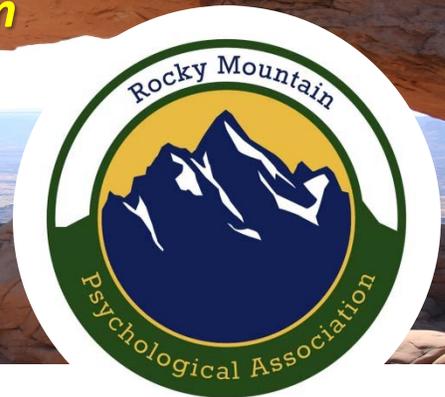


# Rocky Mountain Psychological Association

## Newsletter

Fall 2016

[www.rockymountainpsych.com](http://www.rockymountainpsych.com)



## President's Message

*Eric Landrum*

*Boise State University*

For most of us, the semester is in full swing or perhaps starting to wind down. Semesters are a method for academics to tell time, but it is also time to starting thinking about RMPA in the spring! Your RMPA Executive Committee already has plans for our April 6-8, 2017 annual convention in Salt Lake City, Utah. This will be RMPA's 87<sup>th</sup> annual convention, and it will be memorable. Here are some details...

### 2017 RMPA Convention

The Portenier-Wertheimer Teaching Conference begins at 12:00 noon on Thursday, April 6. The formal RMPA kickoff starts at 5:00pm with our open keynote speaker Dr. David Raskin from the University of Utah (emeritus) delivering the RMPA Past President's Address, followed by a reception and teaching posters beginning at 6:00pm. The RMPA program is in full swing all day on Friday, April 7 and Saturday, April 8, with conference activities winding down at the RMPA Business Meeting and Awards Ceremony starting at 5:30pm on Saturday. In addition, RMPA will offer opportunities for professionals to earn continuing education (CE) credits; as those plans are finalized, they will be posted on our web site. Another aspect of the convenience of attending RMPA is our conference submission deadline – January 30, 2017.

### Scheduled Speakers

I am pleased to report that we already have an impressive lineup of speakers planned for the 2017 convention – here is the listing of scheduled speakers at this time, but note that others may be added:

- Regan A. R. Gurung, University of Wisconsin, Green Bay
- Deborah Licht and Misty Hull, Pikes Peak Community College
- David Raskin, University of Utah
- Jane Halonen, University of West Florida
- Clara E. Hill, University of Maryland
- Scott Bates, Utah State University

- Mary Lee Jensvold, Fauna Institute, Montreal
- Melanie Brewster, Columbia University
- Mary Pritchard, Boise State University
- Susan Nolan, Seton Hall University

### Staying in Salt Lake City

The site for the 2017 RMPA convention is the Radisson Hotel Downtown, located on 215 West South Temple Street. This hotel is easily accessible by taking the TRAX (light rail train), Green Line from the Salt Lake City airport--round trip is \$5. Purchase your ticket in the airport just before exiting to the train platform, and the Radisson Hotel Downtown is about ½ block from the Arena Stop. If driving, there is parking at the hotel as well as parking options near the hotel.

Within a quarter mile of the hotel, there are options for dining, including:

- Copper Canyon (in the hotel)
- Blue Lemon, 55 W. South Temple
- Crown Burgers, 118 N. 300 W.
- JB's Restaurant, 102 W. South Temple

If you broaden that to a half-mile within the hotel, there are even more options:

- Caffe Molise, 55 100 W.
- Valter's Osteria, 173 W. Broadway
- Settebello Pizzeria, 260 S. 200 W.
- Red Rock Brewing Company, 254 S. 200 W.
- Naked Fish, 67 W. 100 S.
- Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar, 20 S. 400 W. #2020
- Tony Caputo's Market and Deli, 308 W. Broadway
- Texas de Brazil Churrascaria, 50 S. Main St., Ste. 168
- Bambara, 202 S. Main St.,
- Toasters, 151 W. 200 S.
- Eva's Bakery, 155 S. Main St.

Also, the City Creek Shopping Center is one block from the hotel, and the Gateway Shopping Center is two blocks from the hotel; both offer more dining options (including a food court with fast food options) and interesting stores and shops.

*Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming*

## ***Candidate for President-Elect***

### **Roxanne Sullivan, Ph.D. Bellevue University**

#### ***Biography***

Roxanne L. Sullivan is Professor and Program Director of Psychology, Sociology, and Women's Studies at Bellevue University in Bellevue, NE. She earned her bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Iowa and her master's degree in Child Development and Family Studies from Purdue University. In 1984, she completed her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology with an emphasis on cognitive development from Michigan State University. While at MSU, she was an NIMH Pre-doctoral Fellow. Roxanne's research focused on memory and concept development in preschool aged children. She also served as the president of the MSU graduate chapter of Psi Chi.



Since 1983, she has worked for Bellevue University (formerly Bellevue College), a non-sectarian, private business and liberal arts institution with a tradition of serving non-traditional students, particularly those who are military connected. As a teaching institution with a heavy teaching load, Roxanne has focused on bringing the research experience to her students through her experimental psychology course. Each psychology major, whether on campus or online, is required to design, conduct, and write a manuscript for an original research project. Since 1990, she has sponsored over 85 student presentations at the Great Plains Students' Psychology Convention, Nebraska Psychological Society (NPS), NPS/PERK (Psychological and Educational Research of Kansas), and RMPA. Her students have been recognized for the quality of their presentations at these conferences. In addition, her students have published interviews of noted psychologists in the *Journal of Psychological Inquiry*. In 2007, she was nominated by her students and was awarded the John R. Maenner Award for Professionalism and Teaching Excellence (part of the award was used to sponsor student travel to RMPA). Roxanne developed and acted as the first director of Bellevue University's MS in Human Services. Currently, she has developed and is facilitating a series of workshops for parents of preschoolers living in at risk environments through Bellevue University and the Learning Community of North Omaha, NE.

Professionally, she is a charter member and past officer of the Nebraska Psychological Society, a member of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology, and has been a member of RMPA since 2001. Since 2001, Roxanne has given

I'm proud to report that your Executive Committee continues to work hard on your behalf to advance the organization and psychology throughout the region. The 2016 convention was the first time that RMPA used EventBrite as our portal for conference registration, and from our post-convention evaluation and other reports, this upgrade was well-received. We continue to think about how we can improve your RMPA convention experience; for example, we also accept credit cards both online and for on-site registration (our collective thanks go to Courtney Rocheleau for this work). The 2016 convention also realized improvements to our convention submission portal, thanks to the fine work of Anna Ropp. We'll continue to work on improvements for 2017, including making your registration and conference submissions even easier and a new mobile-friendly web site. We are also considering a digital app for conference programming and announcements, but rest assured, if we pursue this route, we'll also make a PDF available for you to download and print if you wish.

It's all about the people. That statement applies to RMPA officers, members, student affiliates, and more. We're proud to be working year-round so that we can provide a high quality, student-friendly convention each spring. We're pleased to also announce the newest member of the Executive Committee, Dr. Nikki Jones from Colorado Mesa University, who is serving as our Diversity Council Chair. Keep watching your email inbox and the web site ([rockymountainpsych.com](http://rockymountainpsych.com)) in the coming months for RMPA election details and more news about conference submission, conference registration, hotel registration, and more.

I look forward to seeing each of you this coming April in Salt Lake City!

Sincerely,



President, Rocky Mountain Psychological Association  
Professor, Boise State University

## ***Elections***

Two positions are up for election this year; President-Elect and Secretary. All Professional and Faculty Full Members of RMPA are invited to vote in the upcoming elections. An electronic ballot will be sent to all eligible voting members shortly.

presentations on teaching/student issues at almost every RMPA conference. She has also served on the Diversity Committee, has participated in the planning for the Teaching Pre-conference, served as a judge for teaching posters, and served as “head judge” and session moderator for the RMPA Paper Competition from 2006-2015. The highlights of her career were receiving the RMPA Faculty Mentor Award in 2013 and being asked to represent RMPA at the APA Educational Leadership Conference (ELC) in October, 2015 in Washington, DC. Finally, she serves as a reviewer for the *Journal of Psychological Inquiry* (was a member of the group which established this journal for undergraduate research) and the *Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research*.

**Presidential statement:**

I am extremely honored to be nominated to serve as President of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association. Since my first experience attending RMPA in a very snowy Reno, NV, I have always felt welcome and at home with this organization. I look forward to attending and participating in the convention every year. I am thankful that my colleagues at the University of Nebraska-Kearney encouraged me to attend and become an active member of RMPA. To serve as president would be a truly humbling and wonderful experience. I hope to be able to continue the work that our dedicated membership has done to create one of the most supportive, invigorating, and inspiring organizations for both students and professionals that I have had the pleasure of being associated with. The quality of our programming, our support of student research, and the dedication to being open to everyone are things I would like to continue reinforcing. I would also like to continue to reach out and encourage colleagues who have not participated in RMPA to become more active. We have many colleges/universities and professionals in our region who could benefit from participation and contribute to the future of the organization. While in Washington for the ELC, I attended a meeting of the regional associations of APA and found it disheartening that while we are the largest region geographically, our convention had the lowest attendance. I would like to try to find ways to reach out and let others in our region know what a great organization we have, the passion we have for psychology and increase both membership and participation. Again, it is truly an honor to be nominated to serve as President for the organization that I consider in many ways, my professional family.



Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming

## Candidate for Secretary

### Bethany Fleck, Ph.D. Metropolitan State University of Denver

**Biography:**

Dr. Bethany Fleck received her PhD in Developmental Psychology from the University of New Hampshire. While there she also earned a Masters in the Science of College Teaching. Her research centers on cognitive development in childhood education and university classroom contexts. Both lines of research draw on developmental theory with the overall goal of enhancing the learning environment for students of all levels. Recently she has been working on a project that measures growth and fixed mindset in 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade urban youth. In the classroom, her research as of late focuses on the effects of service learning, grading systems, syllabi manipulations, and the integration of social media. Bethany is currently an Associate Professor at Metropolitan State University of Denver teaching courses in the human development and psychology majors. In her courses she is committed to an active, learner-centered approach to teaching.



**Candidate Statement:**

RMPA has contributed to my professional and personal development in numerous ways. I would like the opportunity to give back through service as Secretary. Recent leadership roles in the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP) have prepared me this position. With STP I served as the *Director of Communications, Public Relations, and Recruitment* on the Early Career Psychologist Committee (2013-2015), and am currently finishing a three-year term as the overall *Director for Regional Programing*. As director I had the privilege of travelling to each of the regional conferences to support and contribute to STP programming. My experiences at these conferences are an asset I can bring to the RMPA executive committee. At the RMPA regional level specifically I was the co-manager of a successful convention in Denver in 2013, I received the Early Career Award in 2014, and have advised 18 students who gave presentations at annual conferences since 2011 when I first joined the association. I have helped to plan, participate, and present in the pre-teaching conference and have been a program reviewer. If I win this election I will bring organization and communication skills to the position. I am also interested in enhancing our communication and record keeping systems through the use of technology and have familiarity updating and working with webpages. I look forward to the possibility of serving.

# RMPA 2017 CONVENTION INFORMATION

APRIL 6-8, 2017

Radisson Hotel Downtown

215 West South Temple

Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Hotel Direct: 801-531-7500

Toll Free Reservations: 1-800-333-3333

[www.radisson.com/salt-lake-city-hotel-ut-84101/utasaltlk](http://www.radisson.com/salt-lake-city-hotel-ut-84101/utasaltlk)

## Convention Manager

**Steve Barney**

[barney@suu.edu](mailto:barney@suu.edu)

435-586-7955



**Department of Psychology  
Southern Utah University  
351 W. University Blvd  
Cedar City, UT 84720**

### Lodging

**Radisson Hotel Downtown.** Reservations should be made by calling either calling the hotel reservation number at 1-800-333-3333 by March 5, 2017. Please specify that you are attending the RMPA annual meeting in order to get the special rate. Single/double rooms are \$139 (king or two double beds). You can also register for the hotel through a dedicated link for RMPA which is listed on the home page of the RMPA website. Amenities for the convention include free WiFi in all areas of the hotel.



### Transportation

There is a \$5.00 light rail (TRAX) that goes directly from the airport to within one block of the hotel. Taxi from airport to hotel is approximately \$25. More details, including maps and driving instructions, will be included in the Spring Newsletter.

## *Salt Lake City at a glance:*

**Salt Lake City** is a beautiful, modern city nestled in the foothills of the impressive Wasatch Mountains. With peaks rising to almost 12,000 feet above sea level it is not uncommon for the mountains to receive 500 inches of powdery snow each year. Home to the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, Salt Lake is famous for having the “Best Snow on Earth” and is a paradise for winter enthusiasts with six world class ski resorts within a 30 minute drive. Salt Lake’s granite cliffs and soaring peaks are also a mecca for rock climbers, mountain bikers, hikers, anglers, golfers, and other outdoor thrill seekers. Settled in 1847 by Mormon pioneers, Salt Lake City is the worldwide headquarters of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, and is the location of cultural and educational sites such as the world famous Family History Center and Genealogical Museum, Temple Square, and the Mormon Pioneer Memorial Monument.

This spring, the RMPA Annual Meeting will be held at the **Radisson Hotel Downtown** (<https://www.radisson.com/salt-lake-city-hotel-ut-84101/utasaltlk>) located in the heart of Salt Lake City, near Temple Square and within a block of two world class shopping/entertainment complexes; the City Creek Center (<http://www.shopcitycreekcenter.com/>), a 2015 Trip Advisor Certificate of Excellence Award winner, and the Gateway (<http://www.shopthegateway.com/about-the-gateway/the-gateway>), a large open air retail, residential and office complex with over 100 stores, movie theaters, musical stages, and restaurants. Salt Lake City is also the home to the NBA’s Utah Jazz basketball team (<http://www.nba.com/jazz/>). Home



games are played in the Vivint Smart Home arena, located half a block from the conference hotel. The Jazz play a home gain against the Minnesota Timberwolves Friday, April 7.

**Transportation** around the city is easy with Trax (<https://www.rideuta.com/Rider-Tools/Schedules-and-Maps>), the light rail system that services all portions of the Salt Lake Valley and beyond. There are two Trax stops

within half a block of the hotel. In addition, Salt Lake has a successful non-profit bike sharing program (<https://greenbikeslc.org/>) with stations located in several convenient locations.

**Live music** is plentiful in Salt Lake City with variety to please most tastes. The Utah Symphony Orchestra (<http://www.utahsymphony.org/>) is a world class symphony that calls Abravanel Hall home. On April 7 and



8, the orchestra will be playing Elgar's Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1, among other pieces. The concert will be conducted by Thierry Fischer and features Fumaiki Miura on the violin. The Depot is a 1,200 seat venue for rock concerts. They boast touring bands like Lany, Dinosaur Jr., The Cult, Squeeze, Ani Difranco, and Pennywise. Rumor is that a Led Zeppelin cover band will be playing the weekend of the conference. Tickets are about \$13.00. There are also several acoustic studios and blues clubs that dot the downtown area. For the younger crowd...and young at heart, the downtown area contains several dance clubs. Area 51, Club Sound, The Red Door, Club X, and Sky SLC are among the favorites. For country swingers, or wanna be country swingers, the famous Westerner is a short cab ride away. Alternative hot spots include Club JAM, The Sun Trapp, and club Try-Angles.

Real Salt Lake (<http://www.rsl.com/>), the 2009 Major League Soccer Champions, has home games at the Rio Tinto Stadium in Sandy, 10 miles south



of the Radisson, and the Salt Lake Bees (<http://www.milb.com/index.jsp?sid=t561>) a Triple A baseball club affiliated with the California Angels makes Smith's Ballpark located on 13<sup>th</sup> South it's home. For those techies, there is The Leonardo (<http://www.theleonardo.org/>), a science, technology, and art museum with great exhibits and activities for

kids. On the University of Utah campus, you can find the Utah Museum of Fine Arts, the Utah Museum of Natural History, and Rice Eccles Stadium.

If you are traveling with **children**, the Utah's Hogle Zoo (<https://www.hoglezoo.org/>) is worth a 10 minute Trax ride, as is the Tracy Aviary (<http://tracyaviary.org/>), the Imagination Palace ([www.imaginationplace.com](http://www.imaginationplace.com)) is a music and movement education center, and the Loveland Living Planet Aquarium (<http://www.thelivingplanet.com/>) showcases ecosystems from around the world. Thanksgiving Point (<http://www.thanksgivingpoint.org/>) has a wonderful



Museum of Natural Curiosity, an I-Max Theater, and the Museum of Ancient Life where your little one can roam among cretaceous habitats and check out the working paleontology lab. In the Junior Paleo Lab, children can participate in workshops where they can learn to make a cast of a dinosaur fossil, prepare a fish fossil, or identify myriad species of dinosaurs.

In Salt Lake City, you are never far from your next great meal. There are a surprisingly diverse array of **restaurants** and **pubs** within walking distance from the Radisson Downtown. The Copper Canyon Grillhouse and Tavern is located in the lobby and offers great selections at a reasonable price. The Redrock Brewing Company, a local microbrewery and restaurant is a local favorite, as is the Naked Fish sushi bar. The Tuscano's Brazilia n Grill

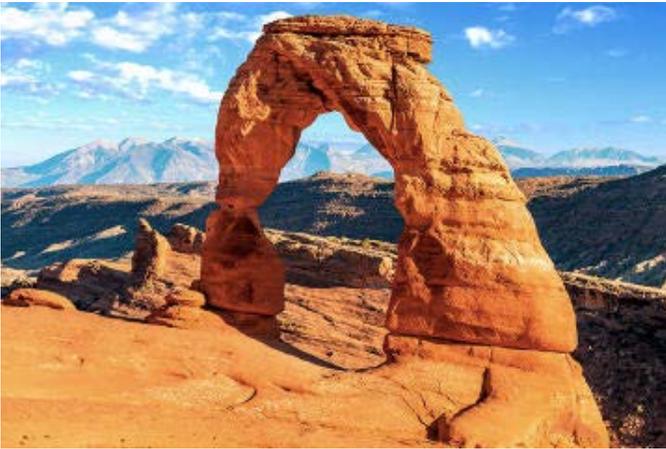


offers unlimited meat selections and Spencer's for Steaks and Chops is a great place for a hearty meal. For more refined tastes, Fleming's Prime Steakhouse and Wine Bar is one block away. Authentic pizza and Italian foods are found at Settebello Pizzeria and a darn good Pastrami Burger can be had at Crown Burger. The Rumbi Island Grill is a fun tropical experience, and Bruge's Waffles and Frites boasts the best French Fries in the State...and the waffles are wonderful. A series of comprehensive dining guides catered to all tastes will be available at the registration desk in April.



