From the President

By Dominic Abrams, SPSSI President

As I start my term as SPSSI President I am conscious, and somewhat in awe, of my predecessors in this role. I feel extremely lucky to have had the benefit of the wisdom and experience of Maureen O’Conner and Allen Omoto to introduce me to the role last year. They have already done a huge amount to shape SPSSI’s governance, committee structure, and procedures to enable us to function effectively and powerfully, ably supported by our fantastic Central Office team headed by Susan Dudley. I am equally thrilled that our President-Elect, Alice Eagly has joined Council and the Executive Committee (EC). Incredibly, our EC teleconferences span an 8 hour time difference. It is a little surreal imagining Allen picking up the phone at the start of a sunny California morning while I am finishing my day at the office in pitch darkness in England! Meanwhile, the other EC committee members, Susan, Alice, Blair Johnson, and Mischa Thompson are probably battling growling stomachs as the meeting progresses through lunchtime. Bolstered by Allen’s and Alice’s insight, energy, great good sense, and terrific dedication, and the rest of Council’s forbearance, I hope there is little that I can do to interrupt SPSSI’s wonderful flow of achievements and ambitions!

At the end our Summer Council meeting we focused on how to ensure our committees sustain their good work and build continuity in terms of experience and mentoring. Indeed, we will be welcoming new committee chairs and co-chairs at our Winter Council meeting in January 2014. Meanwhile, as I work with Anila...
Editor’s Note

By Janice R. Adelman, Forward Editor

Thank you for taking the time to read this Fall Issue of The Forward. Since it is that time of year in the U.S. when people start to wax poetic about gratitude and thanks, what better way to open this issue? I am truly grateful for this opportunity to contribute to the SPSSI mission of applying psychological science to the study of social issues in the pursuit of social justice, equality, and well-being—a mission I hold so dear given my own identity as an applied social psychologist. I am thankful for the opportunity to work alongside so many incredible, respected, and well-known scholars, who hold similar values and goals of applying psychological study to social issues. So, thank you to each and every one of you who has made a contribution to this newsletter, both now and in the past. I absolutely could not do this without you!

As a result of our fantastic contributors, we have another newsletter that covers the range of work and accomplishments that make SPSSI so productive. For starters, SPSSI Policy Director Gabe Twose provides an update on his work in central office on p. 5. We also have two different international reports to share: the first on p. 6 describes a flurry of SPSSI activities currently underway in Moscow led by Alexander Voronov and Harold Takooshian; the second on p. 7 covers our spotlight interview with a twist—read what happened when Samuel Pehrson interviewed Karen Trew in Northern Ireland. Elsewhere in this issue, on p. 14 you can read about the current state of APA’s Council of Representatives (COR)—and don’t forget to give all 10 of your apportionment votes to SPSSI so we can continue to represent you and your needs in COR (see p. 14)—and how proposed changes to COR structure will play out in the coming months. If you are thinking about publishing your applied work, you might want to read the updates from each of our journal’s editors (pp. 15-17) for an idea of what each journal publishes. Afterwards, go ahead and submit your manuscript or proposal idea to one of SPSSI’s journals!

And speaking of publishing, keep in mind that this newsletter is here to serve as a reflection of SPSSI—what we do, how we do it, and why. This newsletter is here to “facilitate the exchange of ideas, information, and experience dealing with significant social issues in order to stimulate constructive social action” (SPSSI Administrative Handbook, p. 67). If you’d like to contribute to this exchange, I am delighted to receive suggestions and submissions! Enjoy this issue and the season of thanks, gratitude, and joy!

—Janice R. Adelman
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Balkissoon, SPSSI’s Program Director, to invite people to take on committee roles, it has been very gratifying that our invitations have been met with gracious enthusiasm by so many. It is great that so many SPSSI members are keen to get involved.

One of the interesting challenges for 2014 is to ensure that both our presence at the APA August convention and our own 10th Biennial convention have distinct themes and attractive programs. See the calls for proposals on pp. 21 and 22, and keep an eye on the conference tab on our website for the latest information about both. Rachel Calogero and Jamie Napier are in the process of finalizing the interdivisional proposals for APA next August, and Kim Case, with co-chairs, Shelly Grabe and Desdamona Rios are making great progress with the Biennial Convention in Portland, Oregon this June.

We approached both conferences with a firm eye on connecting SPSSI aims of addressing issues of social change and equality and connecting strongly to major policy issues. We also continue a tradition of inclusive and challenging themes (at APA, Inequalities, Injustices and Intersectionalities: Who, When, Why, How... and What Psychological Science Can Do; at SPSSI Biennial, Social Action and Change: Opportunities, Resistance, Inertia and Mobilization). This is deliberate and reflects a strategic development of SPSSI’s priorities in two areas: internationalization and policy. I’d like to say a little more about both.

First, it will be an advantage to embrace a more international and intercultural scope for our work. The issues that affect North America (SPSSI’s main constituency) are echoed, and in many cases amplified elsewhere in the world. Equally important, issues that are already of fundamental importance elsewhere (such as famine, war, gun control, and cultural clashes) may increasingly affect North America because many issues and connections between people and organizations are becoming increasingly globalized. Such issues include labor exploitation, the management of disease through behavior change, the health and education of children, human trafficking, the impacts of inequality, the relation between religion, law and social practices, new migration patterns, different interpretations of human rights, and recognition of the value of diversity. The role of psychology in these issues is growing in relevance as people move beyond local or national conceptions of right and wrong, fair and unfair. It seems likely that actions are increasingly judged in terms of comparisons with other individuals, groups and countries. SPSSI’s impact will grow, I believe, if we can sustain attention to international commonalities and differences that shed light on psychological explanations and strategies for change. We do this to some extent through publishing relevant work in JSI, ASAP and SIPR, as well as through participating in SPSSI conferences, incorporating the SPSSI mission into our teaching, and engaging in policy work. JSI’s current issue on the aftermath of genocide is a good example, and Chi-yue Chiu et al’s recent paper in SIPR highlights the advantages of transcending cultural constraints on innovation (a theme that can be applied to disciplines as well as cultures).

Second, we are becoming ever more committed to establishing a strong profile in terms of policy. Following the great work and development achieved by Alex Ingrams, this increasingly important aspect of our work, led by our outstanding Policy Director, Gabe Twose is taking many forms. These include our active engagement with the UN, and our plans to build workshops and events that specifically address ways to help SPSSI members and enthusiasts to connect with policy makers to enhance their influence. Gabe has had a fantastic first year with SPSSI—you can refer to his update on p. 5 for more details. Referring back to our Biennial Convention theme, notice that policy influence does not necessarily mean advocating change or overcoming inertia, it can involve active resistance to change. Many cities, states, and countries have evolved exemplary practices and policies. Just as important as challenging damaging policies is the ability to use compelling psychological evidence to support good practice and to prevent the erosion of rights and to resist the implementation of regressive or unfair practices. Understandably, most of our policy work focuses on activities in Washington DC. The success of that work offers inspiration and supports an ambition to engage with wider international policy issues, where I believe SPSSI has an important international role to play. For example, ASAP is now a well established journal and its use and impact is likely to continue to grow as it embraces a more international perspective. Our policy work at the UN necessarily requires an international focus. Our influence on policy at a global level is likely to increase the more we show policy makers in other countries that our work is relevant to them, too. This means that we need to draw on multiple perspectives on key social issues.

continued on next page...
Please do check out the Policy section of our website to see more about the exciting work, including the policy hub, member advocacy statements, congressional briefings, our Dalmas A. Taylor internship program, and Katya Michageva’s work as our current James Marshall Policy Fellow.

