

Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Newsletter Spring 2008

Program Chair's Message

Diane Martichuski
University of Colorado

The 78th Annual RMPA Convention should be a great conference! We have about 240 submissions for papers, posters, symposia, and workshops this year, and all of the Rocky Mountain states (Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Wyoming, Montana, Idaho, Arizona, and New Mexico) are represented, as well as North Carolina, Louisiana, Texas, California, Nebraska, Washington, Oregon, Florida, Wisconsin, and Victoria, British Columbia. This is also the fourth year for the Portenier/Wertheimer Teaching Preconference, which will be held from 12-5 on Thursday, April 10. Our kickoff speaker for the preconference will be Doug Bernstein. We also have set up sessions for students during the teaching preconference. One of those sessions is an APA career workshop on Thursday afternoon as well as two other sessions for students. We will also have the general conference kickoff reception Thursday the 10th, from 5-6 pm, and our Conference Kickoff Speaker (Carol Tavris) at 6 pm! We also have the honor of hosting an interview of Elliot Aronson by Carol Tavris, which they are filming for a DVD (this event is scheduled for Friday morning). Friday and Saturday (April 11 and 12) will have full schedules, like last year. We have many social events planned for this conference, and there are great restaurants around, so please plan on staying in Boise for the entire convention, which will conclude with our President's Reception on Saturday night.

For those who are new to RMPA, please remember that even though you have submitted a proposal, it is still necessary to register for the convention and reserve rooms at the Grove Hotel. Please preregister as early as possible (the deadline for early registration is March 7). Preregistering is cheaper for all groups, plus it really eases the burden on our convention managers and the local staff.

Remember, you will not be mailed a convention program. Convention-goers will receive a program when they either pick up their badge (preregistered people) or when they register on-site at the conference in April. We will otherwise have a brief schedule of the conference as well as a complete copy of the program on the website when it is finished. You can check on the progress of the program as we develop it on the webpage at <http://www.rockymountainpsych.org>. Click on "Call-for-Papers."

NEW AND EXCITING TEST PROGRAM – WE WILL HAVE COMPUTERS AND LCD PROJECTORS IN EVERY PRESENTATION ROOM, IN ADDITION TO OVERHEAD PROJECTORS. Many thanks to Boise State University for helping us with this equipment. You no longer need to bring your computer or LCD projector (but still need a memory stick and maybe some backup overheads).

Notification of proposal acceptance into the program is occurring on-line. The status web page can be linked from the main conference webpage or can be directly accessed at <http://psych.colorado.edu/~dmartich/rmpa/status.pdf>. It is available, and should have completed status information by Feb 28. This information includes the type of session (oral or poster), and time and date of your session. I will also post a "General Guidelines" link for newcomers to the conference. If you have any questions or problems with a submission, please contact me at Diane.Martichuski@colorado.edu.

Thanks again for all of the great looking proposals! Our membership certainly appears to be healthy and productive! The executive committee and I are all very excited about this conference!



RMPA 2008 CONVENTION INFORMATION

APRIL 10-12, 2008
The Grove Hotel
245 South Capitol Blvd.
Boise, Idaho 83702
(T) 888-961-5000
(F) 208-333-8800