If you feel like going **shopping** or if you are looking for a place to hang out, Salt Lake's mall City Creek Center) is the place to be. It is located within a block from the Radisson Hotel. You can find stores like Macy's, Michael Kors, Nordstorm, Pandora, and many others. The mall has everything to offer from books to eyewear to sporting good and athletic wear. If you need a break from shopping, it has dining places and events almost every weekend or you can enjoy a frozen yoghurt by one of the many water fountains.

For those adventurous souls, Utah is the home to **15 National Parks and Monuments**, and **44 State Parks** (<https://stateparks.utah.gov/>), all within a day's drive of



downtown Salt Lake City. Finally, the namesake for the area, The Great Salt Lake is the largest salt-water lake in the Western Hemisphere, and the 8<sup>th</sup> largest terminal lake in the world. Home to numerous species of waterfowl and shore birds, the lake is a sailor's paradise and, for the extra hearty, a place for a quick dip in the salty water. Because of the salinity and mineral content, it is impossible to sink, unless you are really trying.

*We want to personally invite you to come to Salt Lake City and enjoy the down home feel in this cosmopolitan place. If you are familiar with Salt Lake, there are many hidden gems waiting for you to explore.*

***See you in Salt Lake!***



***“.ORG” is now “.COM”***

***RMPA's Website has changed from [www.rockymountainpsych.org](http://www.rockymountainpsych.org) to [www.rockymountainpsych.com](http://www.rockymountainpsych.com) . The new website is compatible with mobile devices and plans are underway to add a convention app.***

***Paper and Poster Session Submission is now open and will remain open until January 30, 2017.***

***Convention Registration is now open, advanced registration will be open through March 3, 2017; after March 3<sup>rd</sup>, a late fee will be added to registration.***

***Hotel Reservations are now open with the guaranteed convention rate until March 5, 2017 (subject to availability).***

***All of the above can be accessed through the RMPA website: [www.rockymountainpsych.com](http://www.rockymountainpsych.com)***

## *RMPA Convention at a glance:*

### **RMPA Distinguished Lecture**

#### **To Boldly Go (Beyond Content): Skills & Learning**



**Regan A. R. Gurung**

University of Wisconsin – Green Bay

Educators often strive to cover content neglecting to teach students how to learn or how to best find, digest, and evaluate content. Students rarely climb beyond the basic levels of Bloom's taxonomy. This talk urges us to boldly go where few instructors have gone before and provide students with essential skills to better learn content.

Dr. Gurung is the Ben J. and Joyce Rosenberg Professor of Human Development and Psychology at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay. He was born and raised in Bombay, India, received a B.A. in psychology at Carleton College (MN), and a Masters and Ph.D. in social and personality psychology at the University of Washington (WA), and then spent three years at UCLA as a National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Research fellow.

He has received numerous local, state, and national grants for my health psychological and social psychological research on cultural differences in stress, social support, smoking cessation, body image and impression formation. He has published articles in a variety of scholarly journals including Psychological Review and Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, and Teaching of Psychology, have a textbook, Health Psychology: A Cultural Approach, relating culture, development, and health published with Cengage (now in its third edition) and is also the co-author/co-editor of 14 other books (see CV). He has made over 100 presentations and given workshops nationally and internationally (e.g. Australia, India, Saudi Arabia, New Zealand).

### **Teaching Conference Keynote Address**

#### **The Professoriate in the Twenty-First Century**



**Jane Halonen**

University of West Florida

Psychology has fallen on some hard times of late. Some of our difficulties may simply represent growing pains. Other difficulties result from public misunderstanding about the nature of the discipline and the skills sets that the discipline fosters. In this session we will explore the scope of public misunderstanding about psychology and collectively discuss what psychology's educators can do to keep psychology vital in the postmodern era.

### **Psi Chi Keynote Address**

#### **Meaning in life: What's it all about?**



**Clara E. Hill**

University of Maryland

Many of us like to think about meaning in life (MIL): to figure out where we have been, if what we are doing is worthy, and what our goals are in life. In this talk, Dr. Hill will provide a definition of MIL and describe a new measure she and her colleagues have developed to assess MIL. She will also talk about sources of MIL, theories about working with MIL, and empirical evidence about the effectiveness of working with MIL.

Clara E. Hill earned her PhD at Southern Illinois University in 1974. She started her career in 1974 as an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology, University of Maryland and is currently still there as a Professor. She has been President of the Society for Psychotherapy Research, Editor of the Journal of Counseling Psychology, and Co-Editor of Psychotherapy Research. Awards include the Leona Tyler Award (Society of Counseling Psychology), the Distinguished Psychologist Award (Division 29 of the American Psychological Association), the Distinguished Research Career Award (Society for Psychotherapy Research), and the Outstanding Lifetime Achievement Award (Section on Counseling and Psychotherapy Process and Outcome Research, Society for Counseling Psychology). Her major research interests are helping skills, psychotherapy process and outcome, training and supervising therapists, dream work, meaning in life, and qualitative research. She has published more than 200 journal articles, 70 chapters in books, and 12 books (including Helping Skills, Dream Work in Therapy, and Consensual Qualitative Research). She is married, with two children and two grandchildren.

### **RMPA Alumni Address**

#### **The Opportunistic Generalist, or: How I Stopped Worrying and Learned to Give Psychology Away**



**Scott Bates**

Utah State University

Scott Bates is a social psychologist by training and a generalist by heart. Currently, he is a professor of psychology at Utah State University. He earned a B.S. in Psychology from Whitman College, an M.S. in Psychology from Western Washington University and a Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology from Colorado State University.

During his career, he has conducted funded research in three areas. Projects in higher education teaching and learning focus on understanding college-student learning, and optimizing college-level teaching. Projects in problem behavior prevention focus on needs assessment, monitoring, and optimizing data collection. Projects in environmental psychology focus on understanding the non-nutritive benefits of plants in isolated environments (i.e., space travel).

He has co-authored a textbook, Methods in Behavioral Research (McGraw-Hill; 12e, 2015), with Chis Cozby. Since 2011, he has served as director of USU's undergraduate research program.

Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming

## RMPA Diversity Address



**Melanie Brewster**  
Columbia University

Overwhelmingly, national survey data supports that Americans have significant bias against atheist people. Specifically, 40% of Americans polled in a survey of feelings towards religious groups in the US reported negative views of atheists (Pew Research Center, 2014). Some of this bias may stem from beliefs that atheist people are different or deviant; indeed, data suggest that people in the US view atheists as the social group (other groups included Muslims, immigrants, and sexual minority individuals) *least* likely to share their vision of American society (Edgell, Gerteis, & Hartmann, 2006). These beliefs may translate to actions that marginalize atheist people in their daily lives; for example, the previous study cited also found that Americans report that they would be least accepting of their son or daughter marrying an atheist compared to someone from another religious group (Edgell et al., 2006). In addition, a 2015 Gallup poll indicated that 53% of Americans would be least likely to vote for an atheist in a Presidential election out of all other religious group memberships (McCarthy, 2015). Research suggests that this significant bias manifests in experiences of discrimination; indeed, atheists report high levels of discrimination in schools, at places of employment, within the legal system, and across many other community and social settings (Brewster et al., 2016; Cragun et al., 2012; Swan & Heesacker, 2012). The positioning of atheism within a minority stress framework posits that – similar to other marginalized groups – anti-atheist discrimination and stigma contributes to psychological distress and loneliness for atheist people. Such an addition to minority stress literature begins to fill a void in the multicultural competency training of clinicians, wherein atheism has been often been overlooked as an aspect of identity that merits attention (Brewster et al., 2014; D’Andrea & Sprenger, 2007).

Melanie Brewster, Assistant Professor of Psychology and Education at Columbia University, earned her Ph.D. from the University of Florida. Her research focuses on marginalized groups and examines how experiences of discrimination and stigma may shape the mental health of minority group members (e.g., LGBTQ individuals, atheists, people of color). Dr. Brewster also examines potential resilience factors, such as bicultural self-efficacy and cognitive flexibility, that may promote the mental health of minority individuals. She tweets about atheism, queer issues, and academia @melysebrewster .



## Worth Publishing Distinguished Lecture

### Ready or Not: Supporting Underprepared Students in Psychology



**Deborah M. Licht and Misty G. Hull**  
Pikes Peak Community College

Do you ever feel that you’re not just teaching psychology, but also mathematics, reading, writing, and technology? Many students are academically underprepared, and often seem surprised when they are failing classes. This presentation explores current trends in student preparedness and approaches offered by colleges to address these issues. We discuss ways to engage students in the material, make content relevant to their lives, and build relationships within the classroom and online. The goal is to provide strategies for identifying and helping students who may struggle because they are not prepared for college.

