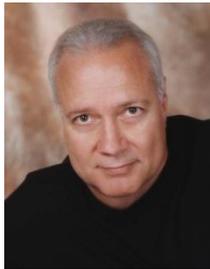


Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Newsletter Fall 2012

President's Message

Wayne Weiten

University of Nevada, Las Vegas



Greetings!

I am very pleased to announce that the 2013 Rocky Mountain Psychological Association convention will present an interesting, stellar, scholarly program. We will meet at the Renaissance Denver Hotel in Denver, Colorado April 11-13. The venue includes centrally located meeting rooms, excellent accommodations, and views of the Denver skyline. As usual, we have a strong slate of nationally recognized speakers, and a collection of intriguing symposia and workshops across a wide variety of psychological topics. Many sessions are specifically designed for students. Make your reservations early. More information is available on our web site, www.rockymountainpsych.org. Also, this newsletter, assembled by Bob Rycek, RMPA secretary, includes submission guidelines and extensive information about the program.

Rick Miller, RMPA Archivist and Historian along with Doug Woody, RMPA Past President is organizing the Portentier-Wertheimer Teaching Conference for Thursday, April 11, as well as a student pre-conference. Ken Keith of the University of San Diego will present the Teaching Conference Invited Address. Ken's talk is titled "Voices from the past: William James, H. B. Alexander, and the psychology of teaching." The Vice President of Psi Chi for the Rocky Mountain Region, Susan Becker, is organizing a special, day-long leadership training workshop for Thursday, and additional programming of interest to students throughout the main RMPA convention.

We are very pleased to announce that David Buss of the University of Texas will kick off the conference, presenting the RMPA Distinguished Address. Dr. Buss, a leading authority on evolutionary psychology, will discuss his internationally recognized research on human mating strategies. The Psi Chi Distinguished Speaker will be Robert Sternberg, the Provost and Senior Vice-President of Oklahoma State University. Renowned for his research on human intelligence, Dr. Sternberg will be discussing his reflections on what he has learned from his 40 years in psychology. We are fortunate to report that Sue Savage-Rumbaugh will present the

Gardner Memorial Lecture on her research on language learning in bonobos. The American Psychological Association is sponsoring Christine Chiarello of the University of California, Riverside, as one of the APA 2013 G. Stanley Hall Lecturers. She will present her recent work on the organization of language functions in the brain. Worth Publishers will sponsor Ronald Comer of Princeton University, author of the very popular textbook on Abnormal Psychology. Wayne Viney, from Colorado State University, will present the Past-President's address. His talk is titled "Einstein's Jewish science and William James's American psychology." These exciting scholars are just the tip of the iceberg. Many other prestigious presenters will be attending the conference to discuss their scholarly work.

The RMPA executive committee has carefully worked to prepare another stimulating conference. The Diversity Council, chaired by Layton S. Curl, will have a strong presence throughout the 2013 convention. Peggy McIntosh of Wellesley College, a prominent scholar on race and gender issues, will present the RMPA Diversity Council Address and host an Undergraduate Conversation Hour. Nancy Karlin, Convention Coordinator, has secured our high-profile location, which is conveniently located close to downtown Denver and all it has to offer in terms of restaurants and entertainment. Cheryl Sanders, RMPA Treasurer, is continuing to work to improve our registration procedures. Diane Martichuski will once again take on the gargantuan task of organizing a rich, diverse, high-quality conference program which this year includes a special celebration of Paul Bell's retirement to take place immediately following the Environmental Psychology symposium. Past President Doug Woody has provided extensive guidance throughout the year. I am not sure how I could have managed my responsibilities as President without his generous, insightful advice. We are pleased to welcome Chad Mortensen and Bethany Fleck as convention co-managers, and they in turn are organizing an army of students for registration and to make the convention run smoothly. President-Elect Steve Barney is already planning for RMPA 2014.

We encourage you to submit materials for review (see the deadlines and other details in this newsletter). Check the website for ongoing developments. Please travel safely, and I look forward to welcoming you to an intellectually invigorating convention at the Renaissance Denver Hotel in Denver, Colorado April 11-13.

Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana

Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming

Elections

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

Candidate for President-Elect

Leslie Cramblet Alvarez, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology
Adams State University

Biography:

Leslie Cramblet Alvarez is an associate professor of psychology at Adams State University. She received her Bachelor's degree in psychology from Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas. While working in Austin for a large social service agency's shelter, transitional living, and street outreach programs she saw firsthand the educational difficulties and barriers experienced by homeless youth. As a result, she returned to school for a Ph.D. program in Educational Psychology at Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff.

Following her Ph.D. program, she hoped to find a small school where she could make a difference. Adams State University proved to be a perfect fit. At this regional, Hispanic-serving institution she continues to be interested in educational barriers and seeks out projects that allow her to explore best practices in education, student motivation, and helping students at risk. For example, she has been instrumental in integrating the UMKC Supplemental Instruction (SI) program in Introduction to Psychology. She also looks for opportunities to involve students in research and teaches Research Methods once a year as a project-based course, having supervised more than 60 independent projects at Adams State, some of which have made their way to RMPA.

To Alvarez, making a difference includes not only involving students in research and supporting student learning but also encouraging a culture of academic excellence and providing unique learning opportunities. At Adams State she spearheaded chartering their Psi Chi chapter, and has served as faculty advisor. She works extensively with students to increase conference attendance and participation, making travel to RMPA a yearly fundraising goal. To broaden student opportunities she has co-developed two study abroad classes to destinations including Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Greece and Turkey.

Beyond the academic setting, Alvarez remains interested in barriers faced by underserved adolescent populations. To address a gap in community mental health programming,

Fall 2012



Alvarez and her husband founded Western Mountain Youth Services, a therapeutic wilderness-based residential treatment program for adolescents in state custody. Western Mountain provides mental health, educational and restorative justice programming to youth who may otherwise be incarcerated. Alvarez continues in her role as co-owner and programming consultant as this organization grows.

Alvarez Presidential Statement

I am both stunned and honored to be nominated for President-elect. This is a role I would be proud and humbled to serve, especially considering the distinguished list of past Presidents. During the last three years I have become increasingly involved with RMPA through my role as a Psi Chi steering committee member. With Psi Chi, I was afforded the opportunity to assist in program planning and execution alongside supportive and accomplished colleagues throughout the Rocky Mountain region. I greatly appreciated the chance to collaborate and connect, in addition to the responsibility of shaping convention programming and opportunities for undergraduates. The prospect for continued service to RMPA has surprisingly arrived in the form of this nomination.

RMPA has a diverse and faithful following primarily due to its focus on teaching and student involvement. As a convention and association, it is distinctively professional without being intimidating or pretentious. As a graduate student first attending RMPA, I was struck by the open and welcoming culture and student-centered approach. This is truly an organization that prizes cultivating educational, research, and collaboration opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students. Now, as a faculty member, I make experiencing RMPA, whether as a presenter or an attendee, a priority for my students.

I feel fortunate to be part of such an enriching, warm, and talented regional community and look forward to contributing to the proud history of RMPA as we move forward. As a faculty member at a small, teaching-focused, Hispanic-serving institution, I hope I can provide a unique perspective to the executive board and, ultimately, assist in the growth and enhancement of an already extraordinary association.