I hope we will find further ways to work together with relevant international professional organizations to extend the reach of our work and to draw strength from this wider perspective. I also hope I can serve effectively as President of SPSSI and welcome any insights or contributions (intellectual or financial!) from our members that will help us toward our goals.

—Dominic Abrams
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Make a Difference: Run for SPSSI Office

By Allen M. Omoto, SPSSI Past President

SPSSI needs you or someone you know! Each year, SPSSI membership elects new members to its governing Council as well as a new President who serves a multiple-year term (one year as President-Elect, one year as President, and one year as Past President). These elections and the development of slates of candidates are overseen by SPSSI’s Nominations and Elections Committee, chaired by the Past President. The committee also includes the President-Elect, SPSSI’s Secretary/Treasurer, the SPSSI Executive Director, and members from the Early Career Scholars Committee, Graduate Student Committee, and Diversity Committee. The committee’s goal each year is to develop a slate of diverse candidates for SPSSI’s main governing bodies and roles. Prior involvement with SPSSI is desirable, but not required. I invite you to put your name forward or to nominate one or more of your colleagues who you think would be good in SPSSI leadership positions.

This year, SPSSI will elect candidates for positions on SPSSI Council (4 seats), for SPSSI President, and for SPSSI’s representative to the Council of Representatives of the American Psychological Association. Candidates cannot simultaneously run for more than one office, and can serve SPSSI in only one elected position at a time. After receiving nominations, the Nominations and Elections Committee will put together a slate of multiple candidates for each position to be elected. Special consideration will be given to nominations from the general membership, including self-nominations, and also to insuring that the candidate pool is diverse (including in terms of gender, ethnicity, and career stage) and includes a range of perspectives. SPSSI values an open nominations process, but nomination does not guarantee that a nominee will appear on the ballot. The specific candidate slates will be determined by the Nominations and Elections Committee.

To assist the Nominations and Elections Committee in developing a diverse set of qualified candidates for each position to be elected, nominations should include a brief statement by the individual making the nomination about the candidates’ qualifications for the position (e.g., prior service to SPSSI or other social science organizations, interest in social issues, goals for SPSSI, etc.). Please submit all nominations no later than December 15, 2013. Nomination materials should be sent electronically (use “Election Nomination” in the subject line), or by US mail to: SPSSI, 208 I Street NE, Washington, DC 20002-4340.

I hope that you will take up this challenge and put yourself or a colleague forward as a potential SPSSI officer, Council member, or SPSSI representative. Helping to guide SPSSI forward in the years ahead is an important and rewarding task; it is critical policy and professional work at a high level. It is also fun. There could not be a more enjoyable and interesting group of people to work with than SPSSI leaders. They share commitment to social justice, science-based policy work, and to making the world a better place. Please consider adding your voice and perspectives to the mix. If you have any questions about nominations and elections, please feel free to contact me or SPSSI’s Executive Director, Susan Dudley. Get involved; SPSSI wants you!

—Allen M. Omoto
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Policy Update
By Gabriel Twose, SPSSI Policy Director

High-profile interpersonal violence has recently led to much media and legislative attention. From the mass killings in Sandy Hook, CT and Navy Yards, Washington, DC, to the highly publicized individual slayings of Trayvon Martin and Jonathan Ferrell, violence has been front and center in the national consciousness. All of these tragic events have had prominent psychological components, and SPSSI has engaged with the political process in a number of arenas.

The mass shootings have been followed by national soul-searching, and calls for legislative change from President Obama. However, he has faced stern resistance from a stubborn Congress. Appropriations bills since the 1990s have contained language that constrains research programs funded by the Department of Health and Human Services and the National Institutes of Health. This language seriously impedes psychologists’ and other scientists’ capacity to investigate the causes and impacts of gun-related violence, and to suggest effective prevention measures. SPSSI has joined many other organizations in calling for increased funding for research on gun violence, urging Congress to repeal obstructions to the development of an empirical knowledge base, and support a rigorous program of research on gun violence.

Although it is impossible to point to any one cause of real-world violence, a possible contributing factor is exposure to media violence. Media represent the leading leisure-time activity for American children and adolescents, and a very high proportion of entertainment media contain violence. The perpetrators of the both the Sandy Hook and Navy Yards massacres are said to have played violent video games (although correlation of course cannot be equated with causation). These issues have been raised in legislative circles by the Violent Content Research Act (S. 134). Accordingly, several SPSSI members are working to create a policy statement, summarizing the state of the field and making recommendations to policymakers. These recommendations may include working cooperatively with media psychologists to produce evidence-informed policies and products, revising age-based rating systems, incorporating media literacy content into school curricula, and increasing public education on the impact of media violence. This report will be posted on the SPSSI website in the coming months and disseminated in legislative circles.

The deaths of Jonathan Ferrell (a Black man shot by police after being mistaken for an intruder) and Trayvon Martin (a Black man shot by a neighborhood watchman after being falsely accused of trespassing) force us to ask questions about racial profiling, which is an inherently psychological concept. Racial profiling results, at least in part, from racial stereotyping, whereby individuals generalize about the traits associated with ethnic, racial, or other groups. Importantly, stereotypes operate implicitly and automatically, meaning that they influence people’s judgments and behaviors without their conscious awareness or intent. It has been shown that merely seeing a Black person tends to activate thoughts such as ‘criminal,’ ‘aggressive,’ or ‘thug.’ Accordingly, implicit, automatic racial biases may lead law enforcement officials, or citizens empowered by Stand Your Ground laws, to be more likely to perceive a weapon in place of a harmless object when viewing a Black face, and to be quicker to shoot a Black person than a White person. SPSSI members are summarizing this literature in fact-sheets on profiling and Stand Your Ground laws (in progress). James Marshall Fellow Katya Migacheva and I are also in the process of planning Congressional seminars aiming to educate staffers and Members of Congress on this important psychological research.

Interpersonal violence affects any number of people daily; the incidents described above are simply those that have received the most publicity recently. Psychological science has an important role to play in explaining and combating various forms of violence, and SPSSI is playing a leading role in this effort. To learn more or to get involved, please don’t hesitate to email me or call me at +1-202-675-6956.

—Gabriel Twose
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SPSSI in Russia

By Alexander Voronov, State Academic University of Humanities

The city of Moscow has 12 million residents and 188 Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), employing several thousand behavioral scientists. Though I have been a social psychology professor in Moscow for over 35 years, I had never heard of SPSSI until March 24, 2010—when I visited New York City to speak in a SPSSI-NY symposium Stanley Milgram’s Obedience Experiment: 50 Years Later. Of course SPSSI is great. I quickly joined SPSSI, and encouraged my Russian colleagues to join too—since many of them share my interest in social-issues research.

As of 2013, only seven Moscow psychologists had joined SPSSI. When I learned that SPSSI-NY chairperson Harold Takooshian was visiting Moscow this fall as a U.S. Fulbright Scholar in our Higher School of Economics, I offered to help arrange a series of monthly SPSSI activities in Moscow for our members and—equally important—those not yet familiar with SPSSI, all modeled after the vibrant SPSSI-NY group. At SPSSI’s Central Office, Brad Sickels kindly helped by creating a new webpage for these Moscow activities.