Deborah Licht is a professor of psychology at Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She has over two decades of teaching and research experience in a variety of settings, ranging from a small private university in the midwest to a large public university in Copenhagen, Denmark. She has taught introductory psychology, psychology of the workplace, abnormal psychology, the history of psychology, child development, and elementary statistics in a variety of formats (traditional, online, and hybrid courses). Deborah received her Bachelor of Science in psychology from Wright State University, a Master’s degree in clinical psychology from the University of Dayton, and a PhD in psychology (experimental psychopathology) from Harvard University in 2001. She is greatly inspired by first-generation college students who turn to community colleges to pursue their education, and is interested in how students think about their successes and failures as they pursue their degrees.

Misty Hull is a professor of psychology at Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs, Colorado. She has taught a range of psychology courses at Pikes Peak Community College, including introductory psychology, human sexuality, and social psychology in a variety of delivery formats (traditional, online, and hybrid). Her love of teaching comes through in her dedication to mentoring new and part-time psychology faculty. Misty received her Bachelor of Science from Texas Tech University in Lubbock, Texas, and her Master’s in Professional Counseling at Colorado Christian University in Lakewood, Colorado. She has held a variety of administrative roles at Pikes Peak Community College, including interim Associate Dean and Coordinator of the Student Crisis Counseling Office. From 2002-2010, Misty served as the psychology discipline chair for the Colorado Community College System, helping develop the state system’s approach to teaching psychology. One of her many professional interests is investigating the impact of student persistence in higher education.



## RMPA Special Invited Speaker

### Can we *Really* Standardize Assessment and Accreditation? Lessons from Europe



**Susan Nolan**

Seton Hall University



**Siniša Lakić**

University of Banja Luka

Like it or not, we have to up our assessment game and deal with the trials of accreditation. But why completely reinvent the wheel? We can learn a lot from the successes and challenges that Europe has tackled through the Bologna Process (BP) and the psychology-specific EuroPsy guidelines, through which programs become relatively interchangeable in curricula and career preparation. We'll outline similarities and differences, pros and cons, and what we think the take-away should be for the U.S. (as well as what Europe should learn from the U.S.!). We'll end with an interactive discussion about the international and intellectually engaging parts of assessment!

Susan A. Nolan is a professor of psychology at Seton Hall University in New Jersey. She received her A.B. from the College of the Holy Cross and her M.S. and Ph.D. from Northwestern University. She is Past President of the Eastern Psychological Association (EPA), and is currently an Associate Editor of the international journal *Psychology Learning and Teaching*, an On-Call Scientist through the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the American Psychological Association's (APA) Committee on International Relations in Psychology, and the Vice President of Diversity and International Relations for the Society for the Teaching of Psychology. Susan is a Fellow of EPA, APA, and the Association for Psychological Science. She is coauthor of *Psychology and Discovering Psychology* and of *Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences* and *Essentials of Statistics for the Behavioral Sciences* (Macmillan). Susan was a 2015-2016 U.S. Fulbright Scholar at the University of Banja Luka in Bosnia and Herzegovina where she researched psychology higher education.

Siniša Lakić is an assistant professor at University of Banja Luka (Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina) where he teaches courses related to research methods in psychology. He received his Dipl.-Psych. and Ph.D. from University of Banja Luka, and his M.A. from Ludwig-Maximilians-University (Munich, Germany). Siniša's research interests span many topics: personality assessment, post-war social identities, self-regulated learning in university students, transparent science, modern approaches of statistical inference in psychology. In addition to the aforementioned, he is interested in delivering better education for psychology students in his country: he participated in revising the psychology curriculum at his home university, aligning it with EuroPsy standards, after which he coordinated its successful international accreditation. He also participated in the international BIHTEK project, aiming to raise the quality of internalization aspects of his university through a benchmarking methodology. Siniša is a member of the European Association of Methodology, and currently is undergoing training in social science program evaluation (MEASURE-BIH) through the The Evaluators' Institute (TEI, Claremont Graduate University).

## RMPA Past President's Address

### Opening Keynote Address

### Reflections on the Science and Applications of Credibility Assessment



**David Rankin**

University of Utah

This presentation includes a brief history of credibility assessment, the development of polygraph techniques for detection of deception (lie detection), and the extensive research and development of computerized polygraph techniques and the oculomotor deception test at the University of Utah. It discusses many of the controversies concerning the scientific basis and current applications of polygraph examinations in government, law enforcement, the private sector, and evidence in court.

Professor Rankin received his Ph.D. in Psychology from the UCLA in 1963. He served on the faculties of UCLA, Michigan State, and the University of Utah, where he is Professor Emeritus of Psychology. He was elected a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, Association for Psychological Science, and the American Association for Applied and Preventive Psychology. He served as President of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association and on the Board of Directors of the Society for Psychophysiological Research.

Professor Rankin's laboratory in the Department of Psychology University of Utah was the leader in research and development of polygraph methods and computer techniques for the conduct and analysis of polygraph examinations. That research program continues under the direction of University of Utah Professor John Kircher and Professor Charles Honts at Boise State University. Dr. Rankin is an international authority on credibility assessment using polygraph techniques and a pioneer in the development of interview techniques, statement validity assessment, and investigative procedures in sexual abuse cases. He has received numerous federal grants and contracts for research and development of polygraph techniques.

In the 1980s, he and Professor John C. Kircher of the University of Utah developed the first computerized system for administration, analysis, and decision-making for polygraph examinations. In the early 1990s, they developed and introduced the world's first fully-computerized polygraph system the CPS, which scientific research has consistently shown to be the most accurate system available today. Professor Rankin is presently working with Professor Kircher and his colleagues at the University of Utah and Conover on the development and application of an ocular-motor technique (ODT) for detection of deception.

Professor Rankin has authored more than 150 scientific articles, chapters, books, and reports, including *Credibility Assessment: Scientific Research and Applications* (2014), *Psychological Methods in Criminal Investigation and Evidence* (1989), and *Electrodermal Activity in Psychological Research* (1973). He co-organized the 1988 NATO Scientific Conference on *Credibility Assessment*, the 1989 Cornell Conference on *Suggestibility of Children's Recollections*, and the 1994 Norwegian Conference on *Witness Psychology: Psychological Methods in the Investigation and Court Treatment of Sexual Abuse*. He has given lectures and workshops on polygraph techniques, the oculomotor deception test, investigative procedures, interview methods, and analysis of witness statements for federal and local law enforcement agencies, attorneys, judges, mental health professionals,

case workers, and government personnel in the U.S., Canada, China, Colombia, Ecuador, Germany, Indonesia, Israel, Korea, Mexico, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

Professor Raskin has frequently provided consultations to the U.S. government, including the Departments of Treasury, Justice, Defense, Homeland Security, and Energy, Secret Service, FBI, CIA, ATFE, Customs, and Military Intelligence; U.S. Senate Committees on Watergate, Iran-Contra, Armed Services, Foreign Relations, Judiciary, and Labor and Human Resources; Royal Canadian Mounted Police, Israel Police, and Israeli Anti-Terrorism Forces. He has been called to testify by the President's Joint Commission on Security, the U.S. Senate and various state legislatures, the British House of Commons, the Israel Knesset, the Israel Supreme Court, and federal and state courts in the U.S., Canada, and Sweden. He has presented expert testimony on polygraph techniques, interview and investigative methods, and children's statements in more than 250 federal and local courts and administrative proceedings in the U.S., Canada, and Sweden. He has conducted polygraph examinations in many famous cases, including Patricia Hearst, John DeLorean, Jeffrey MacDonald, Theodore Bundy, the Howard Hughes will, and Louise Woodward.

## RMPA Invited Speaker

### GI Joe Meets Barbie: Disordered Eating is Not Just a "Female" Issue



**Mary Pritchard**  
Boise State University

Much of the research on eating disorder (ED) pathology, diagnoses, and various treatments has been based on women's experiences. This focus has caused a lack of knowledge about men that struggle with disordered eating and exercise behaviors (Bunnel, 2015). In addition, the misconception that eating disorders are a "female issue" has prevented many men from seeking treatment, as they tend to feel shame surrounding their eating issues and may feel that their masculinity would be called into question (Bunnel, 2015). Although studies have indicated that women are more likely to suffer with disordered eating disorders than are men in the general population, research suggests that disordered eating is more equally distributed among males and females than previously thought.

Mary E. Pritchard, PhD, INHC is a Psychology Professor at Boise State University and blogger at *Psychology Today* and *Huffington Post*. She has authored over 40 peer-reviewed publications on the topics of body image and disordered eating. Dr. Pritchard is passionately dedicated to empowering today's men and women in healing their relationships with food, their bodies, and themselves.



The Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Newsletter is published twice a year, Fall and Spring, and posted on the RMPA website [www.rockymountainpsych.org](http://www.rockymountainpsych.org). Please direct any inquiries to the Editor, Robert Rycek, RMPA Secretary, at [rycekr@unk.edu](mailto:rycekr@unk.edu)

## Gardner Memorial Lecture

### Sign Language Studies Lead to Studies of Captive Chimpanzee Care



**Mary Lee Jensvold**  
Central Washington University

Sign language studies with chimpanzees are a way to study the fuzzy boundaries between species and among behaviors. Washoe, Tatu, Dar, and Moja were reared as infants in R. Allen and Beatrix Gardner's pioneering cross-fostering laboratory at the University of Nevada-Reno. When cross-fostering ended they moved to Central Washington University, the Fouts Laboratory a captive sanctuary setting. There the chimpanzees signed to each other and to themselves. In conversations with humans the chimpanzees' patterns of interaction resembled humans for initiation, eye gaze, and response to questions. Research also explored ways to improve conditions for captive chimpanzees. Early studies included study of "environmental enrichment" ironically a foundation of the Gardner laboratory but not in standard laboratory practices or federally mandated until 1986. The Fouts laboratory emphasized variety and stimulation in the daily routine. These practices became the underlying form of most environmental enrichment programs in place today. As in the Gardner project, in the Fouts laboratory a positive relationship between caregivers and chimpanzees was essential for the chimpanzees' well-being and for studies in face-to-face interactions. Later research has tested the efficacy of this practice. For example in interactions when caregivers use chimpanzee behaviors compared to only using human behavior, the chimpanzees engage in more play and affiliative contexts. Today Tatu and Loulis, the remaining chimpanzees live at Fauna Foundation near Montreal where they continue to sign and studies in animal welfare continue. These include the chimpanzees' responses to positive reinforcement training versus unstructured interactions, their use of space, and records of sign conversations.

Mary Lee Jensvold is a Senior Lecturer in the Anthropology Department at Central Washington University. She is the Primate Communication Scientist at Fauna Foundation in Carignan Quebec and past director of the Chimpanzee & Human Communication Institute. She has worked with the cross-fostered chimpanzees since 1986. Roger Fouts was her mentor for her M.S in Experimental Psychology from Central Washington University and Allen and Beatrix Gardner were her mentors for her Ph.D. in Experimental Psychology from University of Nevada-Reno. She specializes in ethological studies of apes, animal intelligence, communication, language, and culture. Her publications include conversational behaviors, private signing, phrase development, chimpanzee to chimpanzee conversation, imaginary play, and in chimpanzees. Other research includes caregiving practices, zoo visitor effects, and public education about chimpanzees. She is on the boards of the Animal Welfare Institute, Fauna Foundation, and Friends of Washoe and past Sigma Xi distinguished lecturer. She is active in improving conditions for captive chimpanzees

## RMPA Presidential Symposium

### What We Hope Happens: The Beneficial Effects of the Introductory Psychology Course and Majoring in Psychology

#### R. Eric Landrum

Boise State University



#### Regan A. R. Gurung

University of Wisconsin-Green Bay



#### Eric Amsel

Weber State University



Starting with the assumption that psychological knowledge is valuable and that the application of this knowledge can lead to an enhanced quality of life, what do individuals know about the science of psychology, psychological research methods, psychological misperceptions, ethics, and careers in psychology? We administered a battery of instruments about these topics to introductory psychology students, senior-level psychology majors, senior-level engineering majors, and a sample of non-college students aged 18-28. Does actual psychological knowledge improve as a function of one introductory course or majoring in psychology? We have answers.

#### Bios

R. Eric Landrum is a professor of psychology at Boise State University, receiving his PhD in cognitive psychology from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale. His research interests center on the educational conditions that best facilitate student success as well as the use of SoTL strategies to advance the efforts of scientist-educators. He has over 375 professional presentations at conferences and published over 25 books/book chapters, and has published over 75 professional articles in scholarly, peer-reviewed journals. He has worked with over 300 undergraduate research assistants and taught over 13,000 students in 23 years at Boise State. During Summer 2008, he led an American Psychological Association (APA) working group at the National Conference for Undergraduate Education in Psychology studying the desired results of an undergraduate psychology education. During the October 2014 Educational Leadership Conference in Washington, DC, Eric was presented with a Presidential Citation from then APA President Nadine Kaslow for his outstanding contributions to the teaching of psychology.

Eric is the lead author of *The Psychology Major: Career Options and Strategies for Success* (5th ed., 2013), authored *Undergraduate Writing in Psychology: Learning to Tell the Scientific Story* (2nd ed., 2012) and *Finding a Job With a Psychology Bachelor's Degree: Expert Advice for Launching Your Career* (2009). He co-authored *The EasyGuide to APA Style* (2nd ed., 2013), *You've Received Your Doctorate in Psychology—Now What?* (2012), and is the lead editor for *Teaching Ethically—Challenges and Opportunities* (2012) and co-editor of *Assessing Teaching and Learning in Psychology: Current and Future Perspectives* (2013). With the launch of a new APA journal in 2015—*Scholarship of Teaching and Learning in Psychology*—he serves as one of its inaugural co-editors. Eric served as Vice President for the Rocky Mountain region of Psi Chi (2009-2011). He is a member of the American Psychological Association, a fellow in APA's Division Two (Society for the Teaching of Psychology or STP), served as STP secretary (2009-2011) and served as the 2014 STP President. Eric is currently the President-Elect of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association and is also President-Elect of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology.

#### Regan Gurung

I am the Ben J. and Joyce Rosenberg Professor of Human Development and Psychology at the University of Wisconsin, Green Bay. I was born and raised in

Bombay, India, received a B.A. in psychology at Carleton College (MN), and a Masters and Ph.D. in social and personality psychology at the University of Washington (WA), and then spent three years at UCLA as a National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) Research fellow.

I have received numerous local, state, and national grants for my health psychological and social psychological research on cultural differences in stress, social support, smoking cessation, body image and impression formation. I have published articles in a variety of scholarly journals including *Psychological Review* and *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, and *Teaching of Psychology*, have a textbook, *Health Psychology: A Cultural Approach*, relating culture, development, and health published with Cengage (now in its third edition) and am also the co-author/co-editor of 14 other books (see CV). I have made over 100 presentations and given workshops nationally and internationally (e.g. Australia, India, Saudi Arabia, New Zealand).

I love to teach. I am a dedicated teacher and have strong interests in enhancing faculty development and student understanding. I was Co-Director of the University of Wisconsin System Teaching Scholars Program, have been a UWGB Teaching Fellow, a UW System Teaching Scholar, and honored to have won some awards: The CASE Wisconsin Professor of the Year, the UW System Regents Teaching Award, the UW-Green Bay Founder's Award for Excellence in Teaching as well as the Founder's Award for Scholarship, UW Teaching-at-its-Best, Creative Teaching, and Featured Faculty Awards. I have strong interests in teaching and pedagogy and have organized statewide and national teaching conferences, am a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, the Association for Psychological Science, and the Midwestern Psychological Association. I have served on the Div.2 (Teaching of Psychology) Taskforce for Diversity, as Chair of the Div. 38 (Health Psychology) Education and Training Council, and as President of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology. I am the founding Co-Editor of APA's journal *SoTL in Psychology*.

When not helping people stay calm, reading and writing, I enjoy culinary explorations, travel, time with my two children, and avoiding political discussions of any kind.

#### Eric Amsel

Canadian by birth but American by temperament, I grew up hanging around with Americans at McGill University in my hometown of Montreal. I completed my B.A. in 1979 and finally left Montreal on a Canadian Scholarship (OK, thanks Canada) to study at Harvard (M.Ed., 1980), Columbia (Ph.D., 1986), and Yale (Postdoctoral Fellow, 1985-1987). I returned to Canada for my first academic job at the University of Saskatchewan (1987-1989) in beautiful Saskatoon. I later moved to Nyack, NY and taught at Vassar College, in Poughkeepsie NY (1989-1996). The Nyack-Poughkeepsie commute was about 65 miles each way, but I drove past West Point and other points of interest in the Hudson Valley.

I relocated to Weber State University in 1996 after falling in love with the west, the mountains, and Ogden. I now have on average a 1 minute commute (and I am still late for everything) living in a house surrounded by 10,000 foot peaks of Ben Lomond and Mt. Ogden, where the 2002 Olympic Downhill and Super G events were run. I am a stone's throw from the Olympic Curling venue where I practice the sport weekly. I spent a memorable 2002-2003 on sabbatical at Clark University, where I had Bernie Kaplan's old office, which looked out at the courtyard area where G. Stanley Hall began the American Psychological Association in 1892. While at Weber State University, I have been awarded the Lowe Award for Innovative Teaching, the Endowed Professor in the Social and Behavioral Science, John S. Hinckley Fellowship, the Carnegie/CASE Utah Professor of the Year, and the Presidential Distinguished Professor. I have been chair of the Psychology Department since January of 2006, and am very proud of the great success of the department.

I am involved in a variety of university, professional, and community service. I work on issues of general education, diversity, and student recruitment as part of my service to the university. I also am the Social and Behavioral Sciences representative on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, serving as liaison to the Gen Ed and TLA committees. I am also the university Due Process Officer, to ensure that students are treated fairly when they have complaints against the institution. My professional service has included a stint as Vice President Programs of the Jean Piaget Society and President of the Rocky Mountain Psychology Association. I am Associate Editor of *New Ideas in Psychology*, an Elsevier Journal which emphasizes

Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming

theoretical issues in the discipline. I presently serve on associate chair of the awards committee of Division 2 of APA (Teaching of Psychology) and on the board of the Jean Piaget Society. My community service has included 6 years (2005 - 2011) on the Board of Directors of the DaVinci Academy of Science and the Arts (DASA) which is a charter high school which included a period as President, Vice, President, Secretary, and Due Process Officer. A notable achievement of my time of leadership at DaVinci Academy was that it was named the Utah Charter School of the Year in 2008. I presently serve on the board of directors of the Treehouse Children's Museum, which was judged one of the fifty top children's museums in the USA by Child Magazine, and OUTreach Resource Center, a network of safe spaces and social support for LGBTQ youth around the state.