Convention Co-Managers

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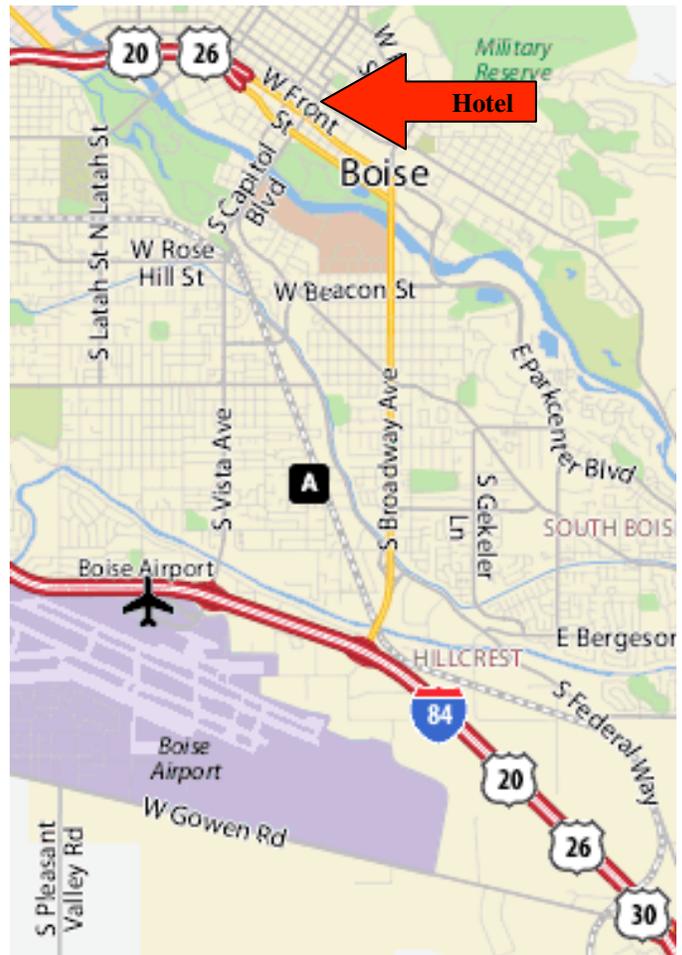
Lodging

The Grove Hotel, Boise's only AAA Four-Diamond rated hotel! **Reservations are made by calling the hotel directly at their toll-free number 888-961-5000 by March 6, 2008. Room rates are \$99 for a single, \$109 for a double and \$199 for a suite.** The Grove Hotel has guaranteed RMPA that these will be the lowest rates available. Please be sure to tell them that you will be attending the RMPA Annual Meeting in order to get the special rate.

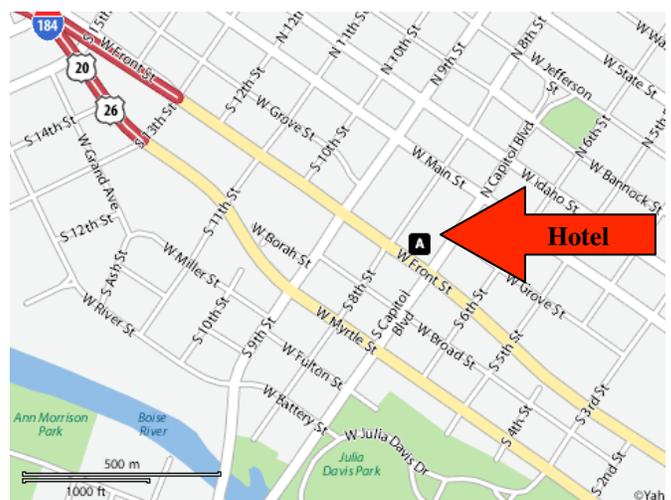


Transportation

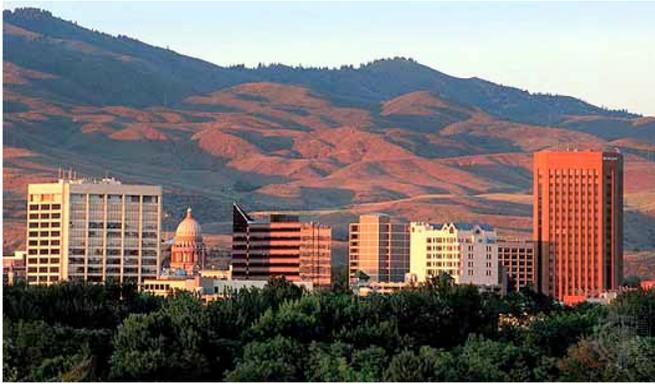
The Boise Airport is serviced by numerous airlines with regular flights. The Grove Hotel provides a **free shuttle service** from and to the Airport. Taxi and Limousine service are also available. For details check, [The Grove's transportation page](#). If you are driving to Boise, you will be on I-84. From either the East or West take the Airport/Vista Avenue exit and travel north on Vista Avenue. Vista Avenue transitions into Capitol Boulevard which will then take you directly to the hotel.