The Russian Academy of Sciences and its Institute for Psychology (IP RAS) proved to be an enthusiastic partner for SPSSI activities in Moscow. The Director of IP RAS is the distinguished psychologist Anatoly Zhuravlev, who sees a close parallel of SPSSI with IP RAS. Dr. Zhuravlev noted that the Academy was formed by Czar Peter I back in 1724 to apply science to national issues, much the way SPSSI was formed in 1936 to apply psychology to contemporary issues. Dr. Zhuravlev and IP RAS happily partnered with SPSSI, to host monthly activities in Fall 2013. The SPSSI-IP RAS series could not have started better, with two diverse programs.

Symposium. On September 26, history was made when IP RAS and SPSSI joined to offer their first public forum on Social Psychology of City Life. Over 40 psychologists and students convened in the IP RAS conference room at 13 Yaroslavskaya St., where they were personally welcomed by IP RAS Director Anatoly Zhuravlev, and heard about SPSSI.

Following our welcome and introductions, the forum heard from an interdisciplinary panel of 9 scientists from four cities, each presenting their own research on urban cognition and behavior: Harold Takooshian (New York), Lyubov V. Davydkina (Samara), Nadezhda K. Radina (Nizhny-Novgorod), Yuri G. Veshninsky (Moscow), Anton I. Belkin (Samara), Elena Y. Chebotareva (Moscow), Irina A. Novikova (Moscow), Lyubov V. Akopyan (Samara), and Alexander Y. Voronov (Moscow). The three-hour forum began at 4 pm, but the last participants did not leave until 9 pm, since many scientists were meeting for the first time, and lingered over post-forum refreshments. Most participants heard of SPSSI for the first time, and several completed an application to join the Society. We are now preparing to publish an edited summary of these 10 research presentations. Meanwhile, IP RAS photographers Konstantin Zuyev and Peter Morovoz posted lively images of this historic forum on the Academy’s wall.

Habitat Day. The second forum in the IP RAS-SPSSI series was held on October 7, during the world-wide celebration of World Habitat Day (WHD) by the United Nations on the first Monday each October. For the first time, our IP RAS partnered with the United Nations office in Russia to host the Moscow celebration of WHD-2013. Following Drs. Zhuravlev and me, Galina Kolesnikova of the United Nations Office distributed many Habitat monographs on urban planning to us behavioral scientists and students, as she addressed the forum. The new Habitat Director Joan Clos, MD spoke in an optimistic four-minute internet...
message on the theme, Changing Cities, Building Opportunities. Harold Takooshian gave the keynote address on Urban Psychology: Can Psychological Science Overcome Urban Problems?, which was simultaneously interpreted by Dr. Valentin Spivakovsky. A student of Stanley Milgram, the creator of Urban Psychology, Takooshian offered four examples of the optimal role of urban psychologists to guide engineering and technological innovations to better fit the residents of the world’s inevitable mega-cities of 10-million-plus. This address was followed by interdisciplinary replies by seven distinguished Academy scientists: Tatiana Emelyanova, Andrei V. Jurevich, Valery Khashchenko, Alexander Lebedev, Vladimir P. Poznyakov, Vyacheslav Sosnin, Alexander Sukharev. Zuyev and Morovoz’s crisp images are also posted online.

Conference. On October 27, the third SPSSI-Moscow activity was geared for students: The First Moscow Conference on Behavioral Research. This included several student research presentations hosted by Psi Chi and the Higher School of Economics, followed by a Skype link the same Sunday with SPSSI’s 25th Greater New York Conference on Behavioral Research hosted by Marisa Cohen and Karen Wilson at Saint Francis College. A SPSSI report on this will appear in the future. For any questions or suggestions about SPSSI in Moscow, please contact me.

— Alexander Voronov
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SPSSI Around the World

Spotlight on Karen Trew, Ph.D.

In this issue, we welcome Dr. Karen Trew to the interview hotseat. Dr. Trew is currently a visiting researcher at Queen’s University Belfast in Northern Ireland. In her work she applies social psychology to practice and policy across topics ranging from early educational curricula to intergroup conflict in Northern Ireland. We are delighted to include this interview in which Dr. Trew sat down to talk with her colleague at Queen’s, Samuel Pehrson, Ph.D. (Dr. Pehrson’s questions appear in bold).

Sam Pehrson: Karen, you retired in 2008 but I see you still being very active in your research. What’s the main thing that you’re working on these days?

Karen Trew: The project I’m most involved in at the moment is a collaboration between a group of us here at Queen’s and Danny Bar-Tal and his colleagues in Israel. This has introduced me to the concept of ‘ethos of conflict’, which has been developed by Danny. It’s been really exciting to see how well this ‘ethos of conflict’ concept seems to work in Northern Ireland. The conflicts in Northern Ireland and Israel appear to be very different and yet you find, striking similarities in basic processes like the distortion of intergroup perceptions. Working on this project I’ve really seen how research and theory are moving towards looking at peace processes rather than just the causes of conflict.

You see that as an important development?

Yes, our focus used to be mainly on the causes of conflict and violence, with nearly all of social psychology being focussed on negative factors like aggression, conflict and prejudice. So it’s heartening to experience the recent focus on the processes of change and peace processes generally. The work in Israel and work here in Northern Ireland has definitely contributed to that. We’re asking more useful questions now: What are the factors that bring about change? How does it occur? What are the barriers? How can we change the ethos? I think these are much more useful than looking at what makes people prejudiced.

Do you think psychological research has had a positive impact in Northern Ireland?

I think I can say that it has, yes. An area in which we had a particular impact was our work with children, and one person who had a huge impact in this area was Professor Ed Cairns, who unfortunately died recently. By continued next page...
working in a very sensitive and appropriate way, he was able to show how children develop their understanding of division and he also looked at a range of issues associated with the impact of aggression and violence on the developing child. Ed’s work had international impact, and people from Northern Ireland are working with young victims of conflict throughout the world now. He and others in Northern Ireland have worked on issues such as forgiveness and victims, areas where we can have an impact on changing the situation. Two other people who had a very big contribution to practice as well as scholarship were Professor Mari Fitzduff and Professor John Darby. They were really working on the coalface of community relations here and were very active in educating peacemakers.

Another major contribution of psychologists here has been through our role in evaluation. At one point millions were being poured into programs in Northern Ireland without any evidence of their success, but there’s a much more widespread acceptance of evaluation now. And then we have a very important role as educators. Because psychology is a popular subject, we have been able to disseminate some of social psychological insights to young people who go on to gain work in all walks of life. And finally I think as psychologists we can shape the discourse in society, not necessarily formally but through a range of channels.

*When and why did you join SPSSI?*

Well, we contributed to a conference in Ann Arbor in 1998, the second SPSSI stand-alone conference. I was impressed with SPSSI as a multidisciplinary organization looking at social issues. And of course, looking at the history of SPSSI, it has involved psychologists who I admire, like Kurt Lewin who was a founder of SPSSI. SPSSI embodies the ideas that research should be applied to real world problems, the importance of contextual factors and the historical dimension of social encounters. These are factors that have informed my work, so that’s why I joined.

*Do you think SPSSI would benefit from more involvement of researchers from outside North America?*

One impact of a more international focus is to increase the range of topics, and also the range of methodologies. Orla Muldoon edited a special issue of JSI on Northern Ireland in 2004 and even then the reviewers were very concerned about qualitative research. They nearly threw out the qualitative papers - they were very upset! But qualitative research is becoming more and more popular in America and I think that’s something that can add to the traditional focus on quantitative methods.

