

## THE CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY OF ETHNIC MINORITIES

NEWSLETTER OF DIVISION 12, SECTION VI AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

# Forging Alliances Here and Beyond

## A Brief Report and Reflections on a Recent Encounter with the Cuban Psychological Society

*By Mario Garrido, Psy.D., President  
President's Message*

As my main presidential initiative, raising awareness of and promoting the formation of

empowering alliances has been a focus of several objectives for the coming year. This initiative is being implemented by the design of a new website for the Section, currently under construction, and the creation of a listserv for our membership thanks to Dr. Guerda Nicolas, our Newsletter editor.

Alliances are also being forged with other sections, such as Section IV, which has included Section VI participation in its presidential symposium for the upcoming APA Convention in Hawai'i, as well as our own presidential symposium. Another form of creating alliances is the mentoring system to be implemented within the section in the next few months. Our Executive Committee believes that these efforts will make the Section and its purposes increasingly present for the members on a regular basis. The ultimate goal is to ensure that the Section becomes an important resource where members can find mentoring, information, connection to other relevant organizations, and especially to one another as they develop as scholars, professionals, and leaders.

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### A Psychological Encounter in Havana, Cuba

At another level, however, I believe that forging alliances is also about learning how psychology is conceptualized and applied in places beyond our borders. Over the past year, I have had the privilege of visiting Havana, Cuba a few times representing the University of Rhode Island (URI). As part of the process of designing a 3-week summer program there beginning this June 2004, I had the opportunity to spend a week there this past February to learn how

psychology and mental health are approached in the unique social and political context of socialist Cuba. I had the great privilege of meeting with the President and the public relations officer of the Cuban Psychological Society (CPS) headquartered at the Psychology Department of University of Havana. This encounter was followed by a meeting with the chief psychologist of a pediatric hospital and a psychiatrist who heads the National Work Group on Child and Adolescent Mental Health.

Among the many things my URI colleagues and I found to be impressive, was the great enthusiasm that Cuban professionals expressed in building bridges with U.S. psychologists and students, as well as by their enormous generosity with their time and by their warmth. In their description of the practice of Cuban mental health, we could see that considerable emphasis is placed in prevention and in fostering social support networks, which often extend beyond the nuclear or even extended family system. We were also very interested in hearing about the areas of interest the CPS officers we met with represent. Dr. Patricia Ares, President of the CPS, is a family specialist, while Dr. Norma Guillard, the CPS's Public Relations Chair, specializes in women's issues and particularly on research on women's body image and their portrayal in the media. She had been invited to deliver a program in Puerto Rico the week after our meeting. However, because of her father's illness and recent passing and of the U.S. embargo, she was unable to accept the invitation and attend the conference. Several times during our visit, we heard of instances where U.S. authorities denied visas to noted Cuban scholars, professionals, and members of the clergy or otherwise subjected them to embarrassing and insulting scrutiny.

Drs. Guillard and Ares impressed us with their knowledge of scholars representing other

disciplines and whom they thought could make important contributions to our program. We were also impressed by their generosity, offering to locate and contact other experts, such as noted sociologist Carolina de la Torre, an expert in the area of identity. Together with them, we designed a panel to present issues of Cuban identity (in light of the unique social and political character of the country); coping with daily life in Cuba (with proposed scholar is Dr. Mayda Espina); and the role of women and families in Cuban society. Additionally, Dr. Ares proposed an encounter of psychology students with the student section of the CPS.

In our meeting with psychologist Alexis Lorenzo, Ph.D., a specialist on child and adolescent trauma, and Cristobal Martinez, M.D., we learned that many mental health initiatives in Cuba are implemented in a decentralized manner, with extensive participation from agencies other than the Ministry of Health. In fact, the Ministry of Culture has a substantial part in these efforts, as art, sport, performing arts, and many vocational activities are key elements of prevention and mental health interventions. At this time, the service goal for the country is to have a minimum of one community mental health center for each of the Cuban municipalities. To date, according to Dr. Martinez, no less than 149 are in existence around the country. Interestingly, in one of our walking tours of Old Havana, we came upon one of many historic buildings currently undergoing restoration, where the community mental health center that will serve Old Havana residents will be housed. Like many other urban projects around Cuba, this building is being restored in partnership with European development agencies and academic institutions. In this case, the regional government of Extremadura, Spain, is a major partner.

Psychopharmacology is employed but is currently an area in development. In fact, other

institutions in the U.S. are beginning to create links with Cuban scientists involved in the development of psychopharmacological approaches. From our conversations, however, it is clear that Cuban scholars and practitioners wish to achieve a thoughtful integration of psycho-social and community support approaches with pharmacological approaches, not to replace one with the other.

Like my URI colleagues, I returned to the U.S. with a clear sense that our Cuban colleagues in psychology strive, in their work, for very much the same goals as us in the U.S.: To empower their clients and challenge their students. Perhaps a point of difference is the extensive wholistic approach to attaining these goals and the social and community resources that are creatively employed given the unique political and economic context of the country.