Candidate for President-Elect

Shawn Powell, Ph.D., ABPP, CBIST
Dean of Social & Behavioral Sciences
Casper College

Biography:

Shawn Powell is currently the Dean of Social and Behavioral Sciences at Casper College. He holds an associate's degree in flight engineering technology from the Community College of the Air Force, a bachelor's degree in education from the University of Oklahoma, a master's degree in counseling psychology from the



University of Central Oklahoma, a doctoral degree in school psychology from the University of Northern Colorado, and completed a pre-doctoral internship at the Beatrice (Nebraska) State Developmental Center. He is licensed as a psychologist, board certified in school psychology through the American Board of Professional Psychology, and is a Certified Brain Injury Specialist Trainer. He is the 2012 president of the American Academy of School Psychology. He is a past president of the Wyoming Psychological Association and the Wyoming School Psychology Association. Shawn worked as a school psychologist in Wyoming public schools for 12 years, serving Kindergarten to 12th grades. He taught at the Air Force Academy from 2001 to 2004 earning the academic rank of associate professor and retired with 30 years of military service. Shawn was the first director of the Wyoming National Guard Youth Challenge Program, working with 16 to 19 year old youth in a residential program designed to assist them complete their high school degrees or equivalents, and learn vocational skills. He joined the psychology faculty of Casper College in 2007 and was named a Rosenthal Outstanding Educator in 2011. He has taught as an adjunct faculty member for several universities and received the Outstanding Adjunct Faculty Member Award from the University of Wyoming/Casper College Center in 2012. He has over 30 publications, 50 presentations, and is an editorial board member for four psychological journals. His most recent publication is as a co-author for a chapter on building resilience in schools in the second edition of *Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions in Educational Settings: A Handbook for Practice (2012)*. Shawn maintains a part time private practice in Casper and has hospital privileges at Elkhorn Valley Rehabilitation Hospital as a neuropsychologist.

Powell Presidential Statement:

It is an honor to be running for President of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association. I have been involved with RMPA since 1995, when as a doctoral student I made presentations at the annual conference held in Boulder. RMPA's true strength is the organization's dedication to providing a forum for students to present their research at a regional conference. RMPA provides an accepting and welcoming atmosphere that is quite different from other professional organizations by allowing students a chance to learn about various fields of psychology in a collegial setting. Attending RMPA conferences with students and serving as a faculty sponsor of their research is a true pleasure, as the annual conference presents an ideal venue for student future development as psychologists. As an RMPA member I have served as a program reviewer for the annual conference, rater for student paper competitions, and presented during the teaching pre-conference session. The list of psychologists who have served as RMPA president is quite distinguished. Being a candidate for this office is a humble attempt to give back to the organization that has provided so many wonderful opportunities to my students and me. If elected I would strive to remain true to RMPA traditions, solicit member input, and work with the organization's leadership to ensure RMPA remains a dynamic organization.

Candidate for Diversity Council Chair **Anna Ropp, Ph.D.** **Assistant Professor of Psychology** **Metropolitan State University of Denver**

Biography

Dr. Anna Ropp received her PhD in social psychology from the University of California Santa Cruz. Her research tends to focus on the experience of people who encounter discrimination and the most effective methods of reducing prejudice and discrimination. After she obtained her PhD, Dr. Ropp was an assistant professor of psychology and coordinator of the women's and gender studies program at the University of Alaska Southeast. She has also conducted evaluation research for programs that assist individuals with disabilities. Currently, Dr. Ropp is an assistant professor of psychology at Metropolitan State University of Denver. At MSU, she teaches courses in statistics, research methods, and social psychology. Some of her favorite courses to teach include multicultural and cross-cultural psychology, group prejudice, and psychology of gender. One of Dr. Ropp's current research projects examines the experience of LGBTQ students in the classroom.



Ropp Diversity Statement

I was very excited to be nominated to run for the Diversity Chair of RMPA. For the past two conferences, I have spoken at the LGBTQ session at RMPA, and I have arranged for researchers from the University of Michigan to talk about their LGBTQ research at the 2013 conference in Denver. If I win this election, I would be delighted to arrange all of the diversity programming at RMPA's annual conference. I believe my experience with issues of diversity, multiculturalism, gender issues, LGBTQ issues, and disability issues will serve me well as Diversity Chair.

RMPA Call-for-Papers

The Call-for-Papers for the 83rd Annual Convention of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association which will be held at the Renaissance Denver Hotel from April 11-13, 2013 has been issued. The Call is posted on the RMPA website (www.rockymountainpsych.org). Submission deadlines are January 6, 2013 for faculty/professional presentations and January 13, 2013 for student presentations. Advanced registration for the convention is available through March 8, 2013. See the website for details including submission requirements and process.

RMPA 2013 CONVENTION INFORMATION

APRIL 11-13, 2013

Renaissance Denver Hotel

3801 Quebec Street

Denver, CO 80207

1-888-238-6762

www.denverrenaissance.com

Convention Managers

Bethany Fleck

bfleck2@msudenver.edu

303-556-3380



Chad Mortensen

cmorten2@msudenver.edu

303-556-3026



Department of Psychology
Metropolitan State University of Denver
Campus Box 54
PO Box 173362
Denver, CO 80217-3362

Lodging

Renaissance Denver Hotel. Reservations should be made by calling either calling the hotel reservation number at 1-88-238-6762 by March 11, 2013. Please specify that you are attending the RMPA annual meeting in order to get the special rate. Single/double rooms are \$119 (king or two double beds). You can also register for the hotel through a dedicated link for RMPA at <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/densa?groupCode=psysya&app=resvlink&fromDate=&toDate=> . For your convenience, this link is also posted on the RMPA website. Amenities for the convention include free HSIA in the room and free parking at the hotel.



Transportation

There is free hotel shuttle from Denver International Airport to the Renaissance Denver Hotel. Driving instructions and maps will be included in the Spring 2013 RMPA Newsletter.

DENVER at a glance:

The Renaissance Denver Hotel, site of the 2013 RMPA annual meeting, is located just off I-70 northeast of downtown, the professional sports stadiums, and the Pepsi Center. The recently renovated hotel has 394 guest rooms that feature great views east into Stapleton and west towards the Rocky Mountains. In-room amenities include high-speed Internet connections, work desks, ironing boards and irons, and complementary coffee and coffee makers. Hotel features



include a fitness center with a whirlpool and indoor swimming pool. Vivace! Ristorante, a full service restaurant, and Elevate Lounge offer food, drink, and a place to relax.

The Renaissance offers complimentary van service to and from the Denver International Airport, which is located only 10 minutes away. There are numerous options for entertainment, shopping, and dining venues close by from which to choose. These include the Improv Comedy Club and the Shops at Northfield, with Macy's, Famous Footwear, JC Penny, and several restaurants and specialty shops. Close by are golf courses, bowling lanes, and movie theaters. Restaurant options vary from Olive Garden and Red Lobster to Bar Louie, Famous Dave's BBQ, Texas de Brazil, La Sandia Mexican Kitchen & Tequila Bar, Ling & Louie's Asian Grill, and Marco's Pizza, many of which are within walking distance.

Denver itself is loaded with attractions. For a comprehensive, up-to-the-minute website with information about major current events and destinations in the region, visit one or more of the following:

www.denver.com/

www.denver.citysearch.com/

www.denver.org/

The Denver Museum of Nature & Science (www.dmns.org), Denver Art Museum (www.denverartmuseum.org), Denver Zoo (www.denverzoo.org), Denver Botanic Gardens (www.botanicgardens.org), and the Molly Brown House (www.mollybrown.org) are all outstanding. Check the Denver Museum of Nature and Science's website closer to the convention date for IMAX Theater shows.

Denver has much more to offer in addition to museums and cultural events. There are numerous beautiful city parks, including Red Rocks Park, Confluence Park at the confluence of the Platte River and Cherry Creek, City Park right next to the zoo, and Dinosaur Ridge (with dinosaur tracks visible

from the road). The more ambitious among us might want to take a look at www.trails.com, where you can find lists of such things as the best hiking in Colorado, the best fly-fishing, and the best scenic drives. Bergen Peak is a beautiful hike, and will take you up to 9708 feet. For the more sedate, the Brown Palace Hotel in downtown Denver has been open continuously since 1892; the eight-story atrium lobby is magnificent and tours and wonderful dining are available. The 16th Street Mall and Larimer Square are close by as well and offer a variety of shopping and eating options. Denver's ethnic neighborhoods have some great restaurants, and the metro area has some truly excellent cuisine - look for suggestions in your registration packet next April. Sports and entertainment venues include Coors Field (the Rockies may be in town!) and the Pepsi Center.