Then there are the joint meetings between SPSSI and the European Association of Social Psychology. One of the seminal moments of my career was attending a ‘Nags Head’ conference in 1990. These weren’t directly organized by SPSSI but the model would be similar to the small group meetings now. They were organized by Bibb Latane and brought established experts together with postgraduate students for a week in a most beautiful setting in North Carolina. The following year they brought in John Turner and his colleagues, and at that time social identity theory was new to many of the North American scholars. I wasn’t at that meeting, but I understand it was quite a stimulating and exciting one! But that sort of contact does help to challenge everyone’s truisms.

At the last SPSSI conference I went to I was very impressed by the diversity of the young psychologists. The background of social psychology seems to be changing and it can only do the discipline a world of good. I think it would be very good to develop contacts across continents. With JSI you do get a feeling that is happening.

*Is there a particular book that has inspired you the most through your career?*

Perhaps I shouldn’t mention this because it’s a book I contributed to! But actually it was the editor and his commentary that inspired me. “Confronting Social Issues: Applications of Social Psychology” was edited by Peter Stringer and published in 1982. He confronted a whole range of issues associated with carrying out social psychological research on social issues, such as what are we doing when we go out there? Before you meddle you have to think about whether your theories are appropriate, whether your methods are sensitive, whether you are going to change things for the better or worse. These are the type of factors which were central to carrying out research in Northern Ireland then. People were really suffering and you could put them in danger unless you were very sensitive. That book enables me to reflect on how and why I’m doing this work. I turn back to it a lot….unfortunately it is not well known. I would recommend it to anyone.

*And is there a recent book that you found interesting?*

*continued next page...*
Well I can answer this in terms of a behavioral measure: What book have I bought recently? I was given a Kindle and the first book I bought was one that I hadn’t been able to read before because it’s an e-book: “Mad Mobs and Englishmen” by Steve Reicher and Cliff Stott. It came out soon after England had experienced major riots in 2011 and I thought it was excellent because the authors aimed to dispel the gross distortions that appeared in the British media that were promulgated by politicians about the nature of the riots and about the people involved in them. I feel that’s an ideal sort of publication for our discipline, though not very common at all, written in a very engaging way as well as being a scholarly account.

—Karen Trew
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SPSSI Outside Academia
Choosing the Wilderness: A View From Outside the Academy
By Stacy Ann Hawkins, Research Scientist, Research Facilitation Team / Army Analytics Group

Even during my first years as a SPSSI member, in the early days of graduate school, I knew that I was headed in a different direction than many other social scientists. Like most SPSSI members, I have always been interested in the important real-life applications and implications of social science research. Unlike many of them, however, I was not destined for a full-time faculty position, but rather for a career outside the academic world. My path was headed into the wilderness of the “real world” for an applied research position.

What drew me to an applied position? I have always had a strong drive to focus on research and—importantly—the application of research evidence to policy, programs, therapy, schools, companies, and individuals. Working in an applied research position has afforded me a greater opportunity to emphasize the application not only of my research, but of the great work that is being done across the field.

Certainly, there are faculty members who conduct applied research and have successfully integrated their academic and “real” worlds—many SPSSI members can attest to this firsthand. But there are differences between conducting applied research from within the academy, and working in an applied research position. For me, one of the most significant differences is the ultimate priorities of the job—and by extension, what tasks get prioritized when there are not enough hours in the day. The majority of us in applied research positions, broadly speaking, are not held to the traditional academic priorities of research, teaching, and outreach.

Instead, our typical top priority is meeting the needs of the client or funder. Our clients might be a funding organization with certain goals (like the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation), a company seeking relevant research to inform their policy or program decisions (in my case, the military), a specific program or service that wants to ensure that it is targeting or meeting the needs of their customers (as with internal research or evaluation positions), or some combination of these. Whoever the client might be, meeting their needs, conducting the research that they have agreed to fund, and communicating findings to them are the primary tasks, and the key priorities, of the applied researcher—a divergence from the typical academic priorities.

These shifted priorities can mean a greater opportunity to support non-traditional outlets for our work—outlets that can directly inform not only clients, but policymakers, key leaders, and the general population about relevant research evidence. For example, fact sheets, technical reports, research briefs, or community newsletters based on our work are often important materials created by applied researchers. Preparing these kinds of research-based products compels us to make our work bilingual—and sometimes trilingual. Different audiences (e.g., other researchers, policy makers, community members) can often require their own language, and drawing out the implications and important highlights for each audience can involve a great deal of time and effort. Yet, it is critical for us to clearly communicate with each audience in a way that...
is both understandable and relevant to them, especially because this is often priority number one in an applied position.

The negative consequences of this focus on non-traditional products, however, can mean a reduced emphasis on publishing within the scholarly community. Spending time creating technical reports and other materials can take time away from writing and preparing manuscripts for submission into academic journals. Yet, it is critical for applied researchers to carve out time to publish in outlets that will be reviewed and read by our academic peers, not only to ensure the quality of the research we are conducting, but also to play a part in moving the field forward with innovative theoretical, design, or analytical contributions.

Another key distinction of an applied research position is that it generally has more direct contact with relevant communities or populations, as well as important policy or decision makers. Working closely with these kinds of key stakeholders can afford great opportunities for applied researchers. It provides a direct window into their experiences that can strengthen the political and programmatic implications of our work. Indeed, engaging communities in research at any stage can be incredibly rewarding scientifically and socially. In fact, community-based participatory research has focused on building successful partnerships between scientists and the key populations of interest. However, real world settings introduce a number of challenges. This, of course, is not limited to those working as applied researchers, but, it is particularly salient for those of us outside academia, as all of our work involves real world settings. Thinking creatively about participant recruitment, incentives, research design, communication, and advocacy becomes a daily experience.

In addition, a closer association with policy or decision makers can mean that applied research has a more immediate impact on relevant populations. By providing evidence directly to decision-makers, we skip the step of translating our journal articles for those who could learn from the findings. In some applied research positions, evidence-based recommendations are immediately put into action as policy or programmatic changes. Using research to impact real change and improvement in people’s lives is in fact one of the most exciting and rewarding aspects of an applied research position.

Even though I am just getting started, I have found challenge and fulfillment in these early days of my applied research career. While the tasks and responsibilities often overlap with those of a faculty member, the unique priorities and experiences of this role are a great fit for those researchers who value the application of research to real life and seek to make evidence-based change in the “real world.” That is not to say that we are limited to only one choice: academic or applied. Trailblazing the professional path that best resonates with your individual goals, strengths, and interests is a career-long process that I hope each member of SPSSI is blessed to enjoy—myself included.

—Stacy A. Hawkins
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Connect with SPSSI online!
SPSSI has an active online presence. Be sure and check out what you’re missing in any of these places:

Facebook  Twitter  LinkedIn  SPSSI’s Members-Only Forum
I am incredibly honored and humbled to have received the 2013 Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring Award from the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, and I wish to thank Janice Adelman for inviting me to write about the ways in which I incorporate SPSSI principles and values into my work as a teacher and mentor.

Overall, three broad themes reflect my core values and goals as a scholar, teacher, and mentor. In line with SPSSI’s mission, the first theme involves my commitment to rigorous research that can be used to address social issues and promote social justice. The second theme involves the dissemination and translation of research findings for practitioners and policymakers, as well as across disciplinary boundaries, to broaden the impact of our work and to effectively reduce conflict and improve relations between groups locally, nationally, and around the world. The third theme involves my concern for training younger generations of scholars, while encouraging them to maintain a commitment to social issues and policy-relevant work as their careers unfold.