Needless to say, the experience was fascinating and we look forward to learning much more about this during the upcoming summer program we are planning for this coming June 2004. I very much look forward to telling you all about it in Honolulu!

## **Report from the Past President and New Chair of the Nominations and Election Committee**

*By Helen D. Pratt, Ph.D.*

Greetings, I have the pleasure of serving as the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee. As such, I am asking each of you to participate in the process of searching for two people who are willing to serve on our Board of Directors. We need to nominate a person to serve as our President-elect, and one person to serve as our Secretary for 2005. In keeping with our mission of cultural and ethnic diversity, we are

seeking a President -elect who represents the Native population. All nominations are welcome, but I would really appreciate your assistance in meeting this important goal. Summaries of the duties for each Officer are listed in the next column:

**President-elect**

*After the announcement of the election results, the President-elect should prepare to attend the Mid-Year and Annual August Business Meeting.*

*Major duties focus on working with the Section VI Program Chair-Elect to prepare the Section’s program for the year in which he/she is to be President. The program development occurs during the President-elect year. The President-elect assumes office as President on January 1, a year and a half after his/her election.*

**Secretary**

*The Secretary of Section VI assists the President in preparing the agenda for business meetings of the Section and Executive Committee; records, keeps, and distributes the minutes of the Business meeting of the Section and the Executive Committee meetings; edits the section newsletter, maintains and safeguards all records of the Section, including the Archives; updates Central Office of all section business, Officer, Committee and Taskforce rosters. The Secretary also updates distributes, and maintains copies of the Officer's Manual and By-laws of the Section.*

**Section VI:  
Call for Nominations Ballot**  
  
**Nominations must be received  
by April 30, 2004.**

Consistent with the Revised By Laws of Section VI, elections will be held in the spring of each year. It is time to submit nominations for three important positions on the Executive Committee:

- (1) President - Elect for January 1, 2005  
December 31, 2005 ( will be president  
January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2007 )
- (2) Secretary January 1, 2005 - December 31, 2007

This is your opportunity to become more active in Section VI through self-nomination or to nominate others who you think would ably represent your interests and concerns on the Executive Committee. Remember that service on the Section’s Executive Committee also increases your opportunities to provide input regarding ethnic-related issues to the Division 12 governing body. Please complete the following nomination ballot and return it to the Elections and Nominations Committee Chairperson Helen Pratt, Ph.D.

- 1. All nominators and nominees must be 2004 paid members of Section VI who are eligible to vote.
- 2. You may nominate up to 3 people for each position
- 3. Please place your ballot in an envelope. Sign and print your name on the envelope. Send to Helen Pratt, Ph.D. Michigan State University Kalamazoo Center for Medical Studies 1000 Oakland Drive, Kalamazoo, MI 49008
- 4. **Nominations must be received by May 30.**

1. President-Elect

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2. Secretary

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**Minutes of Jan. 9th, 2004 Meeting**  
*By Yvette N. Tazeau, Ph.D.,  
Secretary*

I. Call to Order

A quorum was established. President Garrido called the meeting to order at approximately 1:10 PM EST.

II. Officers Present

Maria Garrido, Psy.D., President  
Asuncion (Siony) Miteria Austria, Ph.D.,  
President-Elect  
Yvette N. Tazeau, Ph.D., Secretary  
Alfiee M. Breland-Noble, Ph.D., Treasurer  
A. Toy Caldwell-Colbert, Ph.D., ABPP,  
Representative to Division 12  
Milton A. Fuentes, Psy.D., Program Chair  
Cheryl Boyce, Ph.D., Past Program Chair  
Guelda Nicolas, Ph.D., Newsletter Editor

III. Review of Minutes of 1/9/04 meeting:

The minutes had been previously distributed by e-mail. One edit recommendation was made by Siony regarding page 2 of the minutes. Siony moved to approve the minutes with the edit, Guelda seconded the motion, and all were in favor. The minutes pass with the edit noted.

IV. Executive Committee Reports:

A. President (Maria)

Maria reported that she is working to set up the Section website. She expressed her appreciation to everyone for providing input regarding the logo choices. Of those who provided feedback regarding the logo choices, number 6 was the logo to receive the most votes. This information will be conveyed to the webmaster.

Maria reported that she has provided the webmaster with preliminary information

regarding the desired content of the website. Maria said she will forward that list to the EC Listserve and asks that everyone provide her with feedback regarding the list.

Guelda asked if there will be a list of links to other Sections and Divisions (e.g., 12) on the website and Maria said the website would include that information. Guelda also suggested that the Section newsletter be placed at the website as well. A discussion ensued regarding the newsletter. Guelda cited the costs associated with paper mailings of the newsletter (~\$300) as a factor to consider. Cheryl suggested that we indicate that the newsletter be accessible electronically to everyone and that for those who want to still receive it by mail that we offer that option. Cheryl made a motion regarding this recommendation, Yvette seconded the motion, everyone voted in favor and the motion was passed.

