a place where relentless support from other APA members would be most welcome. As an example, the issues related to the APS apology are an area of great concern to us, **but personally I feel reluctant to push APA for an apology that may appear coerced by Native people (hence, not from APA's heart).** Furthermore, I heard second hand (so consider the source is not direct but from credible people) that a very senior APA elected official was suggesting that if they apologized to SIP it would open the floodgates for apologies to other groups (which of course it should), like that would be problematic. Also heard from council members was a belief that APA circumstances were much different than APS (again second hand information), implying APA may not have an obligation to apologize.

All of these insensitivities are superimposed over and compounded by the fallout from the election that has left many us thrown under the bus by certain narrow minded citizens and with genuine concerns for safety and justice. I certainly understand and appreciate the worries about conflict and divisions. However, I believe as a Native person that **creation will be restored to harmony and balance with time, and that we are called at this time to represent the best of creation against the pathological forces (therefore a psychological issue front and center) that are disturbing the beauty of creation. We welcome our allies with open arms.**

Wado--Thank you so much for your support.

Very best regards,

Art

Art Blume, Ph.D. (Cherokee/Choctaw)
President, Society of Indian Psychologists

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

-------- Original message --------
From: Joseph Trimble <Joseph.Trimble@wwu.edu>
Date: 11/23/16 8:34 AM (GMT-10:00)
To: Catherine Adler <0803catherine@gmail.com>
Cc: "Blume, Art" <art.blume@wsu.edu>
Subject: Re: the letter from SIP to the APA

Good day to you Catherine and thank you for your interest. Art is included in this message so you can connect directly with him to express your support. There's more to the story that is disturbing to many of us. Attached you will find a series of letters from the Society of Indian Psychologists

and APA specifically Cynthia Belar and Susan McDaniel. Please take the time to read them over and then reflect on what concerned groups should do about it. I am stunned these days but even more so when I read the tone and content of the letters sent out under the APA logo.
I know that Art, Gayle, Melinda, Carolyn, Joanna, and Christopher who represent SIP well will not back down from the matter. In addition to my shocked state of late the APA correspondence is even more shocking and staggering.
And with this note I trust you will have a most pleasant coming holiday.
—Joseph

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From: Catherine Adler <0803catherine@gmail.com>
Date: Wednesday, November 23, 2016 at 12:03 AM
To: Joseph Trimble <Joseph.Trimble@wwu.edu>
Subject: RE: the letter from SIP to the APA

Dear Joseph,

Thank you so much for sending the letter from SIP on to Stephen Soldz who forward it on the list serve at Division 39.

In your note you mention getting in touch with Art. Yes, I would like to show my support and be a part of any effort for the people of Standing Rock. Can you please send me contact info of “Art”.

With Warmth,
Catherine Adler