Reality Check: Rigor, Relevance, and the Value of Social Psychological Research

By Dominic Abrams,* SPSSI President

In my outgoing column for Forward I thought I should share some thoughts about the challenges in the research environment surrounding psychologists who want to research social issues. The bottom line: we need SPSSI, its journals, and its focus more than ever before because SPSSI distinctively represents researchers who are committed to meeting the challenge of establishing social and policy relevance for their scientific work.

The learned societies and major journals in social psychology have responded to recent fraud scandals (these are hardly unique to social psychology, see Stroebe, Postmes & Spears, 2013), with laudable efforts to demonstrate that we can operate to the highest standards possible. Here, I raise a few notes of concern about how this process is being managed and offer some thoughts about implications of some of the emerging standards, particularly for the type of research questions that are a priority for SPSSI members.

Rigor versus Relevance?

Marilynn Brewer’s (1985) excellent JSI paper on this topic set out many of the challenges of conducting socially

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Editor’s Note

By Janice R. Adelman, Forward Editor

Welcome to summer! Another academic year is coming (or already has come) to a close. What are your plans this summer? For those of you reading this newsletter, I hope that your top plan is attending SPSSI’s 10th Biennial Convention in Portland, Oregon! The dates for the conference, in case you’ve missed all of our announcements (or have simply been ignoring emails and other messaging systems) are 27–29 June 2014. There’s still time to register and book your trip, so do it now!

This convention promises to be another great one. And this newsletter issue is chock full of information and details about what you can see and do at the conference. Interested in playing tourist? The local committee has you covered with Portland sights and history not to be missed on p. 9. Want to be inspired by your colleagues in the field? Then you definitely don’t want to miss the Presidential Address and special Keynote Addresses planned (see p. 10), not to mention the Kurt Lewin Award Address (see p. 16). Are you looking forward to reconnecting with SPSSI friends and colleagues while meeting new SPSSI folk? See the networking and social events on p. 11. Are you hoping to turn your burgeoning interest in applying psychology to policy into a flame? Check out the various policy events the program has in store on p. 13. Are you an early career scholar? Be sure and read about the events planned especially for you on p. 14. And of course, graduate students (and undergrads!), we haven’t forgotten about you! See what the GSC has cooked up on pp. 18–19. Also, a warm welcome to the return of the GSC Rookie Newsletter to the Forward! From this issue on, the Rookie will be published within the Forward’s pages. What would you like to see in the Rookie? Let us know!

Finally, there are so many pressing issues that we face today—not just as social scientists studying social issues, but as community and global citizens. In his outgoing Presidential column (see p. 1), Dominic Abrams opens the door for SPSSI members to think about and act on how we can continue to work on the pressing social issues that matter to us while remaining true to our social science calling. SPSSI is a special organization, founded on the objectives of (1) encouraging psychological research on social issues and (2) helping the public and policy makers understand and use the information our research generates (Krech & Cartwright, 1956). With the current spotlight on calls for more open science, rigorous methodology, and upholding ethical scientific standards, we as SPSSI members and supporters need to be more engaged on the topic of sound scientific research, especially as it relates to the important work of studying social issues in applied settings. Talk to your colleagues at the SPSSI convention, start a dialogue with SPSSI leaders, submit a column to this newsletter. Let’s become part of the solution and keep social issues research front and center in the psychology research domain.

—Janice R. Adelman
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relevant research in psychology. Since that time our technical capacities and demands have progressed considerably but the same issue continues to confront us. There is a continuing trend toward elevating technical perfection over substantive content of evidence. That is, many believe that the best path to "truth" is by perfecting method and measurement. As McGrath and Altman (1966) observed, it is easier to reject articles and research proposals on technical grounds than to consider the potential value of the research itself. Yet some of the most influential theories and important phenomena in social psychology were first established by demonstrating quite simple differences or relationships, and many times without any test of statistical significance (e.g., Sherif’s work on norm formation – see Abrams & Levine, 2012). The most important outcome was the idea, the insight, the discovery. Would any of the classics get past journal triage these days?

**Numbers, Numbers, Numbers.**

Our discipline is becoming decreasingly tolerant of small scale designs and samples. Some statistical approaches may help us to cope with the limitations of small samples (Koopman et al., 2014). But the problems may begin before we even think about conducting a study. Consider the following guideline from *JESP*:

_a design that does not have at least 80% power to detect a large effect (i.e., > 25 per cell in a between-participants design), should be interpreted with caution._

In principle, this is a reasonable recommendation. However, surely we should not lose all faith in significance tests with small Ns. And, surely the meaning or implications of an effect are not conditional on its size (Prentice & Miller, 1992). Overall, across the range of typical effect sizes, an underpowered design should be more likely to produce a false negative than a false positive (e.g., if using a $p < .05$ threshold). Therefore, failure to detect an effect with a small sample should only cautiously be treated as justification for provisionally accepting the null hypothesis. Moreover, a Bayesian approach recognizes that when a small study is conducted in the context of multiple prior published studies, or multiple studies in the same paper, or has a strong theoretical rationale we should not assume that a small sample size itself inevitably means one has a higher risk of finding and accepting a false positive.

In the front rank social psychology journals (i.e., the journals in which international benchmarkers require researchers to publish to receive research funding) there is an overwhelming concern with determining causality. This emphasis strongly favors the use of sequential factorial experimental designs above single study cross-sectional or even longitudinal designs. Even journal guidelines seem to differ from reality. For example, *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* states: “submissions that include meta-analyses, replications, alternatives to null hypothesis significance testing, and single as well as multiple studies, are all considered.” The current *PSPB* issue contains 10 papers, 9 of which report 3 or more experimental studies (median = 4 studies); the remaining paper is a 3-wave longitudinal study with an $N$ of 800.

It is troubling that our field might consensually accept that it is incapable of yielding any single cross-sectional study or experiment of sufficient importance to merit publication in high status journals such as *PSPB*. The apparent strong prioritization of sequential experiments—ideally ones that yield significant interaction or moderator effects (see Wicklund, 1980, for an illuminating critique)—sends a pretty clear message about what “counts” as viable research in the field. Yet it risks misdirecting researchers and consumers of research into believing that such sequential experiments have superior explanatory value to all other forms of social psychological design or evidence. This belief is quite problematic. For example, just because a series of experiments shows that variables $a$, $b$, and their interaction cause $c$, it has not necessarily demonstrated a causal relationship that matters externally, or that occurs in other settings, or is even one that we should care about. Yet the pressure to replicate and extend experiments in a piecemeal...
fashion, perpetuates the idea that experiments in a vacuum can tell us a lot (or everything) about the air outside (consider Tajfel, 1972, and Gaertner et al, 2010). In reality, such production replication can usually only provide confidence about the possibility that causal relationships can arise between a, b, and c under highly specific conditions.

