

**Mary Louise Cashel, Ph.D. Southern Illinois University Carbondale
Doctoral Program**

STATEMENT and BIO

I have been a member of both APA and SCCAP for the past 20 years and I have seen many exciting changes. I am very pleased to be considered for the role of Representative to APA Council because I foresee many critical developments, occurring presently and in the near future, that will affect the practice of Child Clinical Psychology and our field as a whole. I believe it is important that we maintain a strong voice at the table and ensure that the collective concerns of our members are clearly heard.

I am an Associate Professor at Southern Illinois University Carbondale and the Director of Training for the doctoral program in Clinical Psychology, which has been fully accredited by the American Psychological Association since 1961. Our program offers a Specialization in Child Clinical Psychology and we are a member of the CCaPPTC. I joined the SIU faculty in 1997 after completing my degree in Clinical Psychology with a Specialization in Child and Family Therapy at the University of North Texas. For 10 years I had a joint appointment at the SIU Clinical Center where I supervised and conducted psychological assessments for children and adolescents. During that time period I also worked closely with the Carbondale Police Department (C.P.D.) and served as the Co-Chair of the Gang Task Force and the Serious Habitual Offender Comprehensive Action Program. My research and clinical interests have focused on youth violence prevention. In collaboration with the C.P.D., I coordinated a juvenile mentoring program for youth at risk for delinquency funded by SAMHSA through a Youth Violence Prevention Cooperative Agreement. I have worked with regional juvenile probation offices, detention centers, and correctional facilities on a variety of projects assessing trauma and the psychosocial needs of referred youth. For the past three years I have been the Principal Investigator on a Comprehensive School Safety Initiative funded by the National Institute of Justice. We have been working to improve school climate and prevent bullying in 40 schools across Southern Illinois. Finally, I have served on a State Board for the Illinois Department of Child and Family Services since 2004 and I am currently a member of the Executive Council. Our role is to review the deaths of children in DCFS care with the goal of identifying policy and procedures that might prevent such occurrences in the future.

In sum, I bring a broad range of experiences collaborating with many agencies and individuals at local, regional, State and Federal levels. My goal as Representative to Council is to serve as a liaison for our Division and to advocate for a continuing role for Child Clinical Psychology in the APA Strategic Plan. As a graduate and Director of Scientist-Practitioner programs, I am committed to evidence-based practice. I am also committed to excellence in training and program development. I believe my background and skills will prove beneficial and I would be honored to serve SCCAP in this role.