Maria reported to the group that she will participate in Dr. Jenkins' symposium at APA on the topic of multicultural issues. Regarding this year's APA convention, Maria reminded the group that once presenters receive information about the specific times of their presentations, that they post the information to the EC listserv as Milton will need the information as Program Chair, Guelda will need it for the listserv, Yvette will need it to create the flyer, and everyone can use the information to schedule their attendance at talks of their preference.

Maria indicated that we are awaiting news from Lynn at APA regarding the scheduled time of the Section's suite. Cheryl commented that, hopefully, this year's Suite time will not overlap/compete with other Section activities.

Maria reported that she has been busy organizing a summer program in psychology in Cuba and

that she is pleased about the connections she is making abroad on behalf of diversity issues.

#### B. President-Elect (Siony)

Siony reminded the group that she wants to begin to establish priorities for the Section for her term. She is encouraging the EC members to send to her via e-mail ideas and recommendations for Section objectives for her term in office as President.

Siony indicated that she would like to see as many EC members as possible participate in the Division mid-winter meeting scheduled for February 10-13, 2005 in Washington, D.C. Maria indicated that Toy should, indeed, request that the Division hold space for the Section's participation at that meeting. Toy suggested that should EC members not be able to meet in D.C., that perhaps the Section consider holding a meeting during the National Multicultural Conference in Los Angeles scheduled for January 27-28, 2005. A brief discussion ensued and Maria suggested that the group consider the important issue of Section visibility regarding D.C. attendance over that of L.A. Siony encouraged the EC group to begin to look at their calendars regarding the dates of both meetings.

#### C. Past-President and Nomination's and Elections Committee Chair (Helen)

Helen had notified the EC group that she would not be able to attend today's meeting due to a scheduling conflict and she submitted her report electronically to the group in advance of this meeting.

Her report indicates that she has put out a call for nominations for President-Elect and Secretary and that she has submitted the call and ballot to Brian to be published in the upcoming newsletter.

Helen has asked the EC group to discuss the status of the Section's proposed Mentoring Program and that the group consider Cheryl

chairing this program. Cheryl asked for information about the proposed Program, including the responsibilities of the Chair. Maria provided a brief history explaining that the program is one she and Helen have thought of for some time now. She explained how the program is envisioned to be a matching and referral system for Section members seeking to mentor or be mentored. Cheryl indicated that she will need to seek approval from her employer regarding such participation. She said that she does similar work in her job. Maria suggested that the work could be divided into co-Chair positions and suggested that Cheryl could be responsible for coordinating those who want to be mentors and that Milton could coordinate requests of those seeking to be mentored. Milton asked for more information about the Program and Maria encouraged him to send any specific questions to her via e-mail.

D. Secretary (Yvette):

Yvette let the group know that of the first 3 logo choices, 6 people had replied with their preferences and that logo #1 received 5 endorsements and that logo #2 received 1 and that logo #3 received none. Regarding the second round of choices, 7 people provided their preferences: logo #6 received 3 endorsements, logo #5 received 2, and logo #4 received 2. Yvette will communicate the choice for logo #6 to the webmaster.

Yvette reminded the EC group to sign up for the EC listserve because subsequent minutes will be posted there.

E. Treasurer (Alfiee)

Alfiee reported that she opened a checking account at Bank of America for the Section and that the balance is \$1,100.00 in that account. She reported that she spoke with Josefina and that Josefina said that additional Section money is in two separate CDs (Certificates of Deposit) and that because the CD's have not matured, the

money is not accessible currently. She said that once it is available, Josefina will send it to Alfiee to deposit in the new BofA account. Alfiee reported that she has ordered checks for the account.

Alfiee asked for clarification regarding check signing. A discussion ensued and Maria read the bylaws to clarify that the Section Treasurer has authorization to sign up to \$500 without needing an additional signature.

Siony commented that future Treasurer reports may be useful in breaking down the revenue streams to the Section by categories such as membership dues, donations, APA money, etc.

F. Representative to Division 12 (Toy):

Toy said she will take Maria's instruction and will ask that the Division hold space for the Section for the 2005 mid-Winter meeting to be held in Washington, D.C. in February 2005. Toy suggested that the Alfiee (through communication with Josefina) confirm that Josefina has already submitted a request for the \$300 funds for that meeting.

Toy suggested that the Section consider aligning forces with Section 4 to increase membership. She suggested the Section consider a "two-for-one" invitation to members who have lapsed in renewing their Section 6 membership. She explained that both Sections charge \$15 for dues and that joint membership for both Section 4 and 6 could be \$25. Maria commented that she supports the idea in principle, but would like to look closely at the financial impact of the Section receiving \$12.50 per member versus \$15. Maria suggested that perhaps the idea could be a promotional one in that it is for a limited amount of time and targets a limited group (e.g., those who have lapsed in Section membership). Siony suggested that this idea may require more discussion (to include Alfiee and others) and the

group agreed to continue this discussion through the EC listserv.