Maybe the thing I am most proud of in my career is my work with students on research. My own lineage traces back to Deanna Kuhn (Columbia) to Jonas Langer (UC: Berkeley), to Heinz Werner (Clark University) who served as a RA to Wilhelm Stern (University of Hamberg) in 1917. It has been my style to work with as many students as I could. Whatever positive impact I may have had on students and their accomplishments, what is less well known is the impact that they have had on me. Over the course of my career, a number of students I have worked with have themselves gone on to have university teaching and research careers (Students in Academia)

## 2017 Wertheimer-Portenier Teaching Conference

The 2017 Wertheimer-Portenier Teaching Conference will begin at noon on Thursday, April 6, 2017 with *Teaching Take-Out*, a session of short, interactive classroom demonstrations in several different areas of psychology. We are honored to have Professor Jane Halonen join us to give the teaching keynote address. She will discuss "The Professoriate in the Twenty-First Century" with particular emphasis on the changing roles of faculty in the light of new technologies.

Several symposia and workshops on teaching topics have been proposed including (a) A Workshop in Integrating the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning into Classrooms, (b) Technology, Confidentiality, and Other Ethical Challenges, (c) Examination and Improvement of Classroom and Campus Climate, (d) Creation and Implementation of a Mobile Psychology Teaching Lab, (e) Collaboration with Students and Faculty Across Universities and Departments, (f) Teaching Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders, and (g) refinement of the RMPA Faculty Mentor Program, which was launched at RMPA 2015.

There will also be several sessions aimed at students including (a) Making the Most of Your RMPA Experience, (b) Getting Into Your Graduate Program, and (c) Best Practices for Submitting Materials for Presentation and Publication..

The Teaching Conference will close with a reception and a poster session at which the best poster will be selected for the RMPA Teaching Poster Award.

## Teaching Take-Out

### Call-for-Proposals

This is a formal invitation to participate in the 2017 RMPA Convention Teaching Take-Out session on teaching demonstrations. We invite teachers of psychology from high schools, community colleges, and universities to bring their favorite teaching demonstrations to share with other teachers of psychology.

This year we seek to include a wide range of teaching demonstrations across several subtopics in psychology. We invite demonstrations of active learning opportunities, discussions, debates, collaborative learning, or problem-based learning for small classes, large lecture classes, and online/distance learning classes. Technology will be available to present online activities and demonstrations.

Each presenter should be ready to walk through his or her demonstration with participants and to distribute materials that will enable session attendees to take the demonstration back to their own classrooms. We ask contributors to include in their abstract the number of minutes their talk and demonstration will require, and we hope to have as many short demonstrations as possible in our allotted hour of presentation time. We hope this format will continue to facilitate questions and the exchange of ideas. Presentation times could range from 5 to 12 minutes.

Please submit materials on the RMPA website ([www.rockymountainpsych.com](http://www.rockymountainpsych.com)). For your topic, please choose "teaching demonstration." Describe your demonstration, the ideas it is intended to convey, the classes in which it would be most applicable, and the amount of time you need for your presentation.

We hope to have a wide variety of demonstrations that participants and attendees can take into their own classrooms, and we hope to have fun in the process. Please invite your colleagues and students to submit materials as well. Please contact Doug Woody ([william.woody@unco.edu](mailto:william.woody@unco.edu)) with any questions. Thank you very much, and we look forward to seeing you in Salt Lake City at RMPA 2017.

## RMPA Treasurer's Report

10/16

The record attendance at the 2016 RMPA meeting in Denver has put us in a strong financial position as an organization, helping compensate for losses in three of the previous four years. Maintaining a strong balance in our savings has allowed the association to maintain financially stable during years in which expenses have exceeded revenue. We continue to strive to keep costs for our members affordable while investing in quality programming and maintaining value.

### Summary of Recent Conference Gains/Losses:

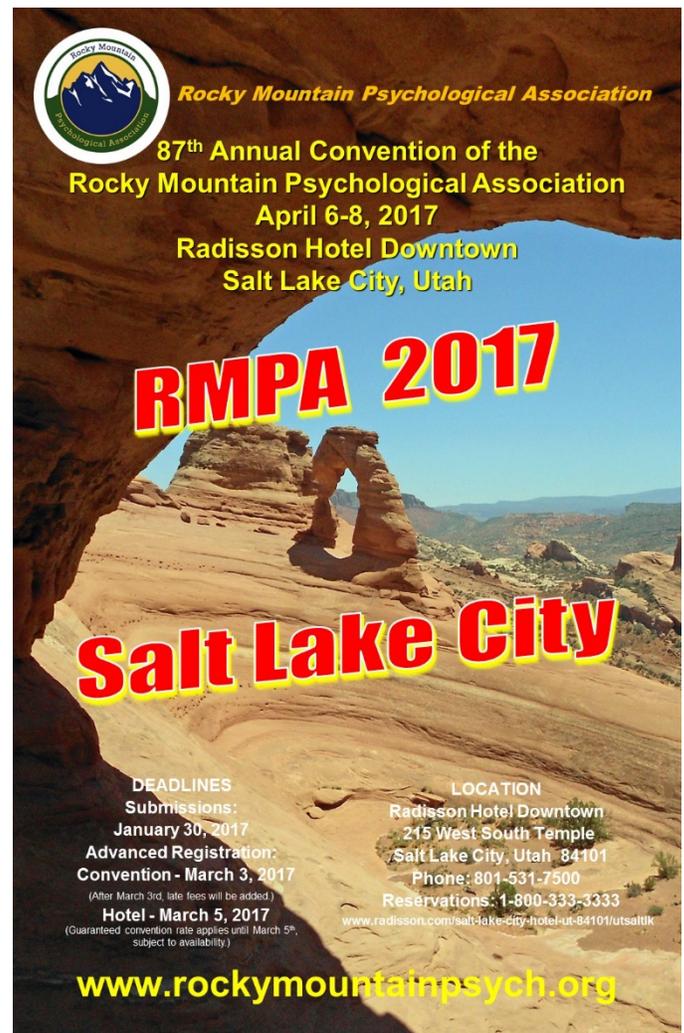
Year:	Location:	Net Gain/Loss:
2012	Reno	-2982.09
2013	Denver	+3088.67
2014	Salt Lake City	-8965.62
2015	Boise	-7043.71
2016	Denver	+28189.24

Balance in Checking Account	\$43,786.54
Balance in Money Market Account	\$31,081.18
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$74,867.72</b>

## TID BITS

A limited number of RMPA 2017 Posters are available to Psychology Departments for display. Contact Bob Rycek, RMPA Secretary, at [rycekr@unk.edu](mailto:rycekr@unk.edu).

If you are not planning to attend this year's convention, be sure to renew your membership to continue receiving the benefits of membership.



**Rocky Mountain Psychological Association**  
**87th Annual Convention of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association**  
 April 6-8, 2017  
 Radisson Hotel Downtown  
 Salt Lake City, Utah

**RMPA 2017**

**Salt Lake City**

**DEADLINES**  
 Submissions: January 30, 2017  
 Advanced Registration: Convention - March 3, 2017  
(After March 3rd, late fees will be added.)  
 Hotel - March 5, 2017  
(Guaranteed convention rate applies until March 5th, subject to availability.)

**LOCATION**  
 Radisson Hotel Downtown  
 215 West South Temple  
 Salt Lake City, Utah 84101  
 Phone: 801-531-7500  
 Reservations: 1-800-333-3333  
[www.radisson.com/salt-lake-city-hotel-ut-84101/utsaltlk](http://www.radisson.com/salt-lake-city-hotel-ut-84101/utsaltlk)

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

## RMPA FUTURE CONVENTION SITES

2018 / 2019 / 2020

Denver, Colorado  
 Denver Marriott Tech Center  
 April 12-14, 2018



RMPA recognizes that you have a variety of choices when arranging accommodations for the RMPA Convention. RMPA has made a major commitment to the conference hotel in order to secure the meeting space necessary to hold the sessions and has negotiated the lowest possible price for its membership. Please select accommodations from the designated convention hotel when planning your trip.

### Spring 2016 RMPA Trivia Question:

What National Park once hosted the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association meeting?

Answer: Grand Teton National Park in 1956



### Fall 2016 RMPA Trivia Question:

Where were the furthest North, South, East and West locations of the RMPA Convention?

(Answer will appear in Spring 2017 Newsletter.)

Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming



# Psi Chi News

Rocky Mountain Region

## Regional Psi Chi Award Winners

Congratulations to the Regional Student Research Award winners for 2016:

*Predictors of Continuing Athletic Participation: Do You Have What it Takes to be a College Student Athlete?* Laura Theus, Douglas E. Colman, Tera D. Letzring, Idaho State University;

*Contra-positional Discrimination of Anxiety & Depression Diagnostic Criteria*, Michael C. Clark & Susan E. Becker Colorado Mesa University.

*A Group of One Please!* Katelyn J. Haschke, Brian Martinez, & Krista D. Forrest, University of Nebraska Kearney.

