Back to Our Roots

Bydgoszcz and Mogilno, Poland, September 2004. This may seem like a strange opening for my first column as President of SPSSI. But once you know that Kurt Lewin was born in Mogilno (at that time under Prussian control), then my trip to Poland to be part of the ceremonies surrounding the dedication of a plaque on the house where Lewin was born and the opening of a museum exhibit of Lewin memorabilia and documents begins to make sense.

I was invited to participate as a representative of SPSSI in the opening ceremony of the international conference on Kurt Lewin: Contribution to Contemporary Psychology. Further, I was asked to describe Lewin’s involvement in SPSSI, which I did in a paper co-authored with Frances Cherry, our talented SPSSI historian. An abridged version of this paper is in this issue of the newsletter; the complete paper will be posted in the history section of the SPSSI Web site, http://www.spssi.org/history.html. As Fran and I say in the beginning of our paper, it is impossible to talk about SPSSI without talking about Kurt Lewin. His words appear on our Web page and his vision and values are at the core of our organization.

After 3 days at the conference, I was inspired yet again by what Lewin did, as well as by what he was still trying to do before his premature death, both for the advancement of psychological research and for the improvement of society. I am immensely proud to be part of an organization that is so closely attuned to those aspirations. When Lewin was working to establish the Commission for Community Interrelations in New York, he said, “there is hardly anything more essential for the survival and the progress of democracy than that every citizen understand more clearly how the ‘right to be different’ and the ‘cooperation for the common good’ can and should be integrated for harmonious group relations in a society.” These words, and so many other comments that Lewin made at a time in world history when the rights of individuals were being challenged by governments bent on destruction, seem to have a special resonance today.

The Lewin conference was organized by Janusz Trempala, a member of the Institute of Psychology at the Kazimierz Wielki University of Bydgoszcz, with support and contributions from a host of faculty and students at the university, the academic community in Poland, and political leaders in both Bydgoszcz and Mogilno. SPSSI members participating in the events included Past Presidents Albert Pepitone and Bertram Raven, as well as David Bargal, Richard Schmuck, and Beatrice Wright. The Lewin family was represented by Thomas Lewin, Kurt’s nephew. In addition to large contingents from both Poland and the United States, psychologists from Germany, Israel, Italy, the Netherlands, and Norway participated in the conference.

Friday, September 10, began early for Al, Bert, Bea, Tom, and me, as we met with Felicja Gwincinska, the Chair of the Bydgoszcz City Council, and Przemyslaw Nowak, the Vice-President of Bydgoszcz. Their enthusiasm and support for the project was evident, and their generosity with food and souvenirs...
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Back To Our Roots ..............................from front page

was extraordinary. Our next stop was the office of Jozef Kubik, Vice-Rector for Research and International Relations at the University of Bydgoszcz, who also was clear in his support for the conference and in his recognition of the significance of Kurt Lewin to psychology and to the university community.

The conference officially began in Bydgoszcz on Friday afternoon with an opening ceremony that featured comments by representatives of the university, the local government, the Polish Academy of Sciences, and the Polish Psychological Association, and by me as President of SPSSI. An opening address by Ryszard Stachowski provided a biographical account of Kurt Lewin and was followed by a plenary session that detailed many aspects of Lewin’s life and work. Tom Lewin began this session with a family perspective and was followed by the core of the SPSSI delegation. Beatrice Wright described Lewin in the Iowa days; Al Pepitone recalled MIT and the subsequent move of the Research Center for Group Dynamics to the University of Michigan; Bert Raven read comments and recollections from Dorwin Cartwright; and I presented our paper on the history of Lewin in SPSSI. Also as part of this opening ceremony, I was presented with a drawing of a landmark in Bydgoszcz, framed and inscribed with a dedication to SPSSI. This lovely gift will soon be on a wall in our Washington office.

...continued on page 12

Moving Forward
By Stacey Sinclair, Editor-in-Chief

I have taken one more step in making the newsletter better reflect the vibrancy of SPSSI. I have selected a name for it: Forward. I think the name captures SPSSI’s twin goals of promoting innovative research relevant to social problems and fostering social policy informed by social science. In other words, it captures SPSSI’s mission to move science and society forward. The name also has a notable history. The Forward is a Jewish daily newspaper dedicated to social justice issues that was first launched in 1897 in New York (see http://www.forward.com/history.html).

Unfortunately, this name was not a product of the newsletter contest. I only got one submission. Though this person’s suggestions were great, none were quite right. So I went to the SPSSI convention and harassed everyone I knew for some inspiration. Forward resulted from a conversation over dinner Friday night with other SPSSI members and friends of the organization. So thanks to Shana Levin, Rudy Mendoza-Denton, Jack Glaser, Linda Tropp, and Steven Alexander for their winning suggestion.

Undeterred by the limited response to the name-the-newsletter contest, I continue to seek your input. For the last few issues, we have had a recurring series of articles on timely social issues (e.g., gay marriage) and on individual SPSSI members’ work to translate social science research into social policy or social action (e.g., serving as an expert witness). Although we touch on these themes in the current issue of the newsletter by looking back at the contribution of Kurt Lewin to SPSSI, the series of articles will continue in the next issue. So please contact me with topics you would like to see discussed and/or research programs, researchers or policy makers who would provide the basis of an inspiring article. I would also like to hear your ideas for other types of newsletter articles or your comments on previous pieces. It is your organization. It is your newsletter. Get involved!
Secretary/Treasurer’s Report

By Daniel Perlman
Secretary/Treasurer

My last Secretary-Treasurer’s report covered the June 2004 SPSSI Council meeting and highlights of the highly successful SPSSI Convention. For me as Secretary-Treasurer, the time since then has been a quiet period. So this brief report will touch on SPSSI’s finances, Central Office activities, Executive Committee monthly conference calls, and the APA elections.

Finanically, I suspect that SPSSI had more expenditures than revenues in 2003–2004. We won’t, however, know the exact outcome for that fiscal year until the accountant’s reconciliation is completed. So, I will report more on that in a subsequent newsletter.