Maria also suggested that given the advent of a Section website, it will be opportune to revamp the format of the Section Membership application form and suggested that Carole take a look at updating the form.

Toy asked for suggestions of an EC member who can serve as advocacy representative for the Section to the Division. She indicated that the person selected would work with Debra King of Section 2. Toy suggested that Maria consider appointing someone. Yvette suggested that Carole, Helen, and Michele (who are not present at this call) may also want to be considered.

G. Membership (Carole):

Carole was not present for today's call and had not submitted a report.

H. Program Chair (Milton)

Milton had to leave at 1:00 PM thus was unable to present his report prior to the conclusion of the meeting.

I. Newsletter Editor (Guerda/Brian):

Guerda reminded the EC group to submit their information for the newsletter to Brian no later than midnight March 15, 2004.

J. Awards (Michele)

Michele was not present for today's call and had not submitted a report.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:15 PM EST. The next meeting is scheduled for May 14, 2004 at 12:00 PM EST.

**Please don't forget to  
circulate this  
newsletter to all of your  
colleagues and friends.**

## Haiti Today: A Personal Reflection

*By Guerda Nicolas, Ph.D.*

Haiti made history on January 1, 1804, by becoming the first Black country to gain its independence. This victory was spearheaded by Toussaint L'Ouverture, but the struggle was begun in 1791 by Maroons (people of mixed race), women, and several generals, all of whom were united in the fight to free enslaved Africans. After a thirteen year struggle, Haiti staged the world's first and only successful slave revolt and established the first independent Black nation. The revolution reverberated across the world, changing the culture of slavery from Baltimore to Buenos Aires and allowed the United States to double in size as the defeated Napoleon gave up his interests in the New World, which became the Louisiana Purchase.

On January 1st, 2004 Haiti celebrated 200 years of independence. Unfortunately, these two centuries have been marked by a long and tortured social, political, and economic decline. Despite the problems, however, Haiti's culture has remained vibrant and artists and thinkers of great note continue to emerge from the island. Indeed, through the art and scholarly works from Jean-Price Mars, Jacques Roumain, René Depestre, and Anthony Phelps to contemporary figures such as Dany Laferrière, Gabrielle Beauvois, Wyclef Jean, and Edwidge Danticat, Haitian art has thrived both in the homeland of Haiti and the surrounding Diaspora.

Despite the numerous accomplishments of Haitians around the world, a sense of pride is severely lacking in Haitians, especially our youth. The stigmas of AIDS carriers, 'boat people,' unkempt dark people, is associated with the

country and its people, which leads to much hardship for Haitians living in America. This is especially true for Haitian adolescents, who have many difficulties with their "double minority" (racial and ethnic) status. Sadly, in the last couple of years, mental health care providers have seen increased rates of depression, lowered racial pride, and adjustment difficulties among Haitian adolescents.

Most people have a scripted knowledge of the country as being poor, ridden with AIDS, and politically and economically inept, but rarely does the media delve into the full story of Haiti to provide a detailed context as to how the country came to be in its present condition. Most Americans are not aware of the triumph of the Haitian Revolution and how it helped to benefit the U.S w/ the Louisiana Purchase and they are certainly not knowledgeable about the U.S invasion of Haiti and the various other factors that may have contributed to Haiti's state today. The country is a standard Third World region suffering from economic destitution, but studies about Haitian's mental health are scant and generally do not focus on the survivability of these people.

There has been an influx of Haitian refugees to the U.S. throughout the country's history, most notably during the Duvalier regime, but a steady stream of Haitians have tried to migrate during Aristide's rule as well. In December 2001, 108 immigrants arrived in the U.S and those who have not been deported remain in various correctional facilities today, sadly including women and children. Since the recent coup, Haitian refugees have already attempted to come to the U.S. via Florida and have been intercepted and sent back to their homeland by the U.S. Coast Guard. I do not doubt that there will be other attempts to come to the United States as a result of the recent

political and social unrest, with most refugees entering through Florida because of its proximity. Given the current U.S. immigration policy regarding Haitians, I am not positive that they will be allowed to enter and remain in the country but given the recent turmoil, perhaps this will change.