In fact, across much of social psychology, the overwhelming necessary determinant of observed "cause" is the researchers’ decision to measure or manipulate particular variables. The narrow focus and requirements of our top journals (and research funding) risks propelling social psychology further and further from access to real world problems and issues. Non-psychologists quickly raise the question, “outside of this research, what about all those things you didn’t measure or manipulate?” Therefore, while retaining and celebrating rigor we must be careful to adopt appropriate levels of modesty/advocacy about the reach of our findings and theories.

A modal 4-experiment-paper (each with 2 x 2 design and n = 25 per cell) implies access to at least 400 participants. Research using groups as units of analysis multiplies this N at least 3-fold. As well as being impractical for researching various different populations, these thresholds also imply commitment of substantial research time, effort, and resources which creates a very unequal landscape for lone researchers at smaller organizations compared with those with large labs and participant pools. Given the strategies that a multiple-study experimental paper invites (e.g., locating a large participant pool, dropping “failed” experiments, needlessly repeating control conditions, and discouraging studies with difficult-to-reach or small populations), what options are applied social scientists left with? One plausible alternative to multiple studies might be to include many more dependent variables and potential mediators within single studies (but see Kerr, 2014 and Spencer et al, 2005 for important reservations about interpreting mediators). However, editors and reviewers may alight on two other problems. First, maybe we are capitalizing on chance—the more things we measure the more likely we’ll find a "significant" result. Second, they may ask, if we measured all these things, why didn’t we have strong a priori positions about exactly how each one will relate to each other one? No wonder then that it seems safer to conduct multiple studies with limited measures and not look any further.

**Whatever Happened to Discovery?**

Or maybe not. Fishing has a very bad reputation as a low form of technically assisted scavenging that takes advantage of defenseless creatures. But imagine for a moment that nobody ever went fishing. Not only would we have no fish to eat, we might not even know that fish exist. Maybe, as social psychologists, we could benefit from doing more, not less, systematic psychological fishing (cf., Kerr, 1998).

Many of the worlds’ most important scientific developments have arisen through discovery, lucky breaks, and observations of interesting effects. They have sometimes started with very limited or no theory, a very limited set of measurements, and no definitive proof (closure), yet have had substantial scientific impact. If social psychologists want to really make good use of our skills in measurement, scientific methods, and our desire to make sense of social behavior, then in my view we will have to adapt our research expectations to the realities of the world when it offers small samples, limited opportunities for access, limited chances to measure, and fleeting moments when things happen or change. We should not pretend we had a theory when we did not (e.g., HARKing, see Kerr, 1998), but equally we should not fear conducting exploratory research and offering meaningful interpretations of the findings. If we are so bound by methods/rules/theories that we cannot make it possible to research particular territories, to engage in speculative programs of discovery, and to convey our findings in highly valued publication outlets, we will become a sterile discipline. Similarly, if we pretend there is no "artistry" both in our scientific methods and narrative then we are not doing our own discipline justice (see also Giner-Sorolla, 2012).

By "controlling out" the need for representativeness in our samples and generally avoiding researching practical realities facing people who are not students (Henrich, Heine & Norenzayan, 2010), do we sacrifice our ability to address real and current social problems? Would "low power" make it pointless to analyze data continued next page...
from the (let’s say) only 24 males who engaged in school shootings, or counterproductive to ask them multiple questions because having done so we would no longer "trust" the statistical reliability of the answers? The world’s financial crisis was generated in the board rooms of just a few banks. Would there have been no value in psychologists collecting data from those board rooms because the data are potentially unreliable? Or might such research have helped to avert a global multi-billion dollar melt-down? If we discover that one set of people is suffering from PTSD following a terrorist event and another is not but we have no theory to explain the difference should we ignore the evidence? Which of our "leading" social psychology journals would be interested in a simple but important descriptive difference?

At present, a typical editorial/reviewer response to each of these scenarios would be to block publication because of insufficient “power,” absence of “new” theory, or insufficient complexity (“novelty”) in the question. They might also argue that without multiple replications, the research will not meet the journal’s tough threshold. Consequently, social psychologists who genuinely want to explore and discover may have to find their way to other disciplines while what remains of social psychology risks being defined ever more narrowly by prioritizing its "internally valid" conversation among a limited elite of researchers.

In principle, meta-analysis offers a good way to combine and integrate across multiple studies and to reach some general conclusions that transcend limitations of individual studies (Maner, 2014). However, if journals selectively publish in such a way that basic evidence (e.g., on conformity levels across cultures) only sees the light of day if it tells us something new then it is only this “new”—i.e., unrepresentative—evidence that feeds into meta-analysis reporting. JESP’s recent openness to high quality replications might help ameliorate this problem, and open data repositories may also aid, but I believe there is a greater need to find ways to give sufficient credit for the establishment of valuable basic evidence such as the frequency of particular types of behavior in various populations.

**Striking a Balance**

Let me be clear: I welcome moves toward transparency of our research and improving the rigor with which we analyze and report evidence. But I share with others the concern that we need to recalibrate what is a reasonable expectation and the weight we attach to different research criteria. We need to be realistic about what we can do, and to find ways to make the most of limited sources of evidence rather than ignoring or banishing them from our discipline (cf., Maner, 2014).

Why should all this matter to SPSSI? I think there are three key reasons for concern. 1) The emphasis on perfect methods risks demoting very important applied social research into the 2nd or 3rd rank of respectability (i.e., great topic—shame about the [poor] science), in terms of journals and other outlets. In the long term this will affect decisions about hiring and funding researchers in these areas. 2) The ambition to always establish causal explanation over-promotes the capacity of our (or any single) discipline to really explain social phenomena, and conversely it undervalues research that captures, describes, and exposes important evidence but does not claim to explain the evidence. 3) If the ethos of our leading journals continues to deter exploratory research, research into unique instances, research addressing pressing applied questions but with limited “generalizability,” or research into difficult to access populations, then it will erode our ability to engage with people who have the power to bring about social change.

