

# DIALOGUE

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The Official Newsletter of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology

## Society News from Palm Springs: Bigger, Better, With Less Support

The SPSP Executive Committee met on Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup> after the Palm Springs convention. The blue skies and desert of Palm Springs were reflected in the meeting—the finances and membership growth of SPSP corresponded to blue skies, but the funding future for the discipline seems a closer match to the parched desert that surround the city.

*Membership.* At the end of 2005, the size of the Society was 4,683 members. Of this 2,034 are students (43%), and 2,649 are full (voting) members. The Society's growth cannot go on at this pace forever, as the total size of the field is not growing at the same rate as the Society. Still, for a variety of reasons (but particularly the annual meeting), the Society seems to be attracting people from affiliated fields, including developmental and I/O psychology, marketing, and so on. We hope to keep these people as functioning and contributing members.

*Finances.* The finances of the Society are good. This year we received a bit more in royalties from Sage than expected. Because of transition expenses to new editors at *PSPB* and

*PSPR*, and the move of the executive office from Rochester to Ithaca, the Executive Committee planned for a one-time budget deficit of about \$55K. Instead, last year ended with a budget surplus.

Sage has increased the amount of royalties from *PSPB* from 25% to 40%. Starting gently in 2007, but to a larger extent in the 2008 calendar year, the income from Sage will increase substantially.

The SPSP meeting is bigger every year, and this means a growing income. It also means increasing expenses that tend to offset much of the increased income.

In one area of concern, the Diversity Fund comes from a large extent from donors (notably David Myers and McGraw-Hill). This long association between the funds and its donors is coming up for reconsideration. (Individuals may make tax-deductible donations to this unusually deserving fund at any time by contacting Kristin Tolchin at the executive office, [kmt25@cornell.edu](mailto:kmt25@cornell.edu)).

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## Ten New Society Fellows Named

The SPSP Fellows Committee meets yearly to recommend outstanding members for Fellow Status in SPSP. This year's committee—Blair Johnson (Chair), Mark Leary, and Chuck Carver—recommended 10 stellar contributors to the field for this honor, and all were unanimously approved for Fellow Status in SPSP by the

Executive Committee.

The new SPSP Fellows are: Dom Abrams, Lisa Aspinwall, Brad Bushman, M. Lynne Cooper, Michael Hogg, Randy Larsen, Tony Manstead, Susan Nolen-Hoeksema, Jim Sidanius, and Russell Spears. With the Executive Committee's endorsement, the materials for

those who are members of Division 8 of APA but not yet Fellows of APA have been forwarded to the Membership Committee of APA for its annual consideration of Fellow nominations. Congratulations to these individuals for their designation as SPSP Fellows! ■

Chris Crandall &  
Monica Biernat,  
Co-Editors

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## Going to Graceland: SPSP in Memphis in 2007

By Steve Harkins

Memphis spills up out of the rich black soil. Memphis lingers on the warm breeze with the sweet smoke of barbeque pits and the melancholy mojo of the best guitar you ever heard. There's just something real about Memphis. From the holy grails of music landmarks to the restaurants, from the basketball court to the acclaimed zoo, from the elegant hotels to the mystical nightclubs on legendary Beale Street, there's an irresistible soul that's drawn people to Memphis for more than a century. (See

*www.memphistravel.com.*)

In fact, it's so irresistible that SPSP's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting will be held there from Jan. 25 to Jan. 27, 2007. Thirteen preconferences, spanning a range of topics in Personality/Social Psychology, have already been scheduled for Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>, with the main conference to begin that evening. Monica Biernat of the University of Kansas has graciously agreed to serve as Program Chair, and the Call for Submissions will go out in mid-May, with submission deadlines around mid-July (watch the spsps website and

listserv for more information). Harry Reis, President-Elect, is planning a Presidential Symposium for the convention opening night on what social-personality psychology has to say about the "well-functioning" person.

They say that there is nowhere on earth quite like Memphis. Hope to see you there next January so we can learn why they say that while at the same time enjoying the best that Personality/Social Psychology has to offer. ■

## Report from the Publication Committee: Society's Publications Continue to Thrive

By Richard Robins

The SPSP Publication Committee (Patricia Devine, Richard Robins, and Gifford Weary) had great news to report to the Executive Committee at the annual meeting in Palm Springs: The Society's publications, by any measure, are all thriving.

After guiding *PSPR* for 6 years, Eliot Smith, the outgoing editor, has left the journal in a healthy and vibrant state. Submissions to *PSPR* remain high, with 67 new submissions in 2005. The editorial lag averaged 10.6 weeks, and the publication lag averaged 9 months (a 6-month lag is unavoidable, representing the production time taken by the publisher). The rejection rate for the journal was 82% in 2005, similar to the rejection rates in 2003 (84%) and 2004 (87%). Eliot and his Associate Editors (Garth Fletcher and Sarah Hampson) have maintained the overall quality and visibility of the journal. According to the most recent ISI Journal Citation Report, *PSPR* continues to have the second highest citation impact (2.75 in 2004) of all regular social-personality journals

(behind only *JPSP*).

We were extremely fortunate to recruit Galen Bodenhausen as the new editor of *PSPR*. Galen and his outstanding editorial team (John Lydon and Sarah Hampson, who will be replaced by Del Paulhus beginning May 2006) began processing new manuscripts in December 2005. We are confident that *PSPR* will continue to prosper under Galen's leadership.

At *PSPB*, Judy Harackiewicz and her editorial team have done a heroic job dealing with a record number of new submissions (642). The submission rate at *PSPB* increased by almost 20% since 2004 (545) and by over 40% since 2002 (451). As reported in an earlier Dialogue article, two changes were implemented to cope with the surge in submissions. First, in an effort to expedite the review process, editors have strived to solicit shorter reviews, write shorter decision letters, and set stricter standards for which papers get a full review. As a result of this last change, the triage (manuscripts returned without review) rate increased from 16% in 2004 to 27% in 2005. Second, the *PSPB* editorial team has

been expanded and reconfigured so that there is now a head editor (Judy), two Senior Associate Editors (Deborah Kashy, Gregory Maio), and nine Associate Editors (Carsten De Dreu, Andrew Elliot, Chris Fraley, Sara Hodges, Shinobu Kitayama, James Shah, Carolin Showers, Diederik Stapel, Steven Stroessner). This new editorial team has been highly effective at handling the increase in submissions. Despite the heavy load, the average editorial lag (10.8 weeks) and the average publication lag (8.3 months) remain essentially unchanged from earlier years. The rejection rate for the journal was 84% in 2005, somewhat higher than the rejection rates in 2003 (75%) and 2004 (76%).

The high quality of papers published at *PSPB* continues to translate into increasing impact ratings over the past five years. Recent ISI figures indicate that *PSPB* is now 5<sup>th</sup> out of 46 journals in the Social Psychology category (compared to 8<sup>th</sup> last year), with an impact factor rating of 1.90. The Publication Committee

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# Are Personality and Social Psychologists Behaving Themselves?

By Roy F. Baumeister and Kathleen D. Vohs

The 1990s was the “Decade of the Brain.” It focused attention on the importance of and advances in research on brain processes. It was wildly successful, to the extent that many funding agencies jettisoned most of their other research priorities and poured their money into brain research, and conference sessions on brain studies proliferated. Even economists, who have long felt smugly secure about their superiority over psychologists, became worried enough to start dabbling in fMRIs and tossing about the term “neuroeconomics.” After all, they thought, if psychology got the brain, would economics still have a solid claim to scientific superiority?

Impressed by the success of the brain decade, APA came up with the idea of making the first decade of our new century “The Decade of Behavior.” The commendable goal was to focus attention on the study of behavior, thereby adding credibility and (one hoped) big research budgets to our enterprise.

It is now halfway through the putative Decade of Behavior, and therefore a fair time to ask: How’s it going? With that question in mind, we picked up the latest (January 2006) issue of the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, by consensus the premier journal in our field. It is undeniably a terrific issue. The articles present important advances with rigorous methods and thoughtful discussion. The editors, reviewers, and authors all did their jobs well.

But behavior is hard to find. Or if it is there, it is rather different than what

we had imagined it to be. If this issue is a representative sample, then human behavior is always performed in a seated position — usually seated in front of a computer. Finger movements, as in keystrokes and pencilmarks, constitute the vast majority of human behavior.

Also, even more important, most behavior is really just reporting on inner states. Nisbett and Wilson thought they had discredited introspection back in the 1970s, but in the interim introspection has crowded out all other forms of behavior. Behavioral science today, at least as represented in *JPSP*, is mostly about asking people to report on their thoughts, feelings, memories, and attitudes. Occasionally we ask them to report on their recent or hypothetical behavior, but that’s as close as most research gets to behavior. Direct observation of behavior is apparently passé.

*“So that’s behavior today. Ratings, and more ratings. Occasionally making a hypothetical choice. Reading and taking a test. And crossing out the letter e.”*

Let’s take a closer look at this recent issue of *JPSP*, which was chosen just for convenience and is presumably representative. It contained 11 articles reporting 38 studies. The closest thing to behavior in the dependent measures was making a choice. That is, one study asked participants to choose between two stimulus persons to give them the

postexperimental interview. Apart from that borderline case, not a single one of those 38 studies contained direct observation of behavior. The dependent measures consisted entirely of ratings, either on paper questionnaires or computer-administered stimuli.

Some of the procedures had hints of behavior along the way. One study had participants read a fictional police report about a violent act and express a (non-binding) opinion as to the appropriate prison sentence for the perpetrator. (So at least they read about someone else’s behavior, though it was fictional.) Four studies had participants take tests, one for the purpose of legitimizing bogus feedback, the other three as a basis for assessing the accuracy of self-ratings of performance. Some of the questionnaires asked people to report on their past behaviors. Several asked people to read things, such as descriptions of hypothetical behavior. One study had participants cross out all instances of the letter “e” in a page of printed text. So that’s behavior today. Ratings, and more ratings. Occasionally making a hypothetical choice. Reading and taking a test. And crossing out the letter e.

Behavior fared only slightly better in the December issue: of 38 studies in 13 articles, there was one that measured negotiation moves, and one that studied “how an individual actually behaves during an induced conflict” (quoted from Knee et al., 2005; note their use of the term “actually,” which suggests that the authors were aware of how unusual it was to observe behavior directly). That study induced and videotaped a disagreement between romantic partners, then coded for understanding versus defensive behaviors. Those do seem to be real

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# The Summer Institute in Social Psychology, 2005

By Lou Penner

From the four corners of the earth they came, using every form of conveyance. They differed in their backgrounds and beliefs, but all were bonded by their thirst for knowledge, desire to learn and a lust to bask in the magical ambience that is Ann Arbor, Michigan in July. The temperature was in the 90's the first day of classes, but whether the students perspired from the heat or from excitement over having reached this golden place at this golden moment I can not say.

OK, well that might be a bit overly melodramatic introduction to my report on the 2005 SPSP *Summer Institute in Social Psychology*, but we all have a little bit of the bad novelist in us, don't we? Have exorcised that demon, I can turn to a more accurate and less dramatic (and less hackneyed) report on this past summer's Institute.

First, a little background. The *Summer Institute in Social Psychology* is funded by a grant to SPSP from the National Science Foundation and modeled after the highly successful European Association of Experimental Social Psychology (EAESP) Summer School. The first Institute was held in Boulder, Colorado in 2003. It provides advanced graduate students with an opportunity to spend two weeks in an intensive learning experience with leading researchers from different areas of social psychology. The hosts for last summer's Institute were the Department of Psychology and the Research Center for Group Dynamics in the Institute for Social Research at the University of Michigan. Rich Gonzalez, Chair of Psychology at Michigan, James Jackson, then Director of RCGD (now Director of the Institute for Social Research) and I served as the local coordinating committee.

Although the Institute takes place in North America, the instructors and students are not limited to this

continent and two of the instructor and at least five of the student slots are designated for people from Europe (as part of an agreement between SPSP and EAESP). The topics and instructors are selected by the SPSP Steering Committee, which this past year included Mahzarin Banaji, Geraldine Downey, John Jost, Chick Judd, Carolyn Morf, Harry Reis, and Eliot Smith. The students were selected by Rich, James and me. Applicants to the Institute had to provide a CV, letters of support, and ranked their preferences for the five courses that were offered and one of the two one-day methods workshops. The 75 graduate students who participated in the second Institute came from almost every state in the union, Canada, and Europe. They were selected from about 145 applicants.

The courses and instructors were: Judgment and Decision Making (taught by Nick Epley and Reid Hastie), Social Justice (taught by Linda Skitka and Tom Tyler), Self (taught by Sander Koole and Abe Tesser), Culture and Social Psychology (taught by Shinobu Kitayama and Hazel Markus) and Language and Communication (taught by Bob Krause and Gun Semin). The one-day workshops were taught by Debby Kashy (Analysis of nonindependent data) and Norbert Schwarz (Self-report data). The formal didactic part of the courses was supposed to last from about 9 to 12 over the two weeks, but many days they extended into the early afternoon, followed by more informal sessions in computer labs and other activities outside the class rooms.