With regard to mental health, for any member of an immigrant population, the transition to a new country, culture, and environment can be very stressful. Their struggles are often exacerbated by the developmental changes associated with childhood and adolescence. Haitian youth face tremendous physical stressors during their transition to a new country that can be relatively insensitive to their identity development. Adolescents, in particular, may be vulnerable, as it is a common practice among Haitians for youth to migrate without immediate family members and to have relatives assume the caretaker role for them. All of this may add to feelings of isolation, conflict of values and loss of their primary support system. As a result of this experience of "traumatic disruption in social and psychological support systems," it is suspected that Haitian immigrant youth will experience mental health problems beyond those of the general African-American youth population (Bibb & Casimir, 1996). A primary manifestation of this experience is the challenge to racial pride often experienced by Haitian youth upon their arrival in the United States. (Racial pride means they see themselves as Haitian people with a rich culture. When they get to the U.S. they are seen as Black, as poor and as non-English speakers). Even though racial pride is a fundamental aspect of Haitian ethnic identity, this fundamental aspect of the Haitian psyche can be fractured in the transition to American culture. Research suggests that Haitian-American adolescents face substantial discrimination regardless of their

country of origin-Haiti or the U.S. (Stepick, 1998, Biofora, 1993). A 1990 survey of Haitian eighth- and ninth-graders in South Florida found that over 60% reported having experienced anti-Haitian discrimination in the U.S. (Stepick, 1998). Their change in racial pride upon arrival to the U.S. is thought to be a direct result of their experiences with prejudice and discrimination from both Whites and African-Americans upon arrival in the United States. As an example, note the research of Biafora, which suggests that Haitian immigrants are more distrustful of Whites, are generally less racially aware, and are less proud of being Black than their African-American peers (Biafora, 1993, 1994). In the absence of effective coping strategies, it is likely that these differences may predispose Haitian youth to a higher prevalence and severity of mental health problems. In response to such challenging experiences, many Haitian-American adolescents resort to what some Haitian writers refer to as "cultural suicide", or giving up their cultural identity entirely (Stepick, 1998) as a means of assimilating into the American culture. Thus acculturation to American culture may serve as a source of stressors for Haitian-American youths.

For example, a study examining the relationship between drug use and suicide ideation and attempts among several ethnic groups found that Haitians had a higher rate of suicide attempts than African-Americans, Latinos and white male adolescents (Vega et al., 1993, Colin, 2001). Although one can speculate about the factors that lead to suicide attempts, it is not clear what these factors are among this population. Other Haitian-American adolescents find other ways to deal with their stressors and conflicts. For example, Haitian-American adolescents have been found to engage in a number of high-risk activities to deal with stress. In a study examining gang involvement among adolescents, Kingery (1996)

reported that Haitian-American adolescents were more likely to be involved in gang activities than Whites. Moreover, a higher rate of alcohol consumption has been found among Haitian-American adolescents than has been found among Black adolescents (Strunin, 2001). Finally, given that these adolescents may have been exposed to violence directly or vicariously through their parents' experience, it is likely that other mental health disorders such as Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Panic Disorders may be potentially comorbid with depression among this group. The above statistics suggest the need to begin to address the mental health needs of this population.

To my knowledge, there have not been a large number of mental health care resources available to Haitian refugees coming to the United States. Most organizations have providing the Haitian refugees with immediate care such as help with securing employment, housing and immigration assistance. Surely, Haitians, like any other group who have survived a tragic event such as a coup, need mental health care, but I am not sure the service is available to them. Also, such services are associated with much stigma in the community, and may not be sought out by Haitians who have had limited experience with mental health services.

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Haitians have unique linguistic and heritage characteristics that are different from even their closest phenotypical counterpart, African-Americans.

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Haitians have issues of adjustment to a new country and language, which may put them at risk for mental health problems, specifically

depression (Francois, 1998). Given the research documenting that Haitian-American adolescents have to deal with stressors such as prejudice and discrimination (Biafora, 1993), and a variety of mental health difficulties (depression, alcohol, suicide, gang involvement, etc.) an emphasis should be placed on exploring the meaning of disorders such as depression and the relevance of this construct for Haitians, identifying and modifying measures of depression for this population, as well as developing culturally sensitive mental health interventions for them.

### **Heritage Column**

The heritage column celebrates the accomplishments of ethnic minority psychologists who have made significant contributions to the field of psychology. We repeat last spring's inaugural section.

### **Remembering Carolyn Payton**

*By Ayana Watkins-Northern, Ph.D.*

The contributions and accomplishments of Dr. Carolyn Payton have been many. From her work on numerous boards and committees of the American Psychological Association (APA) to serving as Peace Corp Director under the Carter Administration, Dr. Payton has left a legacy of hard work on behalf of ethnic minority people. She has done so from a sense of personal responsibility and personal authority. Specific to the field of clinical psychology, Payton was an educator, clinician, trainer and supervisor. She developed the first APA accredited Pre-doctoral Internship Training Program in Clinical and Counseling Psychology in a historically black institution--Howard University.

As Dean and Director of the Howard

University Counseling Service, Dr. Payton was a pioneer in addressing the need for quality clinical service for ethnic minority populations. She also placed a premium on clinical training. Acquiring advanced training was an expectation that was made clear to all her staff.