The process of SPSSI settling into its Washington, D.C. office is now, thankfully, complete. The neighborhood in which the SPSSI house is located is continuing to undergo a rejuvenation process that should benefit both SPSSI and our staff. In the Central Office, Sougata Roy is making steady progress on updating our database systems and the ways in which the SPSSI Web site can be used for SPSSI administrative functions. We hope to have a part-time Web master in place in the near future to help with the look and substantive content of the site. Under Shari Miles’s organized leadership, the Central Office staff mailed out annual dues statements in a timely manner in September. Prompt payment of dues helps SPSSI. If you haven’t already paid, you can do that and update your member profile information via the Web: Go to member login page on SPSSI’s Web site http://www.spssi.net/passwordinput.asp and enter your e-mail address as your id and the password you have selected. If this is the first time you are using the SPSSI member login page, use “spssimem” as your initial password and you will then be able to select a personalized password. The Web page will instruct you on how to pay your dues using a credit card or change your membership information.

Led by President Kay Deaux, the SPSSI Executive Committee is having monthly telephone conferences. These calls are an opportunity to handle issues needing immediate attention and to lay the groundwork for considering other issues at SPSSI Council meetings. For example, one of the issues that will come before the Council at its February 2005 meeting is discussion of SPSSI policy with regard to the selection of the hotel at which the Society’s conventions are held. At the end of the summer, a member suggested to the Executive Committee that in 2006 and beyond SPSSI should only hold its conventions at unionized hotels. In light of SPSSI’s commitment to social justice, SPSSI has been concerned with the working conditions of employees in the hotels selected for its meetings. SPSSI has not, however, had a specific requirement that conventions be held in union hotels. Member input on the factors that should be considered in selecting hotels for SPSSI meetings is welcomed (messages can be sent to me at d.perlman@ubc.ca).

On or about October 15, APA mailed ballots so its members can vote for their next President-elect. The election period ends 45 days later (i.e., at the end of November). If you are an APA member, I urge you to vote. If you have misplaced your ballot, APA will provide a replacement if you request one at 800/374-2721. SPSSI elections will be coming up in the spring. If you know of individuals (including yourself) whom you would like to nominate for Council or President, please contact James Jones at jmjones@psych.udel.edu.

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You don’t have to be subscribed to the listserv in order to post messages. Just send your message to spssi-list@list.pitt.edu and it will go out to all subscribers.

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

SPSSI Listserv

The SPSSI listserv is a great way to receive updates about conferences, calls for proposals, and policy updates, as well as more specific SPSSI-related information.
The Lewinian Legacy in SPSSI

By Frances Cherry, SPSSI Historian and Kay Deaux, SPSSI President

I

t is impossible to talk about the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) without talking about Kurt Lewin. His words are on our Web page, his work remains a source of citation and inspiration, and his vision and values are the soul of our organization. In my comments today, I want to tell something about that history of association and contribution about the legacy that continues to live on more than a century after Lewin’s birth.

We begin our account in the early 1930s, prior to the establishment of SPSSI. Already an established and recognized scholar in Germany, Lewin first came to the United States in 1929 to attend the International Congress of Psychology at Yale University and again in 1932 as a visiting professor at Stanford University (Marrow, 1969). Back in Germany by 1933, with the Nazis in power, Lewin left his country of birth once again, this time with greater anger and despair (Lewin, 1986). He came first to Cornell University through the assistance of former students involved in bringing out Jewish refugees through a grant from the Emergency Committee on Displaced Scholars (M. Lewin, 1992; Marrow, 1969). This appointment was intended to be temporary and made available to other refugees. Accordingly, 2 years later, a place at the University of Iowa, Child Welfare Research Station, was secured for Lewin. In the 9-year period that followed (1935–1944), Kurt Lewin’s creativity would transplant. He was able to further his work on topological psychology and to recreate the Quasselstreipe (Hot Air Club/Seminar) of his Berlin Institute days with students who gathered around him, as well as to immerse himself in American life.

It was during this same period that the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues was formed. SPSSI was initially promoted as a national society for the study of psychology in relation to pressing issues of the day: the rise of fascism, the crisis of the Depression, labor-management conflicts, as well as religious and racial strife in American society (Finison, 1976, 1979, 1986). In one of its earliest flyers (1937) to recruit members after its establishment at the 1936 American Psychological Association meeting at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire, the purpose of the Society was stated as follows:

The Society has two principal objectives. One is to encourage research upon those psychological problems most vitally related to modern social, economic, and political policies. The second is to help the public and its representatives to understand, and to use in the formation of social policies, contributions from the scientific investigation of human behavior.

In part, the early founders of SPSSI – both during the Depression and during World War II – were responding to the plight of their own under- and unemployment (Capshew, 1999; Finison, 1979) through their attempts to force the conservative and restrictive American Psychological Association to take a more expansionist approach to the employment situation (Finison, 1976). More than that, by the mid-1930s, a core group of psychologists, some of them learning theorists like Tolman and Krech, believed that scientific principles could be useful to the solution of large-scale social problems.

It is here where SPSSI’s outlook and Kurt Lewin’s increasing interest in participatory democracy converged and where Lewin’s approach to the relationship between science and society began to shape SPSSI’s outlook. As President of the American Psychological Association at the turn of the 20th century, John Dewey called for a social psychology that would link social and cognitive aspects of life and, just as important, one that would join theory and research to social practice (Barone, Maddux and Snyder, 1997). The key phrase was practice, buttressed by laboratory science, but nonetheless a science that could account for naturally occurring phenomena. Barone et al. have argued that Kurt Lewin’s action research model was just such a linking science that could aid in the practice of democratic citizenship. Both during and after the war, this translated into research that would focus on small group processes that recognized each member’s unique interpretation of a situation. Historian Roger Smith has argued that for Lewin, whether one was a manager or a scientist, there was always a “need to recognize the continuously changing dynamics of the social relations that form the context of individual action” (1997, p. 775).