If the Shops at Northfield are not enough shopping for you, there is also Cherry Creek Mall in southeast Denver and Flatirons Mall on Route 36 to Boulder. The Tattered Cover Bookstore, a notable feature of Cherry Creek for many years and one of the nation's top independent bookstores, has now moved to the historic Lowenstein Theatre on Colfax Avenue.

Also nearby are numerous interesting destinations including the Butterfly Pavilion (www.butterflies.org) on Highway 36 to Boulder, Boulder itself, Golden (with the Coors Brewery, the Buffalo Bill Museum and Grave on Lookout Mountain, and the Colorado Railroad Museum), the Castle Rock Factory Outlets Stores just south of the Tech Center, and, of course, the mountains. The entrance to Rocky Mountain National Park is only about an hour and a half north of Denver off of I-25.



There may still be ski areas open for spring skiing in April; I-70 West is a quick access. The Air Force Academy, Pikes Peak (with its cog railway), Garden of the Gods, Manitou Springs, and Cove of the Winds are just a few of the attractions in the Colorado Springs area, just an hour to an hour and a half south on I-25.

As the "Mile High City", Denver is on the high plains right at the gateway to the spectacular Rocky Mountains. When planning for your trip to the convention, remember that while days may be quite warm, temperatures always cool down in the evening, and weather changes can and do occur frequently.

Please see the RMPA 2013 Convention Information section in this newsletter for hotel reservation details.

See you in Denver!

RMPA Convention at a glance:

Psi Chi Distinguished Lecture

Robert J. Sternberg
Oklahoma State University



Reflections on What I have Learned from 40 (Gulp!) Years in Psychology

In this talk, I will reflect on what I have learned from 40 years in psychology, for example,

1. How careers evolve
2. Balancing work and family life
3. Mistakes to make just once
4. What to do when things go horribly wrong
5. What to do when the rejections keep piling up
6. How to know who your real friends are
7. Dealing with enemies
8. Making teaching and research work together rather than against each other
9. When not to suck up
10. When to listen to advice and when not to

I will present the talk in a way that I hope will help people younger than I avoid some of the mistakes I made, and some of the ones I didn't.

Robert Jeffrey Sternberg is Professor of Psychology and Provost at Oklahoma State University. He was formerly the Dean of Arts and Sciences at Tufts University, IBM Professor of Psychology and Education at Yale University, and the President of the American Psychological Association. He is a member of the editorial boards of numerous journals, including *American Psychologist*. Sternberg has a BA from Yale University and a PhD from Stanford University. He is currently also a Distinguished Associate of The Psychometrics Centre at the University of Cambridge. Among his major contributions to psychology are the Triarchic Theory of Intelligence, several influential theories related to creativity, wisdom, thinking styles, love and hate, and is the author of over 1000 articles, book chapters, and books.

G. Stanley Hall Distinguished Lecture

Christine Chiarello

University of California, Riverside



Brain Organization for Language: It's All in the Network(s)

Dr. Chiarello's research investigates the organization of language function in the brain. One long-standing research interest is to understand how the bilateral design of the human cerebral cortex affects the way in which people process language and perform other cognitive functions. Her lab has explored the contributions of the right cerebral hemisphere to language processing, and documented that this "nonverbal" hemisphere plays an important role in the comprehension of linguistic meaning. This research has indicated that the right hemisphere has a broader, less focused form of meaning activation that can provide a platform for a variety of linguistic processes that complement those of the left hemisphere.

More recently her research has focused on individual differences in the neural substrates for reading and language. In particular, she is investigating linkages between individual differences in cortical anatomy and variations in behavioral-linguistic profiles. The Biological Substrates for Language Project is currently in progress. This is a large-scale, NIH-funded study of 200 participants who received extensive behavioral testing and MRI scans that permitted measurement of numerous neuroanatomical features. The resulting individual differences database is unique in that it combines detailed neuroanatomical measurements with thorough behavioral data from the same individuals. Initial findings indicate that individual differences in brain and behavior cannot be accounted for by sex differences, but that an overlapping subgroup approach (the kaleidoscope framework) can identify multiple dimensions of variation in brain anatomy and behavior.

Diversity Keynote Address



Peggy McIntosh
Wellesley College

Peggy McIntosh, Ph.D., senior research scientist and associate director of the Wellesley Centers for Women, is also the founder, of the National SEED Project on Inclusive Curriculum (Seeking Educational Equity & Diversity). The SEED Project helps teachers create their own year-long, school-based seminars on making school climates, K-12 curricula, and teaching methods more gender fair and multi-culturally equitable. Dr. McIntosh currently leads the expansion of the SEED Project, with funding from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

Dr. McIntosh directs the Gender, Race, and Inclusive Education Project, which provides workshops on privilege systems, feelings of fraudulence, and diversifying workplaces, curricula, and teaching methods. Dr. McIntosh has taught English, American Studies, and Women's Studies at the Brearley School, Harvard University, Trinity College (Washington, D.C.), Durham University (England), and Wellesley College.

She is co-founder of the Rocky Mountain Women's Institute, and has been consulting editor to *Sage: A Scholarly Journal on Black Women*. In 1993-1994, she consulted with women on 22 Asian campuses on the development of Women's Studies and programs to bring materials from Women's Studies into the main curriculum. In addition to having two honorary degrees, she is a recipient of the Klingenstein Award for Distinguished Educational Leadership from Columbia Teachers College. She earned her doctorate degree from Harvard University.

RMPA Distinguished Lecture

Strategies of Human Mating



David M. Buss
University of Texas, Austin

Humans have a menu of mating strategies. These include long-term committed mating, casual sex, extra-pair copulation, mate poaching, and serial mating. The key to understanding mating strategies centers on identifying what women and men want in different mating relationships. This talk highlights the results of several dozen studies of human mating strategies, including a study of 37 cultures (from Australia to Zambia) located on six continents and five islands. Cultures differ greatly in their mating desires for some qualities (e.g., physical appearance, virginity), yet show striking similarity in their mate preferences for other qualities (e.g., kindness). Knowledge of these shared and divergent mate preferences across cultures provides insight into many aspects of human mating—tactics of mate attraction, tactics of mate retention, love, romantic harmony, sexual jealousy, and sexual conflict. The talk presents a unified theory of human mating that includes universal, sex-differentiated, and context-dependent sexual strategies.

David M. Buss received his B.A. from the *University of Texas at Austin*, and his Ph.D. from the *University of California at Berkeley*. He served in professorial positions at *Harvard University*, the *University of Michigan*, and the *University of Texas*, where he is currently Professor of Psychology. David Buss received the *American Psychological Association (APA) Distinguished Scientific Award for Early Career Contribution to Psychology*; the *APA G. Stanley Hall Award*; and the *APA Distinguished Scientist Lecturer Award*. The University of Texas awarded Buss the *President's Associates Teaching Excellence Award*. He served as *President of the Human Behavior and Evolution Society (HBES)*. He is currently Head of the Individual Differences and Evolutionary Psychology Area of the Psychology Department at the University of Texas at Austin.