She instilled in her staff the desire to excel as clinicians and offered moral and material support to help them reach that goal. Dr. Payton took this a step further and established a group program, which offered group psychotherapy and group counseling as a treatment modality in the African-American population. This defied virtually all of the existing literature on research in group psychotherapy for minority populations, particularly Blacks or African-Americans. Training in groups, subsequently became one of the primary characteristics of the Psychology Internship Program at the University Counseling Service.

Perhaps one of Payton's most lasting and important contributions to clinical psychology for ethnic minorities was her role as mentor. Effective mentoring requires the ability to provide guidance, critical evaluation, support and modeling for taking up the role. Mentoring can be thought of as "professional parenting." From this context, one could say that Carolyn Payton parented many professional off-springs. In so doing, she has left the field of clinical psychology richer for both the clinician and the client. Carolyn Payton's legacy will have a lasting impact upon the quality of mental health services available to the underserved populations in this country.

## **Division 12 Section VI - Representative Report**

Mid Winter Meeting of Division 12 Board

San Antonio, TX January 8-11, 2004  
*By Toy Caldwell-Colbert, Ph.D. ABPP  
Section VI Rep., Division 12*

Section Representatives engaged in the Section Caucus meeting during the first part of the meeting. President Nadine Kaslow announced her intent to have regular conference calls with section representatives. She is also interested in advocacy for the Section as a way to increase member engagement. Students will be appointed to each committee with a one-year appointment. Recruiting students will keep the Division viable.

President Kaslow is interested in writing a series of white papers on practice areas that will inform practice e.g., scientifically sound resources for practitioners. These papers can also be linked to advocacy and training initiatives.

**President-Elect Linda Sobell** is interested in focusing on the Division's Journal *Clinical Psychology: Science and Practice* and how to make it more clinically relevant. Some of her concerns and interests are related to journal cost and a desire to generate more income. Offering CE credits related to the journal articles should be explored as well as expanded authorship of commentaries. To better assess the relevance of the journal, she plans to conduct a survey of the membership using Zoomerang.com. Lynn Peterson will purchase this internet service and make it available to Section interested in conducting surveys.

The theme for President-Elect Sobell will be **Clinical Disorders with Substance Use Involvement**. She plans to generate a book from this initiative. Emphasis will be placed on the impact of substance abuse on various disorders and not a focus on symptoms of a disorder.

President Kaslow is appealing to Section Reps for assistance on securing another Council seat.

Sections will be asked to help by participating in a telephone tree to contact members and secure votes.

President Kaslow, began with a mini retreat before the full meeting. The retreat involved a relationship building exercise then we engaged in an activity to focus our priorities as a first step toward creating a strategic plan for the Division.

Other items addressed during the meeting were as follows:

1. For Sections to receive \$300 allotment they must plan a project and make a written request to the Division to secure these funds.
2. Division Awardees were:
  - **Sidney Blatt, Ph.D.** -- The Award for Distinguished Contributions to Science of Clinical Psychology
  - **Lynn Rehm, Ph.D.** -- Florence Halpern Award for Distinguished Contributions to Practice of Clinical Psychology
  - **Jonathan S. Abramowitz, Ph.D.** – David Shakow Award for Early Contributions to the Science and Practice of Clinical Psychology
  - **Mitchell Prinstein, Ph.D.** – Theodore Blau Early Career Award for Outstanding Contributions to Professional Clinical Psychology
  - **Toy Caldwell-Colbert, Ph.D.** – Stanley Sue Award for Distinguished Contributions to Diversity in Clinical Psychology
  - **Drew Westen, Ph.D.**, -- Theodore Millon Award (with the American

Psychology Foundation)

3. **Division Award ceremony will be 4:00-5:30 p.m. on Saturday** and the Division Social Hour will be on Friday from 6-8:00 p.m. instead of Saturday.
4. Sections will be asked to offer names of experts as well as topics for future PDI's There is no longer a person appointed as coordinator of PDI's. President-Elect will coordinate this and the \$1500 allocated will be given to the President to use for attending the APA Convention.
5. An advocacy point person will be identified for Division 12 with sole responsibility to the Division.
6. 23 individuals are seeking Fellows status. Individuals are current Fellows of other Divisions.
7. Siony Austria was commended for her work on identifying individuals for positions within APA governance. Many Division 12 members were elected.
8. There is an interest in getting more *journal reviewers of color* involved in reviewing manuscripts. Section members with expertise should let me know of their interest and I will forward the list of names to editors.
9. The Division is interested in identifying potential presenters for two topics, child abuse and neglect and/or children's well being in the foster care system. This is in response to the resolution on bullying generated by a Division 12 task force.
10. **Cultural diversity will be a core focus during President Kaslow's tenure. As Section VI Rep, I was asked to coordinate the Division's focus using the CEMRRAT 5-year plan.**

The joint meeting with Divisions 16, 37, 43, 53, and 54 began with focus groups sessions. I

attended two of the focus groups, Education & Training and Cultural Diversity.