For SPSSI types, the World War II years presented numerous opportunities for social scientists to contribute research expertise to the war effort at a national level and to gain greater organizational visibility. Some of this work was coordinated through SPSSI’s Committee on War Service and Research (Capshew, 1999; Cartwright, 1948; Herman, 1995; Johnson and Nichols, 1998). Anthropologist Margaret Mead, who had been invited to chair the National Research Council’s Committee on Food Habits, immediately asked Kurt Lewin to become involved. She had been an undergraduate in psychology and had always had an interest in the intersection of culture and behavior. For her, anthropologists worked in the field, while psychologists tested out more general ideas experimentally. Lewin was asked to apply his model of the group to food habits, resulting in the much-cited study on the importance of participatory decision-making in the case of homemakers’ food choices (Lewin, 1947).1

In the post-war years, Lewin was turning his attention to the possibility of building institutions that would enhance work on the important issues of minority group identity, action research, and group dynamics – issues that have been central to SPSSI (G. Lewin, 1948). Throughout the Iowa years, and most significantly for SPSSI’s development, Lewin had nurtured the many students who would participate in SPSSI in the post-war period (Marrow, 1969; Patnoe, 1988; Smith, 1997). Lewin saw the need for building institutions from which students could work back and forth between the laboratory and the world of work, education, and community. His enthusiasm for building institutions was palpable. Back in Iowa City, after a fundraising trip to the East Coast, he wrote to Roger Barker in July of 1943: “By the way, strictly confidential, that means not to talk to anyone” [the asterisk referred to a statement at the bottom of the page explaining that wives were always exempted] about it; I am dreaming about a research institute for leadership and group problems” (Lewin, July 15, 1943a).

In fact, it is difficult to disentangle Lewin from the multiple organizations with somewhat overlapping memberships (e.g., the Commission on Community Interrelations of the American
Jewish Congress and the Research Center for Group Dynamics at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology [MIT], among others) that were intended to promote a unique way of doing research on social problems. To facilitate his work, Lewin moved from Iowa to Cambridge, Massachusetts, and in 1944, set up both the Research Center for Group Dynamics at MIT and the Commission for Community Interrelations of the American Jewish Congress in New York (Cherry and Borshuk, 1998). He proceeded to shuttle between Boston and New York City in those few years before his death, generating enthusiasm for myriad projects (Marrow, 1969) that would outlive him.

Throughout this period of enormous activity, Lewin's involvement with SPSSI continued without interruption. He was first elected to SPSSI Council in 1939, serving until 1941, at which point he was elected President of SPSSI. Leaving that position in 1942, he served another term on Council from 1942 to 1944; he was again serving on SPSSI Council when he died in 1947. Lewin was appointed to the Editorial Board of the *SPSSI Bulletin*, published between 1939 and 1944 as part of the *Journal of Social Psychology*. Here he published the well-known study with Ron Lippitt and Ralph K. White (Lewin, Lippitt, and White, 1939) that compared the impact of leadership styles, as well as his 1942 “Presidential” Address, “Psychology and the process of group living,” an address in which he discussed the relationships between psychologists and the societies in which they live (Lewin, 1943b).

At a meeting convened with some difficulty at a time when the United States had just entered World War II, Lewin rejected what he saw as the typical form of a presidential address, characterized by him as the fair evaluation of recent research, presented with “well-balanced words of approval and criticism with which presidential addresses feel themselves entitled to reward the good and to punish the bad colleagues” (1943b, p. 113). Instead, in a talk that revealed his pain and anger at the conditions in his country of birth, Lewin argued passionately for a social psychology that is engaged with its community – for a “co-operative endeavor deeply connected with the culture of the people in which it occurs” (1943b, p. 129) – and called on social psychologists to live up to the responsibility and to take advantage of the opportunities that the United States made possible.

Lewin also took an active part in the earliest issues of the new *Journal of Social Issues*, which began publication in 1945, contributing editorial guidance as well as articles that focused on prejudice reduction, minority perspectives, and action research (Lewin and Grabbe, 1945; Lewin, 1946). He also promoted other SPSSI publications such as yearbooks and its sponsored book series (Perlman, 1986), as well as doing his share of SPSSI committee work, chairing the Elections Committee and heading the Subcommittee on Leadership Research during the war years. Clearly, Lewin’s imprint in the early years of the organization was both broad and deep.

SPSSI’s logo is taken from Lewin’s writings in those years. In its entirety, the well-known “nothing so practical as a good theory” (Cartwright, 1951) reads as follows:

> Many psychologists working today in an applied field are keenly aware of the need for close cooperation between theoretical and applied psychology. This can be accomplished in psychology, as it has been accomplished in physics, if the theorist does not look toward applied problems with highbrow aversion or with a fear of social problems, and if the applied psychologist realizes there is nothing so practical as a good theory.

There is no question that the post-war period continued to provide SPSSI members with an opportunity to meet the intent of these words. In the post-war years, many SPSSI members turned their attention and research efforts to issues of prejudice and discrimination; race relations commissions abounded. One of the earliest – the Connecticut State Inter-Racial Commission – in 1946 had asked Lewin to train leaders and to conduct research on ways in which racial and religious prejudice could be reduced at the community level. Lewin had obtained a grant from the Office of Naval Research to fund a follow-up in Bethel, Maine, that established, the following summer, the National Training Laboratories and the subsequent group dynamics movement in the United States. This was only one of the many projects initiated in the post-war period that Lewin did not live to see. Others include SPSSI’s publication of the two-volume *Research Methods in Social Relations* texts (Jahoda, Deutsch, and Cook, 1951) and the contribution of SPSSI members to the Social Science Statement in the Supreme Court decision of *Brown v. Board of Education*, both of which brought together research methods and knowledge in the interests of social issues (Jackson, 1998). These two events are landmarks for those of us in SPSSI, and indeed for the broader social science community.

