Full Circles Moving Forward

“Everything an Indian does is in a circle, and that is because the power of the world always works in circles, and everything tries to be round .... Even the seasons form a great circle in their changing, and always come back again to where they were.”

By Kay Deaux
SPSSI President

As I was thinking about writing my final presidential column for Forward, these words – attributed to Black Elk, a spiritual Oglala Sioux man of the late 19th and early 20th centuries – seemed to capture something important about SPSSI as an organization. Certainly, the idea of seasonal change characterizes the shifting of leadership in our organization, as summer brings an end to the terms of one set of officers and marks the beginning for another generation. But further, the idea that the power of the world works in circles seemed relevant to a more substantive agenda, playing into the themes of science and policy with which I began my term, and indeed my career as a social psychologist.

Back in the early 1970s, shortly after leaving graduate school, I thought about the directions that my research might take. The feminist movement had begun, and I wondered how my training as a social psychologist could be relevant to the issues of the day. It seemed as if women were not getting a fair shake, but could the scientific approach document what many women were feeling? Yes, it could. I, along with many others, began to develop evidence for the differential evaluations of women and men, different attributions made for equivalent performance, and tenaciously held stereotypes that conveyed larger-than-life distinctions between women and men. I often didn’t like what I discovered, but as the body of work accumulated, we built a case for the conditions and realities of discrimination against women that had clear implications for policy and practice.

The case of Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins, eventually argued before the Supreme Court, made powerful use of our data in a policy-relevant arena. Developing arguments first shaped by Susan Fiske and the amicus brief co-authored by Susan Fiske, Donald Bersoff, Gene Borgida, Madeline Heilman, and myself (Fiske et al., 1991) summarized that now-substantial body of research to make the case that conditions for stereotyping were present at Price Waterhouse and that the treatment of Ann Hopkins provided evidence of stereotyping and discrimination based on gender.

The Price Waterhouse case became a valuable reference point for subsequent gender discrimination cases in the United States. As attorneys became increasingly familiar with the evidence and the logic of our arguments, the contributions of social psychological research to the public domain were amplified. As I wrote in a JSI issue on Gender Stereotyping, Sexual Harassment, and the Law, “research on gender stereotypes provides a truly impressive example of basic research that speaks to social issues ... giving us guidelines for intervention, prevention, and change” (Deaux, 1995, p. 18).

Writings of such law professors as Linda Krieger (1995), Deborah Rhode (1997), and Joan Williams (2000) made substantial use of social science data to chart the course of progress and to assess the continuing obstacles to gender equity in work and family. In bringing existent evidence to bear, these lawyers also revealed the lacunae, areas in which more research was needed to make a case or to understand underlying processes. Thus, a circular process continued, a Lewinian movement back and forth between the realities of the workplace and the labs and field research sites of the researchers.

One example of this continuing dialogue between practitioner and scientist in which I was...
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Full Circles Moving Forward ...................................... from front page

fortunate to participate was a series of workshops, developed by Joan Williams and funded by the Sloan Foundation, that brought together social scientists (primarily social psychologists and sociologists), law professors, and practicing litigators with a focus on workplace discrimination against mothers in the workplace. The goals of these sessions were bidirectional (or, to remain consistently thematic, productively circular): on the one hand, for social scientists to give legal practitioners an update on relevant research findings, and on the other, for practitioners to point to areas in which additional knowledge would mean more effective litigation. From this series of discussions emerged a recent issue of JSI, The Maternal Wall (Biernat, Crosby & Williams, 2004).

The science and policy cycle did not stop there. Using the research represented in that JSI issue as a base, SPSSI sponsored a congressional briefing in Washington this past May (an event described in more detail elsewhere in this newsletter). At this briefing, we made ample use of the existing data that demonstrate conditions of discrimination against mothers and, more generally, parents. In contrast to the Price Waterhouse brief, which was largely reactive in providing evidence that could be used to interpret a deed that was done (that is, the litigation solution), the Maternal Wall briefing served a proactive function as well. Speakers focused not only on what the available data tell us about present conditions, but also on the implications of the data for changes in the workplace that might be promoted by legislative actions.

Here is where SPSSI’s evolving policy emphasis comes to the fore. How can we expand the impact of our science beyond our publications to arenas in which policy is formulated? At the briefing, we freely distributed copies of the Maternal Wall issue, both to congressional staff who attended the briefing and to the offices of Representatives and Senators whom we visited later that same day. We were able to put our most relevant scientific data into legislative hands and to point out the authors’ specific policy recommendations. Such a role is one that SPSSI can play well in a number of socially critical problem areas.

Policy, of course, is formulated not only in Washington but in Ottawa and Mexico City and Warsaw and Capetown. JSI has “long arms,” but we need to do more in the future to expand our reach. While we continue to produce science that reveals basic psychological processes as they operate in real-life contexts, we must also sharpen our awareness of the policy implications of our findings, striving for the full-circle psychology that Kurt Lewin epitomized so well.

Because this is the last column that I will write as president of SPSSI, I cannot end it without expressing the pride and gratitude that I feel to have been so deeply involved in our organization over the past year. As Brewster Smith said to me, “SPSSI is such a good and necessary organization.” I recognized the truth of this statement when I became president-elect two years ago, as I recognized it almost 40 years ago when I first joined SPSSI. Now, after a year as president, during which I could see first-hand how many people are doing so much good work to accomplish SPSSI’s goals, I truly appreciate the people power that makes “a good and necessary organization.” I want to thank everyone with whom I worked this year. They are many and too numerous to list here. But I want to give special thanks to Shari Miles, our executive director, and Dan Perlman, our secretary-treasurer – two wise and wonderful people who are wholly committed to the mission and the meaning of SPSSI and who made my job more enjoyable and more productive than it could otherwise have been.

The SPSSI circle is warm as well as powerful; it encompasses the past, energizes the present, and inspires for the future. I thank all for allowing me to be a part of its core.

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Americans need to understand that overweight and obesity are literally killing us,” declared Tommy Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services, in announcing the results of a CDC-sponsored study (Mokdad et al., 2004). The study concluded that obesity is the second leading cause of preventable deaths in the United States, exceeded only by deaths due to tobacco use. Unfortunately for Secretary Thompson, and for the American public’s understanding of the role of weight in health, this announcement was soon followed by a disclaimer confessing that the CDC study had “miscalculated” the number of deaths due to overweight and obesity and had revised the estimate downward from more than 400,000 deaths annually to fewer than half that number. Another recent CDC study (Fiegal et al., 2005) came under fire for reaching the opposite conclusion. That controversial study determined, after controlling for such variables as age, smoking, and ethnicity, that overweight and obesity have only a slight relationship to mortality and that the relationship between weight and mortality has decreased steadily since CDC began collecting such data in 1971. The findings were so contrary to prevailing views of the public health and medical research community that Harvard University hosted a symposium aimed at discrediting the study.

What is ignored in the “fat wars” that have been raging about the importance of weight in physical health are the effects of the relentless drumbeat of publicity, pronouncements, and warnings about how fat is killing us on the psychological and social well-being of heavy people. Although intended to promote health, exhortations to lose weight in order to prevent illness may also promote stigma. Overweight and obesity already offend many people’s aesthetic sensibilities. Associating excess weight with mortality and chronic disease may further rationalize a prejudice that is plenty strong already. In fact, the vociferous opposition to findings suggesting that weight may not be a major detriment to health raises the suspicion that fat prejudice might underlie some of the alarm over obesity and overweight.

Prevalent beliefs about body weight include the notion that heavy weight results from failure. Many believe that fat people are simply gluttons lacking in self-discipline, which makes them too lazy to exercise and too weak-willed to push away from the table. Unfortunately, losing weight is not as simple as exerting a little self-control. Many programs produce temporary, sometimes quite substantial weight loss, but long-term weight loss is very difficult to attain, and some people who were obese before treatment continue to be obese after treatment (Cogan & Ernsberger, 1999; Cogan and Rothblum, 1993).

The question of whether weight loss promotes better health and longevity is also being posed against the backdrop of a societal obsession with thinness. It is well-established that current standards for attractive body size are so restrictive that most women and girls have little hope of ever achieving them. Dieting is the norm among women and girls, even those who are not overweight or obese. One consequence of such unrealistic standards is the development of negative body images and eating disorders.