In addition to the regular summer Institute activities, the students (and faculty) attended a colloquium on affect and cognition from Bob Zajonc. Bob's talk was preceded by an informal pizza dinner, one of several organized events for the students over the two weeks. The most elaborate of these was dinner on the last night of the Institute, at which one of the classes put on a short skit and another class announced

that (of course) they were selling t-shirts to celebrate their time at the Institute. The message on the back of the t-shirts ("What happens in Ann Arbor stays in Ann Arbor") may tell you why I can't give you much more information on what the students did during their free hours, but they were located close enough to the campus bars and restaurants to certainly enjoy themselves outside of the classroom. The faculty and students attended an opening night reception, and the first night of classes the faculty had a get-acquainted dinner at the home of one of the conference organizers. Over the next two weeks there were other formal dinners for the faculty as well as informal get-togethers with colleagues at the University of Michigan.

The people who served as faculty were very busy individuals willing to spend two weeks teaching graduate students in exchange for a very small stipend. They generously gave their time and expertise to the next generation of social psychological teachers and researchers. Thus, while we have already thanked them profusely, another expression of our gratitude is probably in order. We are also very grateful to the staff at RCGD, especially Elaine Whittaker, for their work on the Institute. There were, of course, bumps in the road, but overall the conference went smoothly. This was because of the outstanding efforts of the professional staff at RCGD.

As you might expect, we conducted a formal evaluation of the Institute and the students' anonymous evaluations of the courses, the workshops, and the Institute overall were, with few exceptions, extremely positive, and in places they bordered on the ecstatic. Of special note are the students' responses to the question about new learning experiences. Over 85% of the students who attended the Institute reported that it had provided teaching or learning opportunities not available at their home institute. This suggests that the

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# Call for Symposium and Poster Proposals, SPSP Convention 2007 in Memphis, Tennessee

The SPSP Program Committee invites proposals for symposia and posters to be presented at the Eighth Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP), which will be held on January 25-27, 2007, in Memphis, Tennessee. The SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS JULY 21, 2006. Proposals may be in the form of symposia or poster presentations and must be submitted electronically via the conference organizer's web site: [www.taramillerevents.com/spsp2007submission\\_info.htm](http://www.taramillerevents.com/spsp2007submission_info.htm). THE WEBSITE WILL BE OPEN TO SUBMISSIONS BEGINNING MAY 26, 2006 AND WILL ACCEPT SUBMISSIONS UNTIL JULY 21, 2006.

## *Presentation Formats*

*Symposia:* Symposia will be 75-minute sessions that include three or more talks on a common topic, printed as symposia abstracts in the Proceedings. Symposium proposals must include a title, abstracts of up to 250 words for each talk, and a 250-word (maximum) summary describing and justifying the symposium theme. Please include audio/visual requirements.

*Poster Sessions:* Poster sessions will involve standard poster presentations, which will also be printed as poster abstracts in the Proceedings. Poster submissions must include the title, the authors' affiliations, and an abstract of up to 250 words.

## *Submission Content*

Abstracts must contain the specific goals of the study, the methods used, a summary of the results, and conclusions. Data must be collected prior to abstract submission. We will not consider abstracts for studies that have not been conducted. The title of the abstract should clearly define the work discussed. After listing authors' names, give the name of each author's institutional affiliation. Use only standard abbreviations. Submissions will be reviewed with regard to: scholarly/theoretical merit, soundness of methodology, relevance to social and personality psychology, clarity of presentation, significance, and originality. Final selection among submissions deemed meritorious will be made with an eye toward achieving a balanced and broadly representative program.

## *General Submission Information*

An individual may be first author on only ONE submission (symposium or poster) and may serve only ONCE in a symposium speaking role (as speaker or discussant). Individuals may, however, be co-authors on more than one

paper (symposia and poster). It is incumbent on symposia organizers to verify that speakers in their symposia have not submitted their names as speakers in other symposia. Failing to do so may result in a symposia being rejected. Individuals are not allowed to switch who fills the speaker role after submission. The first author must be a SPSP member or student member paid up through 2006. Before registering to attend the conference at member rates, the first author must also have paid his/her dues for calendar year 2007. This can be done after learning whether or not a submission has been accepted. All submissions must be in final form, ready for publication in the convention program. Please check your work carefully. No typos or other errors will be corrected.

## *Confirmation*

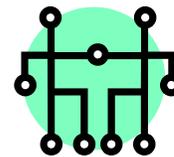
When you submit electronically, you will receive a "Receipt of Submission" confirmation page. Submitting authors will also receive an email notification in late July, confirming receipt of their abstract. The program committee will review all submissions in August. Notification of acceptance or rejection will be emailed in late August or early September to the submitting author only.

## *Deadline*

All submissions must be received by July 21, 2006

## *2007 Program Committee*

Monica Biernat (chair), Henk Aarts, Ximena Arriaga, Niall Bolger, Jennifer Richeson, Linda Skitka, Sheldon Solomon, Gary Stasser, and Jean Twenge. ■



*Society for Personality and  
Social Psychology*

[www.spssp.org](http://www.spssp.org)

# 2005: Another Banner Year for the Graduate Student Committee

*By Darin Challacombe,  
Past-President and  
John E. Edlund, President*

The SPSP Graduate Student Committee is pleased to report many of the great accomplishments of the past year. With support from the Executive Committee of SPSP, we have been able to provide students with opportunities for networking and development.

Throughout the past year, the GSC has done many things to fulfill our mission of assisting students for academic and career success. We have sent out listings of non-academic job opportunities monthly via the student listserv. We have published the student newsletter, the *FORUM*, several times as well. The next issue of the *FORUM* is due out within the month. During the Fall of 2005, we worked with the Graduate Student Committee of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) to put together a mentoring luncheon during the APA Convention in Washington, DC. Collaborating with Lori Scott-Sheldon and Jamie Franco from SPSSI, we were able to provide forty students the opportunity to meet and discuss with researchers on various topics. Our main focus this past year has been putting together activities for the annual convention in Palm Springs. We are proud to report that the activities this year were a success.

As in years past, we started off the convention with a preconference on careers. Twenty-three students participated in this event. This year, we had four sessions. The first session, on academic careers, was put together by the APA Science Directorate and featured Steven Breckler (Executive Director of the Science Directorate, APA) and Michael Zárate (University

of Texas at El Paso). Next, Rachael Mapes (U.S. Army Research Institute) and Aris Karagiorgakis (Westminster Police Department) talked about some of the opportunities that they have had working in non-academic settings.

After lunch, questions concerning post-doc positions were discussed by Bettina Casad (University of California, Santa Barbara), Francesco Foroni (Free University in Amsterdam), and Robyn Mallett (University of Virginia). The final session, on non-academic careers, was put together with the assistance of the SPSP Training Committee and featured Yuichi Shoda (University of Washington).

The Graduate Poster Award, one of the more popular GSC activities, was put together by Michèle Schlehofer, the 2005 Past-President. Michèle discusses this activity in greater detail in a concurrent article (see p. 27). With around 125 students and fifteen mentors, the Mentoring Dessert Hour this year was the largest one so far. With the assistance of the Training Committee this dessert hour was a success and all of the feedback received was positive. We would like to thank those mentors that made it so much of a success: George Bizer, Eddie Harmon-Jones, Cynthia Mohr, Roy Baumeister, Charles Carver, Tiffany Ito, Janet Swim, E. Tory Higgins, John Jost, James Shah, Ed Deci, William Fleeson, Cheryl Kaiser, Allen Omoto, and Virginia Kwan. Thanks also go to Stephen Drigotas, Yuichi Shoda, and the Training Committee for their assistance.

The GSC is looking forward to another year of assisting and enriching students in their academic careers. Our annual elections, held this year in February, presented members with a diverse group of individuals looking to represent their peers in 2006. Please join us in welcoming the new members

of the Graduate Student Committee: John Edlund, President (Northern Illinois University); David Portnoy, Member-at-Large (University of Connecticut); Elizabeth Lee, Member-at-Large (Pennsylvania State University); Lavonia Smith-LeBeau, Member-at-Large (Pennsylvania State University); and Vanessa Hemovich, Member-at-Large (Claremont Graduate University). Darin Challacombe will remain on the committee as the Past-President.

Looking forward to the next year, the GSC has many plans in place to serve our constituency. We look to carry on the success of the mentoring session and the graduate poster award. Since feedback concerning the Career preconference suggested an alternative, we are planning on working with the Training Committee and the Program Committee to put together a symposium instead of a preconference. We hope that this will continue to be of interest to graduate students and a valuable experience for all involved. As a part of our year long efforts in assisting graduate students, we will continue to publish the *FORUM* triannually. It has served as a significant place for professional development opportunities. The GSC will also continue to post non-academic job listings on the SPSP listserv. This has been one of the most valued contributions of the GSC. Both have been assets, and we look to continue these traditions.

We also hope to work with people from other disciplines and incorporate their knowledge into the services offered by the GSC. The research conducted by student members grows increasingly multidisciplinary and this approach allows for better science. We intend to keep in communication with other

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## Behaving Themselves, Cont.

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behavior, but again they are only 4 out of 38 studies. One additional study had a behavioral independent variable, sort of, consisting of having people read their email message aloud before sending it (as opposed to just sending it). And there was one that used a questionnaire for self-report of behavior.

We had an undergraduate research assistant go through nine earlier months of 2005, though we can't be sure how valid the codings were. Out of over a hundred articles (not counting our own), mostly with multiple studies, she found seven articles that contained any measurement of behavior, plus two or three more borderline cases.

We want to be very clear that we see nothing wrong with what social and personality psychologists are doing, in these particular articles or generally. There is good progress toward important and interesting knowledge that will advance theory. Our complaint is with what social and personality psychologists aren't doing.

Surely some behavior involves standing up? Or actually talking to another live person, even beyond getting instructions for how to sign a consent form and activate the computer program? Whatever happened to helping, hurting, playing, working, taking, eating, waiting, flirting, goofing off, showing off, giving up, screwing up, compromising, selling, persevering, pleading, refusing, and the rest?

### *Wondering Why*

We can only speculate about the sorry state of behavioral study, even despite the Decade of Behavior. Undoubtedly observing actual behavior is more difficult, challenging, and inconvenient than asking for ratings. The field is competitive, and the top journals require multiple studies, so struggling with trying to observe behavior may make it harder to crank out the high volume of data that academic success now requires. Furthermore, journals do not seem to give any extra points or consideration to studies that observe behavior instead of getting ratings, so why bother? IRBs likewise may have more objections to behavioral measures than to ratings. From an IRB perspective, it seems far less intrusive to ask someone what she would eat than to observe how much she actually eats. The problem is, of course, that

hypothetical behavioral responses are often wildly inaccurate.

Ratings are surely necessary. The maturation of the field has required a great rise in interest in inner process. In the 1960s, you could manipulate your independent variables, measure behavior, and just speculate what you thought was going on inside to mediate. Now you have to prove the inner process too. Adding ratings made for better science. But in principle the ratings and self-reports were supposed to shed light on the behavior — not to replace it.

### *Affirmative Action for Action?*

We wish to suggest, gently and respectfully, that our field try to put a bit more behavior back into the science of behavior (as psychology still calls itself). There's no need to stop asking for ratings, but perhaps we could all push ourselves to include an occasional study that includes direct observation of what Knee et al. called "actual behavior." Perhaps reviewers and editors could give a little more preference to studies that contain behavior, in the spirit of affirmative action for an endangered but valuable minority?

To be clear, we are not making fun of APA's initiative on the "Decade of Behavior." We support the goal. But if our psychology labs have given up on behavior, how can we expect society as a whole to embrace it? In fact, even if society (or funding agencies at least) were to embrace the Decade of Behavior idea, would that benefit our field? The saddest outcome would be for the powerful and fund-granting authorities to decide that behavior is important after all and then to use that as a reason to disrespect our field. They might say, "We want to support the study of human behavior, but personality and social psychologists don't study human behavior."

*Baumeister is former editor of Dialogue. Vohs is a hanger-on. ■*

## Graduate Student Committee, Continued

*(Continued from page 6)*

organizations' student committees to foster programs that will benefit multiple groups at once. Although a cliché, it is true: together we will grow stronger.

Making graduate students more aware of funding opportunities was one of the clear requests in the recent survey of our membership. We will incorporate this suggestion and make more information available to members. Funding is extremely important to our careers, and the GSC will strive to make graduate students more aware of these opportunities.

Finally, we will again plan a multitude of conference activities for the 2007 SPSP meeting. The GSC will host a Career symposium, help plan a mentoring meeting, and continue the Graduate Poster Award. We are looking forward to working with the diverse membership of SPSP and the Executive Committee. Without the support of the SPSP Executive Committee, our efforts would not be possible. We would like to take this opportunity to thank David Dunning, Brenda Major, and the entire Executive Committee for their guidance and support, and express our excitement for the upcoming year. ■

# Citations in Social Psychology Textbooks

By Nathan P. Engelberth

Accurate measurement of academic and scientific impact is important for many reasons: assessment of individuals and academic departments, identification of unusually accomplished individuals and departments, and resource allocation among departments within a given university. There is no single "best" operational method of measurement. Institutional research productivity, reputation rankings and citation analyses have all been operationalized in a number of different ways. Within social and personality psychology, impact and eminence have been assessed in several ways, including counts of publications in key journals and citation counts from Social Science Citation Index (Dialogue, 2005). An additional technique is to count citations within psychology textbooks (e.g., Gordan & Vicari, 1992). Such citations give a unique picture of achievement and influence. These textbooks are often the basic learning tools for undergraduate psychology students. Because so many college students take introductory social psychology courses, the potential influence of these researchers and their body of work is enormous.