The goals and the focus of SPSSI today differ little, in many respects, from those goals that Kurt Lewin articulated so many years ago. At our most recent convention, for example, the organizing theme of “From Desegregation to Diversity” would resonate well with the goals that Lewin had when he established the Commission for Community Interrelations. Not long before its establishment, Lewin wrote:
Convention Wrap-Up

From Desegregation to Diversity was the most successful biennial meeting ever! Many of you completed surveys, either onsite or after the convention by downloading the survey forms from the convention Web site. Thank you very much. Based on your comments, we can say that the conference was a great success. We took a big step forward, beginning to realize the goal we had in relocating SPSSI to Washington, D.C. We encouraged our presenters to think consciously about how their research could be translated into public policy by including a policy-oriented presentation as part of each symposium. We built new partnerships, bringing together a multidisciplinary group of scholars committed to social justice and sound research. We honored our pioneers as we primed the soil for our future, increasing the number of graduate student participants by almost 25 percent. Visit the SPSSI Web site for the full survey results.

Much of the success goes to the presenters and participants, whose work represented the breadth of issues that SPSSI is engaged in. I want to thank again Michele Wittig, convention co-chair, and especially the Central Office staff – Sougata Roy, Farra Kahalnik, and Brandon Hunt. Their able and dedicated efforts made the convention possible.

Race and Human Variation

For almost a year, I have been serving on the planning committee for the American Anthropological Association conference “Race and Human Variation: Setting an Agenda for Future Research and Education.” This conference was one component of a larger project funded by the National Science Foundation and the Ford Foundation to develop a “comprehensive, learner-focused public education program on Understanding Race and Human Variation” to clarify what race is and isn’t and to help individuals understand the origins and manifestations of race and racism in everyday life.” The public education program will include a traveling museum exhibit, a comprehensive Web site, curricula for teachers, and conferences. The conference brought together psychologists, sociologists, anthropologists, geneticists, biologists, physicians, political scientists, linguists, historians, humanists, journalists, economists, lawyers, ethicists, archeologists, epidemiologists, and others. It was divided up into five plenary sessions: history and the concepts and processes of race; genetics and human variation; physical aspects of human variation; human cultural diversity (which I moderated); and relation of race to racism. In addition, participants were treated to a luncheon address entitled “The Tightrope of Race and Genetics: A Way Out of the Binary Trap” given by Troy Duster, President of the American Sociological Association and Professor of Sociology at New York University. Of the 100 participants in attendance, three were SPSSI folks: Marshall Segall, Professor Emeritus of Political Psychology at Syracuse, and Diane Scott-Jones, Professor of Psychology at Boston College and a member of the JST editorial board, were with me. Marshall was selected to participate because of, among other things, his exhibition entitled “All of Us Are Related, Each of Us Is Unique,” which is sponsored by Syracuse University (http://allrelated.syr.edu).

The conference discussions will inform the development of the museum exhibit, the Web site, and the educational materials. The project Web site should be up and running by January 2005.
I am very honored to be serving as the new SPSSI James Marshall Public Policy Scholar. As a psychologist who is interested in understanding how sociopsychological research can help shape government policies and programming, I find that this fellowship is providing me with an exciting opportunity for me to combine my interests in psychology and public policy. I would like to use this first newsletter to introduce myself and describe some of the issues I will be working on during this upcoming year.

I received my Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of Michigan this past April. I also have my master’s degree in social psychology from the University of Michigan and my B.A. in psychology from Pomona College. My interests and major research endeavors include intergroup relations, cultural psychology, stereotypes and prejudice, and social identity. For my dissertation, I examined the effects of social identification on performance of a self-relevant stereotyped task.

As indicated by my research endeavors, I have a strong interest in social justice and civil rights issues. As the James Marshall Scholar, I am working in the Public Policy Office of the American Psychological Association and will be engaging in policy activities related to health disparities, hate crimes and discrimination, and issues affecting underserved and minority populations. I am still very much a fellow in-training (the fellowship started in the beginning of September 2004), but I am quickly learning about congressional procedures and the ways in which policies are modified, implemented, and developed on Capitol Hill.

**Health Disparities.** Health officials have recognized that health disparities are one of the key issues affecting our increasingly diverse country. In April 2002, President Bush created the President’s New Freedom Commission on Mental Health to examine the nation’s mental health system and provide suggestions on how to improve the system. The Commission members highlighted the need to eliminate health services disparities. Specifically, they suggested improving access to quality care for underserved and ethnic minority populations by providing services that are culturally competent and accessible to those living in rural and geographically remote areas. Our office has been working closely with legislators on the Hill to ensure that the recommendations made by the New Freedom Commission are put into action.

Another hot topic is the issue of health disparities in HIV/AIDS cases. There are a growing number of HIV/AIDS cases among ethnic minorities, women, and communities that are hard-to-reach relative to the white majority. African Americans and Latino/as represent two-thirds of new HIV/AIDS cases, even though they only represent one-quarter of the population. With the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency (CARE) Act up for reauthorization next year, advocacy groups want legislators to address these current racial disparities and identify ways to provide better resources and training for HIV prevention that are sensitive to the cultural, social, and economic needs of each community. Our office has been working with various HIV/AIDS coalition groups to determine the best ways to tackle this growing concern.

**Hate Crimes.** Another issue I am working on deals with hate crime legislation. There was a bill in Congress, the Enactment of the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act (LLEEA), to extend the provisions associated with hate crimes. Under current legislation, hate crimes are considered to be crimes motivated by race, ethnicity, nationality, or religion. LLEEA would have extended protection to those targeted due to gender, sexual orientation, and disability. It would also have granted the federal government greater jurisdiction in prosecuting hate crimes and enable the federal government to provide greater support to local law enforcement agencies in investigating and prosecuting hate crimes. Although the proposal was passed in the Senate, House members recently rejected the bill. Despite the setback, our office is continuing to garner support for stronger hate crime policies and is working with hate crime coalition groups and members of Congress to bring the legislation back to the floor in the upcoming congressional session.