*The Influence of Conservative and Liberal Messages on Attitudes Towards Same-Sex Marriage*, Matthew H. Christiansen & Garrett Strosser, Southern Utah University.

*Religious Motivation as a Protective Buffer Against Dementia Worry*, Jennifer R. Roberts & Abigail R. Weber, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs (Faculty Sponsor: Molly Maxfield)

*Condensed Self-Compassion Training Pilot Program Effectiveness*, Lenore K. Reinhart & Robert Demski Adams State University

## Psi Chi Service Project

A group of Psi Chi members and faculty advisors, led by Drs. Randi Smith (Metropolitan State University Denver) and Elizabeth List (Northwest Nazarene University), participated in a pre-conference service project at CHARG Denver, a non-profit agency that provides supportive services to individuals coping with chronic mental illness. The Psi Chi group worked together with consumers of CHARG to clean up the agency grounds and plant new flowers for the spring.

## Psi Chi Student Regional Travel Grants

Psi Chi Student Regional Travel Grants: Due March 1, 2016  
[https://www.psichi.org/?page=regtravel\\_info#.Vh6lWhNVhBc](https://www.psichi.org/?page=regtravel_info#.Vh6lWhNVhBc)

## Psi Chi Steering Committee Members for 2015/2016

Matthew Genuchi, Boise State University, Regional VP  
[matthewgenuchi@boisestate.edu](mailto:matthewgenuchi@boisestate.edu)

Krista Bridgmon, Ph.D., Colorado State University Pueblo  
[krista.bridgmon@csupueblo.edu](mailto:krista.bridgmon@csupueblo.edu)

Elizabeth List, Psy.D., Northwest Nazarene University  
[elist@nnu.edu](mailto:elist@nnu.edu)

Bardha Vrapi, Boise State University, Student Member  
[bardhavrapi@u.boisestate.edu](mailto:bardhavrapi@u.boisestate.edu)

Please feel free to contact your steering committee with comments and suggestions for regional Psi Chi programming at RMPA!

**Check out the Rocky Mountain Region Psi Chi page on Facebook!**

**Here is the Facebook link:**

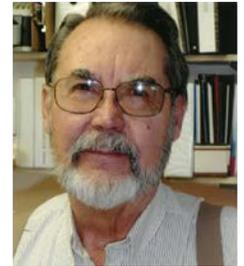
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/149411341813850/>



Members of Psi Chi participate in pre-convention service project

## Remembering Harry Tiemann

Professor Harry Tiemann passed away on September 27, 2016. He devoted his academic life to Colorado Mesa University and in his 50-year career there (1962 to 2012) he shared his love of psychology with a multitude of students. Harry was a long-time member of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association and shares links with many of RMPA's luminary members. Doug Woody shares some of this psychological ancestry:



"As an undergrad, Harry took History of Psychology from Michael Wertheimer, Harry taught Brett King's introductory psychology course, Brett King taught my (Doug Woody) introductory psychology course, At the time he was teaching my intro course, Brett was Wayne Viney's doctoral student. Wayne did a post-doc experience in the history of psychology with Michael Wertheimer in the early 1970s, and Harry and Wayne Viney presented scholarly work together at RMPA"

Harry also mentored countless students in their professional development over the years including a number of research projects on the legal applications of psychology. Mara Merino (Professor of Psychology at University of Nevada-Reno) remembers his kindness and gentlemanly ways; "to me he will always be that silly, quirky, gentle, kitten-loving soul who was devoted to his family and his friends and loved any sort of interesting gadget. Susan Becker remembers his kindness when she was early in her career, and his humorous mentoring through her early adjustments to teaching at CMU.

At our regional conference Harry Tiemann was the colleague who always came to others presentations and sessions – lending both his support and his interest in others work. Harry never lost his inquisitive nature or his desire to learn how things worked, whether electronic devices or people (or cats). He has been and will continue to be missed. Even though his impact on the field of psychology was of the quieter sort, Harry was truly a teacher in the best sense of the word; his impact on others over his career touched a multitude.

## Anna Ropp of the Metropolitan State University of Denver receives the 2016 RMPA Distinguished Service Award

The 2016 recipient of the RMPA Distinguished Service Award is Dr. Anna Ropp, Metropolitan State University of Denver. Anna has served RMPA on the program committee and contributed to scientific program including oral papers, posters, panel discussions, and workshops. She has completed a three-year term on the Executive Committee as Chair of the Diversity Council and this past year, took on the job of organizing the overall review process as well as the student award process. On her home campus she was a 2013 nominee for the Outstanding Women's Award from the Institute for Women's Studies and Services, and that same year, she received the Ally Award from GLBT Services at Auraria.



## RMPA Student Awards and Student Diversity Awards

RMPA selects up to 5 student presentations to receive either the RMPA Student Award or the RMPA Student Diversity Award. For each of these student awards, all presentation authors must be either an undergraduate or graduate student. Students must indicate that they are interested in being considered for the RMPA Student Awards when they are completing their conference submission.

Based on the information provided in the conference submission, student award finalists will be selected. These finalists must give their oral presentation during the special convention sessions set aside for RMPA award finalists in order to be considered for the award. These sessions are usually on Saturday afternoon during the convention, and during these sessions, students will be evaluated on their oral presentation by several qualified judges.

Based on the judges' evaluations, up to 5 student presentations will be selected to win RMPA's Student Award or Student Diversity Award. Up to 2 of the awards each year can be diversity awards, and diversity awards are given to presentations with topics related to diversity, broadly defined.

Award winners will be announced during the Business Meeting and President's Reception, which is Saturday evening. Each of the presentations that win a student award will be gifted with \$200.

## RMPA 2016 Student Paper Awards

### RMPA Student Research Paper Award Winners:

#### Effect of Lifetime Stress on Caregiver Mental Health and Child Out-comes

*Eanice Wong; University of Denver  
Faculty Sponsor: Sarah Watamura*

#### Health Consequences of the Sexual Double Standard: Applying the Theory of Planned Behavior

*Yulia Zaikman & Erin A. Vogel; New Mexico State University, University of Toledo  
Faculty Sponsor: Michael Marks*

#### Forgiving the Self and Others: Exploring Component Level Differences and the Effects of Personality

*Lucas E. Hampton, John H. Lurquin, Daniel E. Gustavson, & Nicholas Carruth;  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Faculty Sponsor: Akira Miyake*

### RMPA Student Diversity Award Winners:

#### To Disclose or Not? The Question of Distress Disclosure among Deployment Veterans and Its Relationship to Self-Judgment and Post-traumatic Growth

*June M. Ashley; University of Denver  
Faculty Sponsor: Ruth Chu-Lien Chao*

#### Forgiving the Self and Others: Exploring Component Level Differences and the Effects of Personality

*Lucas E. Hampton, John H. Lurquin, Daniel E. Gustavson, & Nicholas Carruth;  
University of Colorado Boulder  
Faculty Sponsor: Akira Miyake*

## PSYCH BOWL 2016

This was the fourth year for the Annual Psych Bowl, a game-show type competition pitting the best and brightest students from 8 universities against each other with Rick Miller and William Douglas Woody as hosts. Teams from across the region answered questions about psychology. This year, the Bowl ran two preliminary rounds with four teams each and then a knockout round between the two best teams. The following schools participated in Psych Bowl: Colorado Mesa University, Texas A&M-Kingsville, BYU- Idaho, Southern Utah University, University of Denver, Weber State University, Metro State University of Denver, and the University of Nebraska at Kearney. The winning team was Southern Utah University, taking the honors from defending champion – Weber State University.



Southern Utah University Celebrates !

Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming

## RMPA Mentor Award Call for Nominations

RMPA is seeking nominations for the 2017 Mentor Award. The award will be presented at the 2017 RMPA convention. According to legend, Mentor is the name of the person to whom Odysseus entrusted the care of his son, Telemachus, when Odysseus set out on those famous wanderings of his that we now call an "odyssey." Mentor was Odysseus' wise and trusted counselor as well as tutor to Telemachus. Mentoring is a structured and trusting relation that brings younger professionals or students in contact with experienced faculty members or other professional psychologists who offer guidance, support, and encouragement aimed at developing the knowledge, professional skills, competencies, and character of the younger person. RMPA recognizes that the mentoring relationship is vital in the development of psychology graduates and students at all levels and has established a Mentor Award to recognize outstanding mentors. The Mentor Award Committee is comprised of the RMPA President, Past-President and the President-Elect. Recommendations of the awards committee are ratified by the RMPA Executive Committee. A nominee who does not win the award will automatically have his or her materials considered for a second year.

### Criteria for the Award

Please nominate a RMPA member who has demonstrated exceptional mentoring through some or all of the following activities:

- Involving large numbers of students in the annual RMPA meeting.
- Shepherding the early career development of various members of the RMPA
- Supervising and encouraging the scholarly activities of various members of the RMPA
- Contributing to the professional development of members of the RMPA

### To Nominate a Candidate for the Award

All that is required for a nomination is

- a brief nomination letter summarizing the person's mentoring by addressing the criteria above.

Self-nominations are acceptable.

### Send nominations via e-mail to:

Michelle Butler, Ph.D.