## Method

### *Textbook Selection.*

In autumn 2005, texts were chosen from the *Social Psychology Network* list of social psychology texts with publication dates of 2004 or 2005. The six are listed among the references.

### *Researcher Selection.*

Originally a list of all faculty in social or social/personality programs at Iowa State's Peer 11 university departments of psychology was compiled for internal use. Later, all researchers who met at least one of two criteria were

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Table 1: *Top 30 most-cited scholars, 2004 and 2005 total citation counts.*

Name	Ph.D Year	Citation Count	Current or Last Position
Alice H. Eagly	1965	176	Northwestern
Craig A. Anderson	1980	158	Iowa State University
Roy F. Baumeister	1978	143	Florida State University
Robert B. Cialdini	1970	143	Arizona State University
C. Daniel Batson	1972	140	University of Kansas
Edward E. Jones	1953	140	Princeton
Elaine Hatfield (Walster)	1963	134	University of Hawaii
Shelly E. Taylor	1972	134	UCLA
Richard E. Petty	1977	131	Ohio State University
Ellen S. Berscheid	1965	131	University of Minnesota
Bibb Latané	1963	122	Center for Human Science
Leonard Berkowitz	1951	116	University of Wisconsin
Brad J. Bushman	1989	116	University of Michigan
John M. Darley	1965	115	Princeton University
Dan T. Gilbert	1985	113	Harvard University
Brian Mullen	1982	111	Syracuse/Kent-Canterbury
Richard E. Nisbett	1966	106	University of Michigan
Mark Snyder	1972	106	University of Minnesota
Stanley Milgram	1960	103	CUNY
Leon Festinger	1942	103	New School
Lee Ross	1969	101	Stanford University
John F. Dovidio	1977	99	University of Connecticut
Harold H. Kelley	1948	94	UCLA
John T. Cacioppo	1977	93	University of Chicago
Shelly Chaiken	1978	92	New York University
Thomas F. Pettigrew	1956	89	UC-Santa Cruz
Solomon E. Asch	1932	89	Swarthmore
Timothy D. Wilson	1977	88	University of Virginia
William B. Swann Jr.	1978	85	University of Texas, Austin
Norbert L. Kerr	1974	84	Michigan State University

# Programming for Division 8 at the APA Convention, New Orleans, August 10-13, 2006

By *Toni Schmader*  
Program Chair

This year's Division 8 program at the APA convention includes a series of invited addresses and symposia by leading researchers in the study of personality and social psychology. We encourage SPSP members to attend the meeting and help support the science of Division 8 as well as the rebuilding of New Orleans in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina. Visit the convention website for more information about programming, registration, and accommodations:

[www.apa.org/convention06/homepage.html](http://www.apa.org/convention06/homepage.html).

In addition to the great music and food that New Orleans has to offer, APA is also partnering with Habitat for Humanity on a building project scheduled for Wednesday, August 9, 2006. Come join us in New Orleans!

## \* Thursday, August 10

**Presidential Address by Brenda Major**, *How Worldviews Shape Perceptions of and Responses to Prejudice*

### Invited Addresses:

**George Bonanno**, *Resilience in the Face of Loss and Potential Trauma*

**Susan Nolen-Hoeksema**, *Thinking Too Much About Trauma: The Detrimental Effects of Rumination*

**Sally Dickerson**, *Threats to the Social Self: Effects on Emotion, Physiology, and Health*.

### Symposium:

*The Relationship between Stigma and Well-Being: New Factors in Coping and Change*, **Jeff Stone, Laurie O'Brien, Wendy Berry Mendes,**

**Greg Herek**

**Poster Session: Interpersonal and Intergroup Dynamics / Social Cognition**

## \* Friday, August 11

### Invited Addresses:

**Jeff Greenberg**, *Death and the Striving for Meaning and Significance: Implications for Social, Personal, and Political Preferences*

**Linda Skitka**, *Personal and Public Compassion in the Context of Hurricane Katrina: A National Field Study*

### Symposia:

*Trait and Cultural Psychology Perspectives in Cross-Cultural Personality*

**Research, Timothy Church, Ger Moua, Alicia del Prado, Lilia Miramontes**

*Portrait of a "Raced" Person: Examining Lived Experiences*, **Phillip Goff, Matthew Jackson, Courtney Bonam, Eden-Renee Pruitt, Maryam Hamedani, Hazel Markus**

**Poster Session: Emotion, Health, and Personality**

## \* Saturday, August 12

### Invited Addresses:

**Eric Klinger, Henry A. Murray Award Winner**, *Goals, Emotions, and Motivational Structure: Determinants of Cognitive Processing and Self-Regulation*

**Sonja Lyubomirsky**, *Is It Possible To Become Lastingly Happier?: Experimental Inductions of Gratitude,*

*Kindness, Optimism, and Reflection*

**Jennifer Crocker**, *Egosystem and Ecosystem: Motivational Frameworks and Psychological Health*

**Roy Baumeister**, *The Science of Free Will*

**Eddie Harmon-Jones**, *Considering the Dimension of Motivational Direction in Emotions*

**Symposium: Growth and Meaning Following the September 11<sup>th</sup> Terrorist Attacks**, **Crystal Park, Daniel McIntosh, Michael Poulin**

## \* Sunday, August 13

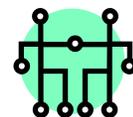
### Symposia:

*Applying Positive Psychology to an Inmate Population*, **Laura Harty, Caron Heigel, Lori Roop, June Tangney**

*Social and Psychological Implications of Reducing Egoism: Five Paths to a Quieter Self*, **Mark Leary, Julie Exline, Kirk Brown, Kristin Neff, Jack Bauer, Heidi Wayment**

*Beyond Grandiosity: New Perspectives on Narcissistic Personality and Narcissistic Pathology*, **Aaron Pincus, Claudia Pimentel, Virgil Zeigler-Hill, Simine Vazire, Emily Ansell, Del Paulus**

■



**Society for Personality and Social Psychology**

[www.spsp.org](http://www.spsp.org)

# Passings

This is a section of very brief obituaries of psychologists of interest to members of SPSP. If you wish to contribute an obituary, or bring our attention to people we have overlooked, please e-mail the Editors.

## Robert V. Guthrie November, 2005

Robert Guthrie received a Ph.D. from U.S. International University in 1970, after having received a bachelor's degree at Florida A&M (where he played clarinet in the famous marching band), and an M.A. from the then newly integrated program at the University of Kentucky.

Guthrie was the first Black faculty member at San Diego Mesa College in the 1960s. In 1968 and prior to receiving a Ph.D., Guthrie joined a handful of colleagues in founding the Association of Black Psychologists. In 1971 he was appointed associate professor at the University of Pittsburgh. He also taught at Southern Illinois University and San Diego State University, and held research psychologist positions at the Office of Naval Research and the National Institute of Education.

Guthrie may be best known for his 1976 *Even the Rat Was White: A Historical View of Psychology*, a book which combined the history of racial psychology with an illumination of the early contribution of Black psychologists. This book covers the surprisingly racist theories of psychologists dating from its earliest days, through the 1940's, and into the present with coverage (in a 1998 edition) of the Moynihan Report, Jensen, and *The Bell Curve*. *Even the Rat Was White* also covers the prescient and scientifically vigorous response of Black psychologists, and their relatively small impact on scientific discussion of the day.

## George Gerbner December, 2005

George Gerbner received a Ph.D. from the University of Southern California in 1955, and went to work at the Institute for Communications Research at the University of Illinois. In 1964 he accepted a position at the University of Pennsylvania, and where he stayed until retirement as Dean of the Annenberg School for Communications in 1989.

Born in Budapest in 1919, Gerbner fled fascist Hungary for the U.S in 1939. He graduated from UC-Berkeley with a journalism degree and worked briefly as a journalist, then joined the U.S. Army in 1942 and served in World War II.

He founded the *Cultural Indicators Research Project* in 1968 to track television content and how it affects viewers' perceptions of the world. Gerbner's *cultivation theory* suggested that people no longer learned their cultural identity from their family, schools, churches and communities but instead from "a handful of conglomerates who have something to sell." He coined the phrase *mean world syndrome*, a phenomenon in which heavy viewers of television are more likely to believe that the world is an unforgiving and frightening place. In 1990, Gerbner founded the Cultural Environment Movement, an advocacy group dedicated to "freedom, business, equality and diversity in media."

## C.R. "Rick" Snyder January, 2006

Charles R. "Rick" Snyder received a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Vanderbilt University in 1971, then moved to the University of Kansas, where he spent the entirety of his academic career and was the M. Erik Wright Distinguished Professor. Snyder was instrumental in building bridges between clinical, health, and social psychology. His work brought social-personality research and theory into the clinical setting, including

excuse-making (*Excuses: Masquerades in Search of Grace*; Snyder, Higgins & Stucky, 1983) and need for uniqueness (*Uniqueness: The Human Pursuit of Difference*; Snyder & Fromkin, 1980). He was a longtime editor of *Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology*.

Snyder was an important player in developing the field of positive psychology, which came in part from his experience with chronic pain. He did important conceptual and empirical work in forgiveness. The last 20 years of his life were focused the psychology of hope; he published more than 50 articles and chapters on the topic, and wrote or edited six books about hope (*The Psychology of Hope: You Can Get There from Here*, 1994). Snyder was the 2001 Kansas Professor of the Year, and received an Raymond Fowler Award from APA for Service to Graduate Education award.

## G. Scott Acton February, 2006

Scott Acton received a Ph.D. from Northwestern University in 1999. After a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California at San Francisco on the role of depression on smoking treatment outcome, he became an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the Rochester Institute of Technology. His main focus of work was on classification of psychopathology, and the structure of personality and health-related behavior. Some of his notable papers include: De Boeck, P., Wilson, M., & Acton, G. S. (2005). A conceptual and psychometric framework for distinguishing categories and dimensions. *Psychological Review*, 112, 129-158; Acton, G. S., & Revelle, W. (2002). Interpersonal personality measures show circumplex structure based on new psychometric criteria. At the time of his death, Acton had developed the Generalized Interpersonal Theory of Personality ([www.personalityresearch.org/generalized.html](http://www.personalityresearch.org/generalized.html)). Scott also wrote and maintained the

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 10)

Great Ideas in Personality website [www.personalityresearch.org](http://www.personalityresearch.org) which at the time of his passing had been visited over 1 million times.

**Brian Mullen**  
**May, 2006**

Brian Mullen received a Ph.D. from the State University of New York, Albany, in 1982. He spent the largest part of his career at Syracuse University, before moving to a post at the University of Kent, Canterbury.

Mullen made significant contributions in a number of areas of social psychology, including group dynamics, intergroup relations, and meta-analysis.

In group dynamics, Mullen studied democratic leadership, team building, productivity loss in brainstorming, and group composition, among many others, e.g., Mullen, B. (1991). Group composition, salience, and cognitive representations: The phenomenology of being in a group. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 27, 297-323.

In intergroup relations, Mullen may be best known for his study of ethnic slurs and hate speech—under the rubric of ethnophaulisms. He found that the number, prevalence, and affective tone of ethnophaulisms directed toward immigrant groups predicted, among other things, the exclusion of immigrants through quotas and naturalization laws, and biased visual and verbal portrayals of immigrants in children's books, and even the suicide rates of immigrant groups e.g., Mullen, B. (2001). Ethnophaulisms for ethnic immigrant groups *Journal of Social Issues*, 57, 457-475.

Mullen also provided programs, and a steady stream of books and articles on meta-analysis, database management and statistical techniques, e.g., Mullen, B. (1993). *Advanced Basic Meta-Analysis: Version 1.11*, Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum. ■

## Citations in Texts, Continued

(Continued from page 8)

added to the list. Each researcher had to have more than 2 lines in the name index or more than one column of 1<sup>st</sup> author publications in the reference list in at least one of the six textbooks. These additions resulted in 81 researchers being added to the sample. These two criteria guaranteed that all top producers of introductory social psychology textbook citations would be included.

### *Citation Measurement.*

Two measurements were taken from each book. From the name index the number of pages on which a researcher's name appeared were counted. The number of first authored citations was counted from the reference list.

One issue considered in citation analyses concerns self-citations. Because authors know their research better than anyone else's, it is common for authors of textbooks to cite themselves more often than they are cited in other texts. This makes perfect sense. Indeed, it would be puzzling to find a textbook whose authors didn't describe their own work somewhat more than did authors of similar textbooks. However, it is also common to compensate for this tendency in citation analyses. In the present case, the mean citations (page and first author) from the other textbooks for the authors of the six textbooks were used.

### Results & Discussion

Table 1 displays the combined citation totals for 2004 and 2005 for the 30 most highly cited scholars. Several interesting points emerge. As expected the list is dominated by scholars who have been in the field for a fairly long time, as indicated by the predominance of Ph.D. years in the 1960s (N = 8) and 1970s (N = 12). Three obtained their Ph.D.s in the 1950s (Berkowitz, Jones,

& Pettigrew), two in the 1940s (Festinger & Kelley), and one in the 1930s (Solomon Asch). Only four received their degrees after 1979 (Anderson, Bushman, Gilbert, Mullen). Bushman is the most recent Ph.D. on the list. In addition, a number of the "founders" of modern social psychology are missing from the list. For example, although S. Milgram, S. Asch, H. Kelley, and L. Festinger made the list, F. Heider, S. Schachter, M. Sherif, C. Hovland, and K. Lewin did not.