SPSSI is at the forefront of seeking and publishing socially relevant research. Through its policy office and Marshall Fellowship, and increasingly its Communications directorate it will continue to make the case that social psychology, and related fields, can and should be informing academics, the public, and policy makers about psychological factors that materially affect society. In order to sustain this it is vital that SPSSI’s journals (JSI, ASAP, and SIPR), book series, and its conventions and meetings, continue to attract support and citations. At present a powerful mechanism for “validating” different types of research is the indirect (and highly imperfect) journal ranking system driven...
by impact factors. By citing our journals, and others, that promote difficult socially connected research SPSSI members (and others) can help to demonstrate that we can offer models for research that have (at least) as much value as the prototypical 2 x 2 x n (studies) x 25 (cell size) model that is so dominant at present. We can also mentor, advise, and support new researchers and existing colleagues to sustain openness to employing diverse methods and approaches for addressing the psychology of a diverse set of social issues.

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References


Maner, J.K. (2014). Let’s put our money where our mouth is: If authors are to change their ways, reviewers (and editors) must change with them. Perspective on Psychological Science, 9, 343-351. doi: 10.1177/1745691614528215


SPSSI Policy Update
By Gabriel Twose, SPSSI Policy Director

SPSSI’s policy arm has had an active start to 2014. We have begun an exciting series of congressional seminars on Capitol Hill, are eagerly anticipating a number of events at the SPSSI conference in Portland, and are looking forward to an advocacy training day to be held in Washington DC in August.

Congressional Seminar Series

Sponsored by Representative Jim McGovern (D-MA 2nd District), SPSSI is holding four congressional seminars, aiming to educate staffers about the psychological components of several currently debated policy issues. Attendees are provided with the necessary psychological knowledge to provide scientific, empirically supported arguments in such congressional debates. Heather Bullock (University of California, Santa Cruz) was the first speaker in the series, and she provided an engaging, informative talk on the psychological dimensions of poverty. The seminar was well attended, and sparked an active discussion among the staffers present. Subsequent seminars will focus on prejudice, diversity in the STEM fields, and the psychological precursors and consequences of mass human rights violations.

SPSSI Biennial Conference

We have a number of events planned at the biennial convention this June, including: a policy workshop, a policy symposium, and a policy discussion session. See p. 13 for more details on these exciting events!

Advocacy Training Day

On August 6, directly before the APA Convention, SPSSI will hold an advocacy training day in Washington DC, co-sponsored with the Society for Community Research and Action and the American Psychological Association. The day will start with a half-day expert training covering effective advocacy techniques and interactive role-playing exercises in preparation for afternoon Hill visits, as well as detailed information on the legislation for which we will advocate. As 2014 marks the 50th anniversary of President Lyndon Johnson’s War on Poverty, the legislation will be poverty-related. In the afternoon, participants will meet with the staff of their Senators and Representatives, and talk to them about the psychological components of the relevant legislation, providing an opportunity to learn how to engage in federal advocacy.

As always, please contact me with any feedback or questions on these activities. I look forward to hearing from you, and hopefully meeting you in Portland.

—Gabriel Twose
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SPSSI Communications News
By David Aronson, SPSSI Communications Director

I’m delighted to have started working at SPSSI. This is a newly created position and one that I very much look forward to developing with my colleagues here at headquarters as well as with the Council, and in particular its communications committee.

This is an excellent time to be working at the forefront of the Society’s efforts to inform public policy debates with research and analysis from social psychology.

The media is increasingly realizing that it needs experts to help guide it through some of our more contentious public policy debates. Whether it’s our continuing struggle with racial and LGBT issues, or our seeming inability to confront the reality of climate change, social psychologists have an empirical, research-based contribution to make. I see my job as helping them make it.

In the coming weeks, I look forward to working with SPSSI and the Council on growing or developing initiatives in traditional and new media. We’re working on a number of projects that we hope to be able to announce soon, some of which will depend on the active participation of our membership. In the meantime, I encourage SPSSI members to “like” us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter.

—David Aronson
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The theme of the seventh annual Psychology Day at the United Nations was “Psychology’s Contribution to Sustainable Development: Challenges and Solutions for the Global Agenda.” Approximately 400 participants participated in the conference at the UN Headquarters on April 24, 2014.

Sustainable Development—development that fulfills current needs without compromising the needs of future generations—was chosen as this year’s topic to highlight the UN’s ongoing consultations about the post-2015 development agenda. The original agenda, established in 2000, set eight development goals to be met by 2015. Civil society organizations have been invited to contribute to the formulation of the next set of development goals to ensure development that is inclusive, equitable and environmentally sensitive—as well as transparent and accountable.

Four prominent psychologists, working in government, academia and within the UN, gave talks on how the science and practice of psychology could be used to advance social, environmental and economic well-being.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Maya Shankar, a senior White House policy advisor, spoke about how behavioral research on decision making can improve policy outcomes and efficiency. Policies that are Easy, Attractive, Social, and Timely (EAST) are empowering, she said. She drew on her research on an energy use project to demonstrate the importance of promoting actions that are simple, concrete, timely and appealing.

Dr. Saths Cooper of the International Union of Psychological Science and the International Social Science Council said that it was important to expand our previous notions of mental health and well-being, both at the individual and group levels. A fuller, more expansive understanding of group well-being could, for example, improve decision-making processes among policymakers.

Dr. Elke Weber, of the Earth Institute’s Center for Research on Environmental Decisions. Environmental decisions require policymakers to balance upfront, tangible and certain costs against the uncertain, disputed and future costs of inaction. Dr. Weber drew on psychological research about overcoming the Status Quo bias to explore how to align short- and long-term goals in creative ways, demonstrate local, concrete benefits for all sides, and make the long-term perspective seem less abstract.

Dr. James Lawrence, at the Social Development Division of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), talked about the quest for defining and measuring human development. He spoke on the challenge of including a psychological dimension to indicators of development that are still heavily based on disposable income, health and education indexes.

The many challenges of promoting pro-environmental policies were discussed by Dr. Elke Weber, of the Earth Institute’s Center for Research on Environmental Decisions. Environmental decisions require policymakers to balance upfront, tangible and certain costs against the uncertain, disputed and future costs of inaction. Dr. Weber drew on psychological research about overcoming the Status Quo bias to explore how to align short- and long-term goals in creative ways, demonstrate local, concrete benefits for all sides, and make the long-term perspective seem less abstract.

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) has sponsored the Psychology Day at the United Nations Since its inception in 2007. The UN/SPSSI team members play a central role in the planning process of this annual event, and have served as coordinators and panelists.

Previous Psychology Day at the UN topics include: Psychology and Disaster Response (2007); Social Justice Related to the UN Global Agenda (2008); Psychology and Diplomacy: Negotiating for Peace and Human Rights (2010); The Role of Psychology in Achieving Universal Access to Education (2011); Human Rights for Vulnerable People (2012); and Psychology and Violence in a Global Context: Antecedents, Consequences and Prevention (2013).

View the complete program of Psychology Day 2014, including biographical sketches of the panelists.