I have been incredibly fortunate to have these themes merge and complement each other as a professor and director of the Psychology of Peace and Violence Program at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Through our program, my esteemed colleagues and I are able to train doctoral students in basic theoretical and methodological approaches to the study of intergroup conflict, violence, and peace, while explicitly encouraging them to consider how their work relates to real-world contexts of conflict and relevant policy. Conducting socially relevant research has also been part and parcel of my training as a social psychologist, with mentors such as Thomas Pettigrew and Stephen Wright, who adopt a contextualized social psychological approach (Pettigrew, 1991). This approach highlights how psychological processes are affected by social and structural factors at multiple levels of analysis, and how contextualization can help to establish links between abstract theoretical principles and concrete social realities and social policies (Brewer, 1997; Pettigrew, 2006; Stephan, 2006).

As we take steps to make our research relevant to social issues and policy, I find that many highly motivated scholars—at different stages of their career—are inclined to ask when and how they might become involved in outreach and advocacy for social justice issues. Although some might recommend waiting until tenure, I typically encourage my students and others to think deeply and strategically about how engagement in outreach and advocacy can support or contribute to their broader professional goals. Indeed, my graduate students and I often discuss how their experiences working with non-governmental organizations and in field settings can inform how they frame research questions, and how field experiences can in turn help them to evaluate existing research on prejudice reduction, reconciliation, and social justice. I am heartened to see that, increasingly, social psychologists are actively maintaining a dual commitment to rigorous scientific research and broad social relevance, and that greater value is being granted to socially relevant research within our field.

—Linda R. Tropp
tropp@psych.umass.edu

References


Dear SPSSI members,

I am grateful and excited to be back with the SPSSI Graduate Student Committee for a third year and officially step into my role as the 2013-2014 SPSSI GSC Chair. Thank you to everyone who took the time to nominate candidates and vote in our recent GSC elections. The GSC has held voting privileges as part of SPSSI Council since 2005, and its members are actively involved in ensuring that graduate students’ interests are represented in the SPSSI community. I would like to thank our departing GSC members for their hard work over the past year, and am excited to welcome our recently elected committee for 2013-2014:

**Chair-Elect:**
Joanna Weill, University of California Santa Cruz

**Members-at-Large:**
Erin Rose Ellison, University of California Santa Cruz
Justine Calcagno, City University of New York
Sónia Mairos Ferreira, University of Coimbra

**Editor:**
Rachael Suffrin, DePaul University

As Chair, I have been actively involved in efforts to build networks amongst SPSSI members, increase the professional development opportunities available to graduate students, and improve communication between the GSC and the greater graduate student community. Over the past two years, I have initiated and planned networking hours for graduate students to network with their colleagues at various SPSSI conferences. One of my long-term goals has been to improve the ability for graduate students to connect, network, and share resources with other SPSSI members outside of these conferences. One of the ways I have worked towards this goal is to establish a [SPSSI GSC Facebook page](#), which we encourage everyone to “like” to stay updated on news from the GSC, as well as share feedback and resources with one another that may be of interest to other graduate students. Along with the rest of the GSC, I am currently working on developing additional forums for students to be able to connect to others with similar interests and share professional opportunities with one another.

Over the past summer, former Chair Kala Melchiori and I also served as co-chairs for the GSC’s first stand-alone Graduate Student Professional Development Conference in Washington, D.C. Graduate students from across the country were given the opportunity to network with SPSSI Council members and attend professional development workshops on issues such as: conducting community research and evaluation work, looking for academic and applied jobs, and advice on getting the most out of the SPSSI network. The event was well-received by both speakers and attendees, and plans are already underway for graduate student programming for the [2014 SPSSI Convention in Portland, Oregon](#).

The GSC would like to hear what graduate students think our priorities should be over the upcoming year—please feel free to [email me](#) over the course of the year with any suggestions or feedback you may have. I look forward to an exciting year with the GSC!

—Manisha Gupta
gradstudents@spssi.org
Report on the Task Force on Two-Tiered Academic Labor

By Gretchen Reevy, Task Force Chair

Seventy percent of faculty members in higher education are employed off the tenure track. These faculty are often called “contingent,” “adjunct,” or “lecturer” and may work in full-time or part-time positions. As described in a Coalition on the Academic Workforce (CAW) report published in 2012, contingent faculty often receive low pay, no retirement or other benefits, and little support for professional development or even for conducting their teaching duties. For instance, some have very little or no access to an office or a computer while at work. Most work in part-time positions but would prefer full-time work, and many work in one or more part-time positions, desiring a full-time one, for a 20- or 30-, or 40-year career.

A few national organizations continue to advocate for improved working conditions for contingent faculty and regularly produce policies that should guide universities as they employ faculty and create the circumstances under which faculty work. The New Faculty Majority is the leading national organization devoted primarily to advocating for contingent faculty and to improving the quality of higher education. Anybody, whether a contingent faculty member or not, may join the New Faculty Majority and support their projects. The American Association of University Professors (AAUP) recently produced a report “The Inclusion in Governance of Faculty Members Holding Contingent Appointments” which explains why contingent faculty must be involved in all shared governance structures in their universities (department level, college level, university senate level, etc.). The section of the National Education Association (NEA) that is devoted specifically to higher education issues is growing, and contingent faculty issues are gaining prominence in the NEA. (See the NEA’s Higher Education Faculty & Staff page). For instance, the NEA advertises Campus Equity Week, a week in October or November each year which raises awareness about contingent faculty issues. Campus Equity Week 2013 was October 28 through November 1.

Please contact me if you would like to discuss any issue regarding contingent faculty.

—Gretchen Reevy

gretchen.reevy@csueastbay.edu

WANT TO BE A SPSSI INTERN?

Have the articles in this newsletter made you want to go out and apply your psychology knowledge to policy efforts? SPSSI has year round opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students to intern at the SPSSI Central Office in Washington DC!

Interns assist SPSSI staff on various projects. Interns may work with us on a range of communications or administrative projects. Interns can count on being given substantive assignments at least 50% of their time at SPSSI, but they must also willingly help with clerical work—answering phones, mailings, copying documents, etc.

Internship Information and Application Guidelines

› SPSSI internships are normally unpaid positions.
› Intern applicants must have completed at least one year of college.
› The usual internship is for about 10 to 12 weeks (i.e., about an academic semester or summer vacation period.)
› The internship is considered part-time and we will work with the ideal intern to secure time commitment and work schedule.
› We consider interns to be members of SPSSI’s staff while they are here, and we include them in virtually all our activities.

SPSSI is located on Capitol Hill, just east of Union Station, in walking distance from the U.S. Capitol, the Library of Congress, and the Supreme Court.

To apply, send a brief letter of interest, specifying approximate dates of availability, along with a resume. Strong preference is given to students receiving academic credit during their term as SPSSI interns.

Read comments from past SPSSI interns!
The Council of Representatives (COR) met in Honolulu, Hawaii on July 31st and August 2nd during the APA’s 121st annual convention. Following is a brief summary of news from this COR meeting.

**Good Governance Project.** At the previous COR meeting, the Good Governance Project team was tasked with further developing proposals to bring back to COR for deliberation at the summer meeting. In Hawaii COR was faced with one primary task on our meeting agenda: to discuss and make decisions regarding the Good Governance Project team’s report.