Nine additional scholars made either the 2004 or the 2005 top 30 lists (which can be downloaded from [www.psychology.iastate.edu/faculty/caa/abstracts/2005-2009/DialogueLong.pdf](http://www.psychology.iastate.edu/faculty/caa/abstracts/2005-2009/DialogueLong.pdf)) but not the combined top 30 list. Those who did not make the combined 2004-2005 list were Albert Bandura, John A. Bargh, Marilynn B. Brewer, Jennifer Crocker, Anthony G. Greenwald, Michael Hogg, John Levine, Gary L. Wells and Wendy Wood. Most of these top 39 textbook-cited researchers are the only current representatives of their university (N = 22). In fact, of the top 39 (the 30 in Table 1 plus the 9 additional listed above) there are two scholars at the same university for four universities (University of Minnesota, Iowa State University, Stanford University, Ohio State University) and three at the same university for one school (University of Michigan). This likely reflects the fact that most social programs are relatively small, and that excellent is distributed across many social and personality programs.

### References

- Aronson, E., Wilson, T.D., & Akert, R.M. (2005) *Social Psychology* (5<sup>th</sup> ed.). Upper Saddle River, NJ: Pearson Education Inc.
- Brehm, S.S., Kassir, S., & Fein S. (2005) *Social Psychology* (6<sup>th</sup> ed.). Boston: Houghton Mifflin.

(Continued on page 14)

# Diversity Committee News and Awards

*By Tiffany Ito*

The SPSP Diversity Committee sponsors several activities each year with the goal of enhancing diversity within personality and social psychology. The first of these activities, the Diversity Travel Awards, provides financial assistance for graduate students from groups underrepresented in personality and social psychology to travel to the annual conference. We are pleased each year with the number of high quality applicants, and routinely have more deserving applicants than we have funds. This year we were able to provide assistance to twelve students (a list of recipients can be found in the convention program, and at the Diversity Fund web page). We typically begin accepting applications in late summer, with the deadline typically in October. Check the web page at <http://www.spsp.org/divtrav.htm> starting in the summer for information about next year's awards.

The committee also provides conference registration awards to undergraduate students from underrepresented groups who attend colleges and universities near the conference location. These awards pay for conference registration, allowing

the students to attend the conference and learn more about personality and social psychology. This year saw both a high number of applicants, and representation from a large number of different colleges and universities in the Los Angeles and San Diego area. In the end, 14 students from 10 different schools accepted the awards. Most of the students were attending their first professional conference, and many were even presenting posters. This was an impressively motivated group of students, and we hope to see them again at future conferences. If you are in the Memphis area, site of next year's conference, and know of any qualified applicants, be sure to direct them to the Diversity Fund web page. Information on this award will also be posted in the summer.

The committee also sponsors a reception at the conference each year, and all conference attendees are encouraged to come. The reception serves as a celebration and introduction to the current travel and conference registration award recipients and applicants. In addition, all former award recipients and applicants, as well as their advisors, are encouraged to attend, making for an annual Diversity Committee reunion. This year's reception, held on Friday afternoon,

was well-attended and featured lots of lively conversation. If you are interested in the work of the Diversity Committee, please stop by the reception at next year's conference.

The Diversity Committee also works with the GLBT Alliance in Social and Personality Psychology (GASP) to sponsor a reception at the conference each year. GASP provides social support and professional information to lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender students and faculty and their supportive heterosexual colleagues. This year's reception was held on Saturday afternoon, immediately following a conference symposium with a GASP-relevant theme, "Integrating Social Identity Perspectives with Research on the Experiences of Lesbians and Gay Men." The symposium was chaired by Anne Peplau, featured Miles Hewstone as a discussant, and talks by Adam Fingerhut, Jim Sidanius, Lisa Diamond, and Kristin Beals. This arrangement allowed for many conversations about the presented talks to continue at the reception. This reception is also open to all conference attendees, so check your program next year for its time and location.

*(Continued on page 32)*

## **2006 Graduate Travel Award Recipients**

Modupe Akinola, Harvard University  
 Teresa (Tay) Elizabeth Hack, Purdue University  
 Tiffany Griffin, University of Michigan  
 Justin Lehmilller, Purdue University  
 Francine Segovia, University of Michigan  
 Valerie Jones, Stanford University  
 Jamaal McDell, Harvard University  
 Tamar Saguy, University of Connecticut  
 Stephenie Chaudoir, University of Connecticut  
 Ryan Yee-Shiun Hong, University of Western Ontario  
 Zayra Nayel Longoria, Purdue University  
 Jennifer Thorpe, New York University

## **2006 Undergraduate Conference Registration Award Recipients**

Amber Belcher, Cal State Northridge  
 Amber Landers, UC Riverside  
 Johnny Cheng-Han Lin, UCSD  
 Gloria Luong, UC Riverside  
 Yvette Carreon Nario, UC Riverside  
 Marianna Oganasyan, UC Riverside  
 Jennifer Payan, Mount St. Mary's  
 Lindsey Peterson, San Diego State University  
 Andrea Marie Pineda, UC Riverside  
 They Prok, UCLA  
 Ana Ramos, UC Riverside  
 Joni Sasaki, Claremont McKenna  
 Talita Le Rae Wells, UCLA  
 Mina Mortezaie, UCLA

## Training Committee Activities

By Steve Drigotas

### *The SPSP Convention*

The Training Committee would like to report that our convention activities served both to stimulate ideas for the committee to build upon in the future, and were a success in their own right. In Palm Springs we sponsored three activities. First, we had an open Training Committee meeting on Friday morning. The attendance was as expected given our early morning start time. But more specifically, the themes discussed were central to our symposium as well (see below). We continued to proudly co-sponsor the Graduate Student - Mentor lunch, and the turnout was exemplary, both for students and successful mentors. Finally we had an "Alternative Paths" symposium Friday afternoon with five speakers: Yuichi Shoda (Introductions), Cathy Cozzarelli (Senior Social Scientist at USAID), Liza Miller (Founder and CEO, DatStat), Clayton Neighbors (Faculty in Psychiatry), and Kristen Lindgren (Ph.D. candidate in Clinical). Two of the five used conference call technology. The symposium was well attended, especially by graduate students. As with the morning session, there was an emphasis that the largest proportion of our audience at the symposium was graduate students who were concerned with finding alternative careers (e.g., generally how, where to look, possible stigma, approaching advisor, etc.). There was great discussion regarding these points within the group.

### *Ongoing project*

The main ongoing project of the Training Committee consists of creating a way for area heads to be in contact with each other about training issues. Previous attempts to contact the list serve of Psychology Department Chairs with the hope of getting to social/personality training heads have

proven unsuccessful. Therefore, we have decided to officially recruit people in such positions to contact Steve Drigotas (410-516-6703, [drigotas@jbu.edu](mailto:drigotas@jbu.edu)) to create an ongoing list of both training issues in graduate education and a potential clearing house of area heads that would be willing to be contacted by other area heads regarding issues they have confronted in the past. We feel this would be useful when novel situations arise, and especially helpful for people new to being area heads in the field. So, please feel free to offer your expertise.

### *Proposed issues*

The Committee is in the process of proposing the creation of the Training Committee Award Address (including honorarium). The address would be the highlight of the symposium we present at SPSP – that way it could vary from year to year depending on the nature of the symposium (e.g., alternative path one year, applied research the next, etc.). We look forward to the response of the Executive Committee.

In addition the Committee is investigating the creation of space on the SPSP website to house Training Committee initiatives and issues (e.g., symposia specifics, contact information to put area heads in touch with each other regarding specific training issues). We believe that such a link on the SPSP website would serve to increase awareness of the Training Committee's ongoing mission and activities and could serve as a potential rendezvous point for people interested in training issues. Hopefully, you will see such an addition in the near future.

Members of the Training Committee include Steve Drigotas (Chair), Yuichi Shoda (past Chair), Catherine Cozzarelli, & Terri Vescio. ■

## Publication Committee, Cont.

*(Continued from page 2)*

congratulates Judy and her editorial team for their remarkable job handling the tremendous surge in submissions and averting a potential crisis last year. With the new editorial structure in place, *PSPB* is now well prepared to accommodate its continuing high submission rate.

The news at *Dialogue*, the official newsletter of the society, is also very good. Chris Crandall and Monica Biernat have maintained the high quality of the newsletter, and have made it both fun and informative. The Publication Committee applauds Chris and Monica's hard work and creativity.

Several additional transitions bear mentioning. Gifford Weary has now completed her term on the Publication Committee, and Richard Petty has agreed to serve as her replacement. On behalf of the Society, the Publication Committee would like to express its sincere thanks to Giff, who gracefully and efficiently guided the committee through some very busy times. Trish Devine has assumed the position of Chair of the Student Publication Award Committee (the other members are Richard Petty and Richard Robins), and the committee is currently reviewing an unprecedented number of eligible articles, suggesting that graduate students are increasingly publishing their work in the society's journals.

In closing, 2005 was a tremendously successful year for the Society's publications. One transition to a new editorial team has occurred, and another will begin over this next year. We all benefit greatly from the efficiency and thoughtfulness of our Editors, their Associate Editors, and their staffs. We especially want to extend our sincere thanks to Eliot and his Associate Editors and board members for a job well done! ■

## Editorial

# Social-Personality Psychology Research Articles are Too Long, Too Hard to Read, Too Redundant, and Just Plain No Fun

Scientists often write in difficult and obscure language. Our papers are far too long; they are full of detail that is beside the point. They review ideas that are not essential for understanding the current data. Many individual studies barely add to our knowledge base.

Fewer and fewer articles are appearing in the pages of *JPSP*, although the same number of pages fills out each issue (Baumeister & Tice, 2006). *Now* is the time to write short.

In *Politics and the English Language*, George Orwell (1946) wrote of the consequences of long and tedious writing. Bad prose obscures meaning and hobbles thought.

Orwell (1946) offered these six rules to improve writing:

- 1) Never use a metaphor, simile, or other figure of speech which you are used to seeing in print.
- 2) Never use a long word where a short one will do.
- 3) If it is possible to cut a word out, always cut it out.

- 4) Never use the passive where you can use the active.
- 5) Never use a foreign phrase, a scientific word, or a jargon word if you can think of an everyday English equivalent.
- 6) Break any of these rules sooner than say anything outright barbarous.

The fight against bad scientific prose is not frivolous. What can we do? The power to make changes is jointly held. What's your role?

**Writers:** Write clearly and briefly. Do not try to work in every last study you've done on the point. Hard drives are large these days—file that replication away for a conference paper. Is Study 1 redundant with the superior Study 2? Then cut Study 1.

**Reviewers:** Demand clarity and brevity. Specifically comment on length and redundancy. Make *specific* recommendations about cutting sections or studies. Speak loudly about length! Don't ask for another study unless you think it is absolutely essential (and you're sure *most* other

readers will agree).

**Editors:** Rein in reviewers' requests for detail, coverage, and just-one-more-study. Allow shorter and more readable papers. Tell authors to delete studies which primarily offer replication (this often means axing Study 1). All hypotheses are tentative—accept articles with “merely” promising or interesting results.

**Readers:** We are already acting on this; we don't read long articles. But find a way to cite a readable and worthwhile article—reward a writer who communicates elegantly and briefly.

Everyone can play a role in making our journal readable again. No one loses when writing is clear, elegant, and brief.<sup>1</sup>

## Reference

Baumeister, R.F. & Tice, D.M. (2005). Are we losing our niche? *Dialogue*, 20(2), 16, 19.

<sup>1</sup>But a long, long title does displace white space on the CV!

## SISP 2005, Cont.

(Continued from page 4)

Institute did not simply “preach to the choir”. Rather, the students who were lucky enough (actually talented enough) to attend the Institute had an opportunity to learn about areas of social psychology that they could not get at their home institution.

We are glad that the University of Michigan had the chance to host the 2005 Summer Institute in Social Psychology. The Institute will be next held in 2007 in Austin, Texas. ■

## Citations in Textbooks, Continued

(Continued from page 11)

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Michener, H.A., DeLamater, J.D., &

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Publishing in Social-Personality Psychology Journals, 1994-2004 (2005). *Dialogue*, 20(1), 18-19.



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# Does Neuroscience Constrain Social-Psychological Theory?

By John F. Kihlstrom

One of the most interesting developments in contemporary social psychology is its embrace of neuropsychological and neuroscientific methodologies (Adolphs, 1999; Cacioppo, Berntson, & McClintock, 2000; Klein & Kihlstrom, 1998; Ochsner & Lieberman, 2001). I certainly welcome these signs that social psychologists are taking an interest in neuropsychological and neuroscientific methods. At the same time, I want to dissent from a rhetorical stance that appears to be widely shared in neuroscientific circles: the idea that neuroscientific findings can, or will, or should, “constrain” psychological theory. For example, Cacioppo and Berntson (1992) wrote that “knowledge of the body and brain can usefully constrain and inspire concepts and theories of psychological function...” (p. 1025). Similar sentiments were expressed more recently by Ochsner and Lieberman (2001, p. 726).