—Rachel Ravich
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Come to Portland for the Biennial Conference

By Kerth O’Brien, Local Conference Committee Chair

Your 2014 Biennial Local Conference Committee welcomes you June 27-29 to Portland, Oregon, the City of Bridges!

Your local committee includes Alyson Burns-Glover, Adolfo Cuevas, Kimberly Kahn, Sylvia Kidder, Jessica Klenke, Jeanne McMahon, Kathy Oleson, Maia Paluska, Greg Townley, and me. Several of us are members of both SPSSI and APA Division 45, and we note that the Division 45 biennial will be held in nearby Eugene the weekend before our SPSSI meeting. If you plan to attend both conferences and if you would like to get together one day in-between, I invite you to contact the local committee in advance.

What will you do here in Portland? Perhaps another question is, how many additional days early or late would you like to stay? Whether your culinary taste lies in the fine cuisine of the Pacific Northwest or more in the direction of food cart delicacies, you’ll find many eateries in Portland to satisfy your interest. If your musical taste lies in blues, jazz, folk, or indie bands, you’ll find music here to satisfy as well.

When you step out of the Benson Hotel to explore downtown Portland, no doubt you’ll want to visit the flagship location of Powell’s Books, the famous independent bookseller. Powell’s occupies an entire city block in itself and it is only a quick jaunt from our hotel. Alternatively, you might enjoy walking with other SPSSI colleagues over to the Lan Su Chinese Garden in the Old Town District. Along the way, while you are walking through Portland’s downtown you’ll notice drinking fountains on many of our street corners. These icons are known as Benson bubblers and they were originally given to Portland over a century ago by the same Simon Benson who built our conference hotel.

How would you like to take a day trip while you’re here? You have several options beginning with Multnomah Falls and the Columbia River Scenic Highway. In addition, due east of Portland is Mount Hood and its famous Timberline Lodge, built in 1936 by members of the Civilian Conservation Corps. Alternatively, the Oregon coast invites you to head 90 minutes west to enjoy its sand and surf and sky.

Portland’s Tri-Met bus system can take you to many local neighborhoods. Take the #14 Hawthorne bus to enjoy shops, pubs, and places to eat between 30th-39th along SE Hawthorne Boulevard, or take the #4 Fessenden to visit the similarly avant-garde North Mississippi neighborhood. On Thursday evening, check out the Alberta Arts District via the #8 NE 15th bus: the Last Thursday event brings musicians, artists, and vendors out of galleries and onto sidewalks for a lively neighborhood celebration. Closer to the hotel, you might enjoy a leisurely stroll along the Eastside Esplanade, sharing your view of the Willamette River with many other pedestrians and bicyclists. As you find your way back to the Benson, why not stop to fortify yourself with treats from Voodoo Doughnuts?

When you’re packing your bag for Portland, bring your walking shoes and prepare yourself for a wonderful visit. We hope to meet you here in June!

—Kerth O’Brien
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Presidential Address: Dominic Abrams

Beyond 'Who is Prejudiced': The Role of Extremity, Dangerous Deviance, and Daring Dissent in Social Stasis and Change

As SPSSI's first 'international' president, and thus something of an outlier, it seems fitting to consider the role of difference in processes of social change. In this talk I address some of the psychological means by which groups and societies sustain their structures, value, and control. My thesis is that most groups exist in a state of tension with other groups, so that relations within groups have implications for relations between groups and vice versa. I draw on a range of examples to consider how these tensions play out a) at a societal level, b) through childhood and adolescence, c) in terms of leadership. I consider how social identity and subjective group dynamics may create monsters as readily as martyrs, how the same processes may enable constructive social change or damaging extremism. I suggest that it may often be interesting to ask not just who is prejudiced, but why and how prejudice functions and how it has shared meaning.

Keynote Speakers:

Keynote Speaker: Stephanie Fryberg
(University of Arizona)
Culturally Grounded Interventions to Enhance Academic Performance

Keynote Speaker: Geoffrey Maruyama
(University of Minnesota)
Engaging the Willing in Social Action: Initiating, Relating, Building, Adapting, & Persisting

Keynote Speaker: Heather Bullock
(UC Santa Cruz)
Poverty, Wealth, and Economic Justice: Challenging Classism & the Politics of “Deservingness”

Keynote Speaker: Maritza Montero (Central University of Venezuela)
From Liberation Pedagogy to Liberation Psychology: The Construction of a Paradigm for Social Sciences

Check the SPSSI Convention Program Schedule for dates, times, and the abstracts for these keynote addresses.
The 2014 Biennial Convention will explore themes of social action and change: how and why do action and change arise, what are the challenges of indifference and resistance and strategies for overcoming them, what new opportunities has research revealed, and how can we progress by raising new questions for research and new directions for policy?

For more info or to register, please visit [www.spssi.org/portland](http://www.spssi.org/portland)

**Networking and Social Events**

**Thursday: Community Advocacy Session**
We are thrilled to announce that the Local Conference Committee organized a community advocacy session to connect SPSSI with local advocates and change agents that will take place on Thursday - please join us! *Note: separate registration is required.*

**Saturday Night Social Hour**
Here’s your opportunity to meet and network with other students, early career scholars, and faculty in a relaxed, informal setting. Join the Diversity Committee, Early Career Scholars Committee, and the Graduate Student Committee for a social hour at the Original Dinerant. Light appetizers will be served, cash bar.

Original Dinerant Courtyard (near conference hotel)
300 SW 6th Ave.
Portland, OR, 97204

**Friday Night: Welcome Reception**
SPSSI will host a welcome reception. Come to mingle with old and new friends and colleagues, and to congratulate award winners, grant recipients, and new Fellows who will be announced during the reception.

**Saturday: Protecting Academic Freedom**
The Local Conference Committee is hosting a Saturday evening session on organizing to protect academic freedom and student-centered education by faculty and student advocates from Portland State University.

2014 Conference Co-Chairs
Kim Case, Ph.D. (University of Houston-Clear Lake), Shelly Grabe, Ph.D. (University of California, Santa Cruz), and Desdamona Rios, Ph.D. (University of Houston-Clear Lake).
Summer Policy Workshop 26 June 2014

This exceptional training opportunity, organized by SPSSI’s Policy Committee and Early Career Scholars Committee will take place on 26 June 2014, directly before the SPSSI biennial conference in Portland, OR. The planned workshop content is diverse and applicable to psychologists at all career stages, but several sessions are targeted primarily at early career psychologists and graduate students. The workshop is open to SPSSI members and others, including those who have little direct policy experience, however due to limited space, applications are required. Note that this year’s application deadline was 14 April, but we hope you will apply to take part in future workshops!