I appreciate your support and collaboration, and look forward to your suggestions, comments and questions at kchen@apa.org or 202/336-6097.
Call for Proposals for SPSSI Program at APA

By Janet Swim
APA Program Chair

As a division of APA, SPSSI will contribute programming to the annual APA conference in Washington, D.C. (August 18–21, 2005). The theme of the 2005 SPSSI programming is Marginalized groups: Public policy and psycho/social well-being. Janet Swim and Theresa Vescio are co-chairing. Our goal is to take advantage of the location by including Washington experts on public policy. We are currently accepting proposals for symposia and posters. We are also accepting nominations for keynote speakers. The ideal symposium will feature SPSSI members who are doing research related to marginalized groups (such as immigrants, ethnic and racial minority groups, women, and lesbian, gay, or bisexual individuals) as well as speakers who consider the implications of these findings for public policy. The symposium can be either one hour or two hours long. Poster presentations on the theme are also encouraged. Proposals for symposia and posters should be submitted by December 3, 2004, at http://apacustomout.apa.org/ConvCall/default.aspx. Please contact Janet Swim (jks4@psu.edu) or Theresa Vescio (tkv1@psu.edu) with suggestions for keynote speakers or with questions and comments.

Gordon Allport Intergroup Relations Prize

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues is pleased to announce that the winners of the 2003–2004 Gordon Allport Intergroup Relations Prize

Tim Wildschut (University of Southampton)
Brad Pinter (University of Washington)
Jack L. Vevea (University of California, Santa Cruz)
Chester A. Insko (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and John Schopler (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill)

for their entry Beyond the group mind: A quantitative review of the interindividual-intergroup discontinuity effect.

With compelling meta-analytic findings, the paper addresses basic motivations that explain why intergroup interactions are more competitive than interactions among individuals. The Gordon Allport Award is presented to the best paper or article of the year on intergroup relations, with originality of the contribution, either theoretical or empirical, given special consideration.

Honorable Mention was awarded to:
William A. Cunningham (Yale University)
John B. Nezlek (College of William & Mary), and
Mahzarin R. Banaji (Harvard University)
for their entry Implicit and explicit ethnocentrism: Revisiting the ideologies of prejudice.

Honorable Mention was also awarded to:
Jeroen Vaes (University of Padova),
Maria Paola Paladino (University of Trento),
Luigi Castelli (University of Padova), and
Jacques-Philippe Leyens (Catholic University of Louvain at Louvain-la-Neuve)
for their entry On the behavioral consequences of infrahumanization: The implicit role of uniquely human emotions in intergroup relations.

The 2003-2004 Award committee included Sam Gaertner (University of Delaware), Chair; Denise Sekaquaptewa, (University of Michigan); and Linda R. Tropp (Boston College).

Otto Klineberg Award

The Otto Klineberg Award honors research and scholarship for the best paper or manuscript of the year on intercultural and international relations. This year there were a number of very high quality submissions spanning a wide range of research topics and disciplines. The breadth and depth of quality manuscripts made the committee’s decision very difficult.

The authors of this year’s winning paper are:

Julie Spencer-Rodgers
(University of California, Berkeley)

Kaiping Peng
(University of California, Berkeley)

Lei Wang
(Peking University)

Yubo Hou
(Peking University)

Their paper, entitled “Dialectical self-esteem and east-west differences in psychological well-being,” is to be published in Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin. The paper addresses the well-documented finding that East Asians and East Asian minorities report lower self-esteem, poorer life satisfaction, and greater anxiety, depression, and pessimism than do Western cultures. The authors present four studies that examine the hypothesis that these cultural differences reflect, at least in part, cultural differences in reasoning about psychological contradiction. The studies suggest that East Asians, relative to Western cultures, are inclined to acknowledge and accept psychological contradiction and as a result tend to exhibit greater evaluative inconsistency in their appraisal and judgments of happiness.

This year the committee consisted of Ramaswami Mahalingam, Harry Triandis, and Dale Miller (Chair). Congratulations to Julie Spencer-Rodgers, Kaiping Peng, Lei Wang, and Yubo Hou and thanks to all who submitted manuscripts.
The Carolyn Payton Early Career Award is sponsored by Section One, the Psychology of Black Women, of the American Psychological Association’s Society for the Psychology of Women (Division 35). The award recognizes the achievement of a black woman in the early stages of her career. The applicant must be no more than 10 years post-doctorate and the submitted work (article, book chapter or book) must be published. Although a submission need not focus exclusively on black women, the specific concerns of black women must be a focal point of the submission. Papers may be theoretical or empirically (qualitative or quantitative) based. Each submission will be evaluated on its creativity and must distinguish itself as making a major contribution to the understanding of the role of gender in the lives of Black women. If there are multiple authors, the applicant must be the first author. A $500 prize will be awarded. The award winner will be announced at the Division 35 social hour at the American Psychological Association in August 2005.

To be considered for the award, please send a cover letter, your vita (please include your email address), three hard copies of your scholarly work, a copy of your paper on a disc formatted for PCs in Word, and two self addressed stamped envelopes to:

Dr. Ruth L. Hall,
Department of Psychology
The College of New Jersey
P O. Box 7718
Ewing, NJ 08628-0718

DEADLINE: April 1, 2005.
Submissions postmarked after 4/1/05 will not be considered for the award.

The Carolyn Payton Early Career Award

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DEADLINE: April 1, 2005.
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You are soon to receive the fourth volume of ASAP. It seems fitting, therefore, to review what we have published in this volume and what we have not. SPSSI’s major concerns have often been summarized as the “three p’s”: prejudice, poverty, and peace. Volume 4 of ASAP has a number of papers on prejudice. These include two point/counterpoint dialogues – one on gay marriage and the other on affirmative action. We have also published a research article on factors related to opposition to the legitimacy of hate crime laws and an article analyzing the way the media treats prisoners on death row.

There are also several articles on poverty in this issue. These include an article on how poorly low-wage single mothers are doing in this jobless economic recovery and an article reviewing the way the media has framed homelessness over the past 30 years. On the theme of peace, we have published a content analysis of violence in American war movies as well as a review of a book on peace education.

And we could add another “p” since we have published an article on factors influencing awareness of watershed pollution.

Of course, we cannot fit all of our articles into this schema. Some are not easily characterized – such as those on the psychological aspects of predictive genetic testing; the proportion of governmental income derived from the gaming revenues of problem gamblers; and the effect of alcohol promotional clothing on alcohol use by university students. As you can see, however, all of the articles are interesting and all fit ASAP’s mandate to publish research at the interface between empirical social science research and public policy.