Inspire, yes; but *constrain*? If we mean that data from neuropsychological and neuroscientific experiments constrains theory in the same way that data from behavioral and self-report studies constrains theory — which is to say that theory has to conform to data — then there is no argument. For example, Tulving (1993) and Klein et al. (1996) obtained data from amnesic patients that supported the hypothesis that episodic (behavioral) self-knowledge was represented in memory independently of semantic (trait) self-knowledge. But the neuropsychological data merely supplemented evidence already available from studies of priming (Klein & Loftus, 1993). Neuropsychological evidence didn’t constrain the theory, though it did

inform it. It would have been interesting if the patients had lost both episodic and semantic knowledge, but even that fact wouldn’t have constrained the hypothesis that the two forms of memory are normally

*“The use of the term constrain suggests that the neuropsychological level of analysis is somehow privileged — that neuroscientific evidence is decisive with respect to social-psychological theory. Put bluntly, it betrays the idea that social psychology can’t make theoretical progress without neuroscience. . .”*

independent.

Taken with its dictionary meaning, which has to do with (en)forcing, compelling, obliging, etc., the use of the term *constrain* suggests that the neuropsychological level of analysis is somehow privileged — that neuroscientific evidence is decisive with respect to social-psychological theory. Put bluntly, it betrays the idea that social psychology can’t make theoretical progress without neuroscience; that — paraphrasing and reversing Neisser (1967, p. 1) — psychology is indeed just something to do until the biochemist comes. This point of view was well expressed by Lucy Brown, a neuroscientist quoted by Benedict Carey in a recent *New York Times* article on social neuroscience (“Searching for the Person in the Brain”, 02/05/06):

“Everyone thought phenomena like love and jealousy were simply impossible to study, that they were too variable, too individual. They preferred to think of them as magic.” Carey goes on to write: “Imaging and other techniques have now parted the curtain.”

So much for the vast social-psychological literature on interpersonal attraction, friendship, and, yes, love and jealousy (e.g., Berscheid & Walster, 1969, 1978; Buss, 2000, 2003; Rubin, 1973, 1980).

Actually, it has to be said that there does not appear to be any instance where neuroscientific findings have constrained social-psychological theory. Of course, social neuroscience is very young. Still, cognitive neuroscience has been around much longer, and it’s hard to think of any instance in that field, either (Coltheart, 2005a, 2005b). Perhaps the discovery in the 1950s, by Hubel and Wiesel among others, of “bug detectors” and other orientation-specific receptive fields in frogs and cats counts, because it changed our view about how low-level vision works. But there are very few others examples like that.

To the contrary, it appears that precisely the reverse is true: psychological theory constrains the interpretation of neuropsychological and neuroscientific data. My favorite example is the amnesic patient H.M., who put us on the road toward discovering the role of the hippocampus in memory. But what exactly is that role? The fact is, our interpretation of H.M.’s amnesia, and thus of hippocampal function, has changed as our understanding of memory has changed. First, H.M. was thought to have lost his capacity to

(Continued on page 17)

**Constraint of Theory, Cont.**

(Continued from page 16)

learn; then to have lost long-term but not short-term memory; then procedural but not declarative memory; then episodic but not semantic memory; then explicit but not implicit memory; and now, most recently, relational but not non-relational memory. Here, clearly, neuroscientific data didn't do much constraining: psychological theory changed almost wantonly, while the neural evidence stayed quite constant.

Now, it might be claimed that H.M. did introduce the principle that memory is not a unitary entity. In that way, neuropsychological data would constrain psychological theory, even if further behavioral research were needed to determine exactly what those systems were. Historically, however, the notion of multiple memory systems was already in theory before any neuropsychological or neuroscientific evidence was available. Similarly, proposals for the modularity of language and perception were generally based on behavioral evidence, not to mention introspection, rather than neuroscientific data (Fodor, 1983). To be sure, neuroscientific data does constrain *neuroscientific* theories – that is, theories about brain structure and function. If you want to know what part of the brain processes memories, evidently you should look around the hippocampus, ruling out structures like the amygdala, and ruling in structures like the parahippocampal gyrus and the entorhinal cortex, which together with the hippocampus comprise a “medial-temporal lobe memory system” (Squire & Zola-Morgan, 1991). But if you want to know the psychological function of that or any other brain structure or system, then you need a well-worked-out theory of memory, and associated behavioral methodologies, already in hand. Thus, the story of H.M. and the hippocampus illustrates quite the opposite of the rhetoric of constraint: that neuroscientific data can be interpreted only within the framework

of a valid psychological theory of structure and function.

As a further illustration, consider a neuroscientific claim that lies closer to the interests of social psychologists: that the fusiform area, near the junction of the temporal and occipital lobes, is specialized for processing faces (Kanwisher, McDermott, & Chun, 1997). The claim is based on both neuropsychological analyses of prosopagnosic patients, who appear to suffer a specific deficit in recognizing faces, and brain-imaging data of face-processing by neurologically intact subjects. Such evidence implies that the processing of faces is somehow different from the processing of other, nonsocial, objects. If true, such neuroscientific evidence might indeed constrain psychological theory. But not necessarily: even if different brain systems processed social and nonsocial information, they might do so according to the same principles. More important, there is increasing evidence that the fusiform area is specialized for expert recognition of all sorts of objects at subordinate levels of categorization – not just faces, but also birds,

*“Psychological theory constrains the interpretation of neuropsychological data”*

snowflakes, and greebles (Tarr & Gauthier, 2000). As with the hippocampus, neuroscientific data does not constrain psychological theory, but psychological theory — in this case, a theory of conceptual structure — does constrain the interpretation of neuroscientific data.

Paraphrasing the philosopher John Searle (2001), after you've worked out the problem at the mental level, you can kick it over to the neuroscientists to see how the brain does it. But if the analysis of mental function is wrong, then neuroscience offers little more than souped-up phrenology. So let's do social neuroscience – but let's not do it

in the belief or hope that such evidence will "constrain" our theorizing, or rescue us from whatever theoretical indeterminacies we might suffer. That would be to put the cart before the horse. Good social-psychological theories will make for good social neuroscience. After all, psychology without neuroscience is still psychology; but neuroscience without psychology is just neuroscience.

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(Continued on page 32)

## 2005 SPSP Theoretical Innovation Prize Awarded

The SPSP Theoretical Innovation Prize is awarded to the paper published in the previous year that is judged to provide the most innovative theoretical contribution to social/personality psychology within a given year.

The 2005 recipients of the Prize were Eliot Smith and Gun Semin, for their paper, *Socially situated cognition: Cognition in its social context*, published in Mark Zanna (Ed.), *Advances in Experimental Social Psychology* in 2004.

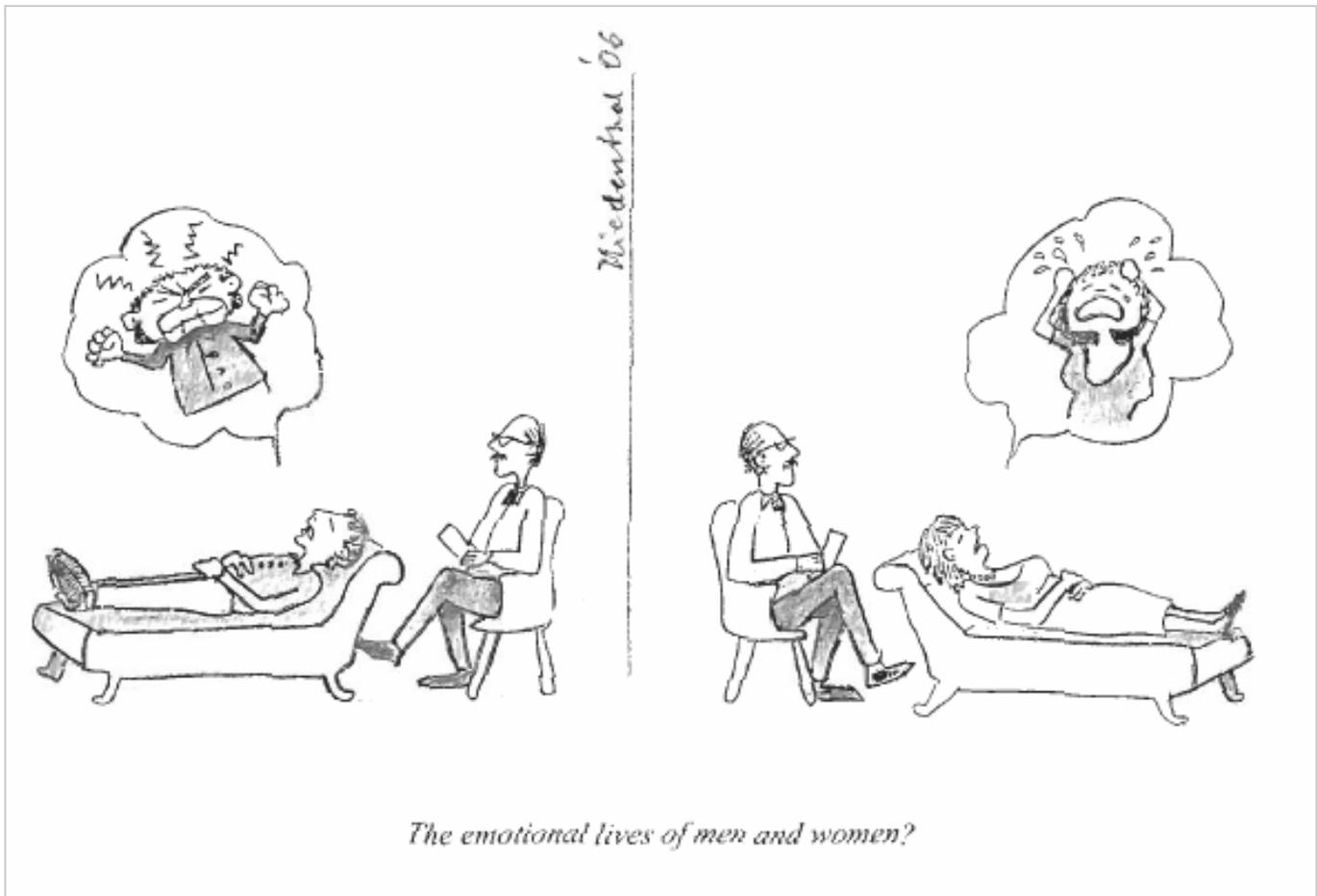
A second paper was cited as an honorable mention: Sally Dickerson and Margaret Kemeny, *Acute stressors and cortisol responses: A theoretical integration and synthesis of laboratory research*, which appeared in *Psychological Bulletin* in 2004.

Congratulations to both research teams!

Eligible articles are those published as papers in peer-reviewed journals or as book chapters during calendar year 2004. Books and unpublished manuscripts are not eligible.

The Prize committee consisted of Jennifer Crocker (chair), Margaret Clark, Barbara Fredrickson, John Levine, and Timothy Wilson. The prize recipients received a cash award of \$750. ■

### *Comic Art by Paula Niedenthal*



# Copyright FAQs for PSPB Authors and Readers: Who Owns The Copyright, and What Can I Post on My Website?

There has been considerable discussion (at conferences, among faculty, on listservs) about ownership, copyright, and control and dissemination of articles published in Society journals. The Society asked Liz Haigh to explain how the policies work. Dialogue seeks further discussion of these issues, and welcomes Letters to the Editors for future issues on this issue, or any other issue of interest to the readers.

*By Liz Haigh*  
*Executive Publisher for*  
*Society Relations,*  
*SAGE Publications*

As the publisher of *PSPB* (and *PSPR* as of 2007), we are asked from time to time about how PDFs of articles from the journal may be used. The following FAQ addresses some of the most frequently asked questions.

## **Q1. Who owns the copyright to the articles published in *PSPB*?**

As a condition of being published in the journal, upon acceptance of their manuscripts, authors are asked to transfer copyright to their articles to SPSP, owner of the journal. As the journal's publisher, SAGE Publications administers the copyright on behalf of the Society but does not own the copyright to the journal or to any of the articles published within the journal.

## **Q2. Can I use a PDF of my article in my classroom?**

You may use a photocopy of a legally obtained PDF version of the article as published (i.e. through a subscription, a pay-per-view download, or an Article Works purchase) in your classroom at any time. If you wish to use an electronic copy of the published PDF, we ask that you use it on an access-controlled (i.e., password-protected or

limited-access site) and that you contact [permissions@sagepub.com](mailto:permissions@sagepub.com) for formal permission.

## **Q3. Am I allowed to make and distribute a PDF version of my article that was published in *PSPB*?**

The PDF of your article as published in the journal *may not* be used for this type of posting or distribution. However, you can update your originally submitted document (which was accepted for publication) to include all the changes made

*The PDF of your article as published in the journal may not be posted on a website. You may update your originally submitted document and make a PDF—Sage asks that you wait 12 months from the publication date before posting on a publicly-accessible website.*

during the editorial process and then make a PDF of it. We ask that you wait twelve months after the date of publication before posting that version of the PDF on a publicly-accessible website. (If you are posting it to an access-controlled site, i.e., one that has limited access through, for example, password protection, there is no waiting period.) In either case, we suggest that you provide a link to the published version of your article (<http://online.sagepub.com/>) in order to maintain the integrity of the citation history to the version of record.