2014 Workshop Content & Objectives

The Workshop will expose psychologists to the links between academia and policy work at national and international levels, and will feature specific skills training. Participants will learn how to bring empirical research findings to bear on public policy and also about policy-related fellowship opportunities. Specifically, the workshop will feature panel presentations and interactive sessions on:

- The links between psychological science and the world of policy-making
- How to conduct federal advocacy, working with professional organizations
- Policy-related fellowship opportunities and experiences
- How to conduct international policy work
- How to write grant-proposals that tie in policy implications of your research

2014 Workshop Speakers

Roberta Downing, Ph.D.
Senior Legislative and Federal Affairs Officer, Public Interest Government Relations Office, American Psychological Association

Jack Glaser, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology, Associate Dean, Goldman School of Public Policy, University of California Berkeley

Katya Migacheva, Ph.D.
Lead Democratic Fellow, Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission; James Marshall Public Policy Fellow, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues

Linda Silka, Ph.D.
Professor of Economics & Director, Margaret Chase Smith Policy Center, University of Maine

Please contact Gabriel Twose, SPSSI Policy Director, for further information.
Policy Events

Policy Pre-Conference Workshop

Our second policy workshop will be held prior to the convention. We have reached capacity and are no longer accepting participants, but please be on the lookout for future workshop events! See p. 11 for further details on this summer’s workshop speakers and topics.

Policy Symposium

Jack Glaser, Meg Bond, Gabe Twose, and Fran Cherry, will trace the development of SPSSI’s historical policy orientations, explain the Society’s current policy priorities and activities, and provide advice on how to become personally involved in the Society’s efforts. A facilitated discussion will allow attendees to provide feedback on future policy directions and strategies to solicit members’ involvement in SPSSI’s policy work.

Policy Discussion Session

APA’s Roberta Downing and SPSSI’s Gabe Twose will lead a hands-on discussion of how best to influence federal policy. The presenters will discuss different levels of engagement, from calls, emails, and congressional visits, to cultivating long-term relationships with Members of Congress so as to be “on-call” for the policy issues about which you have expertise. The discussion will also cover resources that are available to psychologists to maximize their influence, and will address barriers to civic participation.

Petition Signing to End the NRA’s Misuse of the 2nd Amendment

With the recent spate of mass shootings around the U.S., a long-time SPSSI member created a petition to The California State House, The California State Senate, Governor Jerry Brown, The United States House of Representatives, The United States Senate, and President Barack Obama, which states:

“We, the people of the United States, for the sake of our lives, our liberty, and future generations, demand that Congress re-establish the Original meaning of the 2nd Amendment, which is about common defense, not an absolute right to own, carry, or use guns. Congress should overturn such interpretations.”

The petition will be available for your review and signing at the conference. You may also review and sign the petition online.

SPSSI Publishing Opportunities: Meet the Editors!

Are you interested in publishing your work in one of SPSSI’s journals or as part of SPSSI’s book series? Please join us at the SPSSI convention in Portland to learn more about publishing in SPSSI outlets:

SPSSI’s authored and edited book series – Dan Perlman, Editor

Journal of Social Issues (JSI) – Ann Bettencourt, Editor

Analyses of Social Issues and Public Policy (ASAP) – Heather Bullock, Editor


This informal session will provide an opportunity to talk with SPSSI editors, share ideas, and ask questions regarding potential submissions. You will learn more about each publication, the types of works published, and the timeline and process for each venue.

We look forward to seeing you in Portland!
Envisioning SPSSI’s Future:  
A Community Conversation

Our second interactive discussion is an open event that we hope people from all career stages will attend. The will be a facilitated discussion between scholars and attendees about their perspectives on advancing socially responsible and responsive psychological science and SPSSI’s future. The session will be divided into two sections. The first half of the session will involve each panelist responding to a series of questions posed by ECS Committee facilitators. The second portion will open the discussion up to the audience, who can engage in an open Q&A discussion with the panelists. The intention is to begin a lively discussion about the future of SPSSI and of our science. Session Chair: Stephenie Chaudoir.

Panelists

Dominic Abrams, University of Kent, SPSSI President, 2013-2014
Elizabeth Cole, University of Michigan, SPSSI Fellows Selection Committee
Susan Dudley, SPSSI Central Office, SPSSI Executive Director
Allen Omoto, Claremont Graduate University, Past SPSSI President, 2012-2013
Brett Stoudt, John Jay College of Criminal Justice and The Graduate Center, CUNY, Early Career Scholars Committee

Roundtable Topics

Work-life balance: Maureen O’Connor, The Graduate Center, CUNY
Tips for being on the job market and negotiating your new job: Geoffrey Maruyama, University of Minnesota
Teaching about diversity and social justice: Mary Kite, Ball State University & Kerth O’Brien, Portland State
Time management and writing strategies: Adam Fingerhut, Loyola Marymount University & Scott Plous, Wesleyan University
Navigating the tenure process: Isis Settles, Michigan State University
Building community-university partnerships: María Elena Torre, The Graduate Center, CUNY

ECS Roundtable Discussion

This interactive discussion is organized around a series of facilitated roundtables focused on a broad range of issues relevant to early career scholars. Two back-to-back sessions will take place during the session to allow attendees to participate in two different discussions during the event. The roundtable will be followed by a “brown-bag” lunch, allowing participants to continue their conversations and build connections early in the conference. If you are a graduate student or junior faculty member, please join us! Please also be sure to register for a boxed lunch, so that you can grab some food, and continue the conversation following the roundtable. Session Chairs: Stephenie Chaudoir and Adam Pearson.

Early Career Scholars (ECS) Events

By Nicola Curtin, ECS Co-Chair & Heather Bullock, ECS Co-Chair

We hope you are as excited as we are about the upcoming 2014 SPSSI Conference in Portland! We have planned several terrific events, including this year’s ECS pre-conference workshop, which is policy focused, in collaboration with the Policy Committee. See p. 11 to see why we believe it will be an incredible opportunity for both junior and senior scholars to learn more about policy and network with each other. We look forward to seeing you at the following great events!

—Nicola Curtain & Heather Bullock
ncurtin@clarku.edu & hbullock@ucsc.edu
Be sure to check out the SPSSI Conference Program agenda to see these outstanding SPSSI members acknowledged for their efforts! A well-deserved congratulations to all award recipients!

**2014 SPSSI Distinguished Service Awards**

These awards recognize SPSSI members for the scope of their service to the organization and its impact to science, and to public policy at the local and national levels. Awards will be presented at the SPSSI Business Meeting in Portland, open to all attendees.