We are receiving more manuscripts lately and more of these manuscripts are coming from outside of the United States. But I think we can do better. I have found myself making a “wish list” of areas I would like to see covered: the role of the media in framing public opinion about elected officials; the relationship between intergroup conflict and violence against women; the “new” prejudice against Arabs, Muslims, and Southeast Asians; and data on why people ignore information about global warming and environmental degradation. I cannot guarantee that papers in these areas will be accepted, as they still have to go through our peer review process. However, these seem to me to be important areas in which psychology can inform a progressive political agenda. We need to continue to use good methodology to answer a range of good questions.

I feel fortunate to have been chosen by the SPSSI Publications Committee to serve as the next Editor of the Journal of Social Issues. While Irene Frieze completes her term, I will serve as Editor-elect, officially beginning my four-year term as Editor in 2006. I have assembled an impressive editorial team of scholars committed to the mission of the journal and the goals of our organization. We already have begun our work – facilitating the development of ideas for future issues of JSI, reviewing formal proposals, and offering constructive feedback on drafts of complete issues.

I completed my graduate work in social psychology in 1988 under Chet Insko at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. After a year at Duke University, I joined the faculty in Psychology at the University of Kentucky. I recently returned to Duke after 14 years at Kentucky, the last 4 as department chair. At Duke, my time is divided between the Department of Psychology: Social and Health Sciences and the Center for Child and Family Policy within the Sanford Institute for Public Policy.

My experience with journal editing began with the editorship of the graduate-student-managed Representative Research in Social Psychology during my final year at UNC. I recently completed a 7-year stint as an associate editor for the Journal of Personality. During that time, I also served 2 years as an associate editor for the Interpersonal Relations and Group Processes section of the Journal of Personality and Social Psychology.

The social issue of greatest interest to me is adolescent problem behavior. Since the mid-1990s, I have been involved in multidisciplinary efforts to design interventions that reduce drug and alcohol use by adolescents. Recently, we have begun to broaden our efforts to encompass violent behavior and sexual risk-taking. A particular emphasis in this work has been the development of interventions that are informed by theory and findings from empirical social science research.

Thanks to the fine work of Irene Frieze and her editorial team, JSI is in good health. I look forward to continuing Irene’s efforts at encouraging participation by scholars from across the globe in every JSI issue. I intend to be proactive, brainstorming with my editorial board, other SPSSI members, and anyone else with an idea to share about topics we might feature in JSI. I hope that JSI will be a reliable conduit for social science theory and research relevant to national and international discussions regarding possible solutions to pressing social problems.

I encourage you to consider editing or co-editing an issue of JSI. Detailed information about editing an issue can be found on the Web at http://www.spssi.org/jsi_guide.html. If you feel you could benefit from my input on an idea for a JSI issue, or if you have a suggestion for a JSI issue that I might solicit, please feel free to contact me at rhoyle@duke.edu.
Organizational Issues

1. Budget. The APA budget continues to reflect a surplus, which was $2,430 in 2003, $743,000 in 2004 and is projected to be $193,100 in 2005. This surplus is due to gains in the stock market, publication sales, and building operations, in combination with cost-cutting measures. The surplus will allow governance groups to resume meeting twice a year and will finance meetings of leadership conferences. Council approved a $20 convention fee increase for 2005.

2. Committee on Early Career Psychologists. To help retain student members once they graduate and to increase the number of new professionals who join the organization, APA created an ad hoc Committee in 2001. Council at this session approved its continuance as a permanent committee with a yearly budget of $11,500.

3. Reinstatement of the Interdivisional Grant Program. Council voted to reactivate a program, removed from the budget in 2003, to support activities that enhance the work, interests, or goals of two or more divisions. It now has a budget of $12,500.

4. Diversity. Various resolutions were approved to continue strengthening diversity within the organization: (a) a yearly amount of $3,000 to provide diversity training to governance members; (b) a Task Force to develop a report on diversity in course content, publications, and training programs; (c) continued funding for ethnic minority representatives to attend Council meetings for the next three years; and (d) a resolution to foster culture and gender awareness in international psychology.

5. Founding Partner of the National Foundation for Mental Health. APA became a founding partner of this group, the primary purpose of which is to serve as an ally of the National Institutes of Health.

6. PSY21. Council approved financial support for a Board of Scientific Affairs-led initiative to develop and provide tools to strengthen psychological science. It will emphasize responsible conduct of research and a culture of service to the disciplines and infrastructures within psychology.

Social Issues

1. Resolution on Sexual Orientation and Military Service. Council reaffirmed its opposition to discrimination based on sexual orientation while supporting men and women in uniform. It resolved to take a leadership role among national organizations seeking to eliminate discrimination in and by the military based on sexual orientation. The ban on advertising by the Department of Defense was lifted.

2. Resolution on Outpatient Civil Commitment. This resolution asserts that involuntary services and related infringements on individual liberty can only be mandated through legal processes, not by mental health professionals. It specifies psychologists’ roles and actions in this area.

3. Report of the Task Force on Psychological Effects of Efforts to Prevent Terrorism. This report speaks to the effects that current strategies to prevent terrorism are having on the American public. At the request of the task force, Council sent the report to boards and committees so they can propose ways to translate the report into policy. The report will come back to Council in February 2005.

4. Resolution on Bullying Among Children and Youth. This resolution commits the APA to support research and interventions directed to the prevention of bullying.

5. Resolution on Sexual Orientation and Marriage. APA Council supported this resolution, which states that it is discriminatory to deny same-sex couples legal access to civil marriage and to all of its attendant benefits, rights, and privileges, and that APA will commit scientific and educational resources to inform public discussion and public policy development in this area.

6. Resolution on Sexual Orientation, Parents, and Children. APA will oppose discrimination based on sexual orientation in matters of adoption, child custody and visitation, foster care, and reproductive health services, and it will commit scientific and educational resources to inform public discussion and public policy development in this area.

General Note: We continued to lobby for a Continuing Committee on Socioeconomic Status, and are soliciting support from relevant board and committee chairs; this item will come to Council in February 2005.

Why don’t you . . .

