



# The FORUM

The Newsletter of the SPSP Graduate Student Committee Fall 2002

## Graduate Poster Award

A brand new award is making its appearance at SPSP Los Angeles. It showcases graduate student research, features undercover judges, and winners get both recognition **and** a monetary prize.

The criteria for the award are simple. Judges will evaluate applicants based on their written abstract, the quality and clarity of the actual poster presentation, and how well authors respond to questions about their research. What makes this award unique is

that the judges will remain secret until the award winners are named. There will be different judges at each session, representing different levels of career development and this year's award winners will be asked to serve as judges next year.

To be eligible for the GPA, applicants must be full-time graduate students, first author and affiliate members of SPSP. The submission should contain the graduate student's full name, their session and poster number, and university affiliation. The submission may be

no longer than 500 words, and must include 4 separate sections with headings: (1) Purpose; (2) Procedure; (3) Results; (4) Conclusions.

All submissions should be sent to: **spspgsc@yahoo.com**, with the words "poster award" in the subject line. Submissions will be accepted until Dec 5, 2002. One prize and one honorable mention will be awarded at each poster session. More information may be found on the Graduate Student webpage.

### Current GSC Members

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## Alternatives to Academia

Have you ever wondered about your career options other than obtaining one of those elusive tenure-track positions in academia? Whether you have answered with a resounding "yes" or even with just a timid "maybe," you should come to the *ALTERNATIVES TO ACADEMIA* symposium at SPSP Los Angeles.

This first GSC-sponsored symposium will feature presentations about careers in non-academic fields, and how best to prepare for such careers. Scheduled presenters include Robert Kaiser (*Vice President of Narrowband Marketing, Earthlink, Inc.*), Robert Croyle (*Associate Director of the Behavioral Re-*

*search Program at NIH*), Rebecca Collins & Steven Martino (*Senior and Associate Behavioral Scientists at RAND*), and a representative from Gallup.

In addition to presentations from the panel, audience members will be given an opportunity to talk with the presenters and the GSC chairs will provide you with more information about where to locate other non-academic employment opportunities.

Check your SPSP schedules and look for email updates. We welcome you to come increase your career options and learn about the lives of social psychologists working outside of academia.

# President's Corner

One of my responsibilities last year was to attend the Executive Committee meeting in August. I am pleased to report to you that the Executive Committee truly takes graduate concerns to heart. In particular, a number of decisions were made during the meeting that directly affect graduate students:

**SPSP Conference registration fees** After raising registration fees last year, the Executive Committee decided to maintain graduate student registration fees at the same level as last year. The Committee did this despite the fact that the actual cost per person for the conference exceeds the fees paid by graduate students.

**Student Poster Award** In response to the graduate student demand for more opportunities for recognition at the SPSP confer-

ence, the Executive Committee enthusiastically approved the Graduate Student Committee's proposal for a poster award. There is more about this award elsewhere in this newsletter.

**SPSP Summer School.** In addition to travel and diversity awards, the Committee presented a proposal for yet another opportunity for graduate students. The Summer School is a unique opportunity for graduate students to gain intensive training in specific areas of research, including concentrations on theoretical and methodological areas. The school will be held in Boulder, Colorado in July of 2003. More information will soon be available. Look for updates in the *Dialogue*, on the SPSP Student listserv and on the SPSP-Discuss listserv.

## Important Submission Deadlines

APA: Toronto - Nov 15  
APS: Atlanta - TBA  
SPSP: July, 2003 - TBA

Regional APA associations

SEPA: New Orleans - Oct 11  
MPA: Chicago - Oct 21  
SWPA: New Orleans - Nov 4  
WPA: Vancouver - Nov 18  
EPA: Baltimore - Nov 30  
RMPA: Denver - Jan 10  
NEPA: No submission

## Elections

Like what you've seen so far? Have more ideas that you'd like to see happen? Then become a member of the Graduate Student Committee. Five positions are open this year, including President and Member-at-Large). The president is elected for a 2-year term (1 year as president and 1 year as past-president), while the members-at-large serve 1 year terms.

See the GSC website for more details about the positions. Look for the call for nominations in December and the elections ballots will arrive in January!

## Spotlight on...

**Tyrone S. Pitsis**  
**University of New South**  
**Wales**

*This ongoing series will feature graduate students randomly selected from the subscriber list of the SPSP Graduate Student Listserv. We hope to profile students with a wide range of interests and experiences.*

Tyrone says his program "definitely has a research focus," but that he enjoys the collegial atmosphere and the program's "strong commitment to equipping grad students with teaching skills". His research in particular focuses on the ways in which emotions impact human relationships and the experience of interaction. "Emotions are amazing things and they make us do some pretty bizarre things - yet there is a dearth of research on how emotions effect decision making."

While he started in a PhD program in Marketing, Tyrone eventually decided to pursue a PhD in social psychology. He says he "always viewed research and theorizing in social psychology with great interest and wonder," and that his thinking has been especially influenced by recent work in positive psychology, particularly theorists like Deci, Ryan, Schwartz, Seligman, Csikszentmihalyi, and Myers.

Tyrone is currently a second year graduate student working with Dr. Meg Rohan and Prof. Joe Forgas. He was recently elected Chair of the New Doctoral Student Consortium at the American Academy of Management, and encourages anyone interested in OB or Management to attend their annual conference in Seattle (see [www.aom.pace.edu/ndsc](http://www.aom.pace.edu/ndsc) for more details).

**Find out more... Go to the SPSP GSC Website**  
**[www.spsp.org/gsc](http://www.spsp.org/gsc)**