**Margaret Bull Kovera, Ph.D.**

Professor of Psychology, Department of Psychology, John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York

**Amy Marcus-Newhall, Ph.D.**

Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dean of the Faculty, Professor of Psychology, Scripps College

**Maureen O’Connor, Ph.D., J.D.**

Executive Officer of the Doctoral Program in Psychology at the Graduate Center, Professor of Psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York

**Mark Snyder, Ph.D.**

McKnight Presidential Chair in Psychology, Director of the Center for the Study of the Individual and Society, University of Minnesota

**2014 SPSSI Teaching Awards**

SPSSI confers annual awards for outstanding teaching in areas related to the psychological study of social issues. These awards recognize teaching excellence in a variety of contexts. All teaching award recipients will be presenting a Teaching Symposium in Portland. Check the program for details!

**Innovative Teaching Award**

Jamie Franco-Zamudio, Ph.D. Spring Hill College

**Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring Award**

Cynthia McPherson Frantz, Ph.D. Oberlin College

**Speaker at the National Institute of Teaching of Psychology**

Alicia Nordstrom, Ph.D. Misericordia University

Awards continued next page...
2014 Kurt Lewin Award

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

The Lewin Award recipient will present a distinguished address as part of SPSSI’s programming in Portland.

Susan T. Fiske, Ph.D.

Susan T. Fiske is Eugene Higgins Professor, Psychology and Public Affairs, Princeton University (Ph.D., Harvard University; honorary doctorates, Université Catholique de Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium; Universiteit Leiden, Netherlands; Universität Basel, Switzerland). She investigates social cognition, especially cognitive stereotypes and emotional prejudices, at cultural, interpersonal, and neuro-scientific levels. Author of over 300 publications and winner of numerous scientific awards, she has most recently been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. Her just-published book is The HUMAN Brand: How We Relate to People, Products, and Companies (with Chris Malone, 2013). Sponsored by a Guggenheim, her 2011 Russell-Sage-Foundation book is Envy Up, Scorn Down: How Status Divides Us. With Shelley Taylor, she has written four editions of a classic text: Social Cognition (2013, 4/e). Currently an editor of Annual Review of Psychology, PNAS, and Policy Insights from Behavioral and Brain Sciences, she is also President of the Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences. Her graduate students arranged for her to win the University’s Mentoring Award.

Don’t miss Dr. Fiske’s talk at the SPSSI conference entitled, “Enacting Status: Talking Up and Down.”

2013 Gordon Allport Intergroup Relations Prize

Honoring the memory of the late Dr. Gordon W. Allport, a founder and past president of SPSSI, the Gordon Allport Intergroup Relations Prize is given to “the best paper or article of the year on intergroup relations”—a field about which Professor Allport cared deeply.

Our apologies for our delayed congratulations to our 2013 Allport prize winners,

Mark Schaller, Ph.D. (University of British Columbia)

& Steven Neuberg, Ph.D. (Arizona State University),

for their paper, Danger, disease, and the nature of prejudice(s), published in Advances in Experimental Social Psychology, 46, 1–54.

Congratulations!

Mark Schaller

Steven Neuberg
Thank You To Our Wonderful Sponsors!

Wiley publishes SPSSI’s three journals, JSI, ASAP, and SIPR, as well as our Contemporary Social Issues and Interventions Series and Research Methods in Social Relations. As “a global provider of content-enabled solutions to improve outcomes in research, education and professional practice with online tools, journals, books, databases, reference works and laboratory protocols,” we are proud to have Wiley as one of our continued conference sponsors!

SAGE

Thank you to SAGE Publications for helping to make the SPSSI conference a success! “SAGE is an independent international publisher of journals, books, and electronic media. Known for our commitment to quality and innovation, we are a world leader in our chosen academic, educational, and professional markets.”

A big thank you to our newest sponsor, the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) Program at the University of Miami! The CITI Program offers customizable, web-based training in topics covering Conflicts of Interest, Good Clinical Practice, Human Subjects Research, Information Privacy and Security, and Responsible Conduct of Research, and many more.
We are very excited to unveil our new student section of the Forward, which integrates student pieces that would have been otherwise published in The Rookie. This transition from a stand-alone student publication to one integrated within the larger SPSSI newsletter is an exciting step, which will offer more visibility and greater access of student issues and research to the larger SPSSI community. In this issue’s student section, we focus on upcoming GSC events at SPSSI’s biennial convention in Portland. I hope to see you all at the many great events the GSC is organizing for you all!

Stay tuned for the Fall issue when we will have essays about issues and experiences that impact graduate students, as well as showcase student research. We look forward in the future to your submissions to this section, and are open to ideas to continue to improve how we are able to highlight the opinions, research, and accomplishments of SPSSI graduate students. Please feel free to contact me with your own thoughts and ideas, or any accomplishments you would like to share with the broader SPSSI community.

—Rachael Suffrin
rsuffrin@depaul.edu

Welcome to the New Version of The Rookie!
By Manisha Gupta, GSC Chair

We believe this transition to Forward will benefit all SPSSI members because it will allow graduate students’ voices to reach a broader community of SPSSI members, including faculty and other professionals. We are continuing to work on developing new content for our graduate student section, including Q&A columns with SPSSI faculty members, and highlighting the awesome accomplishments of our graduate student members. If you have any suggestions on other additions you would like to see, please contact the newsletter editor, Rachael Suffrin.

Over the spring semester, the GSC has been hard at work planning events for the 2014 SPSSI Biennial Conference in Portland, Oregon, focused on graduate student professional development (see details on the next page). We hope that you will take note of these events and plan to join us to maximize your conference experience!

We are also currently exploring opportunities for SPSSI graduate members to connect and network with one another online (e.g., creating online discussion boards, Google groups, etc. for students to share their research with one another, find collaborators, etc.) Please feel free to contact me if you have any feedback or suggestions on what online resources you think would be beneficial for us to develop for graduate students.

For more information on the events mentioned in this article and other updates from the GSC, please visit our SPSSI webpage, and like us on Facebook.

—Manisha Gupta
gradstudents@spssi.org
Graduate Student Events

Graduate Student-Faculty Mentoring Lunch
Taking place during the Saturday lunch hour, small groups of graduate students will have the opportunity to eat lunch with a respected mentor in their area of research interest. This luncheon is co-sponsored by the Graduate Student and Diversity Committees, and provides graduate students the opportunity to meet and eat lunch with a respected faculty member or professional who works or conducts research in their area of interest. Table topics include:

- Intergroup Relations, Stereotyping, Prejudice
- Psych and Law
- Health
- Women, Gender
- Community Psychology
- Culture, Race, and Ethnicity
- Sexuality
- Critical Liberation

Attendance is limited and requires pre-registration. Please contact contact Manisha Gupta if you missed the sign-up.