## **Q4. Can I share the PDF of my article with whomever I wish? Can I distribute it automatically in response to requests I receive?**

As mentioned above, one year after publication you may post a self-generated PDF of your article online, but prior to that we ask that you do not distribute your article in electronic format (except as noted above and as permitted through the Article Works PDF agreement). The article's published PDF may not be sent out automatically in response to requests.

## **Q5. Is it legal for me to make available online the PDF of my published *PSPB* article which I have previously downloaded from the publisher's site?**

No—this would be in violation of your author agreement. Please see Answer #3 for an alternate solution.

## **Q6. Can I legally post a PDF of my article generated on my scanner?**

The article's published PDF may only be posted on a limited-access site. Please see Answer #3 above for options regarding posting a self-generated version of the article.

## **Q7. If SPSP owns the journal, why does it matter what SAGE's policies say?**

SAGE and SPSP have mutually agreed upon the policies that apply to the use of content from *PSPB*. SAGE administers the policy on behalf of SPSP.

■

# Winter APA Council Report, 2006

*By Janet Swim and  
Lynne Cooper*

The bi-annual meeting of the APA Council was held at the Capitol Hilton in Washington DC from February 17 to 19. Dr. Gerry Koocher, current APA President, presided over the meeting. SPSP member, Sharon Brehm, was formally introduced to council as president-elect. Her term as president will begin at the 2007 February council meeting.

## *APA Budget*

Detailed budget reports were presented to council by the Chief Financial Officer, Jack McKay and others. According to all reports, APA – with an annual budget just over \$100,000,000 -- continues to be in great financial shape. In fact, APA had the largest surplus in its history -- \$5.5 million – in 2005! Also noteworthy is the fact that this historic surplus occurred despite substantial Hurricane relief efforts undertaken by APA in 2005. Overall, APA's net worth increased by \$12,000,000 last year, owing largely to increases in its investment portfolio. The organization's total net worth now stands at \$36.7 million.

APA revenues continue to derive in large measure from the efforts of the scientific community. The largest proportion of APA's income (34%) came from electronic licenses last year. Journal publications contributed 18% and sales another 14%. Dues and all other sources contributed 34%. The proportion of revenues from electronic licenses relative to paper subscriptions has risen dramatically over the past few years, and this is expected to continue.

The largest proportion of APA expenses (45%) goes to staff salary and benefits. An analysis of staff salaries in comparable organizations indicates that staff benefits are at the low end. In light of this, part of the 2005 surplus was

used to give all staff (who have been called upon to make financial sacrifices in leaner years) a \$1000 end-of-year bonus. The current CEO compensation packet was reviewed in closed session; it was noted that the overall package is somewhat less than the median value of compensation packages for CEOs of organizations similar in size and type. Attempts will be made to make the total compensation more competitive in coming years. Despite factors that will negatively impact the budget in coming years, including additional tax payments on investments, conservative estimates forecast a budget surplus of \$600,000 in 2006.

## *2006 Convention*

The annual APA conference will be held in New Orleans from August 10 - 13. APA has been monitoring the restoration of New Orleans and is confident that New Orleans will be ready to host the conference in August. APA's central office is preparing guidelines and opportunities for members to provide assistance to New Orleans and its residents in their ongoing re-construction efforts. The convention program is going well and will include a presentation by Dr. Phil who will talk about his transition from psychologist to entertainer.

## *New Divisions*

Proposals for two new divisions were discussed at Council. Council voted to approve the addition of a division of Trauma (to become the 56<sup>th</sup> division of APA), but failed to support the addition of a new division on Human-Animal Studies. The discussion of the proposed Human-Animal Studies division was heated due to concerns expressed by a number of basic researchers regarding the group's stand on the use of animals in research. Although the petitioners of the new division clearly stated that they would not use the organization to further animal rights policies, several

highly visible leaders of the organization nevertheless had priorities to animal rights groups, or had in the past publicly expressed concerns about the use of animals in research. Countervailing concerns were expressed that opposition to the division was based on stereotyping of members of the group and stigma by perceived association of the new division with animal rights groups. In the end, proponents of the division failed to convince a majority of council members that the merits of adding this new division outweighed the potential costs.

## *New and Continuing Initiatives*

President Koocher presented several of his initiatives for the 2006 year, which include holding specialty conferences such as a recent one on immigration, developing a task force to facilitate formal and informal mentoring of new and early career psychologists, and supporting early career psychologists through loan forgiveness programs and other initiatives.

Council voted to approve formation or continuation of the following task force (TF) committees:

- 1) TF on sexualization of girls
- 2) TF on socio-economic status and class
- 3) TF on gender identity, gender variance, and Intersex conditions
- 4) TF on increasing the number of Quantitative Psychologists
- 5) TF on resilience and strength in Black children and adolescents
- 6) TF on mental health and abortion.

Support was also approved for the 2006 Multi-cultural Organizational Leadership Workshop.

## *Other Items*

Dr. Olivia Moorehouse-Slaughter, chair of the APA Presidential Task Force on

*(Continued on page 28)*



**Place EQS Ad  
on this page**

## PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

# Toto, We're Not in Kansas Anymore

By Brenda Major

Much has been said recently about the policy changes occurring at the NIMH and their implications for basic social psychology. The stark reality of these changes became clear to me at a recent NIMH workshop titled "Translational Research: Bridging Basic and Applied Research." The workshop was sponsored by the NIMH, Division of AIDS and Health and Behavior Research and co-chaired by Emiline Otey (Chief, Stigma and Health Disparities Program), Jennifer Crocker, and Bernice Pescosolido. It was attended by a small group of social psychologists and sociologists, as well as by directors of several agencies within NIMH. The purpose of the meeting was to bring together scientists whose work focused on prejudice, stereotyping, discrimination, and stigma to assist the NIMH in promoting translational research on reducing the stigma of mental illness. The conversations that ensued made it clear that social psychology has a tremendous amount to contribute to understanding and alleviating the burden caused by the stigma of mental illness. The social psychologists in the room should have felt great. But many of us felt discouraged.

*The social psychologists in the room should have felt great. But many of us felt discouraged.*

We felt discouraged because the responses of the NIMH directors to our repeated, direct questions about funding priorities made it clear that NIMH is not interested in funding the type of research that most of us were trained to do, want to do, and that our field (journal editors, tenure review

committees, our peers) rewards us for doing—basic, theory-building research based on college student samples. The "new" NIMH is interested in funding applied research that directly relates to reducing the burden of serious mental illness. If one's interest is in psychological processes relevant to targets of stigma—processes such as concealment, disclosure, attributional ambiguity, self-stereotyping, stereotype threat, dyadic interactions, group identification, coping, self-esteem, etc.—research based on college student samples is not welcome. To be fundable, such research must be based on samples of individuals who are suffering from serious mental disorders. In short, the kind of research

*We could continue doing "business as usual" and try to persuade policymakers to be more welcoming; so far, this approach has not been successful.*

that most social psychologists have been doing, know best how to do and that our discipline values most is no longer seen as consistent with the mission of NIMH.

What is the best response to this change in the priorities of the agency that has been the major source of funding for social psychology? A variety of options are possible. We could continue doing "business as usual" and try to persuade policymakers at NIMH to be more welcoming to funding basic social psychological research of the type we have been doing. So far, this approach has not been successful and, in my opinion, is unlikely to be so in the foreseeable future. We could depend on

NSF to fund the type of research we want to do. For this latter strategy to be successful, however, funds for social psychology research at NSF need to be increased greatly. This, in turn, will require NSF to change its priorities as well require more of us to submit proposals to NSF. It is difficult to argue for an increased budget for social psychological research at NSF when the number of applications from social psychology to NSF has not changed since 2002. (*Message: Submit a proposal to NSF. It is good for the discipline.*)

Alternatively, we can abandon "business as usual" and adapt how we do our science so that it is more aligned with changing funding priorities. How might we do this? First, we could modify our research questions so that they are compatible with the missions of other agencies within NIH, such as NIA, NICHD, NHLB, NIDA or NIAAA. My research on stress and discrimination, for example, is funded by NHLB. These agencies, however, also may be less receptive to research based on college student populations.

Second, we could wean ourselves from our dependence on college students as research participants. Since the 1960's, most empirical research published in our leading journals (e.g., *JPSP*, *PSPB*, *JESP*) has been based on college

*We could wean ourselves from our dependence on college students as research participants.*

student samples participating in laboratory-based experiments. Controversy over this practice has existed for some time. Some

(Continued on page 23)

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN:

## We're Not in Kansas Anymore, Continued

*(Continued from page 22)*

emphasize potential biases in our view of human nature introduced by a reliance on college student samples (e.g., Sears, 1986; Coyne & Gotlib, 1983) and demonstrate that applied research based on college student samples can produce findings that differ from research based on nonstudent samples (e.g., Gordon, Slade & Schmitt, 1986). Others defend our reliance on college students, noting that this sample is appropriate for building theoretical models of basic processes, that college students are an interesting and important group worthy of study in their own right, and that findings based on college student samples often do not differ from those based on nonstudent samples (e.g., Vredenberg, Flett & Krames, 1993). So far, the controversy has had little impact, as the majority of research in social psychology continues to be

*We can adapt to changing funding priorities by building collaborations with colleagues in other disciplines*

based on college student samples. Giving up our dependence on college student samples will be difficult, especially as grant money becomes scarcer. Nonetheless, there is little doubt but that our discipline has paid dearly for this habit, in terms of the perceived relevance and applicability of our findings.

Third, we can adapt to changing funding priorities by building collaborations with colleagues in other disciplines such as clinical psychology, health psychology and medicine. Most social psychologists are not trained how to locate and deal with specialized

or vulnerable samples, such as those with mental illness, disabilities, or health problems. Collaborating with others can broaden our research questions and give us greater access to specialized samples. (NIMH has a new funding mechanism, the R21, that is intended to facilitate such collaborations.)

Fourth, we can provide our graduate students better training in sampling

*We can provide our graduate students better training in sampling methodologies*

methodologies. Doing research with nonstudent samples presents logistical difficulties and sampling issues with which most of us are unfamiliar. Nevertheless, these are skills that we will need if we are to pay more attention to who our participants are.

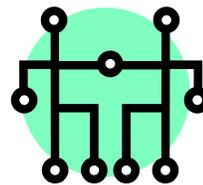
Fifth, we can foster a greater appreciation within our discipline for application and external validity as well as theory building and internal validity. This will require us to change our reward structures so that those who do more time-consuming translational research on community or specialized

samples are not penalized in the journals or tenure process relative to

*We can foster a greater appreciation within our discipline for application and external validity as well as theory building and internal validity.*

those who do multiple experiments based on samples of easily accessible college students. Otherwise, the careers of young scholars who pursue translational research will suffer.

In sum, the policy changes occurring at NIMH have profound implications for our discipline. Thriving during these difficult funding times while maintaining the integrity of our science will require creative approaches, new skills, and rethinking "business as usual." Obtaining grant funding will require us to conduct more applied research, pay more attention to issues of external validity, loosen our dependence on college student samples, foster collaborations with other disciplines, and get out of our comfort zone. ■



*Society for Personality and  
Social Psychology*

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# Announcements

## Multiple Perspectives on Real World Helping and Social Action

Mark Thursday, June 22, 2006, in your date book! It's the date for a joint SPSSI-EAESP Small Group Meeting — a pre-conference for the SPSSI biennial convention and will take place at the Hilton Long Beach, Long Beach, CA. Whether in response to poverty on street corners, the devastation of a natural disaster, the urgency of terror attacks, the desire to connect with a community, or the requirements of a service-learning project, real world helping provides benefits to the individuals who engage in the helping, the people or organizations receiving the help, and communities as a whole. Consistent with the missions of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues and the European Association of Experimental Social Psychology, this meeting seeks to promote excellence in psychological research and theory relevant to understanding the causes and consequences of naturalistic helping and social action. This one-day meeting will include symposia with invited speakers, informal presentations, and ample time for scholarly exchange and collaboration. The meeting will be restricted to 50 participants from around the globe and ranging from graduate students to senior scholars. For more information on this meeting, follow the link from the 2006 SPSSI biennial conference ([http://sps.si.org/sps.si\\_2006\\_Convention.htm](http://sps.si.org/sps.si_2006_Convention.htm)) or email [realworldhelping@gmail.com](mailto:realworldhelping@gmail.com).

## New Books

Biernat, Monica (2005). *Standards and expectancies: Contrast and assimilation in judgment of self and others*. New York: Taylor & Francis.

This book examines how standards and expectancies affect judgments of others and the self. Standards are points of comparison, expectancies are beliefs

about the future, and both serve as frames of reference against which current events and people (including the self) are experienced. The central theme of the book is that judgments can be characterized as either assimilative or contrastive in nature. Assimilation occurs when the target of evaluation (another person, the self) is pulled toward or judged consistently with the standard or expectation, and contrast occurs when the target is differentiated from the comparative frame. The book considers factors that determine whether assimilation versus contrast occurs, and focuses on the roles of contextual cues, the self, and stereotypes as standards for judging others, and the roles of internalized guides, stereotypes, and other people for judging the self.

Mikulincer, M., & Goodman, G. S. (Eds.) (2006). *Dynamics of Romantic Love: Attachment, Caregiving, and Sex*. New York: Guilford Press.