Section representatives gave their reports and each focused on the role and importance of advocacy in their presentation. Section IV Clinical Psychology of Women is interested in working with Section VI on a joint membership drive.

The next meeting of the Board is scheduled for June 25-27, 2004 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Next year the Mid Winter meeting will be held in Washington, DC on February 10-13, 2005. Opportunities to engage in advocacy will be part of the discussion during the 2005 Mid Winter meeting.

*Note: Next year's council Representative candidates' statements can be found in the latest issue of The Clinical Psychologist, Winter/Spring 2004 v.57, Issues 1 & 2.*

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## AWARDS OPPORTUNITIES



### **2004 American Psychological Association Student and Mentor Awards Division 12, Section VI – Clinical Psychology of Ethnic Minorities Call for Nominations**

#### I. Mentor Award

The Division 12, Section VI MENTOR Award recognizes a psychology faculty member who has demonstrated a commitment to teaching and training clinical psychologists to work more effectively with ethnic minority clinical populations. MENTOR is an acronym for: Minority, Education, Nurturing, Training, Organizational advocacy, and Research. A nomination letter (3 pages or less) and letters from two persons who have been mentored by the nominee must be submitted for consideration of the award. The nominee should exemplify significant accomplishments in at least two of the following areas:

- a) Education and Professional Development – Facilitating the professional development of ethnic minority clinical psychologists. For example, assisting ethnic minority students or trainees in obtaining publications, honors, or

- professional positions.
- b) Nurturing – Creating a professional climate that is supportive of ethnic/cultural diversity. For example, organizing a Multicultural Brown Bag seminar series, social/cultural events that promote ethnic/cultural diversity, or formal mentoring activities that enhance the development of ethnic minority students or trainees.
  - c) Training – Developing curricula that enhance the training of clinical psychologists in working with ethnic minority populations. For example, developing a course on ethnic/racial minority populations, or improving a training program’s curriculum on multicultural issues.
  - d) Organizational Advocacy – Working within an organization or creating a new one to increase ethnic/cultural diversity and retention. For example, increasing the number of ethnic minority students and graduates of a psychology training program, increasing the number of ethnic/racial minority faculty in a psychology training program, or establishing an ethnic/racial minority student organization.
  - e) Research – Advising students in research that advances the field of clinical psychology in the study of ethnic minority populations.

minorities and to recognize promising ethnic minority future researchers.

## II. Student Award

The Dalmas A. Taylor Outstanding Student Research Award recognizes research conducted by ethnic minority students relevant to the clinical psychology of ethnic minorities. The purpose of the award is to recognize high quality student research that is relevant to ethnic

**Criteria for consideration include:**

- a) Nominee is a student or received his/her clinical psychology doctoral degree within the past two years.
- b) Research topic addresses an aspect relevant to the clinical psychology of ethnic minorities.
- c) Nominee submits a paper on the above topic that is based on original research, but is not the result of secondary data analysis. The paper may be from a thesis or dissertation project. The paper should be 20 double-spaced pages or less (excluding references, tables, and figures) and follow APA Publication Manual, 5<sup>th</sup> ed. (APA, 2001) formatting, submitted in triplicate.
- d) Nominee is the principal researcher on the project from which the paper results.

**DEADLINE: May 1, 2004**

Winners of both awards will be given a plaque in their honor at the 2004 APA Annual Convention in Honolulu, Hawaii in August. The student award recipient will also receive a small honorarium and have an Abstract from their paper published in the Section VI Newsletter. Although not required, it is preferred that nominees are members of Division 12, Section VI (contact Membership chairperson, Dr. Carole Rayburn at [valentine.carole@starpower.net](mailto:valentine.carole@starpower.net)). Nomination materials should be e-mailed to the chairperson of the Awards Committee, Dr. Michele Cooley ([mcooley@jhspsh.edu](mailto:mcooley@jhspsh.edu)), or mailed to her at: Department of Mental Health, Bloomberg School of Public Health, Johns Hopkins University, 624 N. Broadway, HH 8<sup>th</sup> floor, Baltimore, MD 21205-1999.

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The University of Rhode Island announces a 3-week summer course in **Havana, Cuba, from JUNE 12, 2004-JULY 3, 2004**. Applications are being accepted immediately. This course will be housed at the prestigious Casa de las Americas cultural center in Havana ([www.casa.cult.cu](http://www.casa.cult.cu)), with the participation of faculty from the University of Havana Departments of Psychology, Geography, Planning, as well as experts provided by Casa de las Americas.

The course will contain two major thematic areas: Urban Studies (“The Revolutionary City) AND Psychology (“Exploring the Relationship between Culture, Society, and Wellbeing in the Revolutionary Context”). There will be daily class sessions as well as many field experiences.