Ph.D.’s for Hire: Exploring Career Options Outside of Academia
In response to graduate students’ feedback that they would like to learn more about career opportunities in applied fields, we have lined up several speakers with vast experience working outside the academic arena. In this session you will hear from speakers such as:

- Erin L. Thomas (Gender Diversity Specialist at Argonne National Laboratory)
- Alan Tomkins (Director of the Public Policy Center at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln)
- Neeta S. Abad (Behavioral Scientist, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)
- Miriam Y. Vega (Vice-President, Latino Commission on AIDS)

Each speaker will offer different strategies on how graduate students can develop competitive CVs for their respective job markets.

The GSC would like your feedback for this symposium. What topics or questions would you most like to see our speakers cover? Please tell us!

Looking for a roommate for the conference?
The GSC is here to help. Post your information, or contact someone looking for a roommate!
Psychology in the Global Context: Advocacy at the United Nations

On May 8 at City University of New York in New York City, Harold Cook, and SPSSI Graduate Student Committee Chair, Manisha Gupta, led a forum on psychology at the United Nations, attended by 40 students from as far as Clemson SC. The SPSSI-sponsored event consisted of presentations and discussions designed to increase awareness of the intersection of psychology, policy, and advocacy at the United Nations.

Attendees at the forum. Co-Chairs Harold Cook and Manisha Gupta in the front row.

SPSSI Members in the Media

Articles in JSI’s June 2013 Flexibility Stigma issue are still making press waves. The article by Victoria L. Brescoll, Ph.D. (Yale University) and Alexandra Sedlovskaya, Ph.D. (Harvard Business School) which details employer-provided work flexibility is highlighted in The Atlantic’s article about the gender pay gap. In suggesting ways “to end the gender pay gap once and for all,” the Atlantic article cites an important caveat stemming from Brescoll & Sedlovskaya’s work: that in companies with flextime options, “ambitious men are more likely to be granted flextime than women, because managers assume women asking for work flexibility are trying to transition out of the job and start a family.”

Brad Bushman, Ph.D. (Ohio State University), is highlighted in an article in Science News for his recent study, “Low glucose relates to greater aggression in married couples” published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences. Bushman’s work, as described in the news piece, uses a new measure of aggression using voodoo dolls.

Victoria Esses, Ph.D. (University of Western Ontario) is the principal investigator for the Pathways to Prosperity: Canada project. The effort involves “a national alliance of university, community, and government partners dedicated to fostering welcoming communities and promoting the integration of migrants and minorities across Canada.” The project has received national attention from outlets like Les Affaires and Radio-Canada.

continued next page...
Kurt Lewin Award recipient, Susan T. Fiske, Ph.D. (Princeton University), has received two honors for her most recent book, *The Human Brand*, co-authored with Chris Malone. The book received the 2014 Silver Axiom Business Book award in the Networking category, as well as the 2014 International Book Award in the Business: Motivational category.

A new review by SPSSI Fellow, Anthony G. Greenwald, Ph.D. (University of Washington) and SPSSI Fellow/Past-President, Thomas Pettigrew, Ph.D. (University of California, Santa Cruz), suggesting that “Ingroup Favoritism Enables Discrimination” is featured in a PsychCentral article that describes the work. Greenwald & Pettigrew’s review sheds new light on a subtle angle to understanding and helping to reduce discrimination against outgroups via reducing ingroup favoritism.

Kimberly Kahn, Ph.D. (Portland State University) is featured in the Atlantic’s City Lab for her recent work on racial bias in crosswalks: “black pedestrians were passed by twice as many cars and waited nearly a third longer to cross than white pedestrians.”

SPSSI’s 6th President (1941–1942) and one of modern social psychology’s founding fathers, Kurt Lewin is highlighted in a Huffington Post article describing Social Architecture. It seems that Lewin’s (1936) contribution that behavior, $B = f(P, E)$, continues to influence individuals across disciplines.

Luis Rivera, Ph.D. (Rutgers University at Newark) describes the bystander effect in a New York investigative report showing how a “violent argument between two men generates little reaction.”

P. Wesley Schultz, Ph.D. (California State University San Marcos) is featured in an article on “Stone Age biases and environmental behavior.” With his work, Schultz seeks to use an understanding of these stone age biases to “develop more effective environmental strategies.”

The work of Linda J. Skitka, Ph.D. (University of Illinois-Chicago) and G. Scott Morgan, Ph.D. (Drew University) was featured in an article on Mother Jones. As the article notes, their meta-analysis suggests that, contrary to much common knowledge regarding the moral conservativeness of those on the political right, “overall, liberals [show] just as much moral conviction as conservatives—albeit on very different political issues.”

SPSSI Distinguished Service Award recipient Mark Snyder, Ph.D. (University of Minnesota) talks about social chameleons based on his work on social monitoring in the Huffington Post article, *The Black Chameleon: Success and Identity*.


Members presenting at the 10th Biennial Convention. Check the program for details!

If you or another SPSSI member you know has been in the media, published a great book, or received an award, we want to know! Email us so we can spread the word about SPSSI members’ work!
And Don't Miss...

Division 9 (SPSSI) at the 122nd APA Convention:

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

With Keynote Speaker, Arie Kruglanski, Ph.D.

We are delighted to have Distinguished University Professor Arie Kruglanski, Ph.D. (University of Maryland) as the keynote speaker. Kruglanski is a well-known leader in the study of terrorism and radicalization. Don’t miss his talk on The Social Psychology of Radicalization: How the Quest for Significance Can Foster Violence, to be held on Friday, August 8 at 10 am.

In addition to the keynote address on Friday, the Division 9 (SPSSI) Programming at APA is chock full of socially relevant and important topics across a number of symposia, paper sessions, and a panel discussion. We look forward to seeing you in DC this summer!