- Volunteer at a homeless shelter
- Run errands for an elderly neighbor
- Volunteer to record books for the Blind and Dyslexic
- Remind a friend to do a breast exam
- Mentor a child
- Run for SPSSI Council
On Saturday the meeting shifted to Mogilno, the actual site of Lewin’s birth. There Jacek Krasny, the mayor of Mogilno, presided over an elaborate set of ceremonies, beginning with an official welcome and entertainment that included folk dancing and a concert by local students. (I must say that the band’s opening number, New York, New York, made me feel right at home!) We then moved to the site of Kurt Lewin’s birth, where Tom Lewin officially unveiled the plaque commemorating Lewin’s birthplace (in a building that now houses a delicatessen on the first floor). After that, Tom Lewin and I were asked to lay a wreath at the town’s memorial dedicated to the citizens of Mogilno, honoring both those who died fighting for freedom and those who were murdered in concentration camps during World War II. After lunch at a local school, the academic portion of the conference resumed with a set of talks by followers of Kurt Lewin, represented by Al Pepeitine, Bert Raven, Robert Kleiner, and Wolfgang Schönplflug. One more bountiful meal at the schoolhouse, and we all tumbled into our buses for the return trip to Bydgoszcz.

Saturday was a full day of talks, beginning at 8:30 in the morning and continuing almost uninterrupted until the closing reception at 2:30 in the afternoon. Over the two days, topics included Lewin’s contributions to personality and social psychology, the theory and practice of cooperative learning, and work on social change and mental health, as well as a showing of Lewin’s classic film, The Child and the World, with accompanying commentary by Bert Raven.

Being immersed in the memories and the legend of Kurt Lewin for three days was an invigorating experience. Because Kurt Lewin is so embedded in the history and spirit of SPSSI, I was pleased that I had the opportunity to represent our organization to all those assembled, some of whom did not previously know about SPSSI and its activities. Lewin’s dedication to both science and practice, to knowledge and to programs, remains an inspiration. His facility in moving between observation, theory, and social policy is a model that continues to be a goal for all of us as we teach our students and as we conduct our own research. His call in his presidential address to SPSSI members more than 60 years ago to show courage and determination is certainly no less relevant today.

Without question, I will continue to be motivated by the spirit of Lewin during my year as President of SPSSI and thereafter. In Bydgoszcz and Mogilno, too, the legacy of Lewin will live on beyond this conference. Although the form has not yet been determined, Janusz Trempala and his colleagues will be developing plans for the future that will continue to bring scholars together to carry forward Lewin’s vision for psychology. One immediate goal is to expand the Institute’s collection of works by and related to the work of Lewin. As a contribution to their efforts, SPSSI has given a set of the Journal of Social Issues, generously donated by former SPSSI President Herbert Kelman and gratefully acknowledged by the conference organizers. Further, at the meeting Bert Raven presented his personal copy of Albert Marrow’s The Practical Theorist, autographed by several of us in attendance. I’d like to take this opportunity to ask SPSSI members who have copies of Lewin’s books in their personal libraries, and who are perhaps thinking of trimming their own collections, to follow Bert’s example and consider donating their books to the collection in Bydgoszcz. I will be glad to coordinate the efforts. Not only does Lewin live in all of us, but these gifts will ensure that SPSSI lives on in Lewin’s birthplace as well.

From Diversity to Human Variation ............... from page 6

Get Involved! Recording for the Blind & Dyslexic (RFB&D) is the nation’s education library serving people who cannot effectively read standard print because of visual impairment, dyslexia, or other physical disability. Students can request specific textbooks for recording. Many of the students who utilize the service are psychology students. If you are interested in volunteering, you may be in luck. There are studios in 16 states (AR, CA, CO, CT, FL, GA, IL, KY, MA, MI, NJ, NY, PA, TN, TX, and VA) and the District of Columbia. I just started the training program, during which I’ll learn how to interpret the editors’ marks and how to modulate my voice and manipulate the digital recording equipment. My most challenging task has been to describe graphic material - figures, charts, tables, graphs, and maps - in a logical and coherent fashion. The training program is about 10 hours long spread over 3 evenings. I encourage you to get involved. If you have any questions, please feel free to email or call me. You can check out the Library’s national office Web site by visiting www.rfd.org.
Nominations Sought for SPSSI/Division 9 Fellow Status

The Fellows Committee invites nominations of Division 9 members for potential election to Fellow status in the American Psychological Association. Under the bylaws of the American Psychological Association, Fellow status is an honor bestowed on members who have made an unusual and outstanding contribution or performance in the field of psychology. Approximately one-tenth of APA members are Fellows. The Committee also invites nominations of non-APA SPSSI members for potential election to SPSSI Fellow status.

In order to be recommended to APA for Fellow status by Division 9, the member must meet both APA and divisional requirements. APA requirements include:

- the receipt of a doctoral degree at least partially in psychology;
- a year’s prior APA membership;
- active engagement in psychology at the time of nomination;
- 5 years since the PhD.

Division 9 requirements specify that the person be outstanding in one or more of the following:

1) application of the methods of psychology and social sciences to research on socially relevant issues;
2) dissemination (including teaching) of relevant research information bearing on social issues;
3) application of research results to the resolution of social issues; and
4) service to SPSSI as an organization.

Please e-mail Dr. Ann Peplau at lapeplau@ucla.edu by December 13th 2004 if you wish to nominate someone, including yourself. (Please indicate whether you are nominating someone for APA Division 9 Fellow status or SPSSI Fellow status.) Nominees for Fellow status will be asked to complete a set of materials and to return them to SPSSI by January 15, 2005. These materials include APA’s Uniform Fellows Application and related materials. Recommendations must be sought from 3 persons, at least 2 of whom need to be Fellows in Division 9. SPSSI’s nominations for APA Division 9 Fellow status are forwarded to APA’s Fellowship Committee and, if approved by the committee, sent to the Council of Representatives for a vote. The outcome of the process will be announced at next year’s APA convention in Washington, DC.