Buss's books include: *The Evolution of Desire: Strategies of Human Mating* (Basic Books; translated into 11 languages); *Evolutionary Psychology: The New Science of the Mind* (Allyn & Bacon); and *The Dangerous Passion: Why Jealousy is as Necessary as Love and Sex* (Free Press; translated into 13 languages); *The Murderer Next Door: Why the Mind is Designed to Kill* (Penquin; translated into 12 languages); *The Handbook of Evolutionary Psychology* (Wiley), for which he served as editor; *Why Women Have Sex* (Holt; translated into 16 languages; co-authored with Cindy Meston); *The Evolution of Personality and Individual Differences* (Oxford University Press); and *Personality Psychology: Domains of Knowledge about Human*

Nature. Buss has more than 250 scientific publications, and is one of the most highly cited psychologists in the world.

Buss has extensive cross-cultural research collaborations and lectures widely within the United States and internationally. His primary research interests include the psychology of sex differences, human sexuality, mating strategies, conflict between the sexes, why people kill, warfare, terrorism, stalking, and the psychology of prestige, status, and reputation.

Teaching Conference Keynote Address

Voices from the Past: William James, H. B. Alexander, and the Psychology of Teaching



Kenneth D. Keith
University of San Diego

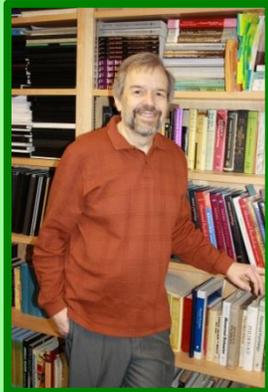
Today college and university teachers face significant pressure to make their work more efficient, more cost-effective, and more practical. Is there a place for the liberal arts in contemporary higher education? How should teachers of psychology respond to changing times? In this talk I will look for wisdom in the words of two of our forebears: William James in his 1899 *Talks to Teachers*, and Hartley Burr Alexander's 1919 *Letters to Teachers*.

Ken Keith is Professor Emeritus at the University of San Diego. He maintains an active program of research in quality of life, much of it cross-cultural, and teaches courses in cross-cultural psychology, as well as research methods, history of psychology, and introductory psychology. He served as department chair from 1999-2007, and as chair of the College of Arts & Sciences Academic Assembly from 2003-2005. He is currently Chief Reader for the national Advanced Placement Psychology program. Ken maintains an active program of research on quality of life, much of it cross-cultural in nature. He is editor of *Cross-Cultural Perspectives on Quality of Life* (2000), and *Cross-Cultural Psychology: Contemporary Themes and Perspectives* (2011), and editor of the forthcoming *Encyclopedia of Cross Cultural Psychology*. He is a fellow of the American Psychological Association (Divisions on Teaching and International Psychology), the Association for Psychological Science, and the Western Psychological Association. In 2007 Ken received the Outstanding Preceptor Award and was the 2008 recipient of the Davies Award for Teaching Excellence.

RMPA Distinguished Lecturer

Sponsored by Worth Publishing

Teachers and Students: Psychology's Odd Couple



Ronald J. Comer
Princeton University

Distinguished Alumni Address

In the Shadow of the Rockies: Illuminating Humane Environments



Thomas C. Greene
St. Lawrence University

Among the regional associations of American psychologists, only the Rocky Mountain organization is named for a physical feature. Perhaps the name is inconsequential, but this region, whose self-perception is so obviously affected by grand landscapes, may be a particularly good place to nurture environmental psychology. Embracing the importance of unraveling fundamental psychological issues such as cognition, social behavior, health and neuroscience, there remains room to also examine human interactions with our holistic surroundings.

Within environmental psychology, a problem-centered initiative seeks to throttle the combination of hubris and naiveté that has led to a looming environmental crisis. Again, the importance of this research is undeniable. Nevertheless, a different strain of research finds fascination in the ancient but continuing human challenges and delights encountered in elemental features such as landscapes, shelter and fire. Arguably, we will not successfully cure destructive human behaviors if the prescription results in inhumane spaces and a dour stance of sacrifice that fails to also enrich the human condition.

RMPA Past President Address

Albert Einstein's "Jewish Physics" and William James's "American Psychology"



Wayne Viney
Colorado State University

William James repeatedly argued that the greatest issue confronting the human mind centers on pluralistic and monistic visions of the world. Qualifying and limiting adjectives such as Jewish physics, Christian Biology, Aryan Science, and Marxian Botany have sometimes been used in attempts to reduce science to one grand all-embracing and consistent unity. In this paper I explore problems associated with unification efforts and argue that, for the time being, science is best served by a kind of humility tuned to a deep awareness of epistemological, ontological, and axiological complexities that call for recognition of numerous kinds of real things, the legitimacy of many scientific methodologies, and the perversity of attempts to limit values to a single grand institutional or substantive monopoly or cartel. It is argued that the radical empiricism, pragmatism, and pluralism of William James continues as a promising intellectual platform for the sciences.

Wayne Viney is Emeritus Professor of Psychology and Emeritus University Distinguished Teaching Scholar at Colorado State University. He served as President of RMPA from April 2001 to April 2002 and as President of APA's Society for the History of Psychology from 1999 to 2000. He has published extensively in the history of psychology and is co-author with Doug Woody and Brett King of one of the leading textbooks in the history of psychology. He has been the recipient of over 20 teaching awards at Colorado State and was recently recognized with a Life Time Achievement Award from the Society for the History of Psychology. After retiring in 2007, he was asked in 2011 to return to the faculty at CSU to teach courses in the history of psychology. In addition to his continuing instructional work at CSU he is currently working with Doug Woody on a book on the history of the relations between science and religion.

RMPA President's Address

Ethical Issues in Textbook Adoptions



Wayne Weiten

University of Nevada, Las Vegas

College textbook publishing is a \$4 billion-a-year industry, and though students are the publishers' customers, it is teachers who decide which books these customers buy. Ideally, decisions about textbook adoptions should be based solely on judgments about which of the available books best serve the educational needs of teachers and students. But a teacher's choice of one book over another can have significant economic repercussions for students, authors, publishers, and bookstores. As a result, financial considerations may come to influence adoption decisions, and when money enters the picture, ethical issues are sure to surface. In this talk, I will discuss a variety of ethical dilemmas that instructors are likely to face in making adoption decisions, such as the following. Is it ethical for instructors or departments to accept incentives for making adoptions? Is it ethical for instructors to adopt shrinkwrapped bundles of text-related materials that preclude students' purchase of used books? Is it ethical for instructors to sell examination copies of textbooks to book buyers? To what extent are instructors ethically obligated to strive to reduce their students' textbook costs?

Wayne Weiten is a graduate of Bradley University and received his Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Illinois, Chicago in 1981. He taught at the College of Dupage from 1975 until 1992 and at Santa Clara University from 1992 until 2000. He currently teaches at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. In 1991, he helped chair the APA National Conference on Enhancing the Quality of Undergraduate Education in Psychology and in 1996-1997 he served as President of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology. Weiten has written three college textbooks in psychology, all published by Cengage Learning: *Psychology: Themes & Variations* (2013, 9th ed.), *Psychology Applied to Modern Life: Adjustment at the Turn of the Century* (with Dana S. Dunn & Elizabeth Yost Hammer, 2012, 10th ed.), and *Psychology: Themes & Variations, Briefer Version* (2014, 9th ed.). He is also the creator of an educational CD-ROM, titled *PsyK Trek: A Multimedia Introduction to Psychology* (2008, Version 3.0). He has received distinguished teaching awards from Division Two of APA and from the College of DuPage. In 2006, one of the five national teaching awards given annually by the Society for the Teaching of Psychology was named in his honor. Weiten has conducted research on a wide range of topics, including educational measurement, jury decision-making, attribution theory, and pressure as a form of stress. He coauthored (with Diane Halpern and Doug Bernstein) a chapter on ethical issues in textbook adoptions which can be found in a book titled *Teaching Ethically: Addressing the Ethical Challenges Facing Undergraduate Teachers of Psychology* (APA, 2011).