Boise Maps



BOISE at a glance



The Grove Hotel is located in downtown Boise and is within easy walking distance to over 50 restaurants, ranging from fast food to nationally rated fine dining including many unexpected ethnic restaurants, www.diningdecisions.com

Boise's downtown is a lively area for shopping, sports and the arts. In the immediate area of The Grove Hotel is the Qwest Arena, www.qwestarenaidaho.com and the Boise Centre on the Grove www.boisecentre.com



Downtown Boise is also vibrant home to an active nightlife with a number of medium and small venues for music, comedy, and social gatherings. One block from the convention hotel is the first distillery/pub/restaurant in the United States, www.bardenay.com where you can watch (and enjoy) them making rum, vodka and gin.

Just a few blocks away are Boise State University, Idaho's largest university and Boise's Metropolitan Research University of Distinction, www.boisestate.edu/ Boise State University is home to The Morrison Center for the Performing Arts, mc.boisestate.edu/ host to the Boise Ballet, Opera and Symphony, and the Taco Bell Arena, www.tacobellarena.com

Just across the street from the Grove Hotel is the Basque Block where you can learn about and enjoy Idaho's Basque

culture through dining, museum and cultural activities, www.boisebasques.com

There are over 100 retail businesses within walking distance of the convention hotel representing local merchants and national chains. For a list of merchants and for an all around good place to learn about downtown Boise check, www.downtownboise.org

Boise also has a wonderful art museum (a couple of blocks from the hotel) that has an excellent permanent collection and which hosts a number of national and international exhibitions each year. www.boiseartmuseum.org



The City of Trees also boasts an unpolluted river flowing through the heart of the city and a 25-mile river front greenbelt (within walking distance of the convention hotel).

Among the many other unique sites to visit are the Morrison-Knudsen Nature Center, Idaho Anne Frank Human Rights Memorial, Idaho Black History Museum and the World Center for Birds of Prey. Southwest Idaho's easily accessible outdoors beckons the Boise visitor to enjoy nearby mountains, desert sand dunes, canyons and whitewater rafting rivers. Boise is the perfect city for a memorable visit. For more information about Boise and the treasure valley see, www.boise.org



We are really looking forward to RMPA coming to Boise and we KNOW you are going to have a wonderful time visiting the Treasure Valley of Idaho.

See you in Boise!

Restaurants within walking distance of The Grove Hotel

Upscale \$25+

Andrae's (French)
816 W. Bannock St.
Boise — 385-0707
<http://www.andraesboise.com/>

Bombay Grill (Reservations)
928 W Main St
Boise — 345-7888

The Melting Pot (Fondue) (Reservations)
200 N. 6th St.
Boise — 383-0900
www.meltingpot.com

Mortimer's (Reservations)
110 S 5th St, Boise, ID
(208) 338-6550
<http://www.mortimersidaho.com/>

Moderate \$12 - \$25

8th St. Wine Co.
405 S. 8th St. Suite 100
426-WINE 9463
<http://www.8streetwine.com/>

Angell's Bar & Grill
999 W. Main St. One Capitol Center
342-4900
<http://www.angellsbarandgrill.com/>

Asiago's Ristorante (Italian)
1002 Main St.
336-5552
<http://www.asiagos.com>

Bardenay Restaurant/Distillery
610 Grove St.
426-0538
www.bardenay.com

Cottonwood Grille
913 W. River St.
333-9800
<http://www.cottonwoodgrille.com>

Gino's Grill (Italian)
150 N 8th St
331-0475

Koi (sushi)
800 W Idaho St Suite 112
343-3474
<http://www.maithaigroup.com/tacaboise/index>