Crandall (1994) has called the stigma of obesity one of the last remaining socially acceptable prejudices. People feel little compunction about experiencing or expressing negative reactions toward conditions that are perceived as the fault of the stigmatized person. Moreover, the lack of self-discipline and will power that are assumed to contribute to obesity offend cherished American values that emphasize self-discipline and self-improvement (Crandall, 1994).

Unfortunately, the stigma of obesity has serious detrimental effects on heavy people. Body image and self-esteem may suffer and social interactions may become challenging. In addition, fat discrimination creates real obstacles in education, employment, housing, and even medical care (Miller & Myer, 1998). The ongoing public health emphasis on the evils of weight and the control of weight by diet and exercise may nourish the view that fat people deserve the derogation they receive because they could be thin if only they tried a little harder. If the determination to root out obesity and overweight exacerbates the stigma of not being thin, promoting physical health by vilifying excess weight may do heavy people more harm than good.

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Congressional Briefing on Discrimination Against Working Mothers

Traditionally, we have thought of gender discrimination in the workplace in two ways: sexual harassment and the glass ceiling/sticky floor. The cutting-edge research published in the January 2005 JSI demands that we expand our thinking to include the maternal wall. Patterns of gender bias suggest that women experience maternal wall problems at three points in their work life: when they become pregnant, when they return from maternity leave, and when they request flexible work arrangements. Research shows that women experience significant sex discrimination not just because they are women but because they are mothers. It also shows that women at all economic levels, from the working poor to the highly compensated, and from all racial and ethnic groups experience work-family conflict and have to make difficult choices that may limit their future employment opportunities (Riger, 2005; Cruddy, 2005).

With this information in hand, SPSSI hosted a congressional briefing titled “The Maternal Wall: Research and Policy Perspectives on Discrimination against Working Mothers,” sponsored by Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman-Shultz (D-FL). The briefing was scheduled just before the Mother’s Day weekend. We invited congressional staff, researchers, and advocates to join us by asking the question “You know about the glass ceiling and the sticky floor. Have you heard about the maternal wall?”

A distinguished panel of presenters discussed historical information about how and why stereotypes about working mothers came about and continue to persist, research about expectations for women of color, and policy recommendations to address some of the unfair workplace practices impacting women with children.

SPSSI President Kay Deaux, Ph.D., greeted the audience and introduced our host, Congresswoman Wasserman-Shultz, who represents a district in Southern Florida. I was interested in Congresswoman Wasserman Schultz’s participation because she is one of the few members of Congress under 40 years old and because, as a mother of three small children—5 year old twins and a younger child who is not yet 2—she knows first-hand about balancing work and family issues. During the 2004 campaign for Congress, her opponent, also a woman, questioned Wasserman-Shultz’s fitness as a mother, suggesting that she should stay at home to raise her young children rather than running for a seat in the U.S. Congress. Wasserman-Shultz stated that it is critical that workplace policies address the current realities faced by working parents.

Rosalind Chait Barnett, research director of the Community, Families and Work Program at the Women’s Studies Research Center, Brandies University, presented a historical overview. She suggested that many of women’s struggles for fairness in the workplace grow out of a handful of “outdated, pervasive, and toxic gender difference beliefs,” such as that men are inherently suited for work, whereas women are inherently suited for the home. These stereotypes interfere with “powerful economic drivers” and have a negative impact on women’s earning power and the economy in general.

Jamie Franco, doctoral candidate at the University of California Santa Cruz, as well as a former student newsletter editor and the current SPSSI student chair-elect, presented data from her research showing that, regardless of gender or ethnicity, young adults have similar expectations for their future: a graduate degree, professional career, marriage, middle-class status, and healthy children within 10 years. Her research showed that they also expect to have a homelife that includes an egalitarian division of labor, although they acknowledged that their mothers had difficulty achieving this balance.

Katherine Giscome, PhD., Senior Research Director, Catalyst, found that because women of color tend to be marginalized within organizations, their relationships with white supervisors are less close than those of their white peers. In addition, women of color are often responsible for the care of extended family members. These two issues lead to limited access to organizational opportunities and, because family composition is narrowly defined in family leave policies, less support for family leave related to care for extended family members.

SPSSI member Joan Williams, J.D., Professor, Washington College of Law, The American University, cautioned the audience to be wary when hearing about professional mothers opting out of the workforce, saying that new research shows clearly that women are often pushed out by maternal wall bias. Her policy recommendations included short-term leave (as described in the Healthy Families Act, S. 932/H.R.1902), more workplace flexibility, and prohibiting job discrimination against adults with family responsibilities (District of Columbia Human Rights Act of 1977).

We visited several congressional offices after the briefing and found them all receptive to the research on the maternal wall. We met with staff in the offices of Senators Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), Hillary Rodham Clinton (D-NY), and Charles Schumer (D-NY), and Representatives Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Carolyn Maloney (D-NY). One reason staff may have been interested in meeting with us is that many have young children of their own and are struggling with these same kinds of concerns. In addition, members of Congress, while subject to the Congressional Accountability Act, signed into law in 1995, have considerable flexibility with the type and amount of leave granted to their staffs. You might consider calling your member’s office and asking what sorts of policies they have in place.

Update from Taylor Fellow
Taniesha Woods, who served as the SPSSI Dalmas Taylor Fellow in 2004, plans to graduate in May 2006. This year she completed her comprehensive exam and successfully defended her dissertation proposal. Her doctoral research will examine race socialization in African American middle school students and their parents. She plans to look at how race socialization is related to race identity, perceived discrimination, parents’ perceptions of the school racial climate, and achievement outcomes. She expects the findings will have educational policy implications. You can catch up with her at the APA convention in August.
Meet Inya Baiye, Executive Director’s Assistant

My name is Inya Baiye, and I have been working at the SPSSI Central Office as the executive director’s assistant for about a month. It has been a really easy transition for me, as I interned here only a few months ago! From September to December 2004, I was working with Dr. Shari Miles on research for a few special projects. I was also very privileged to make a trip to the United Nations Headquarters during that time. As an SPSSI employee, I am currently working on a briefing paper on reproductive justice and reproductive technologies, as well as functioning as the interim administrative assistant. I am very pleased to be back at SPSSI, as well as back in Washington!

Meet Moira Shaw, SPSSI Intern Summer 2005

I just completed the first year of a Ph.D. program in Experimental Psychology at the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP). I had barely arrived at UTEP when my adviser, Dr. Michael Zarate, told me that I needed to join SPSSI because the goals of this organization were so congruent with my plans and passions. My research interests include religious prejudice, the role of mood in automatic prejudice formation, and bilingual cognition. I am very dedicated to using what we learn in the laboratory to inform social issues. I kept SPSSI in mind when I was making summer plans, and was fortunate to be invited to work here as an intern. In my time here, I have been researching the current political state of scientific integrity for SPSSI’s Policy Committee and helping out in any way I can. It is a privilege to be involved.

Have Ph.D., Will Travel: My Life As A Researcher For Hire

By John Ogawa
LTG Associates, Inc.

What do I do for a living?

After seeing several pairs of eyes glaze over at parties during my first year in my current job, my wonderful, more-socially-aware-than-I wife gently suggested that I come up with a one-liner that answers that question. Here’s what I concocted: “I work at a small company just outside Washington, DC that helps social service organizations with evaluation.” That worked fine at parties, and helped with the eye-glazing problem, but still didn’t quite capture what I do as a developmental psychologist working outside academia in the social policy realm.

Things were a lot easier to explain when I was an American Association for the Advancement of Science Congressional Fellow for the Society for Research in Child Development, or further back, when I was a post-doc working on the Minnesota Mother-Child Project in the Institute of Child Development at the University of Minnesota, or even when I was a grad student working on the evaluation of Project STEEP, an intensive and comprehensive intervention for high-risk mothers and their children.

Now even I have a hard time understanding what I do for LTG Associates, Inc., a small research and evaluation company in Takoma Park, Maryland and Turlock, California, because we do a lot of different things for a wide variety of clients. It’s a very different world from academia. For one thing, we have clients. Our clients range from federal, state, and local government agencies who oversee social programs to small service providers whose funders require an outside evaluator. Rather than submitting grant proposals, we bid for contracts with clients to perform specific tasks by specific dates. This means that we do not follow our own program of research, but those of our clients. We bill our clients hourly. While we do not have tenure, we are often better paid than those in academia. Also a plus, we never have to be assistant professors.

What do we do for our clients? In my company it’s a mix of evaluation design and implementation, reporting of results, and technical assistance. Evaluation for us is pretty much the same as it is for academia. Technical assistance is a term that I never really understood until I started this job. What we do as technical assistance is to research and answer our clients’ questions (“What’s a good measure of this construct?” , “What does the literature say about this?” ) and help them do what they want to do (design, implement, and assess policies; assess county-wide impacts of funding initiatives). By working with government agencies, we are sometimes in a position to affect public policy indirectly. We don’t set policy, but we inform and assist those who do. In this context, it’s our job to research and present information that people need to do their jobs.

What does this have to do with psychology? It’s my training as a research psychologist that allows me to do my job. One of my major responsibilities at the moment is co-leading a team that provides technical assistance and evaluation services to a county in California that funds programs for children from birth to age 5, using money from cigarette taxes. I use several facets of my training as a developmental psychologist with this client. My content knowledge about parent-child relationships, child care, and intervention with high-risk populations is important for our role as providers of technical assistance. I am called upon to suggest measures, answer questions about child development, provide feedback about program content, and interpret research findings. My training in statistical and evaluation methodologies is very important in our role as designers and implementers of the county-level evaluation of the funded projects. I direct and conduct analyses of county-level data, assist the county in determining whether their program goals are being met, and have a large part in planning and writing our annual evaluation report to the county commission.

Not all our clients are so happily matched up with my area of expertise, however. I also work with a small nonprofit organization that provides health information, referrals, and health-related interpreter services to the Hispanic/Latino population in a local Maryland county. For this client, I draw primarily on my statistical and methodological knowledge to provide an outside evaluation of their services. It’s not my content area of interest, but it’s still very satisfying because they are a good
SPSSI’s Finances Rebound

By Daniel Perlman
SPSSI Secretary/Treasurer

From my perspective as Secretary-Treasurer, the big news is that SPSSI’s finances have thankfully rebounded. Beyond this, there are several other items worth mentioning regarding finances and membership, the SPSSI Central Office, and other developments (e.g., SPSSI/EAESP conferences, JSI success).

Fiscal Rebound

Fiscal year 2003-2004 was a difficult one for SPSSI: In terms of money received and spent, SPSSI operated at a substantial deficit ($87,345, according to a measure of what SPSSI’s financial service provider calls SPSSI’s real income versus real expenditure). The time since then has been considerably better. For the period July 1-December 31, 2004, SPSSI had $331,498 of unrestricted income from dues, publications, dividends, and property rental, but only spent $220,964. There is no one simple answer as to why SPSSI’s finances dropped in 2003-2004 and then rebounded. Part of the reason for the 2003-2004 operating deficit was that SPSSI had unusually high expenses in June 2004 associated with the 2004 Biennial Conference. In addition, since July 1, 2004, SPSSI has enjoyed more publication revenues than expected (see below).

Another factor that influenced the drop and rebound was SPSSI’s shift from cash to accrual accounting in 2003-2004. In cash accounting, revenues and expenses are recorded on the date the money is paid or received; in accrual accounting, they are recorded on the date the purchase is made or the bill issued. With a shift to accrual accounting, all expenses associated with the June 2004 convention got charged to fiscal year 2003-2004, whereas under the previous system, bills paid after June 30 would have been charged to the July 1-December 31, 2004, fiscal period. In effect, this change in accounting practices served to increase SPSSI’s expenditures in the first half of 2004 and decrease them in the second half. As SPSSI will remain on accrual accounting, this aberration will not happen again in the future.

Accounting for the first six months of 2005 is not yet complete, but preliminary indications are that SPSSI’s revenues surpassed expenses. Barring unforeseen events, I am currently optimistic that SPSSI will end 2005 in the black, although the second half of the year may not be as strong as the first. On the revenue side, SPSSI receives more of its dues and journal royalties in the first half of the year than in the second half. On the expenditure side, in the second half of 2005 SPSSI will have costs associated with its APA Convention activities and some delayed award payments.

Three Changes Relevant to Finances and Membership

During the past year, SPSSI has made three noteworthy changes to its finances and membership. First, SPSSI decided to shift from a July 1-June 30 fiscal year to a calendar fiscal year (January 1-December 31). This has meant having a half-year accounting period, and has not been a problem. This change aligns the fiscal year with the membership year, which should have advantages.

Second, SPSSI changed its dues structure modestly, setting minimum amounts. Dues revenue increased but remains a relatively small component of SPSSI’s income (approximately 15%, less than for most other academic associations). Although a few members did resign because of the dues increase, the net impact on the number of SPSSI members appears to have been small: 53 more people let their membership lapse in 2005 than did so in 2004.

Third, SPSSI has decided to change its financial services provider. Since moving to Washington, SPSSI has outsourced this work. Effective August 1, SPSSI will use a firm that will take a partnership approach, helping SPSSI do more of its own financial management work. This change should be relatively neutral in terms of costs and staff time but should give SPSSI staff more expertise and control over the administrative aspects of handling its income and expenditures.

Other Developments

On other fronts, SPSSI will start using part of the upstairs in its I Street house rather than renting it. Sougata Roy, SPSSI’s membership database manager, is working to revamp the SPSSI website to make it more consistent, functional, and attractive.

The SPSSI Executive Council approved funding for a joint conference with the European Association of Experimental Social Psychology (EAESP). Proposals under this program are welcome (see http://www.spssi.org/EAESP_flyer.html). The purpose of the collaboration is to strengthen ties between the two organizations to increase members’ opportunities to discuss research questions of mutual interest. These conferences are typically small in size, have themes related to social issues, and should be relevant internationally (that is, not focused on intra-national issues).

Finally, good news has been coming from SPSSI’s publications programs. With Rhoda Unger serving very ably as founding editor of SPSSI’s electronic journal, downloads of ASAP articles increased a whopping 296% in 2004. Journal of Social Issues (JSI) subscription patterns are changing slightly, with more subscribers being part of consortia. Total library subscriptions increased 25% in 2004, and institutions with licensed access via EBSCO more than doubled. During the past year, the JSI was rated number one in its category (social issues) in terms of citation impact by the Web of Science, making both Blackwell and SPSSI very proud! Equally pleasing is news that our revenues from the journals were up substantially (approximately 19%) in 2004. On behalf of SPSSI, I extend kudos to Irene Hanson Frieze for being highly effective as JSI’s editor (2001-2006). ☝️

Principles for Promoting Social Change
by Neil Wolman, Margaret Lobenstine, Maria Foderaro, & Stephen Stose

Reminder
SPSSI’s booklet is available on the Web at:
www.spssi.org/ppsc.html

Those who do not have access to the Internet may request a copy from SPSSI at 202/675-6956.
Booklets are $2.00 each.
Allow 2 weeks for delivery.
The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues
2006 Convention
June 23-25 in Long Beach, California

• **THEME** of the convention is "Social Justice: Research, Action, & Policy"
  • Five sub-themes are education, health, intergroup relations, poverty, and work.

• **INVITED SPEAKERS**
  • Patricia Devine (University of Wisconsin at Madison)
  • Edmund W. Gordon (Teachers College, Columbia University)
  • Aletha Huston (University of Texas at Austin)
  • Sheldon Zedeck (University of California at Berkeley)
  • Marybeth Shinn (New York University), SPSSI President
  • 2006 Lewin Award Winner

• **FEATURES OF THIS CONVENTION**
  • Symposia, Posters, Roundtable discussions

• **NEW FOR THIS CONVENTION**
  • 15 minute paper presentations
  • Best poster awards given at each poster session
  • Graduate student activities integrated into main conference

• **DEADLINE** for receipt of proposals is **January 7, 2006**

• **CALL FOR PROPOSALS** available at:
  • SPSSI website: www.spssi.org
  • November SPSSI Newsletter
  • SPSSI central office: 2081 Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002: Tel. 202.675.6956. Email: spssi@spssi.org
  • Program co-chairs are Sheli R. Levy and Rudy Mendoza-Denton.

• **LOCATION AND ACCOMMODATIONS**
  • Long Beach Hilton offers full accessibility for guests requiring special assistance.
  • Convention co-chairs are Shana Levin and Allen Omoto.

**SAVE THE DATE - DON'T MISS THIS CONFERENCE!**
2004-2005
Gordon Allport
Intergroup Relations
Prize Announced

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (Division 9 of the American Psychological Association) is pleased to announce the winners of the 2004-2005 Gordon Allport Intergroup Relations Prize:

Rupert Brown (University of Sussex) and Miles Hewstone (University of Oxford) for their entry An integrative theory of intergroup contact. This paper is a comprehensive overview of research describing the processes by which intergroup contact contributes to reducing prejudice, and the factors that may moderate its effects, toward a more united theoretical framework that can serve to direct future contact research. The Gordon Allport Prize is presented to the year’s best paper or article on intergroup relations. Originality, either theoretical or empirical, is given special consideration.

Honorable Mention was awarded to:
Laurie A. Rudman and Kimberly Fairchild (Rutgers University) for their entry Reactions to countereffect behavior: The role of backlash in cultural stereotype maintenance.

Honorable Mention was also awarded to:
Jim Sidanius (University of California, Los Angeles) Colette Van Laar (Leiden University) Shana Levin (Claremont McKenna College), and Stacey Sinclair (University of Virginia) for their entry Ethnic enclaves and the dynamics of social identity on the college campus: The good, the bad, and the ugly.

Serving on the 2004 – 2005 Allport Prize Committee were Dominic Abrams (University of Kent at Canterbury), J. Nicole Shelton (Princeton University), and Linda R. Tropp, Chair (Boston College).

Four New Grants Honoring Clara Mayo

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues announces four new recipients of Clara Mayo Grants in support of Master’s thesis and pre-dissertation research on sexism, racism, or prejudice. These awards, ranging from $500 to $1,000, were selected from the Fall 2004 pool of applicants. The fund was made possible by bequests from the family and friends of Professor Clara Mayo, a past president of SPSSI.

The award recipients are:

Gabrielle Chiaramonte from the State University of New York at Stony Brook: Chiaramonte’s project is titled “Do medical schools reinforce gender biases in the diagnosis and treatment of coronary heart disease (CHD)?”

Daisy Grewal from Yale University: Grewal’s project is titled “Take charge or be a team player? The effect of management style on women’s perceptions of the workplace.”

Stacy Ryan from Emory University: Ryan’s proposal is titled “Physiological reactivity as an indicator for reactive aggressive behavior during interpersonal interactions.”

Irene Yeh from Stanford University: Yeh’s project is titled “Stereotyping violence and causal attribution: The Hui and Han Chinese.” Yeh is an M.A. student in East Asian studies, and her award is testimony to the cross-disciplinary reach and appeal of SPSSI.

Congratulations to each of these graduate students. The committee reviewed a very strong set of applications, but felt that these projects stood out in their integration of theory with applied concern about social problems. The awards committee was chaired by Monica Biernat (University of Kansas) and also included Angela B. Ginorio (University of Washington) and Robert Livingston (University of Wisconsin).

2004-2005 Grants-In-Aid Program

The Grants-In-Aid Program supports scientific research projects in social problem areas related to the basic interests and goals of SPSSI. Award amounts are up to $1,000 for graduate students and $2,000 for SPSSI members who have already obtained their Ph.D. We were able to fund several truly impressive proposals this year. Below is a list of the awardees. Congratulations to each of these recipients.

FALL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Angela Ebreo, University of Illinois, Chicago. Racial identity and civic life: Investigating the political behavior and attitudes of Chicago area Asian American college students.

Adam Fingerhut, University of California at Los Angeles. Identity, minority stress and mental health in gay men and lesbians.


Marina Kahana, University of California, Irvine. Community matters: Distribution of social resources among multiple domains and social networks.

David Mayer, University of Maryland. A meta-analysis of the effects of affirmative action programs (AAPs) on self- and other-stigmatization.

Monica Miller, University of Nevada, Reno. Factors that influence victim reporting: Counterfactual thinking, gender, SES, and attitudes toward the legal system.

Anne Noonan, Wellesley College. A study of lesbian and gay couples in Massachusetts.

...continued on page 16
Washington Update
from the 2004-2006 SPSSI James Marshall Public Policy Scholar

By Karen Y. Chen
SPSSI James Marshall Scholar

Washington, DC continues to buzz with political activity. Although much of the recent excitement has centered around the Senate filibuster, controversial judicial nominations, and the restructuring of Social Security, legislative activity continues on the issues on which I have worked, including HIV/AIDS, hate crimes, and immigrant populations. Some of my recent policy efforts are described below.

HIV/AIDS. The reauthorization of the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act remains a high priority for both the White House and Congress. In keeping with the strong bipartisan support shown during past reauthorizations, Sen. Mike Enzi (R-WY), Chairman of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pension (HELP) Committee, and Sen. Kennedy (D-MA), the committee’s ranking minority member, have worked closely during this process. Together, their offices have invited organizations concerned about the current state of HIV/AIDS care and treatment programs to present their recommendations or position papers on the CARE Act reauthorization to the HELP Committee staff.

The American Psychological Association was asked to present its recommendations on the CARE Act on March 18, 2005. The APA Public Policy Office and Office on AIDS worked together to develop APA’s recommendations and presentation. Dr. Isabel Fernandez, a member of APA’s Committee on Psychology and AIDS and an expert on the CARE Act, presented on behalf of APA. She addressed not only the mental health and substance abuse issues afflicting people living with HIV/AIDS, but also the critical need for mental health and substance abuse services within the CARE Act. Her presentation was well received by the HELP Committee staff. It can be accessed at APA Public Policy Office’s website, www.apa.org/ppp/issues/phothiv.html. Currently, we are awaiting the introduction of the CARE Act reauthorization bill in the Senate.

The APA Public Policy Office continues to advocate for the mental and behavioral health needs of people with or at-risk for HIV/AIDS. The Presidential Advisory Council on HIV and AIDS (PACHA) recently held one of its meetings (June 20-21, 2005). PACHA is an advisory body to the Secretary of Health and Human Services that provides information and recommendations on programs and policies related to HIV prevention and treatment. During the PACHA meeting, it was encouraging to hear two of the invited speakers, Dr. Annelle Primm from the American Psychiatric Association and Administrator Charles Curie of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, address issues around mental health, substance use, and HIV/AIDS. However, more attention to these issues is needed. President Bush has proposed cutting funding for the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) program, providing mental health services for persons of color living with HIV/AIDS, from $9.5 million to $5 million for fiscal year 2006. In response, Dr. Denis Nessim-Sabat and I have been meeting with Senate and House Appropriations Committee staff to lobby against the inclusion of these cuts in the FY2006 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill and for increased funding for several HIV/AIDS programs within SAMHSA.

Hate Crimes. I continue to be involved with the hate crimes coalition. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, which would expand the federal hate crime law to include crimes against gays and lesbians, was recently reintroduced in both the Senate and House. The legislation has 44 cosponsors in the Senate and 130 co-sponsors in the House. The coalition is meeting with staff on the Hill to garner more support and co-sponsorship for both bills.

The coalition is also working with the Department of Education to find ways to improve universities’ reporting of hate crimes. The Higher Education Act requires higher education institutions to report hate crimes committed on college campuses; however, their data has been inconsistent with the data from the FBI Uniform Hate Crime Report, suggesting that universities are under-reporting the number of hate crime incidents on college campuses. The Higher Education Act is up for reauthorization this Congress, and the coalition is identifying ways to amend the legislation to improve universities’ hate crime reporting.

Immigration. The coalition focusing on limited English proficiency issues remains active and is finalizing its recommendations for legislation to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate health care services. In addition, the APA Public Policy Office has been working with the Congressional Black Caucus, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus on the Healthcare Equality and Accountability Act, the primary legislation aimed at reducing health disparities. The legislation, which will be reintroduced this summer, not only addresses current health and mental health disparities, but includes provisions to create culturally and linguistically appropriate health care services.

My experience as the SPSSI James Marshall Scholar continues to be enlightening and interesting. I am very grateful for all the support I have received from Shari Miles and the SPSSI Central Office, the APA Public Policy Office, and my oversight committee. I appreciate your encouragement and collaboration, and look forward to your comments and questions at kchen@apa.org.
**In Memory**

*Sandra Schwartz Tangri*

By Rhoda Unger

Sandra Schwartz Tangri, a leader of SPSSI and an activist for human rights, died on June 11, 2003, after courageously battling lung cancer for many years. Sandy (as she was known to her friends), was born in California in 1937. In one of several autobiographical essays written late in her life she described herself as “a highly educated daughter of Jewish immigrants one of whom was a Yiddish poet and wallpaper hanger, and neither of whom finished high school.” Her working-class roots were a source of her lifelong commitment to those who are marginalized by society.

Sandy received her Ph.D. from the University of Michigan’s interdisciplinary social psychology program in 1967. While there, she met Martha Mednick. The two women soon co-edited an issue of the *Journal of Social Issues* titled “New Perspectives on Women,” which was published in 1972. This issue was one of the earliest compilations of feminist research and had an enormous impact on the developing field. Later Mednick and Tangri added Lois Hoffman as a co-editor and expanded the issue into a book titled “Women and Achievement,” published as a SPSSI-sponsored book in 1975. In addition to her scholarly activity, Sandra was a member of SPSSI Council from 1987-1990 and a member of the APA Committee for Women from 1990-1994 (serving a chair of that group in her final year there).

Sandy ably combined scholarship and political activism. She held faculty appointments at Douglass College of Rutgers University and Richmond College of the City University of New York. She subsequently became Director of the Office of Research for the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights for four years and a Senior Research Associate at the Urban Institute for three more years. She eventually returned to academia and was a retired professor of psychology from Howard University at the time of her death.

Sandy’s research spanned a number of areas involving women’s lives. She was one of the first people to conduct longitudinal research on women’s career development and returned to the original group several times during her career to examine long-term changes. (This data set is part of the archives of the Murray Center at Harvard University.) She also studied sexual harassment in the federal workforce and ethical issues in population programs. Her article in the latter area was given a Distinguished Publication Award by the Association for Women in Psychology. Sandy also received the prestigious Carolyn Wood Sheriff award from the Society for the Psychology of Women (Division 35 of APA) in 2000. The Sheriff address, which she gave at APA in 2001, movingly recounted some of the lessons she had learned from African Americans, including those she taught at Howard University; from her struggle for pay equity; from her experiences with community events; and from having cancer. She felt that these lessons could teach all of us much about empowerment and acceptance. Sandy’s warmth, wit, and wisdom will be sorely missed by her many friends and admirers.

**Kenneth L. Dion**

By Vicki Esses, Walter Stephan, Jack Dovidio, Rhoda Unger

Kenneth L. Dion, Professor of Psychology at the University of Toronto, died unexpectedly on November 16, 2004. This is a loss for SPSSI, the field of social psychology, and for all of us who knew him.

Ken grew up in the lakes region of New Hampshire; his family was of a French Canadian working-class background. After graduating summa cum laude from the University of New Hampshire, where he was a Ford Foundation Scholar, he spent a year as a graduate student at SUNY Buffalo, before going to the University of Minnesota in 1965 to complete his graduate training. There, Ken worked with Norman Miller, met and married Karen, and developed close friendships with a colorful cohort of graduate students in the “bullpen,” an interesting office arrangement in Ford Hall that housed more than a dozen students in one room. Those who were there remember Ken for his intellectual intensity, his generosity of spirit, and his impish playfulness (his eyes really did twinkle) – characteristics he displayed throughout his career. He was the first of his cohort to finish, and he stunned his friends by taking a job in Canada. It was a decision he always felt was the right one; he spent his entire professional career at the University of Toronto.

Ken established himself as a leading scholar in the field of psychology with a blockbuster review article on group decision-making processes that stimulated important new developments in this area for many years. He never looked back. He made groundbreaking contributions to the literature with studies of group cohesion, reactions to prejudice and discrimination from the target’s perspective, immigration and acculturation, ethnicity, and close relationships, among other topics. Attesting to his research contributions, Ken was the recipient of the 2001 Donald O. Hebb Award from the Canadian Psychological Association for distinguished contributions to psychology as a science. Ken was always interested in new research ideas and most recently began to examine group processes in space crews. He was still publishing at a prolific rate when he died. One of his last book reviews was entitled, Sharper than a Serpent’s Tooth, so apt for both Ken’s tongue and his wit.

In addition to his research contributions, Ken made numerous contributions to psychology as a profession. He began his affiliation with SPSSI while still in graduate school in 1968, and was a valued member for more than 35 years. He was extremely active in the organization, serving on Council from 1996 to 2001. In 1999, he co-organized the SPSSI-sponsored conference on Immigrants and Immigration, which was by all counts a great success. This conference resulted in a *Journal of Social Issues* volume on immigrants and immigration published in 2001, on
Report on APA Council of Representatives (COR)

By Bernice Lott
Division 9/SPSSI Representative to COR

At the winter 2005 COR meeting (February 18-20), Dr. Shari Miles substituted for Dr. Serrano-Garcia, who could not attend.

A. Highlights of the work accomplished and decisions made:

1. President Ron Levent reported on his initiatives: to make psychology a household word; to propose health care for the whole person; to achieve more diversity in APA; and to support evidence-based practice.

2. A multicultural leadership workshop was preceded by a presentation by Jack Dovidio on unconscious/implicit prejudice.

3. A petition (signed by 850 APA members) to establish a new division, the Society for Human-Animal Studies, was rejected after lengthy and impassioned debate.

4. The report and recommendations by the Task Force on the World Conference Against Racism were approved. The report and recommendations were the subject of intense and lengthy discussions and underwent a number of modifications prior to approval.

The recommendations include:

a. formation of a working group to develop a resolution condemning anti-Semitic, anti-Jewish, and other religious and religion-related prejudice and discrimination;

b. formation of a working group to develop a resolution condemning all prejudice and discrimination;

c. acknowledgement of the outstanding work of the APA delegation resulting in the inclusion of specific wording in the UN declaration document about the mental health consequences of racism; and

d. receipt, in principle, of the UN declaration that will appear in an appendix to the APA delegation report, annotated to indicate portions that were considered objectionable by some APA members.

5. An amendment to APA’s Bylaws (Article III) was approved, adding gender identity to the sentence that reads “All Members [of APA]… shall be treated with respect and without discrimination on the basis of race…”

6. An amendment to the APA Resolution on Hate Crimes was approved, adding the category of gender identity to that statement as well.

B. Other business of interest to SPSSI:

1. funding for APA membership recruitment and retention ($100,000 in the 2005 budget) with special efforts to target ethnic minorities;

2. approval of recommendations on mental disability and the death penalty that urge jurisdictions not to execute persons with mental disabilities under certain circumstances;

3. approval of an annual $60,000 contribution by APA to support the Archives of the History of American Psychology;

4. approval of a new reimbursement policy for Council representatives – full reimbursement for the February meeting and for a two-night hotel stay for APA convention meetings;

5. receipt of a comprehensive report by a task force on urban psychology in which considerable attention is paid to “concentrated poverty”;

6. discussion of long-term policy and planning for APA;

7. adoption of a resolution in favor of empirically supported sex education and HIV prevention programs for adolescents; and

8. approval of a budget with a half-million dollar surplus.
New York SPSSI Activities, Spring 2005

By Harold Takooshian
New York Regional Group Chair

Once again in Spring of 2005, SPSSI-NY hosted a series of four activities for students and colleagues in Greater New York.

1. On March 7, six folks joined SPSSI President Kay Deaux and Councilmember Maureen O’Connor for a cozy evening of supper in Greenwich Village, and Michael Chaut’s awesome Monday Night Magic Show.

2. On April 7, 70 people attended a powerful community forum, “Witnesses to genocide: Armenian oral history 90 years later” at Drew University. It was chaired by Ann Saltzman of the Drew University Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, and featured panelists Varoujan Froundjian (Columbia), Marge Kyrkostas (Armenian Museum), Aris Sevag (Armenian Reporter), Harold Takooshian (Fordham), Dale Patterson (Methodist Archives), Rev. William Kalaidjian (NYPD).

3. On April 16, 250 students and professionals participated in the 33rd Hunter Psychology Convention, where SPSSI-NY offered 30 presenters in five symposia on applied topics, including “International issues at the U.N.,” “Law and psychology,” and “Genocide denial and human rights 90 years after the 1915 genocide of Armenians.” Two unprecedented symposia brought together APA historian Wade Pickren and 12 local historians to discuss the history of psychology and social issues in New York City. In fact, a SPSSI Grant-in-Aid on this topic was quickly submitted by this history team: Wade Pickren (APA), John D. Hogan (St. Johns), Harold Takooshian (Fordham), Ted Coons (NYU), Florence Denmark (Pace), Margaret E. Donnelly (Pace), Uwe Gielen (St. Francis), Ed Hollander (CUNY), Mark E. Mattson (Fordham), Elizabeth G. Messina (Lenox Hill), Robert W. Rieber (Fordham), Kurt Salzinger (Hofstra), Steve Salbod (Pace).

4. On April 19, 55 people gathered at the CUNY Graduate School to hear biographer Tom Blass (Baltimore) offer a riveting presentation on “The psychologist who shocked the world: Stanley Milgram @ CUNY.” This was hosted by the CUNY Alumni Association, and followed by a reunion of Milgram’s alumni.

During summer 2005, the SPSSI-NY planning committee will plan its fall 2005 program, including a September 6th conference on “Behavioral science and the global agenda,” its 16th Greater New York Conference in November, and Holiday Healing Circle in December. The SPSSI-NY planning committee for Spring 2005 included Catherine Bonet (Fordham), Uwe P. Gielen (St. Francis), John D. Hogan (St. Johns), Anie Kalayjian (United Nations), Wade E. Pickren (APA), Steve Salbod (Pace), Ann Saltzman (Drew), Peter R. Walker (United Nations). For any questions or details, contact SPSSI-NY Chair Harold Takooshian at takoosh@aol.com.
SPSSI at the United Nations

By Joseph DeMeyer
UN Main Representative

SPSSI’s United Nations and International Issues Committee is in the midst of a significant and exciting change in composition. The committee just finished interviewing several applicants for recently opened UN Representative positions – as announced in the previous issue of Forward – and has already appointed a couple of new Expert Affiliates to its UN operations.

The goal is to broaden considerably the impact of the SPSSI mission objectives at the UN. In addition to its present targets of influence at the UN – social development and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – human rights for women, children, and older persons; racism and discrimination; spirituality, values, and freedom of religion and belief; trauma and mental health; refugees and immigrants; human settlements; and the battle against HIV/AIDS – the presence of additional representatives will make it possible to address other important UN agenda items. These include peace-building and disarmament, human security and conflict resolution, eradication of poverty and best practices, the status of women in the Middle East, media and technology, labor and international trade, and aging.

The Expert Affiliates, assigned to a shorter and less time-demanding, but renewable, term, can be called upon to deliver their expertise at opportune moments during annual international conferences and commission meetings at the UN, when the development of statements and presentations by experts is required. The committee is also looking into the possibility of filling the still-open representative position at the UN Office in Nairobi, Kenya, to address the areas of need on the African continent more directly.

In the meantime, the regular SPSSI UN representatives, in their volunteer capacities, have executed a busy half-year since the last issue of Forward. In Geneva, Switzerland, Astrid Stuckelberger, as chair of the Nongovernmental Organization (NGO) Committee on Aging, organized a joint statement of 20 NGOs for the Commission on Human Rights on the Rights of Older Persons. As chair of the NGO Committee on the Status of Women, she organized working groups on Health and Human Rights and on a “Mapping Peace” project Task Force.

Astrid was also chair and speaker at panels on “27 Demilitarized States in the World: Utopia or Reality for the Right to Development, Peace and Security?” during the Human Rights Commission and for the Committee on the Status of Women panel at the UN for Tempo International Board, United States Network of Women. During the World Health Assembly, she was on the panel “Spirituality, Religion and Social Health.” Astrid remains in close contact with her fellow UN representatives in the States.

At the UN Headquarters in New York, Nora Pharaon attended the NGO pre-annual Commission on the Status of Women, as well as several sessions at the commission meeting itself. She also sat in on several UN Department of Public Information/NGO briefings and attended several meetings of the NGO Committee on Mental Health, as well as convening its working group on Trauma and Mental Health.

Corann Okorodudu hosted panel presentations during the Commission on the Status of Women on “The Effects of Racism on the Advancement of Women” and “The Impact of Women and Local Communities in the Struggle against HIV/AIDS.” She implemented a program on “Meeting the Challenge of Racism and Anti-Semitism: Post Durban Developments” in observance of the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. As a member of the working group on Racism, Related Intolerance and Mental Health, she developed a presentation about “The Parents Circle: a Program of Hope and Reconciliation between Bereaved Palestinians and Israelis” for the NGO Committee on Mental Health. On behalf of the NGO Committee on Human Rights, Corann co-sponsored, with the NGO Committee on Indigenous People during its Permanent Forum, an event titled “Indigenous People in a Landscape of Risk: Report from the social work community.” She also participated in a panel discussion organized by the Permanent Missions of Sierra Leone, Côte d’Ivoire, and Rwanda on the “Challenges of HIV/AIDS in Conflict and Post-Conflict Societies.”

As member of the NGO Committee on UNICEF, Corann commented on a draft of UNICEF’s Medium-Term Strategic Plan, 2006 – 2009, and the need to include the goals of the 2002 General Assembly (GA) Special Session on Children, in addition to the MDGs.

Recently, Corann was selected as one of 250 active participants in the Informal Interactive Hearings of the UN General Assembly with NGOs, Civil Society Organizations, and the Private Sector at UN Headquarters in New York. Having been assigned to the thematic cluster on “Strengthening the UN,” one of four sections of Secretary-General Kofi Annan’s report In Larger Freedom: Towards Development, Security, and Human Rights for All,” Corann headed up a response to the Secretary-General’s report from SPSSI and other psychological organizations accredited to the UN. This report was drafted and approved for distribution at the GA hearings in June. Although Corann was unable to present her response in person at the GA, her report, which emphasized the need to include social-psychological and mental health aspects to strengthening the UN, was enthusiastically received and supported by psychologists in the UN NGO community, as well as by many other representatives. Kudos to her!

Pete Walker, Treasurer of the NGO Committee on Aging and Executive Committee member of the NGO Committee on Human Settlements, published an article in the January/March 2005 issue of the Journal of Social Distress and Homelessness on “Human Settlements and Urban Life: A United Nations Perspective,” focusing on the work of UN HABITAT. He collaborated on a position paper on “Urban Dwellers and the Copenhagen Declaration: Four Essential Commitments,” sponsored by SPSSI and 20 other organizations, which was read into the record of the 43rd Commission on Social Development. Pete also drafted a cover letter to selected member state embassies outlining the need for specifically identifying “older persons as a major group” in the Annex to the Millennium Declaration, currently under consideration by member states for the MDG+5 Summit in September 2005. The letter was sent to more than 30 UN missions friendly to issues of older persons. Pete has been attending the
Board, as well as all those who have helped us over many years as special reviewers. Members of the Editorial Board are Jameson Kenneth Hirsch, Jonathan Iuzzini, Aarti Iyer, Jacquelyn Boone James, Colin Wayne Leach, Bernice Lott, Richard Osbaldiston, Daniel Perlman, Diane Scott-Jones, Joseph Trimble, and Zbigniew Zaleski. Dan Perlman deserves a special note of thanks, as a former JSI editor himself, for his always excellent advice.

I am delighted to be leaving the journal in the very capable hands of Rick Hoyle, the incoming editor. His term begins in 2006.