Wertheimer-Portenier Teaching Conference

The Teaching Conference will begin at noon on Thursday, April 11 with a *Teaching Take-Out* of short, interactive demonstrations and exercises in several different areas of psychology. Our keynote address will be given by Ken Keith. Ken is a master teacher who serves as the Chief Reader for the national Advanced Placement Psychology program. He is this year's Harry Kirke Wolfe lecturer.

Several symposia and workshops on teaching topics have been organized including (a) Teaching as It Counts toward Rank and Tenure, (b) How to Grade and Provide Helpful Feedback on Ungradeable Papers, (c) Creating a Student-Centered Syllabus, (d) How to Conduct High Quality SoTL Research, (e) What Did Great Teachers Do to Shape Us?, (f) Integrating Social Media into Teaching, (g) Making Classes ADA Compliant and Open for Students with Disabilities, to include travel and study abroad with students with disabilities, (h) Student Redemption (how to help students recover from failures within a class, across their undergraduate educations, and across their careers), and (i) Best Practices in Service Learning/Practica.

The Teaching Conference will close with a reception and a poster session sponsored by the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (APA Division 2) at which the best poster will be selected for an award from the Society.

Student Pre-Conference

The student pre-conference will begin at noon on Thursday, April 11. Several sessions will be offered that should be of interest to students including (a) How to Get Into and Prepare for Graduate School including How to Interview and How to Socialize into the Discipline, (b) Student-Faculty Collaboration: How to Generate Research Ideas for Projects, with an emphasis on What to Do with a Psychology Degree?, (c) Supplemental Instruction Opportunities: Becoming an undergraduate teaching assistant or instructional aide, (d) Balance and Self-Care: Taking Care of Work, School and Family, and (e) How to Get the Most Out of Your RMPA Experience, including Convention Etiquette and Good Presentation Techniques.

Diversity News

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Peggy McIntosh, internationally known for her research, publication, and extensive work on privilege systems, gender, race, and other diversity issues, will serve as our featured Diversity Keynote at this year's convention! A Diversity Luncheon will also be held with Dr. McIntosh, serving as an opportunity to refuel and discuss critical issues with her.



Additionally, RMPA Diversity will host a LGBTQ session on "New Directions in LGBTQ research in psychology" by Jes Matsick and Ali Ziegler of the University of Michigan. Special thanks to Psi Chi, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association for providing funding in support the Diversity Keynote.

Teaching Take-Out Call-for-Proposals

This is a formal invitation to participate in the 2013 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 expand our session to reflect the changing activities of university teaching. 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 (<http://psych.colorado.edu/~dmartich/rmpa/convinfo.htm>). For your topic, please choose "other" and then type "teaching demonstration." Describe your demonstration, the ideas it is intended to convey, and the classes in which it would be most applicable.

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) with any questions. Thank you very much, and I look forward to seeing you at RMPA 2013.

RMPA Requesting Observer Status on the APA Council

The Regional Psychology Associations have a formal affiliation with APA established through Article XII of the APA By-Laws but currently do not have representation on the Council of Representatives. To address this, RMPA and other regional associations are working with the APA Board of Educational Affairs to request funded observer status for one observer per regional association (7 funded observers). Observer status on the Council of Representatives would allow us to evaluate how to best maximize our existing affiliate relationship with APA. From our perspective it seems like the Regional Psychological Associations are in a position to contribute enormously to APA and the Council of Representatives, especially through goal three of the APA Strategic Plan, "Increase recognition of psychology as a science". The regionals are the pipeline for students into the field of psychology!

RMPA Programs and Newsletters to be in PsychExtra

PsycEXTRA serves as a search machine and archive for gray literature in the behavioral and social sciences. Gray literature is material that is not commercially published, and includes conference abstracts and presentations, policy briefs, technical reports, working papers, factsheets, newsletters, and more. These types of documents are not generally indexed in standard bibliographic databases such as PsycINFO and the challenge for many researchers and practitioners is identifying and acquiring them. For organizations, the challenge is often disseminating these documents to a wider audience and archiving them for preservation.

RMPA has entered into an agreement with PsycEXTRA who will publish a complete bibliographic record and full-text pdfs of conference programs, newsletters and other material from our website and provide a link back to our website itself. Our participation in PsycEXTRA is free and authors and organizations retain the copyright to their works.

Festschrift planned for Paul A. Bell of Colorado State University



In honor of Paul Bell's retirement, we are having a festschrift this year at RMPA. We will have some time in the program on Saturday afternoon to make presentations and/or show videos and/or share stories. Then anyone who is interested can go to dinner together on Saturday night after the business meeting. If you want to help plan this exciting event, please contact Diane Martichuski (diane.martichuski@colorado.edu).

UNIVERSITY of
NORTHERN COLORADO



Graduate Study in Psychology at the University of Northern Colorado

Educational Psychology, M.A.

Ever wondered how the brain works? Been perplexed by people who display learned helplessness or self-handicapping behavior? Wished you could teach others to think critically? Contemplated the consequences of standardized assessments? Been concerned about the education of minority or gifted students?

If so, you would enjoy pursuing a masters degree in Educational Psychology. Educational Psychology is the study of human learning and motivation. It encompasses investigations of cognition and the brain, the relationship between cognition and technology, the influence of affect, goals, and interest on learning, the psychology of

teaching, the effectiveness of instructional interventions, and the social psychology of learning organizations. It addresses such issues in school contexts, work contexts, and everyday contexts such as the home or museums.

A masters degree in Educational Psychology is valuable for a diverse population including teachers seeking to develop their own philosophy of instruction and students learning, individuals interested in researching human learning and motivation, consultants wishing to develop expertise in occupational learning, and persons seeking employment in school districts, departments of education, or other education related organizations.



The masters program at UNC is designed to be flexible and authentic. Courses are offered on campus, at off-campus extension sites in Denver and other locates, and online. The degree can be completed in one year or spread out over a longer time period. Core course are offered during the summer to accommodate teachers' schedules. UNC faculty members are dedicated to quality teaching and student advising, while still serving as leaders and scholars in the field.

Accelerated (4 + 1) Psychology, B.A. and Educational Psychology, M.A.

Motivated and high-achieving students may seek to obtain the BA in Psychology and MA in Educational Psychology in 5 years. To obtain both degrees, students must complete all the requirements for the BA (http://catalog.unco.edu/2011-2012/catalogpdf/Psychology_11-12UndergradCatalog.pdf) and all the requirements for the MA (<http://catalog.unco.edu/11-12GraduateCatalog.pdf>). Completing the requirements for both degrees in 5 years is made possible, in part, by double counting 9 credits of graduate course work taken in the junior and senior years (paid for at the undergraduate tuition rate).

On-line M.A. Emphasis: Teaching Applications

The M.A. program in Educational Psychology: Teaching Applications at UNC is designed to give teachers access to the latest research on teaching and learning. The on-line program emphasizes developing an understanding of how both the brain and the environment influence learning across development, the nature of student motivation, and the role of society and culture in learning. Moreover, the program focuses on practical applications of research to the classroom. An M.A. in Educational Psychology will prepare teachers to effectively address critical tasks such as designing instruction that fosters critical thinking, helping students develop confidence and interest in learning, responding to state mandated tests and curriculum standards, and supporting disadvantaged students. Contact: Marilyn Welsh, Ph.D., marilyn.welsh@unco.edu

Educational Psychology, Ph.D.

Our society faces a number of critical educational issues including the following:

- How to make learning meaningful and authentic
- How to develop critical thinking and creativity
- How to support the application of learning in real-world contexts
- How to effectively educate special populations, including minorities and gifted students
- How to foster self-directed learning
- How to effectively assess student learning.