**Symposia**

〜 Utilization of Human Security Index to Address Challenges of Vulnerable People in Urban Areas

〜 Technology, Identity, and Ethics

〜 Same-Sex Couples: Marriage Matters

〜 Predictors and Effects of Mental Health Stigma

〜 Mental Illness and Violence: Toward Research-Informed Policies and Practices

〜 Intersections with Sexual Minority Status: Advances in Research and Intervention


**Paper Sessions**

〜 Social and Psychological Implications of Poverty

〜 Mental Health: Recovery and Assessment

〜 Intersectionality: Current Directions in Research and Training

〜 Intergroup Relations

〜 Gender Intersections

**Panel Discussion**

〜 Absence of Violence is Negative Peace: Psychology Setting the Trend Toward Positive Peace-Justice

**SPSSI / SPSP Social Hour**

〜 Friday, August 8th, 6-8 pm

La Tasca Restaurant

722 7th Street (in Chinatown)

2014 APA Div 9 Program Co-Chairs

Rachel Calogero (University of Kent) and Jaime Napier (Yale University)
New SPSSI-SASP Small Group Conference Series

Support is now available for a SPSSI-SASP small group meeting as part of a collaboration between SPSSI and SASP, the Society of Australasian Social Psychologists. Modeled after the successful SPSSI-EASP small group conference series, this new effort aims to strengthen links between SPSSI and SASP so that members of each may have opportunities to discuss research questions of mutual interest.

The first meeting will be held in 2014 in either the Eastern Pacific (anywhere in the United States or Canada) or Western Pacific (anywhere in Australia, New Zealand or another East Asian location). The 2015 meeting will then take place in the alternate location. Proposals for the 2015 meeting have the option of planning the small group meeting as a pre-conference event prior to the SASP Annual Meeting in Newcastle, NSW, Australia, but this is not required.

Conference Proposal Guidelines:

- This program supports one meeting a year.
- Conference themes are related to social issues with have international (not intra-national) relevance.
- At least 80% of persons attending the conference will be members of one or both organizations.
- Balanced representation with no more than 2/3 of the speakers being members of one of the organizations.
- Each conference has at least one organizer who is a member of SPSSI and one who is a member of SASP. Preferably one organizer is located in Australasia and the other in North America.
- Conference organizers are encouraged to facilitate publication of material on the conference topic through the Journal of Social Issues or SPSSI's book series.


Those interested in submitting a proposal are strongly encouraged to send a short email with an Expression of Interest to David Livert and to Stefania Paolini (SPSSI-SASP Small Group conference representatives).

SPSSI-SPONSORED OPPORTUNITIES

GIVE THE GIFT OF SPSSI MEMBERSHIP!

SPSSI is a member-driven organization. If you are not yet a member, please join us today! Visit the SPSSI membership page to learn about how you can join for as little as $25 (for student members) or $40 (for first-year members). Gift memberships start at $10. SPSSI members receive access to SPSSI's journals (JSI, ASAP, and SIPR) and newsletters (the Forward and the Rookie), as well as discounts on SPSSI conference registration and books published by Wiley! What is more, as a dues-paying SPSSI member, you meet the first eligibility requirement of all SPSSI awards (see pp. 22-25 for award details and current award recipients). Complete the online form as either a new or renewing member (by using your login details). Providing gift memberships is also as easy as 1, 2, 3.

If you prefer to pay your dues “offline,” you may download the printable form and send a check for payment to SPSSI, 208 I (“Eye”) Street, NE, Washington DC 20002-4340. Checks must be made payable to SPSSI and be in US dollars. We cannot accept international checks.

Questions about membership? Call +1-202-675-6956 or contact our Administrative Coordinator, Brad Sickels.
The Gordon Allport Intergroup Relations Prize

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues is proud to announce the Gordon Allport Intergroup Relations Prize honoring the memory of the late Dr. Gordon W. Allport, a founder and past president of SPSSI. See p. 16 for the 2013 winners, and view all of the previous winners on the SPSSI website.

Eligibility

Entries must be works published during the calendar year preceding the year of submission. For the 2014 award, submissions are limited to articles, chapters, or other works published in their primary form (e.g., appearing in print for print journals or books or online for online-only journals or other volumes) with a formal publication date of 2013. Please note that an individual or group may only submit one paper to SPSSI awards (including the Allport, Klineberg, and Dissertation Awards) per award year (January 1 - December 31).

Award

An award of $1000 is given to "the best paper or article of the year on intergroup relations"—a field about which Professor Allport cared deeply. Originality of the contribution, whether theoretical or empirical, will be given special weight. The research area of intergroup relations includes such dimensions as age, gender, and socioeconomic status, as well as ethnicity.

Apply

Submit your application online. Please limit the number and size of files uploaded when applying online.

Deadline

This is an annual award. Completed applications must be received by June 15th. The recipient will be announced by October 15th.

Sponsored By

The Gordon W. Allport Memorial Fund of Harvard University and SPSSI.
The Louise Kidder Early Career Award

To recognize social issues researchers who have made substantial contributions to the field early in their careers, this award is named for a living person—Louise Kidder—in honor of her own early career accomplishments and contributions to SPSSI. View previous award recipients on the SPSSI website.

Eligibility

Nominees should be investigators who have made substantial contributions to social issues research within seven years of receiving a graduate degree and who have demonstrated the potential to continue such contributions. Nominees need not be current SPSSI members.

Award

The winner will receive $500 and a plaque.

Apply

Submit your application online with the following materials:

1. A cover letter outlining the nominee’s accomplishments to date and anticipated future contributions.
2. The nominee’s current curriculum vitae.
3. Three letters of support.

Deadline

This is an annual award. Completed applications must be received by June 25th. Late applications will be retained for the next year.

SPSSI Internships for Undergrad and Grad Students

SPSSI has year round opportunities for both graduate and undergraduate students to intern at the SPSSI Central Office in Washington DC! Interns assist SPSSI staff on various projects. Interns may work on a range of communications or administrative projects. Interns can count on being given substantive assignments at least 50% of their time at SPSSI, but they must also willingly help with clerical work—answering phones, mailings, copying documents, etc.

Internship Information and Application Guidelines

› SPSSI internships are normally unpaid positions, but are considered to be staff members and are included in virtually all activities.
› Intern applicants must have completed at least one year of college.
› Usually internships last about 10–12 weeks (i.e., about an academic semester or summer vacation period.)
› Internships are part-time; we will work with the ideal intern to secure time commitment and work schedule.

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

To apply, send a brief letter of interest, specifying approximate dates of availability, along with a resume. Strong preference is given to students receiving academic credit during their term as SPSSI interns.
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Abigail Stewart, 2013-16

Graduate Students (GSC)
Manisha Gupta, 2013-14

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Ann Bettencourt

Analysis of Social Issues & Public Policy (ASAP)
Heather Bullock

FORWARD is published three times a year to provide information and comment of interest to members of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues. It reaches over 3000 SPSSI members and other professionals interested in our programs. Members represent a wide range of academic and nonacademic settings. Unless stated otherwise, the opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not represent the official position of the Society.

We welcome submissions of announcements, articles, and letters that are relevant to members of the Society as space permits. For more information, or to make a submission, contact the editor.

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