The team’s report made eight primary suggestions as to how APA governance could align with APA’s strategic plan as well as how to function more efficiently. Council passed all eight motions placed before them. Collectively the intention of these motions is to redevote Council’s purpose as the policy making body of APA. To facilitate this repurposing, a triage system will be set up to ensure that the process moves more smoothly with steps in place to ensure that new leaders are developed, and that technology be used to enhance Council’s effectiveness, efficiency, and nimbleness.

Council also voted to delegate the fiduciary responsibilities to a reconfigured Board of Directors on a trial basis for three years for (a) budget matters, (b) hiring, evaluation, and support for the Chief Executive Officer, (c) oversight of the APA strategic plan, and (d) internally focused policy development. In addition, in order to reach these goals, Council voted to consider a reconfiguration of its representation. Although many models were examined by Council, it voted to pursue those that included some level of constituent-based representation.

Finally, Council voted that the details of how (and when) these motions will be implemented will be worked out by an Implementation Working Group (IWG) with the details brought back to Council in February for another vote. APA placed a call for members interested in serving on the IWG, and we are proud to say that our Division’s Past President, Allen Omoto, was selected as a member of the IWG. These are very substantive changes in how APA governs itself and, regardless of the changes made, your representatives are working hard to ensure that SPSSI remains an influential advocate for social justice within APA governance.

**Psychologists in National Security.** After a long process of input from a variety of consultants, several aspects of APA governance, and friendly amendments from Division 39 (Peace Psychology), Council passed the revised motion, the Policy related to Psychologists’ Work in National Security Settings and Reaffirmation of the APA Position against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment, which reconciles APA policy, rescinds the PENs Report, and reaffirms the Petition Resolution and other APA policies. Council also voted to receive the report of the Taskforce which details both the history and a number of other issues left unresolved by the current policies.

**Violence Reduction Initiatives.** Since COR’s last meeting, the APA Policy Review Task Force on Gun Violence Prediction and Prevention produced a statement that was open for review and comment through October 30 so that feedback would be provided to the APA governance groups meeting in November. We would like to thank members who provided feedback and we expect that the statement will come in front of Council in February for approval.

**Division Apportionment Ballot.** Finally, if you are a member of APA, you should have received an apportionment ballot from APA. Although the governance process is under revision, votes on this ballot are still very important. Until other decisions are reached about the configuration of COR, the number of seats that divisions and state associations have on APA’s main decision-making body are determined by the number of votes each division/state gets on this ballot. Please help SPSSI retain its two COR seats, or even work toward increasing its number of representatives to 3, by allocating ALL of your 10 apportionment votes to SPSSI (Division 9). Having more seats on COR will help SPSSI to wield greater influence within the APA. Any
APA member—not only SPSSI members—can cast apportionment votes for SPSSI, so please ask your colleagues to support SPSSI’s work by casting some or all of their apportionment votes to SPSSI. If you have not yet received your apportionment ballot, then please email Garnett Coad at the APA and ask him to send you a replacement ballot. **APA ballots must be mailed back by December 16, 2013.**

As always, if you have questions about the work of APA COR, or have suggestions for initiatives that you would like SPSSI to take on in conjunction with the APA, please contact either one of us.

—Wendy Williams & Richard Suinn  
Wendy_Williams@berea.edu & suinn@lamar.colostate.edu

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**Journal of Social Issues**  
*By Ann Bettencourt, JSI Editor*

At APA, I had a number of productive conversations with SPSSI members about their innovative ideas for JSI issues. I look forward to receiving their ideas come to fruition as preliminary proposals. I hope that you, too, will consider the possibility of generating a preliminary proposal based on your and your colleagues work. Please consider talking to me at the upcoming 2014 SPSSI conference about any ideas you may have or about the process of publishing in the Journal of Social Issues.

We have a number of proposed issues at varying levels of completion, including 4 formal proposals, 4 full proposals, and a handful of preliminary proposals. Luckily, these submissions have had much breadth in topical social issues and have been of impressive quality. It has been my pleasure to review these submissions. I am grateful to the JSI Editorial Board members for their thoughtful and timely reviews.

**Planned 2014 Issues**

**Issue Editors:** Luis M. Rivera and Danielle Beatty.

*Social Exclusion of Children.*  
**Issue Editors:** Dominic Abrams and Melanie Killen.

*Milgram’s Obedience Studies 50 Years On: Extensions, Explanations, Applications.*  
**Issue Editors:** Art Miller, Alex Haslam, and Steve Reicher.

*Confronting and Reducing Sexism: Interventions that Work.*  
**Issue Editors:** Julia Becker, Matthew Zawadzki, and Stephanie Shields.

Visit the [JSI website](#) for all recent updates, more journal information, and past issues.

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**Issues in Development**

*Media Representations of Race and Ethnicity: Implications for Identity, Intergroup Relations, and Public Policy* (Dana Mastro and Riva Tukachinsky)


*Making the Community Active: Individual and Contextual Approaches in Understanding Community Involvement* (Manyu Li and Irene Hanson Frieze)

*21st Century Excellence In Education* (Allan Ornstein and Norman Eng)

*Resisting and Confronting Disadvantage: From Individual Coping to Societal change* (Katherine Stroebe and Soledad de Lemus)

*Understanding Activism* (Craig McGarty, Anna Kende, and Nicola Curtin)

*Proactive Behavior across Group Boundaries: Seeking and Maintaining Positive Interactions with Outgroup Members* (Birte Siem, Stefan Stürmer, and Todd Pittinsky)
Transition is underway at ASAP! As ASAP’s Incoming Editor, I began handing new manuscripts on August 1, with Kevin seeing through all previously submitted manuscripts. I’ve been a major fan of ASAP since the journal published its first paper in 2001, and am both excited and humbled to serve in this capacity. ASAP’s exceptional authors, reviewers, and editorial board are crucial to the journal’s success! I am especially grateful to previous editors Kevin Lanning, Geoff Marayuma, and Rhoda Unger, for their vision, leadership, and dedication to making ASAP the journal it is today.

ASAP is thriving, with the journal publishing manuscripts that cover an impressive range of topics and that employ diverse methodologies. In 2012, ASAP received an impact factor of 1.64, corresponding to 7 of 39 and 22 of 60 in the “social issues” and “social psychology” categories, respectively. These strong first-time numbers are one indication of the journal’s sound footing and development into a premier outlet for timely, applied policy-driven research.

A number of new papers are now available online on topics such as beliefs of Jewish Americans about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (Ben Hagai, Zurbriggen, Hammack, & Ziman), gender differences in attitudes towards the use of tasers (Mandel), and a dual-process model of social and economic policy attitudes (Perry & Sibley). Of particular note are individual papers and special collections for which ASAP will publish peer-reviewed commentary.

We are presently considering commentary on the following two individual papers and collections, all of which are available on the Early View section of the ASAP/Wiley website:

- How Do Teachers Talk About Economic Inequality? The Complexity of Teaching at a Socioeconomically Integrated Elementary School (White, Mistry, & Chow)
- Academic Self-Efficacy and Performance of Underrepresented STEM Majors: Gender, Ethnic, and Social Class Patterns (MacPhee, Farro, & Canetto)

In addition, we are welcoming commentary on the two papers in our forthcoming virtual issue on The Future of Women’s Reproductive Health: Evidence, Policy, and Politics. The two papers are Reproductive Rights and Informed Consent: Toward a More Inclusive Discourse (Mollen) and Diminished Control and Unmet Expectations: Testing a Model of Adjustment to Unplanned Cesarean Delivery (Lobel & DeLuca). The virtual issue will also include an introductory essay and relevant book reviews.