Le Poulet Rouge (Breakfast/Lunch)
106 N 6th St
388-1100

Leku Ona (Basque)
117 S 6th St
345-6665
<http://www.iparagon.com/lekuona/menu.html>

Mai Thai Restaurant & Bar
750 W. Idaho St.
344-8424
<http://www.maithaigroup.com/maithaiboise/>

Superb Sushi
280 N 8th St Suite 104
385-0123
www.superbsushidowntown.com

Yen Ching
305 N. 9th St.
384-0384

PF Chang's China Bistro
391 S 8th St
(208) 342-8100
<http://www.pfchangs.com/>

Student Friendly :-) <\$12

Brick Oven Bistro
801 Main St. On the Grove
342-3456
<http://www.brickovenbistro.com>

Café Olé Restaurant & Cantina
(Mexican)
BoDo 408 8th St.
344-3222
<http://www.cafeole.com>

Falcon Tavern
780 W. Idaho St.
947-3111
www.falcontavern.com

Flying M Coffeehouse
500 W. Idaho St.
345-4320

Guido's Pizzeria
235 N. 5th St.
345-9011

KB's (Mexican)
405 S Capitol Blvd
336-3390
www.kbburritos.com

The MilkyWay
205 N. 10th St
343-4334
<http://www.milkywayboise.com/>

Old Chicago
730 W. Idaho
363-0037
www.oldchicago.com

Piper Pub & Grill
CAPITOL TERRACE Eighth & Main
343-2444
www.pipers.com

Rick's Café Americain At the Flicks
(Movie Theatre)
646 Fulton St.
342-4288
www.theflicksboise.com

Table Rock BrewPub & Grill
705 Fulton St.
342-0944
www.tablerockbrewpub.com

Villano's Specialty Market & Deli
712 W. Idaho St.
331-3066
www.villanosdeli.com

Happy Fish Sushi and Martinee Bar
855 W Broad St
343-3810
<http://happyfishsushi.com/>

Menus for most of these can be found at:
<http://www.diningdecisions.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=home.page>

Be a Part of History

Elliot Aronson



As part of a *festschrift* (a celebration that looks back on a lifelong career) for **Elliot Aronson**, Carol Tavris has chosen our RMPA conference as the place where she will interview Dr. Aronson for a DVD, which is being produced as part of the *festschrift*. Elliot Aronson is a famous social psychologist, and he will be discussing various topics regarding his career in the field of social psychology. The Palfreman Film Group will film the event. This exciting event is scheduled for Friday morning, April 11 in one of the Grove Hotel ballrooms. Don't miss it!

Pre-Conference Activities for Students:

On Thursday, while professors are attending the teaching pre-conference, RMPA has put together a series of sessions specifically for undergraduate and graduate students, including:

- **Entering the Academic Marketplace: Advise from Experts** is a workshop designed by the American Psychological Association for students who are interesting in becoming a professor some day. Expert panelists will share their insights with plenty of opportunity for discussion on the following questions (and more). (1) What are the major rewards and challenges of an academic career? Which are unique to your institution? (2) Did graduate school prepare you for the job you are doing now? (3) If you could go back and do one thing differently along your career path, what would it be? (4) What are the biggest “turn ons” and “turn offs” about job candidates who are applying to your department? (5) What do you think the major changes in academic life will be in the coming years?
- **Graduate School Participant Exchange** will provide students the opportunity to talk with faculty and graduate students from a wide range of disciplines about what graduate programs in that discipline are all about. Among the fields included will be (1) environmental psychology, (2) social psychology, (3) neuroscience, (4) clinical psychology and (5) many more.
- **How to Get Into Graduate School** is a session with advice on what to do to enhance your chances of getting into the program of your choice. Topics to be addressed include: (1) What to do to ensure a really positive letter of recommendation. (2) Taking the GRE... in stride. (3) How important are grades and what can I do if mine aren't that stellar? (4) Putting your work and service activities into context.