These issue fall under the purview of Educational Psychology. Educational Psychology is the study of human learning and motivation. It encompasses investigations of cognition and the brain,

the influence of affect, goals, and interest on learning, the role of assessment in learning, the psychology of teaching, the effectiveness of instructional interventions, the relationship between cognition and technology, the social psychology of learning organizations, and methods for conducting educational research. It addresses such issues in school contexts, work contexts, and everyday contexts such as the home or museums.

The Ph.D. program at UNC prepares individuals to become leaders in addressing these issues. Students are trained in the art of reading, writing, and empirically researching such issues through course work and collaboration on research projects with faculty members. Our program is flexible and we help students design a course of study that best suits their needs. Faculty members take pride in mentoring students and building lasting professional relationships with them. A Ph.D. in Educational Psychology will prepare individuals to, among other things,

- Teach and conduct research at universities
- Work at research centers
- Serve as training consults for businesses
- Lead professional development efforts for schools and districts
- Work in state departments of education
- Work in other education institutions such as the Educational Testing Service

Research Feature

Effects of Documentation on Young Children's Memory

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

Bethany Fleck is currently an Assistant 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. Dr. Fleck's research centers on cognitive and social development in classroom contexts. Two distinct areas of work focus on issues in early childhood education and university classrooms. Both lines of research draw on developmental theory with the overall goal of enhancing the learning environment for students of all levels. At the college level her studies include investigations of active reading questions, service learning, and the integration of social media into the classroom. Within early childhood education she has been working on studies pertaining to a teaching method called Documentation and its effects on children's memory.



Preschool students display curiosity and vigor for new information that requires educators to be creative in their teaching. One example of a creative teaching method stems from the Reggio Emilio Approach to early childhood education and is called documentation. Documentation is the systematic observation and recording of children's learning, often through photographs and written narratives that are available to children on an ongoing basis in the classroom [1-2]. In Reggio classrooms documentation in the form of photographs and narratives is commonly made visible through displays on panels or in books. Documentation is continuously available to children and adults, covering the walls of classrooms and hallways, often like a "second skin" [3]. After my first visit to a

Reggio inspired classroom I was immediately drawn to the documentation and wondered about its effects on the teachers, children and parents exposed to it.

What are the effects of documentation on young children's memory?

Anecdotal evidence suggests that documentation displayed in the classroom may enhance young children's learning and memory. Reggio educators have observed that documentation contributes to the range and depth of children's learning, as it provides the opportunity to revisit information and to clarify, strengthen and extend understanding [3]. Similarly, documentation may enhance memory for educational material by serving as a reminder shortly after each documented learning session and continuously thereafter while it is displayed in the classroom environment [5].

To empirically test the effects of documentation we conducted a study with four, five and six-year-old children that employed a three-session research protocol. Children participated in a scripted learning activity and were later either reminded of the activity by documentation or were not reminded. Two weeks later children were interviewed to assess their memory. In-depth coding and analysis of the interview revealed that the documentation enhanced several aspects of children's memory. Children in the documentation condition outperformed children in the control condition on measures of memory for factual information. Furthermore, during exposure to documentation and subsequent learning material, children talked more about factual content and less about off-topic, ongoing activities than those not exposed to documentation.

The evidence from this study suggests that documentation potentially boosts children's memory for information they learn in school. Our research team is now investigating how documentation might work to increase recollection. We hypothesize that the social interactions surrounding the documentation play a pivotal role!

What effect does documentation have on conversations between children and parents?

Much work has been done investigating the ways that mothers talk with their children about the past (including what children learn at school). Researchers have concluded that mothers talk with their children about past events in consistent ways known as maternal reminiscing style. Two such styles have been established: high and low elaborative style. These styles vary in the amount of information mothers contribute to the conversation, the types of questions they ask of their children, and amount they embellish on ideas [6-8]. Researchers have linked maternal reminiscing style with an array of memory related abilities in children including increased recollection of information.

To investigate if documentation changes the conversations that parents and children engage in, we designed a study to measure variables commonly used to characterize high and low elaborative maternal reminiscing style. In this study two separate lessons about popcorn and honey were taught in preschool classrooms by the researchers. Documentation was created that consisted of transcriptions of children's comments and photographs of the learning events. A week later conversations were recorded between mothers and children about the lessons. Half of the participants had documentation available during the conversation and the other half did not. This switched for the second lesson so that mother-child conversations were recorded both in the presence of documentation and without it.

All conversations were transcribed into word documents, which were then coded to extract variables of interest. Data was collected from 14 mother-child dyads and preliminary analyses were conducted. Findings revealed that documentation did have an effect on the way mothers spoke to their children. Specifically, mothers spoke more words and were more elaborative in style when they had documentation present than when they did not. Analysis of the

children's speech revealed that the number of words spoken did not increase, but the content of the children's speech was very different! The children were adding more new information to the conversation in the presence of documentation than without it.

This study is still underway. Three dedicated undergraduate research assistants are working hard to increase the sample size and diversity of participants. Our preliminary results are promising and support the use of documentation as an early childhood teaching method. Not only does documentation increase children's memory for factual information but it also supports the conversations that parents have with their children about learning events. It is my hope that soon, when you ask your child "what did you do in school today" documentation will be there to support and enhance the conversation, increasing your child's recollection for lessons learned that day.

I would like to thank Dr. Aaron Richmond for his contributions to this research. I am also grateful to Jordace Sanderson, Ashlie Reither, and Sara Yacovetta for their persistence and hard work as undergraduate research assistance.

References:

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RMPA Treasurer's Report

9/12

Conference Income (Reno)	\$30,893.94
Conference Expenses	\$33,976.03
Profit (Loss):	-(\$ 2,982.09)
Current Amount in Checking Account	\$40,885.10
Current Amount in Savings Account	\$ 1,057.79
CD Investment	\$16,862.33
Total:	\$58,805.22
Number of Members	98
Number of Affiliates	354
Number of Lifetime Members	53

Psi Chi News

Rocky Mountain Region



Regional Psi Chi Award Winners

Congratulations to the Regional Student Research awards winners who presented their work at RMPA 2012 in Reno:

PETER D. MARLE, ALISA J. ESTEY, LAURA J. FINAN, AND KARENLEIGH A. OVERMANN
University of Colorado Colorado Springs
Development and Psychometric Properties of a New Scale: The Self-Report Scale for Schizoid Behaviors (SRSSB)
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Frederick Coolidge

KAT GREEN, TESSA SALISBURY, AND JARED WARREN
Associations Between Informant Discrepancies of Parenting Behaviors and Externalizing Problems in Youth
Brigham Young University

ANNETTE PETERS
University of Northern Colorado
The Process of Cultural Identity Formation in College Students
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Basilia Softas-Nall

HEIDI A. VULETICH
Regis University
Priming and the Brain: A Case of Unexpected Reverse Priming
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Rona McCall

EMILEE R. NAYLOR
Westminster College
Psychometrics of the Imaginative Involvement Questionnaire (IIQ): Addressing Positive Valence in Fantasy, Absorption, and Daydreaming
Faculty Sponsor: Dr. Jennifer Simonds

ASHLEY L. PYNE, A. EVE MILLER, JASON M. WATSON, AND DAVID L. STRAYER
University of Utah
The Effects of Nature and Urban Environments on Working Memory Capacity

Congratulations are also in order for Andrew Choi at the University of Utah who won a Guilford Award. Congratulations also to Dora Panyi at the University of Colorado at Boulder and Steven Boomhower at Idaho State University for winning research grants.

We also have some great chapters of Psi Chi in our region; Utah State University which one the regional chapter award last year, and the chapters at Adams State College, Colorado State University, Regis University and University of Northern Colorado for winning model chapter designation.