A theoretically and empirically rich exploration of universal questions, this book examines the interplay of three distinct behavioral systems involved in romantic love. Leading attachment researchers are joined by proponents of other perspectives, including interdependence theory and self-expansion theory, to review the current state of knowledge in the field. Presented are compelling new studies that address intimacy, jealousy, self-disclosure, sexual behavior, partner violence, and other processes in both satisfying and dysfunctional relationships. Special topics include gender differences in attachment as well as attachment dynamics within same-sex couples.

Sanna, L.J. & Chang, E. (2006). *Judgments over time: The interplay of thoughts, feelings, and behaviors*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Time pervades every aspect of people's

lives. We are all affected by remnants of our pasts, assessments of our presents, and forecasts of our futures. Our thoughts, feelings and behaviors over time inexorably intertwine and intermingle, determining varied reactions such as affect and emotions, as well as future behaviors. The purpose of this volume is to bring together the diverse theory and research of an outstanding group of scholars whose work relates to peoples judgments over time. To date, much theory and research on temporal variables within psychology has remained somewhat fragmented, isolated and even provincial—researchers in particular domains are either unaware of or are paying little attention to each other's work. Integrating the theory and research into a single volume will bring about a greater awareness and appreciation of conceptual relations between seemingly disparate topics, define and promote the state of scientific knowledge in these areas, and set the agenda for future work. The volume presents the two main ways of looking at judgments over time: looking at how people's thoughts about the future and the past affect their present states, and looking at the interplay over time among people's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors.

Silvia, P. (2006). *Exploring the Psychology of Interest*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Psychologists have always been interested in interest, and so modern research on interest can be found in nearly every area of the field: researchers studying emotions, cognition, development, education, aesthetics, personality, motivation, and vocations have developed intriguing ideas about what interest is and how it works. Exploring the Psychology of Interest presents an integrated picture of how interest has been studied in all the wide-ranging areas of psychology. Using modern theories of cognition and emotion as an integrative framework,

(Continued on page 25)

## Some References for Information on “Alternative” Jobs

*Cathy Cozzarelli, a former tenured professor at Kansas State University, and now a Social Science Analyst at USAID, created a handout of on-line links for a session at the 2006 SPSP Meeting in Palm Springs on alternative career paths. Dialogue asked her to make it available to us.*

### Places to find more information about jobs in Congress:

- <http://www.brubach.com/opatest/> (Great listing of current jobs in Congress and DC non-profits. Must subscribe.)
- <http://www.apa.org/ppo/funding/scifell.html> (Description of APA Fellowships)
- [http://www.spssi.org/James\\_Marshall\\_Flyer.html](http://www.spssi.org/James_Marshall_Flyer.html) (Description of Div 9 (SPSSI) public policy fellowship)
- Contact the office of your state’s Congress people and Senators directly. Being from their state is your biggest asset.

### Places to find more information about jobs at non-profits:

- Many non-profits have summer internships and often, they are looking for grad students. Contact organization you are interested in directly.
- <http://www.idealists.org/> (List of info about and jobs available at non-profits)
  - <http://www.brubach.com/opatest/> (Great listing of current jobs in Congress and DC non-profits. Must subscribe.)

- <http://www.cbn.org/dia/organizations/cbn/jobs/> (Listing of jobs mostly in DC with non-profits interested in a variety of social issues.)
- <http://www.winonline.org> (Webpage listing jobs for early career people interested in working on policy related to women’s issues. Must subscribe.)

### Places to find more information about jobs in government or international jobs:

- <http://www.internationaljobs.org/> (International jobs center – a comprehensive listing of international jobs)
- <http://www.developmentjobs.info/na/> (A listing of jobs in international development)
- <http://www.interaction.org/monday/> (Extensive listing of NGO jobs in development. Must subscribe.)
- <http://fellowships.aaas.org/> (Information about the AAAS Fellowship programs)
- <http://www.usajobs.gov/> (Official jobs website of the US government)
- <http://www7.nationalacademies.org/career> (A listing of jobs at the National Academies of Science)

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## Announcements, Continued

(Continued from page 24)

Paul Silvia examines the nature of interest, what makes things interesting, the role of interest in personality, and the development of peoples idiosyncratic interests, hobbies, and avocations. His examination reveals deep similarities between seemingly different fields of psychology and illustrates the profound importance of interest, curiosity, and intrinsic motivation for understanding why people do what they do. The most comprehensive work of its kind, *Exploring the Psychology of Interest* will be a valuable resource for student and professional researchers in cognitive, social, and developmental psychology.

Vohs, K. D., & Finkel, E. J. (Eds.) (2006). *Self and relationships: Connecting Intrapersonal and Interpersonal Processes*. New York:

Guilford Press.

This volume brings together leading investigators who integrate two distinct research domains in social psychology--people’s internal worlds and their close relationships. Contributors present compelling findings on the bidirectional interplay between internal processes, such as self-esteem and self-regulation, and relationship processes, such as how positively partners view each other and the level of excitement in the relationship. Methodological challenges inherent in studying these complex issues are addressed, as are implications for understanding broader aspects of psychological functioning and well-being.

Weiner, Bernard (2006). *Social motivation, justice, and the moral emotions*. Mahwah, NJ: Erlbaum .

A general theory of social motivation is proposed, derived from legal and theological principles. Beliefs about responsibility and the emotions these generate provide the theoretical foundation. The book documents that achievement evaluation, reactions to the stigmatized, help giving, compliance, aggression, and punishment goals and decisions can be subsumed within this mediational framework, while individual and cultural differences act as moderators of the proposed relations. Moral emotions, including admiration, anger, gratitude, scorn, and sympathy, are proposed to bridge the gap between causal thinking and action. Finally, applications of the theory are examined. Meta-theory of motivation and the relation of this theory to other motivational approaches are discussed.

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## News of the Society, Cont.

(Continued from page 1)

*Convention.* Tim Strauman reported that the meeting had gone well, with only a handful of complaints. The 2006 meeting in Palm Springs increased in size 8-9% over the 2005 meeting. This occurred despite the fact that Palm Springs was partly selected as an “experimental,” more difficult-to-get-to site, to see if growth would asymptote. It did not; 2105 people came and registered.

One major glitch was the long registration line at the start of the meeting. Although it moved fairly quickly, it was *very* long. For the future, there will be more volunteers sought, to make registration go quickly and smoothly. Another glitch in the planning was that there were too few hotel rooms blocked out for Wednesday night at the convention rate. The meeting has constant growing pains.

In terms of programming, the goal is to accept about 50% of submissions, and this year’s committee fell just slightly below that. The convention grew to as many as seven simultaneous sessions, and most of the meetings were well-attended. Unfortunately, the number of locales that can accommodate a seven- or eight-session meeting are few. The conference, if it grows, may become limited in location, and more expensive. Still, good work deserves to be included in the meeting. One way to increase the program size is to run a few sessions in the early morning. If you have an opinion to express on these matters, the people to contact are Steve Harkins (Chair, Convention Committee), Monica Biernat (2007 Program Chair) or David Dunning (Executive Officer). The actual convention details are arranged through Tara Miller Events.

Another issue is that the award addresses compete with other symposia. These are important sessions

that are worthy of special scheduling, but the size of the meeting prohibits this. There was some discussion of increasing the number of days of the meeting, but there is a broad consensus among the executive committee that the conference should run only two full days (plus the one day preconferences), and not to extend in either direction.

In 2006 there were 14 preconferences, ranging from about 40 to over 160 registrants, and up to 200 people in the room at one time. Preconferences are an important part of the conference, but there are occasional problems with these meetings ending in time for the Thursday evening events. Clearly the new arrivals and the people spilling out of the preconferences at the same time on late Thursday afternoon was a problem at the registration desk.

*Student travel awards.* Julie Norem reported that SPSP Travel Awards are highly sought after. There were nearly 200 applications, and 40 \$300 awards were made (creating a success rate of 20%, or, with different framing, a rejection rate of 80%). This year, it was made clear that applicants had to be student members of SPSP before *applying*, and this was taken seriously. The committee agreed that there were many high quality submissions.

There was substantial discussion about the possibility of increasing the size of this program. Some further discussion was made about targeting the kind of people we want to come to the conference: foreign students, student in other disciplines, and so on. No decisions were made in this session, but keep watch for future announcements on Dialogue, and on the listserv.

*2007 Meeting.* The 2007 meeting will be held in Memphis, Tennessee, January 25-27 (see the announcement on p. 2. We have blocked out 2,100 total night rooms at the convention rate, an increase from 2006. If you are

planning to attend, it is wise to book your room soon after the announcement is made. The head of the Program Committee for the Memphis meeting will be Monica Biernat, and committee members include Henk Aarts, Ximena Arriaga, Niall Bolger, Jennifer Richeson, Linda Skitka, Sheldon Solomon, Gary Stasser, and Jean Twenge.

*Publications.* Rick Robins reported that *PSPB* has seen an 18% increase in submissions. Though the reasons for this are unclear, almost all conceivable reasons reflect well on the journal and its staff. Will this growth continue in 2006? The editor, Judy Harackiewicz, hopes not! So far, the editorial team has been able to keep the rejection rate and publication lag to similar numbers as the previous year or so; this is no mean feat. However, the triage rate (papers not sent out for review, based on the judgment of editor that the paper has a very low chance of appearing in *PSPB*) is increasing. The citation impact of *PSPB* has increased slightly over the past year or so as well.

The *PSPB* editorial team is necessarily increasing—it is now 12 people (one Editor, two Senior Associate Editors, and 9 Associate Editors). If the submission keeps up this high or continues to grow, then the Society might have to give up the single-editor model at *PSPB*—642 submissions is too much for one editor. The Executive Committee considered possible structural changes at *PSPB*. Should short reports be encouraged? Might some papers submitted to *PSPB* be sent over to *PSPR*? At this point, no solution to the problem is on the horizon, but there continues to be strong resistance to “sectioning” the journal along content lines.

The Student Publication Award went to Mark Landau, for his paper that appeared in the September issue of *PSPB*, entitled “*Deliver us from*

*Evil: The Effects of Mortality Salience and Reminders of 9/11 on Support for President George W. Bush,*" with Solomon, Greenberg, Cohen, Pyszczynski, Arndt, Miller, Ogilvie & Cook. There were 22 papers identified as eligible for the award, of these 21 came from *PSPB* and one came from *PSPR*.

*Training Committee.* Steve Drigotas reported that the Training Committee has continued discussing non-academic career paths. Because faculty understand and can advise on academic careers quite well, the more pressing need is for help on paths that aren't immediately well-known to advisers. The 2006 meeting included a symposium about alternative career paths, and a conference call was used for two of the speakers.

The training committee is at work creating a network/listserv of area heads for questions related to training. If you are a graduate training chair for social/personality psychology, please contact Steve Drigotas ([drigotas@jhu.edu](mailto:drigotas@jhu.edu)).

*Diversity Committee.* Tiffany Ito reported that the Diversity Committee had overseen 12 Diversity awards, of \$800 each. There were 45 applicants, (creating a success rate of 27%).

This committee also oversees a program of undergraduate conference registration awards. College and universities in the area of the annual conference are contacted, and specific students are encouraged to attend the meeting, and are given free registration (up to 20 awards). For the 2006 meeting, there were 17 applications, 14 attended and submitted posters. The full list of Travel and Diversity Awardees appears on p. 12.

*Graduate Student Committee.* Darin Challacombe reported a number of activities the GSC was involved in over the past year. For more information, see the GSC report on p. 6.

*Web report.* Scott Plous is the

webmaster for SPSP and also runs [Socialpsychology.org](http://Socialpsychology.org), a website supported in part by SPSP funds (see story on p. 25). The main issue discussed at the meeting was how to continue to support these efforts. NSF provided seed money that got [Socialpsychology.org](http://Socialpsychology.org) off the ground, but built into that funding was the understanding that it was temporary. Several possibilities for additional funding sources were raised, including increased support from SPSP, sponsorship of the site by publishers such as Sage, and so on.

If you are a user of [Socialpsychology.org](http://Socialpsychology.org), please consider becoming a member of the group. Memberships are not expensive, and will help keep this useful resource available. Go to [www.socialpsychology.org/support.htm](http://www.socialpsychology.org/support.htm) for more information.

*Summer Institute in Social Psychology.* The Summer Institute in Social Psychology (SISP) was in Ann Arbor, Michigan in 2005. The next program will be in 2007 in Austin, Texas. SISP is funded by NSF, and is funded through 2007. See a report on the 2005 SISP on p. 4.

*APA Convention.* There is a wide range of interesting programming planned for the upcoming APA Convention, August 10-13. The convention will be in New Orleans, and this will provide ample opportunity for scholarly interaction and fun, celebration and social interaction, remarkable food, and an opportunity to see and support the recovery of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. See Toni Schmader's preview of the convention on p. 9.

*APA Council.* Janet Swim reported that less and less science is being represented on the APA Council, which in turn elects the Board of Directors, which in turn runs much of APA. Currently, the Board is nearly all clinicians, with only the APA President representing science. Steve Breckler, the Executive Director of the APA Science Directorate, is moving forward

on IRB issues. There are many reports of "mission creep" in IRBs, where instead of protection of human participants, the committees are beginning to review methods, procedures, and research management, and other issues beyond their stated mission. Some institutions are reporting that their IRB is extremely disruptive of the normal course of research, even when no significant ethical issues (beyond the norm) are present.