The collections of target papers for two other virtual issues are very close to completion, each bearing on the reciprocal relevance of social psychology and large scale (national and international) phenomena. The first of these will be on The Social Psychology of the 2012 US Presidential Election; the second, on The Social Psychology of the Great Recession: Global Perspectives. If you are interested in contributing a comment to either of these collections, please contact Janet Ruscher, Associate Editor for Commentary.

—Heather Bullock & Kevin Lanning
hbullock@ucsc.edu & lanning@fau.edu
SPSSI in New York: Spring 2013
By Harold Takooshian, SPSSI-NY Chair

SPSSI New York Regional Group
By Harold Takooshian, SPSSI-NY Chair

In Spring 2013, our SPSSI-New York group offered 10 free social issues activities for its 400+ members and their guests in New York. These were kindly hosted by a variety of institutions: Bronx Criminal Court (for a law-psychology tour), Fordham University, Hunter College, John Jay College (for a workshop on workplace bullying), Marymount Manhattan College (to mark the centenary of Albert Ellis, 1913-2013), and the United Nations.

Four of these gatherings topped 100 participants: (1) On March 2, the Fordham Graduate School of Education hosted an international psychology reception saluting four APA past-Presidents: Jerome Bruner, Florence Denmark, Frank Farley, Philip Zimbardo. (2) On March 4, Bronx Borough President Reuben Diaz proclaimed the day “Science Education Day,” as 200 people in the Fordham-Rose Hill campus celebrated Philip Zimbardo’s 80th birthday, following his research-based public address on “Inspiring our students to heroism.” (3) On April 21, 250 participated in the 41st Hunter Psychology Convention, where 18 researchers participated in six SPSSI panels, applying psychology to...
diverse social issues. (4) On April 25, 150 participated in the Sixth Psychology Day at the United Nations, including Corann Okordudu and three presenters from the SPSSI team at the United Nations.

In Fall 2013, Nava Silton of Marymount University will chair the SPSSI-NY group, with Harold Takooshian away on a Fulbright in Moscow. The largest of several events event will be the 25th SPSSI Greater New York Conference on Behavioral Research on October 27, chaired by Professor Marisa Cohen of Saint Francis College.

The SPSSI-NY Planning Committee for Spring 2013 was: Thomas Caffrey (NYSPA), Marisa T. Cohen (St Francis), Robert Emmons (Fordham), Joseph Giardino (Fordham), Uwe Gielen (St Francis), Justyna Jurska (Hunter), Henry Solomon (Marymount), Jason R. Young (Hunter). Direct any questions or comments to SPSSI-NY Chairperson Harold Takooshian or Nava Silton.

—Harold Takooshian
takoosh@aol.com

SPSSI Award Recognition
By Anila Balkissoon, SPSSI-Program Director

2013 Kurt Lewin Award Recipient

Named for the late Kurt Lewin, a pioneer in the science of group dynamics & a founder of the SPSSI, this award is presented annually for “outstanding contributions to the development and integration of psychological research and social action.”

The award recipient presents a distinguished address each year as part of SPSSI’s program at the Annual APA Convention or at SPSSI’s biennial conventions.

For further details and eligibility requirements, visit the Kurt Lewin Award page.

Brenda Major, PhD
Professor of Psychology
University of California at Santa Barbara

Brenda Major is a Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her research interests include social stigma, resilience, the psychological justification of inequality, and the antecedents and consequences of perceived discrimination and unfair treatment. Her work has been funded by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the American Philosophical Foundation, among others. Major is Past President of the Society of Experimental Social Psychology and of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. She has twice been the recipient of the Gordon Allport Prize from SPSSI and is the author of more than 150 articles and book chapters. Her current research projects examine the impact of organizational diversity initiatives on minorities’ and majorities’ perceptions of fairness and belonging, and the impact of perceived ethnic, gender, and weight-based discrimination on physiological stress responses, health behaviors, and interpersonal relationships.

2013 Otto Klineberg Honorable Mention Correction

We regret that in our Summer 2013 Issue, the Honorable Mention for the 2013 Otto Klineberg Intercultural and International Relations Award given to Drs. Birte Siem and Stefan Stürmer provided the incorrect paper title.

The correct title is: Cross-Cultural Volunteerism: Examining the Effects of Intercultural (Dis)Similarities on Volunteers’ Motivations to Support International Students.

We apologize for any confusion.
SPSSI Members in the Media

SPSSI member Nadia Bashir (University of Toronto) discusses her work on stereotypes and behavior change in an article in Pacific Standard magazine. The piece focuses on Bashir’s research findings that holding negative stereotyped views of activists who are either feminists or environmentalists reduces one’s interest in helping the cause when encouraged to do so.

The work of SPSSI member, Tiffany Brannon, Ph.D. (Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University) is featured in an NPR story on prejudice reduction. Her work describes how pre-determined multicultural activities, so often designed to increase cultural awareness and reduce prejudice, feel forced and are thus less effective. Instead, Dr. Brannon’s study reveals that choosing to learn about another culture due to a shared common interest with someone from that culture had greater prejudice reduction implications.

SPSSI member Mary Dozier, Ph.D. (University of Delaware) is one of the committee members who released a report through the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies on lifelong effects of child abuse. The report is featured in the Washington Post, where Dr. Dozier is quoted on the benefits of intervening to change a child’s negative or abusive environment.

The work of SPSSI member Alice Eagly, Ph.D. (Northwestern University) is noted in the New York Times opinion article, Why Men Need Women. The article refers to Dr. Eagly’s studies suggesting that although women are more nurturing than men, men will engage in more helping behaviors themselves when it is directed toward women.

The work of SPSSI members Rachel H. Farr, Ph.D. (University of Massachusetts Amherst) and Charlotte J. Patterson, Ph.D. (University of Virginia) is featured in the science news website, Science Daily. Dr. Farr, a previous recipient of SPSSI’s Social Issues Dissertation Award (2011), and Dr. Patterson, a SPSSI Fellow, study family dynamics, child development, and lesbian- and gay-parented families. Their recent study suggests that working together as parents is associated with fewer behavioral problems in adopted children regardless of whether the parent couple is gay, lesbian, or straight.

Dr. Patterson’s work on straight and same-sex parenting interactions is also featured in a story on CBS News.

The NY Times chronicles the consequences of saying what you want when you are older. The article showcases the work of SPSSI Fellow Susan Fiske, Ph.D. (Princeton University) and SPSSI member and Claro Mayo award recipient Michael North, Ph.D. (Columbia University). Their study involves a man (aged 25, 45, or 75) who suggests he is either compliant or assertive and is subsequently rated by participants. Those who were introduced to the assertive 75-year-old man rated him more negatively than those who saw any of the other men. The work was funded, in part, by SPSSI.

continued next page...
SPSSI Member Phillip Atiba Goff, Ph.D. (UCLA) is cited in an NPR story on talking about race. Dr. Goff’s work on race, identities, policing, and social justice has earned him the Louise Kidder Early Career Award (2009). Goff relates to NPR that although prejudice is measurably lower than at other times, inequality is increasing, calling for continued attention to the issue of inequality.

The work of SPSSI member Jared Kenworthy, Ph.D. (University of Texas Arlington) is featured in the science news website, Science Daily. The study looks at ingroup identification and group-level narcissism as predictors of negative attitudes toward various outgroups. The result highlights the association between identification, group narcissism, and negative attitudes toward undocumented Latino immigrants. The research was also picked up by NBC Latino.