Teaching Pre-Conference

Doug Bernstein, author of textbooks on introductory psychology, clinical psychology, abnormal psychology and criminal behavior will kick-off the **Portenier-Wertheimer Teaching Pre-Conference** with a talk on “Was it Good for You, Too? Keeping Teaching Exciting for Us and for Them”.

Several interesting symposia have been planned. Among them are:

- *Academic Integrity: ethical issues in student internships, jobs and service learning.*
- *Engaging Students Outside the Classroom: Opportunities and Assessment*
- *Applying Cognitive Psychology to the Classroom.*

Several workshops will be offered including:

- *Opportunities for Psychology and Aging: Interdisciplinary Approaches to Promote Positive Attitudes about Aging*
- *Up Close and Personal: Teaching Controversial Subjects in Psychology*
- *An International Study Tour as an Enhancement of the Psychology Curriculum*
- *Technology in the Classroom*
- *Understanding our Majors, Alumni, & Faculty Colleagues*
- *Teaching New Teachers to Teach.*

As a part of the pre-conference, there will be *Teaching Take-Out* of demonstrations and exercises you can use in the classroom. This year, the roundtable on *Teaching Students with Disabilities* will focus on non-traditional students and acquired disabilities.

The oral paper session will examine a wide variety of topics of interest to teachers including:

- *Grade Expectations and Optimism among Psychology Students*
- *Service Learning in Abnormal Psychology: Softening Stigma*
- *Quality Teachers: A Content Analysis of Student Essays*
- *The Undergraduate Research Program: A model for teaching and experiencing research in a non-grant based University*
- *University-Governmental Evaluation Collaboration: Opportunities for Student Learning and Practice.*

The poster session includes a number of interesting topics including:

- *Time on Test and Test Performance in Statistics: Does More Time = Better Score?*
- *Mental Models of On-line Learning: An Interview Study of University Decision-Makers*
- *The Relation Between Metacognitive and Cognitive Ability on Analytical Processing, Decision-Maker*
- *Strategies and Motivations for Deep Learning: Gender Differences and Academic Outcomes Processing Decision-Makers,*
- *The Effect of Perspective on Misconceptions in Psychology: A Test of Conceptual Change Theory*
- *Utilizing Power Point Lectures: Student Preferences and Teaching Effectiveness,*
- *Intro psych text book considerations: Incorporating quantitative and qualitative data based on brief student reviews*
- *How Engaging is Classroom Technology?*
- *Making Psychology Personal, Learning Meaningful, and Addressing Misconceptions: Linking Introductory Psychology Students to Coursework Using Course Survey Data*

Diversity Program – RMPA 2008

We have an exciting selection of diversity programming at RMPA this year. Our invited speaker this year is Traci Craig who will speak on "Stigma Scattershot: Understanding Prejudice Beyond the Target". She will also join students for a conversation hour. In addition, we will have a roundtable discussion led by Les Miller titled: *Torture, Interrogation and APA Policy*. The diversity lunch this year will feature discussion and screening of excerpts from the documentary: *Killing Us Softly 3: Advertising's Image of Women*. For our GLBT presentation we will have a roundtable discussion titled; *Educational Approaches for the Creation of GLBT Supportive Classrooms*.

PSI CHI program at RMPA

Melanie M. Domenech Rodríguez
Utah State University
Psi Chi Rocky Mountain VP

The Psi Chi regional steering committee has worked diligently this year to establish another strong program at RMPA in Boise. This year's program has a special focus on diversity issues, in addition to sessions of special interest to Psi Chi student and faculty members. Below is a sneak peek at the Psi Chi program. Specific times will be available shortly on the Psi Chi website (http://www.psichi.org/conventions/article_1110.asp) and, of course, at the RMPA convention. If you have any questions about this year's program or suggestions for next year, please contact me via e-mail (melanie.domenech@usu.edu) or phone (435-797-3059).