USAF Academy

[michellebutler200@gmail.com](mailto:michellebutler200@gmail.com)

**Deadline for Nominations: February 1, 2017**

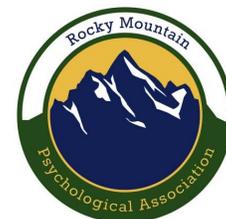
### Previous Mentor Award Recipients

2011 – Paul Bell, Colorado State University  
2012 – Steve Barney, Southern Utah University  
2013 – Roxanne Sullivan, Bellevue University  
2014 – Lynn White, Southern Utah University  
2015 – Patrick Sherry, University of Denver  
2016 – Richard Miller, Texas A&M University-Kingsville

**Rick Miller**  
**of the Texas A&M University - Kingsville**  
**receives the**  
**2016 RMPA Mentor Award**



The 2016 Mentor Award recipient is Dr. Richard Miller of Texas A&M University, Kingsville. Dr. Miller embodies the spirit of this award through mentoring numerous students whom have presented at RMPA, shepherding early career faculty development as evidenced by his support of countless Early Career Award winners, and contributing to the professional development of RMPA members. As noted in his nomination letter, "mentorship, particularly of teaching, scholarship, and the scholarship of teaching and learning, is not just what Professor Miller does, but who he is."



# RMPA Early Career Award Call for Nominations

RMPA is soliciting nominations for the 2017 *Early Career Award*. The award will be presented at the 2017 RMPA convention to recognize a member of RMPA who is early in his or her career and has already made significant contributions to the Association and to psychology. The awards committee consists of the past-president, the current president, and the president-elect. Recommendations of the awards committee are ratified by the RMPA Executive Committee. A nominee who does not win the award will automatically have his or her materials considered for a second year.

## Criteria for the Award

Candidates for the award must:

- have a doctorate in psychology, or a related field,
- have been granted a degree five to ten years prior to their nomination,
- have been visibly active in RMPA for no less than 5 years, and, ideally, should have mentored students who have participated in RMPA, and
- show promise of achieving national visibility.

## To Nominate a Candidate for the Award

All that is required for a nomination is

- a current curriculum vitae, and
- two letters of recommendation that speak to the criteria listed above.

Self-nominations are acceptable.

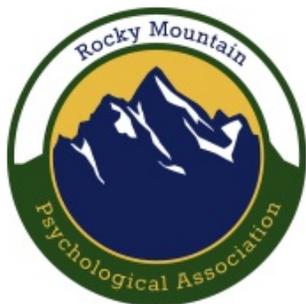
## Send nominations via e-mail to:

Michelle Butler, Ph.D.

USAF Academy

[michellebutler200@gmail.com](mailto:michellebutler200@gmail.com)

**Deadline for Nominations: February 1, 2017**



Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming

## Previous Early Career Award Recipients

2003 – William Douglas Woody, University of Northern Colorado  
2004 – Britton Mace, Southern Utah University  
2005 – Michelle Butler, US Air Force Academy  
2006 – Carla Reyes, University of Utah  
2007 – Krista Forrest, University of Nebraska at Kearney  
2008 – Cheryl Sanders, Metropolitan State College of Denver  
2009 – Jeff Elison, Southern Utah University  
2010 – Aaron Richmond, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
2011 – Layton Curl, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
2012 – No award given  
2013 – Grant Corser, Southern Utah University  
2014 – Bethany Fleck, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
2015 – Chad Mortensen, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
2015 – Marian Berryhill, University of Nevada - Reno

## Marian Berryhill of University of Nevada - Reno receives the 2016 RMPA Early Career Award.

The 2016 Early Career Award recipient is Dr. Marian Berryhill of the University of Nevada, Reno. Dr. Berryhill has an impressive research record and routinely publishes with both graduate and undergraduate students. As a new faculty member she served as Convention Manager co-chair for RMPA's 2012 convention in Reno. At her home institution she is a valued mentor and Psi Chi faculty advisor.



## RMPA Teaching Poster Award

The 2016 RMPA Teaching Poster Award went to:

Amy C. Blommer, Sophia A Garcia, Claire Short (Westminster College), Eric Amsel (Weber State University), R. Eric Landrum (Boise State University), & Regan Gurung (University of Wisconsin- Green Bay) *Becoming psychologically Literate: Responding to Those with Symptoms of Depression.*

## RMPA's Network of Institutional Representatives

RMPA local institutional representatives serve as liaisons between RMPA and their Department. Local representatives receive information about association activities and the annual conference. Local representatives are invited to moderate sessions, propose program events, publicize the conference at their institution, and encourage their colleagues and students to attend.

If your institution does not have a local rep, and if you would like to volunteer to serve in that role, please contact Rick Miller, RMPA's Local Representatives Coordinator at [Richard.Miller@tamuk.edu](mailto:Richard.Miller@tamuk.edu).

Those institutions currently represented are listed below and on our website at: <http://www.rockymountainpsych.org/>

### Local Representatives

<b>Arizona</b>	Northern Arizona University	Nora Dunbar
<b>California</b>	Point Loma Nazarene University	Kim W. Schaeffer
<b>Colorado</b>	Adams State College	Robert M. Demski
	Colorado College	Emily Chan
	Colorado Mesa University	Susan Becker
	Colorado State University	Deana Davalos
	Colorado State University – Pueblo	Karen Yescavage & Krista Bridgmon
	Denver University	Ruth Chao
	Front Range Community College	Laura Manuel
	Metropolitan State College – Denver	Aaron Richmond
	Naropa University	Susan Burggraf & Kathleen Gregory
	Regis University	Rona McCall
	United States Air Force Academy	Michelle Butler
	University of Colorado – Boulder	Diane Martichuski
	University of Colorado-Colorado Springs	Lori James
	University of Colorado-Denver	Joan Bihun
	University of Northern Colorado	Nancy Karlin & Doug Woody
	Western State Colorado University	Susan Coykendall
<b>Idaho</b>	Boise State University	Charles Honts
	BYU – Idaho	Brady Wiggins
	Northwest Nazarene University	Elizabeth List
	University of Idaho	Steve Meier
<b>Kansas</b>	Fort Hays State University	Janett Naylor
<b>Montana</b>	Montana State University	Michael Babcock
	University of Montana	Allen D. Szalda-Petree
	University of Montana – Western	Mark Krank
<b>Missouri</b>	Washington University	Mark McDaniel
<b>New Jersey</b>	Centenary College	Jeremy Houska
<b>New Mexico</b>	New Mexico State University	Steven Elias
	San Juan College	Ron Salazar
	University of New Mexico	Elizabeth Browning
	Western New Mexico University	Jennifer Coleman
<b>Nebraska</b>	Bellevue University	Roxanne Sullivan
	Chadron State College	Mary Jo Carnot
	University of Nebraska at Kearney	Bill Wozniak
<b>Nevada</b>	University of Nevada – Reno	Judith Sugar
	University of Nevada – Las Vegas	N. Clayton Silver
<b>North Carolina</b>	Western Carolina University	Winford Gordon
<b>South Dakota</b>	Black Hills State University	Nathan Deichert
<b>Texas</b>	Texas A&M-Kingsville	Rick Miller
	University of Texas-Pan American	Peter Kranz
<b>Utah</b>	Dixie State College	Kristine J. Olsen
	Snow College	Nick Marsing
	Southern Utah University	Steve Barney
	University of Utah	David Strayer
	Utah State University	David Stein
	Utah State University - Eastern	Heath Earl
	Utah Valley University	David Yells
	Weber State University	Theresa Kay
<b>Washington</b>	Eastern Washington University	Mahlon Dalley
	Central Washington University	Danielle Polage
	Pacific Lutheran University	Michelle Ceynar
<b>Wyoming</b>	Casper College	Shawn Powell
<b>CANADA</b>		
<b>British Columbia</b>	North Island College	John Marton

## 2016-17 RMPA Executive Committee

### President

**Eric Landrum**  
Boise State University  
[elandru@boisestate.edu](mailto:elandru@boisestate.edu)



### President-Elect

**Susan Becker**  
Colorado Mesa University  
[sbecker@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:sbecker@coloradomesa.edu)



### Past President

**Michelle Butler**  
U.S. Air Force Academy  
[michellebutler200@gmail.com](mailto:michellebutler200@gmail.com)



### Secretary

**Robert Rycek**  
University of Nebraska at Kearney  
[rycekr@unk.edu](mailto:rycekr@unk.edu)



### Treasurer

**Courtney Rocheleau**  
Metropolitan State College of Denver  
[crochel1@msudenver.edu](mailto:crochel1@msudenver.edu)



### Historian/Archivist

**Richard Miller**  
Texas A&M University - Kingsville  
[richard.miller@tamuk.edu](mailto:richard.miller@tamuk.edu)



### Program Chair

**Anna Ropp**  
Metropolitan State University of Denver  
[aropp@msudenver.edu](mailto:aropp@msudenver.edu)



### Diversity Chair

**Nikki Jones**  
Colorado Mesa University  
[njones@coloradomesa.edu](mailto:njones@coloradomesa.edu)



### Convention Coordinator

**Nancy Karlin**  
University of Northern Colorado  
[nancy.karlin@unco.edu](mailto:nancy.karlin@unco.edu)



### Teaching Conference Coordinator

**William Douglas Woody**  
University of Northern Colorado  
[william.woody@unco.edu](mailto:william.woody@unco.edu)



*Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming*