Testing Project, the Board held two orientation sessions in September and October for psychiatric technician directors, educators, and mental health developmentally disabled representatives and students.

LEGISLATION:
SB 645 (Royce) authorizes BMQA's Division of Allied Health Professions to adopt and administer regulations establishing standards for additional technical supportive services which may be performed by medical assistants. This bill also requires the Division to request recommendations concerning these standards from other agencies, including the Board. This bill was signed by the Governor (Chapter 666, Statutes of 1988).
SB 1552 (Kopp) requires healing arts boards regulating dentists, physicians and surgeons, registered nurses, marriage, family and child counselors, and clinical social workers to consider including training regarding the characteristics and methods of assessment and treatment of AIDS in continuing education requirements. This bill was signed by the Governor on September 22 (Chapter 1213, Statutes of 1988).
SB 1966 (Davis) allows the Board to require continuing education for psychiatric technicians. This bill was signed by the Governor on September 20 (Chapter 1078, Statutes of 1988).
SB 2755 (Royce) authorizes the Board of Registered Nursing to appoint a special advisory committee to study the shortage of registered nurses in California. This special advisory committee is required to report to the legislature and the BRN on its recommendations and solutions. This bill was signed by the Governor on September 26 (Chapter 1421, Statutes of 1988).
AB 4401 (Filante), as amended on August 1, provides that a law prohibiting the Department of Health Services from requiring the use of an RN for the performance of any service which may lawfully be performed by an LVN will be repealed on January 1, 1994. The bill also requires a skilled nursing or intermediate care facility to provide an RN for consultative purposes during the hours in which an LVN is used. This bill was signed by the Governor (Chapter 786, Statutes of 1988).

RECENT MEETINGS:
At its July 15 meeting, the Board sent out a reminder to all interested parties that a special Board meeting was scheduled for November 2-4 in Los Angeles. The purpose of this meeting was to allow the advisory committees from the Task Force on the Future Roles of the Licensed Vocational Nurse and Psychiatric Technician to make recommendations pursuant to the public hearings held in March, April, and May of this year. (For background information, see CRLR Vol. 8, No. 3 (Summer 1988) p. 83; Vol. 8, No. 1 (Winter 1988) p. 75; Vol. 7, No. 3 (Summer 1987) p. 93; and Vol. 6, No. 4 (Fall 1986) pp. 56-57.) The Board was expected to make final decisions regarding all Task Force recommendations at its regularly scheduled November 16 meeting.

FUTURE MEETINGS:
January 13 in Palm Springs.
March 2-3 in Los Angeles.
May 12 in San Francisco (tentative).