Special Psi Chi Activities:

- **Psi Chi Advisor Appreciation Lunch:** Watch for the e-mail invitation!
- **Psi Chi Poster Session**
- **Psi Chi Awards Ceremony & Reception:** Award winners will be given their certificates and cash awards at this catered reception. This event will be followed by the spring induction ceremony of the Boise State University Psi Chi chapter. Please join us in welcoming new member to the Psi Chi family!

Special Theme Presentations:

- **DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER:** *Cultural adaptation in the era of Empirically Based Psychological Practice: How the two can tango*. Presented by Guillermo Bernal, University of Puerto Rico, Psi Chi Distinguished Alum. This presentation will be followed by an hour-long conversation hour in the Psi Chi Hospitality Suite.
- **Featured Speaker:** *Teaching about international psychology: Engaging future psychologists with the future of psychology*. Presented by John Davis, Texas State University, San Marcos and Psi Chi National Past-President
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- **Symposium:** *Ethics and vulnerable populations*. Papers will be presented by Elizabeth Dansie (Utah State University), Aaron Richmond (UN-Reno), and Melanie Domenech Rodriguez (Utah State University)
- **Symposium:** *Cultural considerations in the development of adolescent romantic relationships*. Papers to be presented by Renee Galliher (Utah State University), Sarah Heavin (University of Utah), and Yecenia Torres (University of Utah)

Psi Chi Presentation:

- **Featured Speaker:** *Optimal learning: How teachers and students can make classes work*. Presented by David B. Daniel, University of Northern Colorado
- **Symposium:** *Getting into Grad School*. Papers presented by Pamela Ansborg (MetroState), Eric Landrum (Boise State), and Mark Basham (Regis)
- **Symposium:** *You have your bachelor's in Psych: Now what?* Papers presented by William Pate (APA Workforce Office) and Pamela Ansborg (MetroState) & Aaron Richmond (UN- Reno)
- **Roundtable:** *How to keep the "Psi Chi ball" up in the air: Pointers for student officers, officers-to-be, and faculty advisors involved with Psi Chi*. Roundtable participants are Michael Serrine (Utah State University), Pamela Ansborg (MetroState), Mark Basham (Regis) and Psi Chi officers.
- **Psi Chi Oral Session:** The regional award winners will present their papers at this session.

Many people worked hard to make this program a success, including the rocky mountain Psi Chi steering committee: Pamela Ansborg, Mark Basham, and Kristina McDougal. We also had a lot of help and support from our local host chapter at Boise State University, and their fabulous faculty advisor, Eric Landrum. We are grateful to our invited speakers, whether distinguished, featured, and/or panelists; we are fortunate to be the beneficiaries of their expertise. We are indebted to many reviewers that gave their time to review abstracts for the Psi Chi awards (in no particular order): Ian Williamson, Leslie Cramblet Alvarez, Pamela Ansborg, Mark Basham, Renee Galliher, Steve Barney, Leigh Shaw, Joy Holloway, Julie Au, Jessi Smith, Rona McCall, Eric Landrum, Patricia Levy, Lori James, and Susan Coykendall. This year's program is wonderful and I look forward to seeing many of you in Boise.

Future Convention Sites:

2009 – Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town
Albuquerque, New Mexico
April 16-18, 2009

2010 – Sheraton Denver Tech Center
Greenwood Village, Colorado
April 15-17, 2010

2011 – Salt Lake City, Utah
Date and Hotel to be determined

Constitution & By-Laws Changes

At this year's RMPA Business Meeting which will be held on Saturday, April 12th, the membership will be asked to vote on two changes to the Constitution and By-laws that have been proposed by the Executive Committee. The first is to establish a new position on the Executive Committee, Convention Coordinator, which will have the duties to identify and negotiate future convention sites. As convention hotel prices continue to rise the negotiation of the contract between RMPA and the hotel becomes more complex, it is vital to have an individual with expertise and knowledge of details that are involved in conducting a convention. Over the past years, RMPA has had a good track record in negotiating mainly due to individuals who have devoted a considerable amount of time and effort to the hotel search process. This is not true of some of the other regional associations that have fallen into financial difficulties over hotel/convention contracts. The EC feels that to insure continued success in this area, a board member dedicated to this effort is needed. Therefore, the EC has proposed to add a position to the EC for that purpose. The individual would be nominated by the president and approved by the EC for a term of three years with full voting privileges.