The fee for this course includes: RT direct flight NYC-Havana-NYC; 21 nights hotel accommodations; 2 meals per day; all transportation in Cuba; 2 overnight excursions outside Havana; health insurance; course fee/registration. *We will be able to accept applications after April 7th, 2004 on a space-permitting basis only. spaces are limited!!*

TO APPLY: Please contact Mr. Ed Givens (Talent Development Program) at (401)-874-4082 OR at [eddyg@uri.edu](mailto:eddyg@uri.edu)

FOR PROGRAM RELATED QUESTIONS AND MORE INFORMATION please contact course coordinators: Marshall Feldman, Ph.D., Dept. of Community Planning, URI ([marsh@uri.edu](mailto:marsh@uri.edu)); Maria Garrido, Psy.D.,

Psychology Dept., URI (mgarrido@etal.uri.edu)

PA-03-110. Mental Health Dissertation  
Research Grants to Increase Diversity in the  
Mental Health Research Arena.



## **Announcements**

**Asuncion Miteria Austria, PhD** recently received the "Most Outstanding Alumnus Award in the field of Clinical Psychology" from Araullo High School in Manila at its 16th General Alumni Homecoming on February 21, 2004 held in Manila. Austria graduated class valedictorian.

Austria was also a recipient of the "**Clinical Psychology of Women Directors' Award**" for outstanding and unusual contributions to the Clinical Psychology of Women from Section IV (Clinical Psychology of Women) at the 2003 APA Convention in Toronto.

**New NIMH Grant Announcements from**  
<http://www.nimh.nih.gov/grants/pamenu.cfm>

PA-04-061 Research on Rural Mental Health and Drug Abuse Disorders

PAR-04-060 Advanced Centers for Mental Health Disparities Research (ACMHDR)

PAR-04-015 Interventions and Practice Research Infrastructure Program (IR-RISP)

PAR-04-010 Behavior Science Track Award for Rapid Transition (B/START)

## Newsletter Submission Guidelines

Have any newsworthy information of interest to our Section membership? Tell us about your activities, or discuss an issue relevant to the clinical psychology of ethnic minorities. Let us know when a colleague or you have received an award or recognition.

- 1) **Fall edition:** **September 30**  
**Spring edition:** **February 28**  
**Special Convention Edition:** **June 30.**
- 2) Submissions may be edited for consistency, length, redundancy, and format.
- 3) Officer reports will be limited to 3 paragraphs or a half page; President's report will be limited to a full page; all other articles will be limited to a full page or less with references.
- 4) Submissions should be sent copy ready, preferably on disk in Word 6.0 or less, or via E-mail on an ASCII file to newsletter editor, Guelda Nicolas.
- 5) No submissions will be accepted after the deadline.

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### Nominations and Elections

*Helen Pratt, PhD*  
Michigan State University

## Section VI Membership

Carole A. Rayburn, Ph.D.  
Membership Chair

### STAND UP AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE: JOIN SECTION VI!

Besides being extremely informative, Section VI is very encouraging of members getting involved, standing up and making a difference in the clinical psychology of ethnic minorities and in psychology in general. We offer mentoring, highlighting of student members, biographical "Heritage" sections created by Guerda Nicolas in our fine newsletter, and all manner of ways to help YOU. We prize your contributions of time, talent, skill, and common purpose. We want you, your colleagues, and your students

to be an important part of our Section. Spread the word to join Section VI and help it to thrive even more.

Why not surprise a fellow student or friend with a one-year gift membership to Section VI? Membership includes a subscription to the Section's Newsletter and invitation to sponsored programs during the APA convention. Student membership is only \$5 and regular membership is \$15. Contact Membership Chair: Carole Rayburn

## Membership Application

I wish to join/renew membership in Section VI, Division 12, APA.  
Enclosed are my dues of U.S. \$15.00 (U.S. \$5.00 for students).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Status for which I am applying:

Member, Section VI, Division 12     Student Sect. VI, Division 12     Non-APA member (Section Affiliate)

Member of APA, not Division 12     Student, not Division 12

If student, indicate training program currently enrolled in: \_\_\_\_\_

### Personal Information (Optional)

Gender \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_

Area(s) of Concentration \_\_\_\_\_

(Optional for students) Please rank order 3 main issues/areas of concern for you in your program:

\_\_\_ Financial support \_\_\_ Availability of faculty mentors \_\_\_ Support to pursue research topic \_\_\_ Curriculum

\_\_\_ Availability of supportive environment for ethnic minority students and faculty (e.g., department's commitment to recruitment and retention, opportunities to participate in committees to address program issues).

Please check:

\_\_\_ I am interested in being mentored by a Section 6 member.

\_\_\_ I am interested in mentoring a student member.

\_\_\_ Both

**Make checks payable to: APA Division 12, Section VI**

Send to: Carole Rayburn, Ph.D.

1200 Morningside Dr., Silver Spring MD 20904-3149

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**2004 SPRING ISSUE - EXCITING NEWS INSIDE!**