Richard Bootzin gives the 2012 RMPA Psi Chi Distinguished Lecture

Psi Chi Student Regional Travel Grants

Please also repeat last year's box on the Psi Chi travel grant – Due date is March 8. Web link for more information:

<http://www.psichi.org/regions/RockyMtn/TravelGrantInfo.aspx>

Psi Chi Steering Committee Members

Susan Becker, Colorado Mesa University, Regional VP
sbecker@coloradomesa.edu

Aaron Richmond, Metropolitan State University at Denver
arichmo3@msudenver.edu

Rona McCall, Regis University
RMccall@regis.edu

Kris Trimble, Colorado Mesa University, Student Member
ktrimble@mavs.coloradomesa.edu

Psi Chi Rocky Mountain Region on Facebook

Check out the Rocky Mountain Region Psi Chi page on Facebook! Here is the Facebook link:

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

Psi Chi 2013 Keynote Speaker

Dr. Robert J Sternberg of Oklahoma State University will give the Psi Chi keynote address at the 83rd annual meeting of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association. An abstract and brief biography can be found in the "RMPA Convention at a Glance" section of this newsletter (page 5).

Leadership Workshop for Students

Did you know that leadership is one of the top five skills that employers look for when hiring people with a BA in psychology? This coming April Psi Chi is sponsoring an exciting leadership training opportunity for students attending RMPA. On the first day of the conference, Thursday April 11th, 2013, we will have the Catalyst Leadership Training from *LeaderShape*. The training will run from 9:00 am to 4:30 pm and is an all-day commitment. This training will be free to the first 60 students to sign up, and will include a light breakfast and lunch and you will receive a certificate at the end of the training. Priority registration will be available to Psi Chi members through the regional Facebook page.
<http://www.facebook.com/groups/149411341813850/>



RMPA FUTURE CONVENTION SITES

2014
Salt Lake City, Utah
Marriott City Center
April 24-26



2015
Boise, Idaho
The Grove Hotel
April 9-11





President
Wayne Weiten
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
wweiten@aol.com



President-Elect
Steve Barney
Southern Utah University
barney@suu.com



Past President
William Douglas Woody
University of Northern Colorado
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Convention Coordinator
Nancy Karlin
University of Northern Colorado
nancv.karlin@unco.edu

RMPA Mentor Award Call for Nominations

RMPA is seeking nominations for the 2013 Mentor Award. The award will be presented at the 2013 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:

William Douglas Woody, Ph.D.
School of Psychological Sciences
University of Northern Colorado
william.woody@unco.edu

Deadline for Nominations: February 1, 2013

Previous Mentor Award Recipients

2011 – Paul Bell, Colorado State University
2012 – Steve Barney, Southern Utah University

RMPA Early Career Award Call for Nominations

RMPA is soliciting nominations for the 2013 *Early Career Award*. The award will be presented at the 2013 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:

William Douglas Woody, Ph.D.
School of Psychological Sciences
University of Northern Colorado
william.woody@unco.edu

Deadline for Nominations: *February 1, 2013*

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 University 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

Steve Barney Receives 2012 RMPA Mentor Award

At the 2012 RMPA convention, RMPA honored Dr. Steve T. Barney of Southern Utah University [SUU] with the 2012 RMPA Mentor Award. Dr. Barney has an extensive record of mentoring students and scholars in his own department and at RMPA. To further student participation at RMPA, he has received Mentor Grants from SUU, incorporated RMPA-related activities into SUU student organizations, and presented 25 research papers with student co-authors since 2000. In addition to these collaborative projects with students, Dr. Barney has helped bring literally *hundreds* of SUU student presenters and attendees to RMPA conventions.

Additionally, he has mentored emerging scholars in his own department, many of whom are now regular participants in RMPA programming, and he has collaborated with several faculty within his own department for 16 RMPA co-authored presentations thus far. All of these activities, including his regular presentations in the Portenier-Wertheimer Teaching Conference, reflect Dr. Barney's commitment to strong undergraduate research as well as mentoring of students and emerging faculty. An additional testament to his success in his own department is the unanimous support from his faculty for his nomination for this award; they referred to him not only as an outstanding mentor but as "a mentor of mentors." Dr. Barney continues his investment in mentoring at RMPA. He has reviewed teaching and research submissions for RMPA conventions since 2001, has served on the Psi Chi Rocky Mountain Regional Advisory Committee, has helped decide RMPA student research awards, currently serves as President-Elect, and will serve as President 2013-2014. RMPA is honored to recognize Dr. Steve T. Barney with the 2012 RMPA Mentor Award.



Eric Amsel Receives RMPA Distinguished Service Award

The 2012 Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Eric Amsel at the April Business Meeting in Reno, NV. Dr. Amsel is Professor and Chair of Psychology at Weber State University where he also serves as the Due Process Officer. He received his BA from McGill, his M.Ed. from



Harvard and his Ph. D. from Columbia University, after which

he was a postdoctoral fellow at Yale. Eric is a Master Teacher who has received several teaching awards, including the Lowe Award for Innovative Teaching, the Carnegie/CASE Utah Professor of the Year, and the Presidential Distinguished Professor Award. Eric's research and publications address a widevariety of topics, including language, literacy and cognitive development, adolescent development, and the scholarship of teaching and learning. The Distinguished Service Award recognizes Eric's active involvement in RMPA that dates back to 1997 when he presented a paper on the development of reasoning. From that time forward Eric has been a regular contributor to the scientific program, and has also served RMPA as a member of the program committee and as a session moderator. In 2005, he received the best poster award from the Society for the Teaching of Psychology. In 2006, Eric served as the RMPA Convention Coordinator. From 2008-2011, Eric served on the Executive Committee including a term as President of RMPA in 2010. For his many contributions to RMPA over the years the Association was pleased to present him with the 2012 Distinguished Service Award.



MSU Denver's Undergraduate Psychology Program

Metropolitan State University (MSU) of Denver is an exciting place to be! And the Department of Psychology is one of the largest, most vigorous academic programs with over 1,400 majors in Psychology and Human Development. We also house over 400 students minoring in Psychology. The Department is staffed by 24 full-time faculty in the four core area groups of Clinical, Developmental, Experimental and Social Psychology.

We are joined by over 40 professionals from the community, teaching as part of our talented affiliate faculty team. Together we provide over 350 classes per year in a variety of on-campus, hybrid, and online course formats. For over forty years we've provided an affordable, comprehensive program in psychology, educating future professionals in Colorado, the US, and the larger world.

MSU Denver's Psychology Department has an extremely varied and extensive set of course listings that are all offered on a regular basis. MSU Denver lists 45 different regular course offerings in psychology and supplements those each semester with special topics and omnibus courses.

MSU Denver's tuition cost is one of the most affordable when compared to other 4 year degree granting institutions in the state of Colorado.

The Department of Psychology houses two majors: psychology and human development, along with a minor in psychology.

Psychology Major

A career in psychology offers many rewards including the opportunity to assist people with personal, family, social, educational, mental health, and career decisions. Psychology provides a solid background for entering fields as diverse as personnel management, addictions counseling, elementary and secondary school teaching, and criminal justice. Many of our graduates join the workforce directly; others chose to pursue graduate school.

Human Development Major

The human development major is an interdisciplinary major housed in the Psychology Department. The major focuses exclusively on the developmental sub-area of psychology. With over 40 class offerings, students learn about physical, cognitive, and social-emotional development from all periods of life. This major has five different concentrations to assist students varying post BA career goals. The majority of our majors (80%) pursue a teaching licensure degree. These students major in human development with a concentration in either elementary education or early childhood education. The other 20% of our majors choose a concentration in either graduate school, gerontology or the applied track.

I invite you to visit with one of our major advisors in psychology and human development to explore our two degree programs. Faculty advisors provide regular advising opportunities throughout the week during our Spring and Fall semesters for in depth, personal advising. Please feel free to call our office to make an appointment at 303-556-3205 or review our psychology and human development advising times online.