APA sponsored a very well received Science Leadership Conference, which selected prominent scientists and trained them on interacting with the media. If you know of a good spokesperson for psychological science, you might identify this person to Steve Breckler at APA.

APA is a leader in diversity issues and confronting prejudice. They consistently write and vote on statements and platforms that speak out against prejudice and discrimination. These statements are usually based on the best available science. If APA contacts you about these statements or resolution, the Council Representatives encourage you to assist APA in developing them.

*Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences.* SPSP has joined the Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences (FBPCS), which is run by Barb Wanchisen. The FBPCS is a lobbying organization, and it represents the interests of many psychologically-oriented science associations.

FBPCS is planning a roundtable meeting with Department of Homeland Security for funding of grants relevant to social-personality psychology, on areas such as detecting deception, understanding terrorism, and cultural differences in reactions to injustice. SPSP will be well-represented in these discussions.

*Other issues.* The Executive Committee

(Continued on page 29)

# Graduate Student Travel Awards, SPSP 2006

By Julie Norem

Graduate student participation has contributed enormously to the resounding success of SPSP's annual meeting. To encourage, facilitate and recognize student participation, several years ago SPSP began its Student Travel Award program. Students who were first authors on posters or symposia accepted for the conference were eligible for the awards. This year, 191 graduate students applied for 40 Travel Awards of \$300 each. The winning applicants presented on an exciting and diverse set of topics, and represent many different home

institutions, geographical locations, and number of years of study. Next year, Jeff Simpson will be coordinating the Student Travel Awards for SPSP. Look for his announcement about the application process early in the fall. (Note: previous winners of either the travel award or the diversity award are subsequently not eligible for either award again.)

Congratulations to this year's winners and their home institutions.

Jonathan Adler	Northwestern University
Janine Bosak	University of Mannheim
Bradley Brummel	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Jeni Burnette	Virginia Commonwealth University
Kathleen Burns	University of Massachusetts-Amherst
David Butz	Florida State University
Jennifer Crosby	Stanford University
Theresa DiDonato	Brown University
Paul Eastwick	Northwestern University
Donna Garcia	University of Kansas
Anke Goerzig	University of Mannheim
Jennifer Goetz	University of California, Berkeley
Meara Habashi	Purdue University
Takeshi Hamamura	University of British Columbia
Anna Han	Ohio State University
Peter Harms	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Kimberly Kahn	University of California, Los Angeles
Ethan Kross	Columbia University
Etienne LeBel	University of Western Ontario
I-Ching Lee	University of Connecticut
Lisa Legault	University of Ottawa
Edward Lemay	Yale University
Renee Magnan	North Dakota State University
Angela Maitner	University of California, Santa Barbara
Anesu Mandisodza	New York University
Raymond Mar	University of Toronto
Denise Marigold	University of Waterloo
Michael Marks	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Pranjal Mehta	University of Texas, Austin
Kristina Olson	Harvard University
Michelle Peruche	Florida State University
David Portnoy	University of Connecticut
Gwendolyn Seidman	New York University
Nicole Stephens	Stanford University
Justin Storbeck	University of Virginia
Amy Strachman	University of California, Los Angeles
Hulda Thorisdottir	New York University
Johanna Vollhardt	University of Massachusetts-Amherst
Melissa Williams	University of California, Berkeley
Michelle Wirth	University of Michigan ■

## APA Council, Cont.

(Continued from page 20)

Psychological Ethics and National Security (PENS), made a presentation to council on the final report of the task force. The report was widely applauded for its unequivocal stand against psychologists' involvement in any activities that would directly or indirectly support or facilitate torture or other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment. The Divisions of Social Justice, a group of 10 APA divisions united in their concern for Social Justice issues, presented a series of recommendations aimed at translating the report into concrete policy and practice guidelines, and encouraging implementation of the positions set forth in the PENS report.

Council also voted to approve a resolution against prejudice, stereotypes, and discrimination which was written by a task force chaired by SPSP member, Jack Dovidio. To increase diversity on Council, a motion to invite four ethnic minority psychology associations to send representatives to council meetings, effective with the August meeting was also approved. ■

# Social Psychology Network Celebrates Ten Years of Service

By Scott Plous

On February 1, 2006, Social Psychology Network celebrated 10 years of service, making it one of the oldest Internet sites devoted to psychological science and education. In July of this year the *SPSP.org* web site will also qualify as an "old-timer" when it passes 8 years of continuous operation (web years are approximately equal to dog years). In light of these milestones and several web upgrades that were made over the past year, it's worth taking stock to see how these sites are doing and where they are headed.

In most respects, the news has never been better. Social Psychology Network's transition to a new design—unveiled on August 6, 2005—went smoothly, and the prominent position of the Society's link on SPN's new pages appears to have benefited the SPSP.org web site. Between August 6 and February 6, SPSP's site received more than 370,000 page views (3% of all Network traffic), and of the 200 million or so results generated by a Google search of "psychology," SPSP.org now ranks #12 worldwide—the highest-ranked site out of all 53 APA divisions. Google also continues to rank *SocialPsychology.org* as #2 worldwide, ahead of APA itself, and the Network's cumulative number of page views recently topped 70 million.

Thanks to programming enhancements made last year, it's possible to track the usage of various features as well. Here's a sample:

- ◆ Visitors have searched for Media Contacts 3,914 times since August 6, 2005
- ◆ Visitors have searched for SPN Mentors 3,137 times since August 6, 2005
- ◆ Visitors have clicked on

psychology headlines 17,790 times since August 6, 2005

- ◆ SPN has forwarded 163 listserv messages (153 to SPSP) since February 18, 2005
- ◆ SPN approved and posted 142 online study links during the 2005 calendar year
- ◆ SPN approved and posted 99 job announcements during the 2005 calendar year
- ◆ SPN has emailed 1,532 Job Alerts to subscribers since August 6, 2005

Consistent with this intensive amount of usage, the number of professionals profiled in SPN is at an all-time high. The Network now contains 1,197 profiled professionals, 768 (64%) of whom have updated their profile at least once since 2004. These professionals come from 33 different countries, and they include 423 self-designated Media Contacts and 301 SPN Mentors.

Perhaps most encouraging of all, more than 600 SPSP members have generously heeded the Society's call to join and support the Network. Joining SPN is especially important because the Network's funding from the National Science Foundation will fall by two-thirds on July 1, 2006, at which point the Network's continued existence will depend heavily on member contributions.

As for what the future holds, the SPN team is planning to work over the summer to enhance SPSP's online payment system and convert it to a fully-featured membership management system. Moving SPSP to a web-based management system will have a number of advantages over the current system, such as the ability to:

- ◆ Email membership renewal notices
- ◆ Check for duplicate records and

errors

- ◆ Schedule regular database back-ups
- ◆ Permit 24-hour access from any location

This system will equip SPSP with user-friendly web tools to reduce the time and expense of keeping up with an ever-increasing membership, and it will ensure that the Society continues to have a top notch web site that meets its members' needs. ■



## SPSP News, Cont.

(Continued from page 27)

discussed creating a list of people with significant public relations skills, who would be on call for the Society, and represent our science and our interests. This would work in tandem with the press release program that is under development for the future. SPSP is hoping to create an infrastructure for outreach, primarily to the media, but also to state and federal governments.

A Foundation for Personality and Social Psychology is also being created. The Foundation is not an arm of SPSP, but rather exists as an independent entity and an independent board, although there will be many commonalities of interest between the two organizations. Watch Dialogue for more information about playing a role in its operation. The Foundation will soon be seeking funds for a variety of initiatives. ■



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## Announcing the 2006 SPSP Graduate Poster Award Winners

By Michèle M. Schlehofer

This year's conference in Palm Springs marked the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Graduate Poster Award competition. Due to the growing interest in the award, this year's competition was bigger and better than ever! A total of 120 graduate students competed for one of the coveted awards, with an average of 17 competitors in each poster session.

Students interested in joining the competition were asked to submit a short summary of their presentation, followed by a draft of their to-be-presented poster two weeks prior to the conference. At each poster session, secret judges viewed competing posters and rated them for theoretical and methodological soundness and quality of presentation. Judges then chose one first-place and two runner-up winners at each session.

First-place winners received an award certificate and had their poster displayed in a special area of the exhibition hall for the duration of the conference. They also received a \$100 monetary award (courtesy of SPSP), free personal copies of MediaLab and/or DirectRT for the remainder of their graduate career plus one year post-graduation, for use on up to two computers (courtesy of Empirisoft), and their choice of either a DirectIN Millisecond Precision Keyboard (value \$290) or a DirectIN Precision Response Box with Custom Button Layout (value \$390), also provided courtesy of Empirisoft. The following seven first-place winners received these awards:

**Alishia Alibhai**, for her poster "Tendencies towards underhelping following a mild provocation: A behavioural investigation into the nature of revenge between strangers versus intimates."

**Evan Apfelbaum**, for his poster

"Racial composition and the acknowledgement of group membership."

**Clayton Critcher**, for his poster "Self-affirmation and defensiveness: Timing is everything."

**Noah Goldstein**, for his poster "The spyglass self: A theory of vicarious self-perception."

**Whitney Heppner**, for her poster "Fluctuations in daily reports of self-esteem: Predictions from authenticity, autonomy, competence, and relatedness."

**Laura Naumann**, for her poster "Personality differences between Asians and European Americans: A test of several explanations."

**Bulent Turan**, for his poster "Knowledge about trustworthiness: The prototype and individual differences in its accessibility."

Runner-up winners received an award certificate and a \$50 monetary award, courtesy of SPSP. Please join me in congratulating this year's runner-up winners: Scott Akalis, Mathew Curtis, Genevieve Dunton, Eden Epstein, Jesse Graham, Deborah Hall, Chris Hulleman, Inge Schweiger Gallo, Sei Jin Ko, Jennifer Kubota, Elizabeth Page-Gould, M Joy McClure, Kevin McIntyre, and Amanda Vicary.

The GPA could not be provided without the assistance of SPSP members willing to serve as judges. I'd like to extend thanks to the following individuals for taking the time to serve as a judge during one of the poster sessions: Kristin Anderson, Stacey Anderson, Neal Ashkanasy, John Chambers, Lynne Cooper, Phebe Cramer, Amy Cuddy, Jamie Barden, Karen Douglas, Maire Ford, Cindy Frantz, Tim Keteelaar, Jeff Larsen, Yuri Miyamoto, Ian Newby-Clark, Kathryn Oleson, Wade Rowatt, Alecia Santuzzi, Wes Schultz,

Lloyd Sloan, C. Veronica Smith, Michael Steger, Bill Todd-Mancillas, Julie Turchin, Carolyn Weisz, and Anne Wilson. I'd also like to thank Jonathan Cook, who coordinated the judging of one poster award session.

If you'll be attending next year's conference in Tennessee, please consider getting involved in the GPA process. With the growing number of award nominees, we are always in need of judges. Ph.D.-level members of SPSP and past recipients of the GPA can serve as judges. It is a small time commitment (only one poster session—an hour and a half!), and provides a great service to students running for an award. If you're a student presenting a first-authored poster at next year's conference, please consider submitting your work for an award. You just might win an award, and it's a great way to get motivated to put together an excellent presentation!

The SPSP Graduate Student Committee is always looking for ways to improve upon its initiatives. If you were involved in this year's GPA in any way (either as a judge or as a contestant), and have advice or feedback to give that would aid in coordinating next year's competition, please share it! Please email your feedback to the 2007 GPA coordinator, Darin Challacombe, at [darin@boggletech.com](mailto:darin@boggletech.com). Thanks once again to everyone who participated in this year's GPA, and congratulations to the award recipients! ■

Have an idea for a story or feature in *Dialogue*? For consideration in the Fall issue, please send your ideas and/or articles to the editors, [crandall@ku.edu](mailto:crandall@ku.edu) or [biernat@ku.edu](mailto:biernat@ku.edu), by October 1, 2006.

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News of the Society Since 1986

## Diversity Committee, Cont.

(Continued from page 12)

We welcome comments and input from SPSP members on the committee's activities and mission. You can direct your comments to any of the committee members, who this year are Keith Maddox (current chair), Nilanjana Dasgupta, and Tiffany Ito. Information on all our activities can also be found at [www.spsp.org/divprog.htm](http://www.spsp.org/divprog.htm). If you or any of your students might be eligible for any of our programs, look for application information on the web page starting in the summer. ■

## Constraint of Theory, Cont.

(Continued from page 17)

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For more information, link to:  
<http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~kiblstmr/SPSPDialogue06>. ■

### Dialogue Mission Statement

*Dialogue* is the official newsletter of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. It appears twice every year, in the spring and fall. Its intended readership is members of the Society. The purpose of *Dialogue* is to report news of the Society, stimulate debate on issues, and generally inform and occasionally entertain. *Dialogue* publishes summaries about meetings of the Society's executive committee and subcommittees, as well as announcements, opinion pieces, letters to the editor, humor, and other articles of general interest to personality and social psychologists. The Editors seek to publish all relevant and appropriate contributions, although the Editors reserve the right to determine publishability. Content may be solicited by the Editors or offered, unsolicited, by members. News of the Society and Committee Reports are reviewed for accuracy and content by officers or committee chairs of SPSP. All other content is reviewed at the discretion of the Editors.