The Society for the Study of Social Problems (SSSP) invites proposals for its 55th Annual Meeting, to be held August 12-14, 2005, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. The theme of the meeting will be Blowback: The unintended consequences of social problems solutions. Papers, abstracts, or 2- to 3-page outlines for presentations at division-sponsored sessions should be sent electronically to session organizers no later than January 31, 2005. If your paper does not fit into one of the sessions sponsored by a division, send your submission electronically no later than January 31 to Program Committee Co-chairs Tim Diamond (tdiamond@oise.utoronto.ca) and PJ McGann (pjmgcann@umich.edu). Questions re-lating to the program should be directed to them as well. When sending an email, please place “SSSP” in the subject line. For further information, visit http://www.sssp1.org.

SSSP is also recruiting applications for the 2005 Racial/Ethnic Minority Graduate Scholarship. Persons accepted into an accredited doctoral program in one of the social and/or behavioral sciences are invited to apply for the $10,000 Racial/Ethnic Minority Scholarship. The deadline for applications is February 1, 2005 (receipt date). Applicants will be notified of the results by July 15, 2005. All applicants must be current members when applying. For further information and an application, visit http://www.sssp1.org. Contact Lorna Rivera, Chair, with all questions (28 Bexley Road, #2, Roslindale, MA, 02131; tel: 617-287-7388; fax: 617-287-7274; email: lorna.rivera@umb.edu).

The Editorial and Publications Committee of the SSSP has begun its search for the next editor of the Social Problems Forum. The SSSP newsletter. The editor’s 3-year term will begin with the last issue of Volume 36 in the fall of 2005. The Newsletter has become a vital means of communication among SSSP members. Among other things, it includes official Society reports and announcements, exchanges among members, and special features including book reviews and debates. The Board of Directors wants to ensure that the Newsletter remains an effective vehicle for generating interest and involvement in the Society, for facilitating communication across divisions, and for providing service to the divisions and the members. A full description of desired qualifications and the application process is posted on the SSSP Web site, http://www.sssp1.org. Nominations should be postmarked no later than March 1, 2005.

Self-nominations, requests for further information, or names of potential nominees should be sent to Nancy A. Naples, Chair, SSSP Editorial and Publications Committee, 82 Kenyon Street, Hartford, CT 06015; tel: 860-231-9440; fax: 860-233-7404; email: nancy.naples@uconn.edu.

Division 9 Call for Proposals: 2005 APA Convention

The American Psychological Association (APA) will issue in September the Call for Programs for the 2005 APA Convention, which will take place in Washington, DC from August 18-21, 2005. (For more details see the September APA Monitor or the APA website: www.apa.org/convention).

Members of Division 9 are invited to submit posters or symposia. Up to December 3, 2004 submission should be made online via the APA website: www.apa.org/convention. Attachments should be sent in Word or WordPerfect format only. Fax submissions will not be accepted. Please be sure to read the rules regarding the use of computers in presentations as outlined in the Call.

There is no theme for Division 9 programming at this conference so submissions may be related to any topic that is of interest to members of the division.

Dr. Janet Swim is the 2005 APA Program Chair. If you would be willing to serve as anonymous reviewers of the proposals that are submitted to Division 9 in conjunction with this conference, please contact her at jks4@psu.edu. No prior experience is necessary and the reviews should only require a few hours of your time.

Visit the SPSSI Web site at www.spssi.org

Feedback on the site and suggestions for improving it are invited. The Web developer would like to thank members for the comments and suggestions already made.

Please e-mail your suggestions to spssi@spssi.org
Please complete and return this form with your check or credit card payment information to: SPSSI, 208 I Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4340

Date: __________________

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  First Middle Initial Last

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  Highest Degree Date

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  Institution: ______________________________________________________________

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  Gift Membership: $25 each, $20 each for more than five memberships given at one time. (Please include a form for each gift membership. Form may be copied.)

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□ American Indian or Alaskan Native
□ Asian or Pacific Islander
□ Black or African American
□ Hispanic or Latino
□ White
□ Other

Date of Birth: ______/_______/_______

APA Member: □ Yes □ No
APS Member: □ Yes □ No

Membership Categories
Affiliate Member: This status is available to those who do not hold a postgraduate degree related to the interests of the Society or are not enrolled in such a degree program. Affiliate members do not have voting rights in the Society’s elections.

Student Member: This status is available to those who are enrolled in a postgraduate degree program in a field related to the interests of the Society. Student members have voting rights.

Full Member: This status is available to those who hold a postgraduate degree or have attained competence in a field related to the central interests of the Society. Full members have voting rights.

Sustaining Member: This status is available to those who hold a postgraduate degree or have attained competence in a field related to the central interests of the Society. A one-time fee of $1,500 provides exemption from member dues for the duration of membership. Lifetime members have voting rights.

Membership Benefits
Members of SPSSI receive a subscription to the Journal of Social Issues, SPSSI’s electronic journal Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy (ASAP), the SPSSI Newsletter, and other mailings.

Gift Memberships
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
The books by SPSSI members are limited to Society as space permits. Announcements of new and letters that are relevant to members of the Society are limited to 50 words; announcements of conferences, awards, meetings, etc. are limited to 100 words.

Copy deadlines: April 2005 issue: March 1, 2005
Copy submission: Please submit copy via e-mail to spssi@spssi.org. Receipt will be confirmed upon request. For more information, contact: Stacey Sinclair, Tel: 434/982-4733, E-mail: stacey_sinclair@virginia.edu.

Membership and other SPSSI information: Contact SPSSI at 208 I Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4340. Tel: 202/675-6956, Fax: 202/675-6902 E-mail: spssi@spssi.org, or see Web page at www.spssi.org.

ADVERTISE IN THE NEWSLETTER!

The SPSSI Newsletter is distributed three times each year to approximately 3,000 professionals who are interested in the psychological study of social issues. Members represent a wide range of disciplines and are employed in academic and non-academic settings.

Adverts: $50 for quarter page, $100 for half page, $200 for full page, if space available.

Orders and Inquiries: SPSSI, 208 I Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4340. Tel: 202/675-6956. E-mail: spssi@spssi.org.
Save The Date:
SPSSI 6th Biennial Convention in Long Beach, California June 23-25, 2006