SPSSI member Michael W. Kraus, Ph.D., (University of Illinois) and SPSSI Fellow Thomas Pettigrew, Ph.D. (UC Santa Cruz) are both featured in a NY Times opinion piece written by psychologist Daniel Goleman. Dr. Kraus’s work (with Dacher Keltner, Ph.D.) on social power and social distance is highlighted in the piece for its “profound implications for societal behavior and government policy.” Dr. Pettigrew’s seminal work on intergroup contact provides the closing thoughts on how to reduce the monumental income gap we currently face.

SPSSI member Rudolfo Mendoza-Denton, Ph.D. (UC Berkeley) can be seen in the PBS Newshour report, Finding the Connection Between Prosperity, Compassion and Happiness. In the interview, Dr. Mendoza-Denton describes the implications of identifying as someone lower on the status ladder. Although health outcomes may be more negative for those with lower social status, coping mechanisms are stronger. You can watch the entire PBS report online.

The work of SPSSI member Phillip Atiba Goff, Ph.D. (UCLA) is cited in an NPR story on talking about race. Dr. Goff’s work on race, identities, policing, and social justice has earned him the Louise Kidder Early Career Award (2009). Goff relates to NPR that although prejudice is measurably lower than at other times, inequality is increasing, calling for continued attention to the issue of inequality.

If you or another SPSSI member you know has been in the media, published a great book, or received an award, we want to know! Email us so we can spread the word about SPSSI members’ work!
We welcome submissions of papers, symposia and workshops for the SPSSI Biennial Conference in Portland, Oregon, known as the “City of Bridges.” With bridges in mind, we intend our theme to be inclusive, to build connections, and to stimulate new perspectives on how individuals and groups engage with traditional and emerging social issues. We seek to encourage conference discussion about the many ways in which people approach major social issues that affect themselves and others.

The 2014 Biennial Convention will explore themes of social action and change: how and why do action and change arise, what are the challenges of indifference and resistance and strategies for overcoming them, what new opportunities has research revealed, and how can we progress by raising new questions for research and new directions for policy? We invite symposia, papers, and posters, as well as ideas for workshops or other forms of exchange that address these questions.

Symposia (70 minutes)
Symposium presentations include 3 to 4 talks on a common topic. Proposals should include a symposium title (10 words maximum), a summary of the symposium theme (200 words maximum), as well as titles (10 words maximum) and summaries (200 words maximum) of the expected contribution of each participant. You will be asked to include the chair’s name, title, affiliation, and contact information, as well as names and affiliations for all other authors.

Interactive Discussions (1 hour)
In this new format, two presenters will open a discussion on a topic relevant to the conference theme with brief remarks and facilitate an interactive discussion with the audience. Proposals must include a title (10 words maximum) and summary (200 word maximum). You will be asked to include all author/presenter names, titles, affiliations, and contact information.

To submit, please complete the online Other Submissions Form by January 10, 2014.

15-minute Presentations or Poster Presentations
Individual proposals, including empirical reports, can be submitted as either a 15 minute spoken presentation or a poster presentation. Proposals must include a title (10 words maximum) and summary (200 words maximum). You will be asked to include all author names, titles, affiliations, and contact information.

To submit, please complete the online Other Submissions Form by January 10, 2014.

If you have questions about the conference or would like to be a program reviewer, please contact the conference co-chairs, Kim Case, Ph.D. (University of Houston-Clear Lake), Shelly Grabe, Ph.D. (University of California, Santa Cruz), or Desdamona Rios, Ph.D. (University of Houston-Clear Lake).

If your company is interested in booking a table-top exhibit, please contact Brad Sickels in SPSSI’s Central Office.

For more conference program details, please visit the Biennial Conference webpage.
Division 9 (SPSSI) Call for Program Proposals at the 122nd APA Convention

Inequalities, Injustices, and Intersectionalities:
Who, When, Why, How… and What Psychological Science Can Do

Intersectionality has emerged as a critical lens for recognizing the overlap of various forms of exclusion and discrimination. Although still often treated as mutually exclusive, the intersections of race, gender, class, sexual identity, age, ability, religion, and nationality represent complex identities that must be factored into how we approach key social problems that sustain inequalities and perpetuate injustices across the globe. To deepen our understanding of an intersectional approach to research, public policy, and social action, the SPSSI theme at the 2014 APA Annual Convention in Washington, D.C. will be: Inequalities, Injustices, and Intersectionalities: Who, When, Why, How and What Psychological Science Can Do. Consistent with this theme, invited speakers, special symposia, and posters will focus on: (a) basic and applied research that incorporates an intersectional approach to social problems, (b) utilizing an intersectional lens to shape interventions, and (c) communicating the concept of intersectionality to inform public policy and social advocacy. Intersectionality recognizes citizens as “multiply-constituted” and the need for more inclusive citizenship. An intersectional approach is fundamental for fully informing progress on issues such as unemployment, equitable pay, unequal education, disparities in health care, hate crime, marriage equality, immigration, and violence and safety.

PROPOSALS PROPOSALS PROPOSALS...

We are currently accepting proposals for symposia and posters in ALL areas of psychology relevant to social issues. However, we extend a special call for proposals that are consistent with our conference theme. Toward this aim, we encourage proposals that recognize the ways in which intersectional identities lie at the core of achieving social justice. Early career faculty and graduate students are especially encouraged to submit proposals of their work. Prizes for best posters will be awarded. We hope to have an excellent program with interdivisional appeal and strong representation from our division. See the SPSSI-APA Division 9 Conference webpage for more details about the SPSSI Division 9 Conference theme.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Submit your proposal online by midnight EST on Monday, December 2, 2013. Please be sure to select the appropriate index term when submitting a proposal. APA non-members may submit proposals if an APA-member is a co-author or sponsors the proposal. See APA’s 2014 Call for Convention Proposals webpage for full details on how to submit to the Division Proposals.

Please feel free to contact the APA Div 9 2014 Co-Chairs, Rachel Calogero (University of Kent) and Jaime Napier (Yale University) with any questions or ideas about proposals and programming, or if you would like to serve as a program reviewer.
Forthcoming SPSSI Book: Women and Poverty

SPSSI is pleased to announce the expected December 2013 publication date of Heather Bullock’s volume Women and Poverty. Heather analyzes the social and structural factors that contribute to, and legitimize, class inequity and women’s poverty. In doing so, her book provides a unique documentation of women’s experiences of poverty and classism at the individual and interpersonal levels. It

- Provides readers with a critical analysis of the social and structural factors that contribute to women’s poverty;
- Uses a multidisciplinary approach to bring together new research and theory from social psychology, policy studies, and critical and feminist scholarship;
- Documents women’s experiences of poverty and classism at the interpersonal and institutional levels;
- Discusses policy analysis for reducing poverty and social inequality.

SPSSI-member Bernice Lott has said,

Bullock shines the light of her clear and bold analyses on such issues as discrimination, unpaid labor for motherhood and caregiving, labor market wage disparities, unaffordable housing, and violence. She examines the relationship between negative attitudes and beliefs about poor women and demeaning social policies. A “must” for social and community psychologists, clinical and educational psychologists, and all other professionals and students who take seriously the mission of advancing human health and welfare.

Please visit the Women and Poverty Wiley Book webpage for more information on this volume, including the Table of Contents.

Women and Poverty is part of SPSSI’s Contemporary Social Issues Series published by Wiley-Blackwell. For more information on this series visit the SPSSI website. If you are interested in writing a book for the SPSSI Contemporary Social Issues series, email Dan Perlman, Series Editor for details.

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