Additionally, our students have opportunities to join a wide range of active clubs including the Psi Chi Honors Society and the Human Development Club. The Department's Research Club is one of the most active at MSU Denver and in the Rocky Mountain Region, with annual peer-reviewed presentations at the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association. We also have an active Journal Club, which explores cutting-edge research, and the newly formed Clinical Club for those interested in learning more about psychology's largest employment field.

On behalf of the Department, I hope that you will explore all of the opportunities that await you at MSU Denver and in the Department of Psychology. Please join us in becoming a major or take a course and explore human behavior for closer look. I look forward to helping you achieve your goals in the field of Psychology.

Dr. Layton Seth Curl, Chair
Department of Psychology
Metropolitan State University (MSU) of Denver

RMPA Student Paper Award Winners

At the 2012 RMPA Convention in Reno. Five students received RMPA Student Paper Awards. RMPA President Doug Woody presented the awards at the annual awards ceremony and business meeting. They were:



Ryan T. Tanoue with Faculty Sponsor Marian Berryhill (University of Nevada – Reno), “Frontal Cortex is Differentially Involved in Shifts of Internal and Perceptual Attention.”

Skye Woestehoff with Faculty Sponsor Christian Meissner (University of Texas at El Paso), “Lay Perceptions of Factors that Lead to True and False Confessions.”



Yerin Shim, Lauren Millard, and Andrew Cole with Faculty Sponsor Kimberly Henry (Colorado State University), “Education Attainment and Meaning in Life as Predictors of Life Satisfaction.”

Brooke Brown with Faculty Sponsor Richard Miller (University of Nebraska at Kearney), “Predicting How Opposite Sex Seeks Social Support.”



Kristin Broussard, Sharon Wharton, Jackee Labarbera, and Karen Garvey with Faculty Sponsor Lisa Kindleberger Hagan (Metropolitan State College of Denver), “What Predicts Alcoholic Consumption in College Students? The Impact of Contingencies of Self-Worth, Motivations to Drink, Gender on Binge Drinking.”

The CUR-RMPA Undergraduate Research Award went to:



Crystal Collins with Faculty Sponsor Lesley Hathorn (Metropolitan State College of Denver) “Personality Traits and Bullying.”

The Environmental Psychology Symposium Paper Award to:

Alexandra Trani (co-authors A. Eve Miller, Jason Watson, and David Strayer, University of Utah), “What Cognition Processes Benefit by Interacting with Nature?”



Thanks for the help!

In addition to the efforts of the executive committee, RMPA would like to thank the following individuals for helping out with the program planning for the 2012 conference in Reno:

RICHARD MILLER (University of Nebraska at Kearney) and DOUG WOODY (University of Northern Colorado), for planning the teaching preconference, PAUL BELL and ROSS LOOMIS, Colorado State University, for planning the Environmental Psychology Symposium, AARON RICHMOND, Metro State College of Denver, for planning the Ellis-Battig Memory Symposium, ANNA ROPP, Metro State College of Denver, for planning the GLBTQ Diversity session, SUSAN E. BECKER, Rocky Mountain Regional Vice President of Psi Chi, for planning the Psi Chi Events and helping to sponsor our diversity council lunch and speaker, The APA EDUCATION DIRECTORATE and STP for the teaching conference, teaching poster award, and student award help, The APA SCIENCE DIRECTORATE for student award help, APA for the Distinguished Scientist Lecture, The COUNCIL ON UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH for the best undergraduate paper award. CENGAGE AND PEARSON publishers for sponsoring an RMPA Distinguished Lecture. WORTH publishers for sponsoring an RMPA Distinguished Lecture and for hosting a reception.

If you are interested in planning a symposium for 2013, contact the Program Chair, Diane Martichuski, at diane.martichuski@colorado.edu.

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

Proposed Changes to RMPA Constitution & By-Laws

Two proposals will be voted on at the RMPA Business meeting in April 2013. Both of these proposals were approved unanimously by the RMPA Executive Committee at its Fall meeting. Constitutional language in **red** is slated to be eliminated and constitutional language in **blue** is being added:

Proposal #1

To create a new Executive Committee position called "Teaching Conference Coordinator." This will be a voting member of the Executive Committee appointed by the President and approved by the Executive Committee for a 3 year term.

Constitutional Language:

Section 7.5 (all sections will be renumbered if approved) **The Teaching Conference Coordinator shall be a member of the Executive Committee, nominated by the President, elected by the Executive Committee for a term of three years (election cycle will correspond to election of RMPA Secretary).**

Proposal #2

Currently the Executive Committee positions of Program Director and Historian/Archivist are nominated by the President, elected by and serve at the pleasure of the Executive Committee. No term is currently specified. To be consistent with other appointed positions on the Executive Committee, the Executive committee recommends a three term that is renewable. Staggered terms are suggested to help preserve continuity.

Constitutional Language:

Section 5. The Historian/Archivist shall be a member of the Executive Committee, nominated by the President, elected by **and serving at the pleasure of the Executive Committee for a term of three years (election cycle will correspond to election of RMPA Treasurer).**

Section 6. The Program Director shall be a member of the Executive Committee, nominated by the President, elected by **and serving at the pleasure of the Executive Committee for a term of three years (election cycle will correspond to election of RMPA Diversity Council Chair).**

By-Laws Language

Section 8. Teaching Conference Coordinator shall:
 a. **in conjunction with the Program Director, put together the teaching conference program including a keynote speaker.**
 b. **conduct a meeting of interested members during the annual convention to solicit ideas for future teaching programming at RMPA.**

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 millerrl@unk.edu.

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

Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Local Representatives

California		Point Loma Nazarene University	Kim W, Schaeffer
Colorado		Adams State College	Robert M. Demski
		Colorado College	Emily Chan
		Colorado Mesa University	Harry Tiemann & Susan Becker
		Colorado State University	Deana Davalos
		Colorado State University – Pueblo	Karen Yescavage
		Denver University	Ruth Chao
		Front Range Community College	Laura Manuel
		Metropolitan State College – Denver	Aaron Richmond & Bill Henry
		Regis University	Rona McCall
		United States Air Force Academy	Michelle Butler
		University of Colorado – Boulder	Alice Healy
		University of Northern Colorado	Nancy Karlin & Doug Woody
		Western State College	Charles Patrick Stark
Idaho		Boise State University	Elizabeth Morgan
		BYU – Idaho	Sam Clay
		College of Idaho	Jann Adams
		Northwest Nazarene University	Glenn Andrews
Kansas		Fort Hays State University	Janett Naylor
		Southwestern College	Jay Nolan
Montana		Montana State University	Michael Babcock
		University of Montana	Allen D. Szalda-Petree
		University of Montana – Western	Mark Krank
Missouri		Washington University	Mark McDaniel
New Mexico		New Mexico Highlands University	Maura Pilotti
		New Mexico State University	Steven Elias
		San Juan College	Ron Salazar
		University of New Mexico	Karin Butler & Elizabeth Browning
		Western New Mexico University	Jennifer Coleman
Nebraska		Bellevue University	Roxanne Sullivan
		Chadron State College	Mary Jo Carnot
		University of Nebraska at Kearney	Bill Wozniak
Nevada		University of Nevada – Reno	William P. Wallace
		University of Nevada – Las Vegas	N. Clayton Silver
North Carolina		Appalachian State University	Courtney Rocheleau
		Western Carolina University	Winford Gordon
Texas		University of Texas-Pan American	Peter Kranz
Utah		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
		Westminster College	Laura M. Bennett Murphy
Washington		Eastern Washington University	Mahlon Dalley
		Central Washington University	Danielle Polage
		Pacific Lutheran University	Michelle Ceynar
Wyoming		Casper College	Shawn Powell
CANADA			
British Columbia		North Island College	John Marton