The second change to the Constitution and By-Laws is to grant voting privileges to the Program Chair. Currently, the Program Chair is a non-voting member of the Executive Committee. When the Constitution was originally written, the program Chair was a one-year position that typically changes every year. For the last 10-15 years, the Program Chair has been a continuing position in part due to the expertise and technical skills required to put together a program each year. Essentially, the Program Chair has been a voting member on the EC, this change would simply acknowledge that fact and reflect the process that has been occurring for the last 10-15 years.

A copy of the RMPA Constitution and By-Laws and the proposed changes is available at the RMPA web-site (www.rockymountainpsych.org).

A Note about AV Equipment at the Convention

Those presenting at RMPA who plan a PowerPoint presentation should bring a file that is Microsoft PowerPoint 2003 compatible. The laptops in the room will not all have the MS Office 2007 suite installed on them. Mac users need to be PC compatible or they need to provide their own Mac.

If any of the presenters are going to have heavy video needs (for example, play a DVD or show a portion of a VHS tape), the Convention Managers need to know that in advance if possible. Not all rooms may have laptops that can handle a DVD.

It is highly recommended that presenters embed their video files within their PowerPoint presentations.

Also, there will be a couple of overhead projectors available if presenters want to use them. During the convention, presenters should contact the Convention Managers at the Registration Area if they have questions.

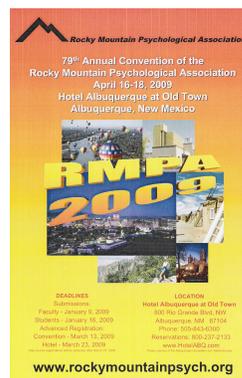
RMPA in Albuquerque 2009 Attention New Mexico Members!

On April 16-18, 2009, RMPA will hold its annual convention in Albuquerque, NM. The event will provide an opportunity for Psychology Departments in the state to showcase their research, programs, and accomplishments. Please take full advantage of this wonderful venue.

RMPA also is in need of help in the organization and implementation of the convention. The RMPA Executive Committee is requesting that individuals in the area consider assisting in the convention as a site convention manager or as a host institution. Contact RMPA President-elect Bill Wozniak at wozniakw@unk.edu for more information.

ELECTION RESULTS

Congratulations to **Eric Amsel** and **Bob Rycek** on their elections. During the next RMPA Business Meeting, Eric Amsel will become President-Elect and Bob Rycek will continue as Secretary.



RMPA 2009 Posters (11 X 17) for display in your department are available for free by contacting the RMPA Secretary at rycekr@unk.edu or pick up a few at this year's convention.

**Make plans to join us for
RMPA 2009
in Albuquerque**



**April 16-18, 2009
Hotel Albuquerque
at Old Town**

Thanks to BSU!!



The Rocky Mountain Psychological Association would like to express its sincere appreciation and thanks to **Boise State University** for providing Laptops, LCD projectors, and other Audio-Visual equipment for this year's convention. Special thanks to Eric Landrum, Convention Co-Manager, who coordinated that effort.

Special Thanks

The RMPA Executive Committee would like to thank the following organizations for their support of this year's Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Convention.

American Psychological Association for funding the G. Stanley Hall Lecture and the APA Education Directorate for funding outstanding student papers at the convention. Also thanks to APA for offering several workshops at this year's convention.

Association for Psychological Science for funding the William James APS Lecture.

Society for the Teaching of Psychology for funding the best teaching poster competition.

Psi Chi for funding the student research awards.

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