Anthem anniversary!
The Journal of Social Issues, first published in 1945, is one of the oldest journals in psychology. We will celebrate the journal’s 60th anniversary at the American Psychological Association’s annual meeting in Washington, DC, at the Division 9 Social Hour on Friday, August 19, from 6:00 to 7:50 pm. Some of our previous editors, as well as our incoming editor, expect to be there.

Remaining issues for 2005
In the remaining portion of my term as editor, the issues will be:

- Inequities in higher education: Issues and promising practices in a world ambivalent about affirmative action. Yolanda Flores Niemann and Geoffrey Maruyama.
- Religion as a meaning system. Israela Silberman.

JSI continues to be widely cited by researchers
In a recent survey of published authors in social and personality psychology by the Graduate Student Committee of SPSS, the Journal of Social Issues was ranked ninth among major social psychology journals. We placed fifth among this group of excellent journals in “overall impact.” For more information, see http://www.spss.org/student/pdf/Forum05spss.pdf.

Final words
This will be my last column as editor of the Journal of Social Issues. Editing the journal has been a major part of my life since 2000, and I will miss it very much. It has been an amazing experience to work with so many wonderful scholars and to help them conceptualize their ideas and finalize their papers. I want to thank my very dedicated editorial

As my tenure as inaugural editor of ASAP nears its end, I thought I would reflect on some lessons I have learned. These may be useful to those of you who are considering submitting articles to the journal or becoming peer reviewers. If you aspire to become an editor yourself, my main recommendation is that you do so only when you have an abundance of time and patience, though the role is very fulfilling on many levels.

I have some more concrete advice for potential authors and reviewers. First, make sure that the journal to which you submit is appropriate for your article. It is helpful to read one or two issues of a journal before submitting to it. This point may seem obvious, but from the variety of unsuitable articles I have seen in five years of editing, I think it is worth reiterating.

Second, when reading a new journal, it is important to determine what kinds of questions are being addressed. For example, because of ASAP’s focus on the relationship between empirical research and public policy, we prefer papers that consider contextualized issues that may use any empirically sound methodology. What this means for a potential submitter is that the policy implications of the research are just as important as the methods used. What links the articles in Volume 5, for example, is their focus on public policy matters, including racism, homelessness, taxation and wealth distribution, terrorism, and the value of the new field of conservation psychology.

Of course, this range of topics makes finding reviewers something of an editorial nightmare, and much of my time as editor has been spent identifying suitable ones. I have learned something from this process, too. It is not essential that a reviewer be an expert in the area of the paper she or he is asked to review. Most trained researchers can identify good methodology, even in disciplines in which they have not worked. What is more important is a sympathy for the questions posed; for example, whether the paper raises issues that the reviewer would like to see addressed. This does not mean that the paper will be accepted, but it does ensure that it will be taken seriously. Paradoxically, a “good” negative review may be more helpful to a researcher in the long run than the unthinking acceptance of a paper that has serious conceptual or methodological flaws.

I thought I had retired from teaching. However, as one of my colleagues put it, “You have flunked retirement.” Editorial work is also a form of teaching (and learning) for all of us – submitters, reviewers, and editors – and this is another contribution of SPSS to our field.

Conference announcement
Prejudice and discrimination in the 21st century
The latter half of the 20th century witnessed dramatic shifts in the cultural and social norms concerning the acceptability of stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination. Over the last three decades, there has been an explosion of social psychological research addressing the topic of prejudice and its eradication from political, economic, social, cognitive, and neural perspectives. The goal of this conference is to bring together social psychologists from a variety of theoretical and methodological traditions to discuss the progress that we have made in our understanding of the nature of prejudice and discrimination in our society during the last century with an eye toward laying out the most significant challenges to be faced as we move forward in the 21st century.

Some of the most prominent figures in intergroup research will be brought together to address the question: Have intergroup relations improved over the last few decades? Have prejudice and discrimination diminished or merely assumed a different form? This four-day conference will take place from September 15-18, 2005 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, opening with a keynote address delivered by Mahzarin Banaji. Over the following three days, presentations will be delivered by David Amodio, Marilyn Brewer; Monica Bierman, Jim Bischofich, Chris Crandall, Faye Crosby, Nilanjana Dasgupta, Jennifer Eberhardt, Russell Fazio, Susan Fiske, Peter Glick, Michelle Hebl, Gregory Herek, Robert Livingston, Brenda Major, Margo Monteith, Steve Neuberg, Keith Payne, Ashby Plant, Jennifer Richeson, Laurie Rudman, Nicole Shelton, James Sidanius, Stacey Sinclair, Elliot Smith, Sheldon Solomon, Claude Steele, Linda Tropp, and Tom Tyler. The program includes eight symposia as well as two roundtable discussions moderated by Patricia Devine. Registration is free and students and faculty are encouraged to attend. For more information on the conference please contact Lindsay Sharp at lsharp@wisc.edu. This conference was organized by Patricia G. Devine and Robert W. Livingston and is supported by funding from David Weiner and the American Psychological Association.
Geoffrey Maruyama
Selected as Editor-Elect of ASAP

By B. Ann Bettencourt and Jack Dovidio
Co-Chairs Publications Committee

The Society is pleased to announce that Dr. Geoffrey Maruyama of the University of Minnesota has been selected editor-elect of SPSSI’s on-line journal Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy (ASAP). His term will begin in 2006 and run until 2010.

The members of the ASAP Editor Search Committee (Ann Bettencourt, Gene Borgida, Jack Dovidio, Vicki Esses, and Miles Hewstone) solicited nominations from SPSSI members and sought a diverse pool of candidates. The committee was impressed by the number of nominations it received and by the outstanding quality of the potential candidates. Dr. Maruyama’s experience, accomplishments, and vision distinguished him from a number of excellent candidates. He was selected by a vote of SPSSI Council with the endorsement of the Search Committee.

Dr. Maruyama received a Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Southern California in 1977. He has served on the faculty of the University of Minnesota since 1976, and has been a member of the editorial boards of the Journal of Social Issues, Social Psychological Applications of Social Issues, the American Educational Research Journal, the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, and the Journal of Special Education.

Dr. Maruyama’s career as a scholar has been devoted to “action research,” using research and theory to inform social interventions and using research tools to evaluate program effectiveness. His scholarship has focused on improving intergroup relations, cross-cultural contact, desegregation, physical and psychological maltreatment in schools, care-giving for elderly persons, and educational achievement of students. He has written an impressive number of articles, chapters, and books that embody the values of SPSSI. He is also an expert on quantitative methods, authoring a highly influential volume on structural equation modeling.

In addition to being an outstanding scholar, Dr. Maruyama has been a long-time dedicated member of SPSSI. He was elected to two terms on SPSSI Council, was secretary-treasurer for five years, and served a term as SPSSI president. He also has chaired a variety of other committees and task forces, including the Elections Committee, the Electronic Journal Task Force, and the SPSSI Convention Committee.

Dr. Maruyama will seek articles that focus on timely and important social issues, which will allow ASAP to remain visible to policy makers, practitioners, and applied social scientists. To accomplish this goal, he hopes to forge a partnership between with SPSSI Council and SPSSI membership to identify timely social and political issues. Also, Dr. Maruyama believes that ASAP should publish articles that are understandable to its target audience, emphasizing not only the theoretical framework of the research but also the work’s implications for practice and policy.

SPSSI Council and the ASAP Editor Search Committee are grateful to the membership for their nominations, to the candidates who were willing to serve SPSSI so generously, and to Dr. Maruyama for his commitment to the journal and to the Society.

Why don’t you . . .

By Karen Y. Chen
James Marshall Scholar

Since becoming the James Marshall Scholar, I have frequently been approached by psychologists asking me how they can become more politically active. Below, I identified a few simple ways we, as psychologists, can make a difference in public policy.

- Call or email your Congressperson. Because Congresspersons depend on their constituents’ votes, many of the issues they address are based on the interests and concerns of their constituents. Senators and Representatives strongly value your phone calls and emails. To identify your representative, check out this website: www.house.gov.

- Visit your Congressperson’s office. Staff for each member of Congress spend a significant amount of time meeting with constituents to discuss a whole host of issues. Meetings can easily be made through a letter request or phone call to their office. If you are unable to visit their main office in Washington, DC, staff in the local district offices also meet with constituents. These meetings are a great way to discuss your concerns in greater depth, build a relationship with the office, and offer yourself as a resource.

- Write an editorial in your local newspaper. Editorials are a great way to express your opinion to both the general public and your Congresspersons. Hill staff frequently read the editorials in their district’s newspaper to see their constituents’ views on current political issues.

- Apply for a Congressional or policy-oriented fellowship. These early and mid-career fellowships are geared towards psychologists who have a policy interest, but limited policy experience. Scientific organizations, including the APA, SPSSI, and AAAS, offer various policy-based fellowships to work on Capitol Hill, for a federal agency, (e.g., National Institute of Health and National Science Foundation), or for a non-profit, advocacy organization. More information about these fellowships can be found on their websites.
Have Ph.D., Will Travel ... from page 5

group, providing much-needed services to an underserved population.

I find my job immensely rewarding, and happily different from the academic world in which I was trained. Its requirements fit my personality well: I am a people person who enjoys working both with a team of colleagues and with clients, but who does not enjoy teaching. My company generally works with clients who provide social services. We use science and evaluation to help them improve those services—doing well by those who are, in turn, doing well by others.

If you are interested in non-academic research, there are a number of companies that have offices in Washington, DC who have websites with job listings: Abt Associates, American Institutes for Research, Child Trends, Mathematica Policy Research, the Rand Corporation, the Urban Institute, and WestEd, to name a few. Some of these companies have offices in other cities as well. Many research organizations also advertise jobs in local papers and at professional meetings (such as APA), but the Web is probably your best place to start.

2004-2005 Grants-In-Aid Program ... from page 8

Meltam Paker, City University of New York Graduate School. Relationship between parental physical discipline and child externalizing behavior problems in the Caribbean subculture in New York City.

Stacey Turner, Rice University. Reactions to diversity policies under conditions of organizational threat.

SPRING AWARD RECIPIENTS

Harold Takooshian, Fordham University. Documenting the history of psychology and social issues in greater New York.

Sheri Levy, State University of New York at Stony Brook. A longitudinal study of racial prejudice and lay theories among White adolescents.

Elisa Krackow, Northern Illinois University. Teaching children about touch: The effects on eyewitness testimony.

I-Ching Lee, University of Connecticut. Crossover: Can subordinate groups become dominant groups in the right time and place?

Lisa Molix, University of Missouri, Columbia. Beyond the initial contact setting: The generalization of positive intergroup attitudes.

Luis Rivera, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. When feeling good is bad: The detrimental effect of self-affirmation on prejudice.


Michele Schlehofer, Claremont Graduate University. The role of perceived control and anxiety in predicting mammography utilization: An application of the extended parallel process model.

Kathleen Ingram, Virginia Commonwealth University. Adjustment and posttraumatic growth among colorectal cancer patients: The role of social support and unsupportive social interactions.

John Pachankis, State University of New York at Stony Brook. Mental health and sexual risk-taking correlates of rejection sensitivity in gay men.

Julie Woodzicka, Washington and Lee University. The effect of white privilege awareness and self-efficacy on diversity related behaviors.

TIMELY AWARD RECIPIENTS


The Grants-in-Aid committee consisted of Jennifer Richeson, Chair (Dartmouth College); Toni Schmader (University of Arizona); Joshua Aronson (New York University); and Marianne LaFrance (Yale University).

Send Us Information on Your Book!

If you have recently published a book, please send us a paragraph describing it, with a full reference. We will do our best to include it in the next issue. Please e-mail contributions to Central Office at spssi@spssi.org.
which Ken was co-editor. Having done more than his share for SPSSI, Ken continued to work tirelessly for the organization. In 2002, he co-organized SPSSI’s biennial conference. Again, of course, the conference was a success.

Ken was also active in many other organizations. He was a Fellow of five divisions of the American Psychological Association, as well as a Fellow of the Canadian Psychological Association, the American Psychological Association, and the American Psychological Society. He served on the Board of Directors of the Canadian Psychological Association, the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology, and the Humanities and Social Science Federation of Canada. He served as Director of Scientific Affairs on the Canadian Psychological Association Board. Ken also chaired the symposium committee for the XXVI International Congress of Psychology in Montreal, Canada, in 1996.

Ken made numerous contributions to psychology through his editorial work on journals. At the time of his death, he was in his third year as Associate Editor of the European Journal of Social Psychology, a true honor for a non-European. During his career, he also served as Associate Editor of Journal of Experimental Social Psychology, and as a Consulting Editor of the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology, Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, Psychology of Women Quarterly, Canadian Psychology, and the Asian Journal of Social Psychology.

Ken was a modest individual and a gentleman in his dealings with colleagues and students. Behind the scenes, he worked to promote the careers of others and prodded a reluctant field forward toward internationalism. He was a distinguished international scholar. His research and his service to the profession were international at their essence. Ken was a true academic, with intellectual curiosity and a passion for his work and profession. Ken loved life, work, travel, conversation, food, and Karen. Such passion. We will miss him.

SPSSI at the United Nations .................................. from page 13

Commission on Social Development and the Commission on Sustainable Development, graciously hosting interested SPSSI members, who are always welcome to contact the UN Committee when they wish to participate in UN events.

Joseph DeMeyer continued with his responsibilities as SPSSI’s Main UN Representative. He helped with preparations for the monthly UN Committee meetings, including the selection and nomination of the new expert affiliates as well as the interviewing and nomination of new UN Representatives. He is also the treasurer of the NGO Committee on Mental Health and, as a member of its Executive Committee, collaborated in developing its monthly conferences. He attended several UN Department of Public Information (DPI) briefing meetings and planning meetings for the Annual DPI/NGO Conference in September 2005, which he plans to attend. A major emphasis of his future activities will be to introduce the new SPSSI expert affiliates and UN representatives to the UN system and guide them through its ways of working. As always, the supportive role of SPSSI staff in Washington, DC should be noted. In particular, we would like to acknowledge Susan Opopow’s inspiring role as liaison to SPSSI Council. With the addition of new representatives, the coming year promises to be even more active in accomplishing SPSSI’s mission at the United Nations.

SPSSI Listserv

The SPSSI listserv is a great way to receive updates about conferences, calls for papers, and job opportunities. SPSSI members also use their listserv for lively discussions about controversial issues related to social science and public policy.

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After you have subscribed, you can post messages for everyone to read on the listserv by sending them to SPSSI@lists.apa.org.

If you have any questions, please contact spssi@spssi.org.

SPSSI 2005 Convention at APA

By Janet K. Swim and Theresa Vescio

Co-chairs for Division 9 program at APA

The annual APA Convention will be held in Washington, DC, August 18–21, 2005. The theme is “Marginalized groups: Public Policy and Psycho/Social Well-Being.”

There will be several symposia on this theme, including Immigration and Public Policy, chaired by Kay Deaux; New Weave Sexism Research: Tangled Webs of Feminism, Romance, and Inequality, chaired by Susan T. Fiske; African American Experiences With Racial Discrimination: Theory, Research, and Policy, chaired by Robert M. Sellers; Public Policy and Same Sex Relationships: Scientific Perspectives, chaired by Allen Omoto; Gender and the Politics of Emotion in Everyday Life, chaired by Stephanie Shields; and How Beliefs Create Reality: The Legacy of Behavioral Confirmation, chaired by Theresa K. Vescio. The convention will also feature several workshops of likely interest to students. One of the social hours will celebrate 60 years of the Journal of Social Issues, and everyone is invited. Details about all symposia and events can be found at www.spssi.org.
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Gift memberships are a great way to bring in new members. If you know people who would be interested in SPSSI, give them gift memberships. Once they are introduced to SPSSI, they may continue and become active members. This is a great investment in SPSSI's future.

Students and qualified, interested people in other countries (particularly developing countries, and countries where the exchange rate makes subscriptions prohibitive) especially appreciate gift memberships. Each gift membership is $25. Five or more memberships given at one time are $20 each.

Applications are also available on the Web: www.spssi.org

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