

**APA Committee of Psychology Teachers at Community Colleges (PT@CC)
Annual Report 2006**

The APA Committee of Psychology Teachers at Community Colleges (PT@CC) met in April and October 2006 to discuss ongoing programs and activities, and new initiatives. By the end of 2006, nearly 950 psychology teachers have joined APA as APA Community College Teacher Affiliates. In addition, close to 200 APA Members/Associates at community colleges are participating in PT@CC.

Members of the PT@CC Committee included: Susan K (Skip) Pollock, PhD (Mesa Community College, AZ), Chair; Patricia Puccio, EdD (College of DuPage, IL); Donna Duffy, PhD (Middlesex Community College, MA); Ladonna Lewis, PhD (Glendale Community College, AZ); Vivian Hamilton, MA (Portland Community College, OR); and Vincent Granito, PhD (Loraine County Community College, OH). The BEA liaison was Barney Beins, PhD (Ithaca College, NY)

Priorities: Ongoing and New Activities

- Strengthen, promote, and recognize excellence in teaching through convention programming, regional meetings and teaching conferences, and the dissemination of teaching-related materials. A new focus in this area is the creation of "Local Teaching Networks." PT@CC will sponsor, help develop, and support three 1-day teaching workshops designed for community college teachers in a local area. The objective is to reach out to faculty members who are not able to travel to larger regional or national conventions but who could attend a local event. PT@CC wants to create new vehicles for grass-roots APA involvement.
- Increase membership through strategic recruitment initiatives including mass mailings, special events for faculty and support of the "Local Teaching Networks"
- Continuity of current projects that recognize high quality and innovative electronic projects submitted by psychology students at community colleges, and teaching tips submitted by psychology faculty.
- Identify and share promising practices by the development of "how to" guides. Two guides have been written and are in the review process within APA. Upon completion, these guides will be sent to all PT@CC members. These resources are: (a) "Guide to Developing IRBs in Community Colleges," and (b) Resources for Adjunct Psychology Faculty.

PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES IN 2006

APA Convention Programming in 2006

PT@CC sponsored a reception and five hours of convention programming in 2006:

- The Last Lecture: Maureen Hester, PhD, and Patricia Puccio, EdD
- PT@CC Invited Address: The Diane F. Halpern Lecture presented by Stephen Chew, PhD, ("Why Do Psychologists Think like Scientists but Teach Like Dummies?")
- 2-Hour Symposium: Teaching, Learning and Assessing in a Developmentally Coherent Curriculum: Patricia Puccio, EdD, Jerry Rudmann, PhD, and Vincent Granito, PhD
- Innovative Teaching Techniques Symposium: Laura Bittner, MA, and Ladonna Lewis, PhD

Publications and news about APA PT@CC

PT@CC contributed to The *Psychology Teacher Network (PTN)*, a quarterly newsletter for teachers

of introductory psychology. The *PTN* features articles, activities, book reviews, announcements, and other news items for psychology teachers in high schools, 2- and 4-year colleges/universities.

PT@CC Electronic Project Contest

With financial support from the APA Education Directorate and Allyn and Bacon Publishing, PT@CC sponsored the fourth annual "APA Electronic Project Contest." This competition was developed to recognize creativity and technical competence of outstanding community college psychology students. A national group of PT@CC members served as a judging panel and awards were given for first place (which ended in a tie) and third place.

PT@CC Teaching Tips Contest.

The 2006 Teaching Tips Contest was postponed due to a small number of submissions. The committee speculated that members may have concerns about submitting teaching tips that are modifications of existing ideas, some of which may be from unknown sources. In order for APA to share the teaching tips, teachers are asked to certify the originality of their teaching tips or to provide specific references. The PT@CC Committee is looking at ways to reconfigure this contest to address these concerns and to generate more interest.

Elected New Board Members

In 2006, the PT@CC Committee held its third nationwide election. A PT@CC elections subcommittee narrowed nine self-nominated candidates to a slate of four candidates to fill two vacant seats. Salvador Macias, PhD (University of South Carolina Sumter, SC) and Nancy Schaab, PhD (Delta College, MI), were elected for three-year terms of office beginning in January 2007. Susan K. (Skip) Pollock was re-elected chair for 2007.

Support for Diversity Initiatives

The APA publication *Infusing Diversity into the Curriculum* was sent to all PT@CC members as part of the winter 2006 mass mailing. PT@CC made a commitment to devote one of its five program hours at the APA Convention each year to diversity topics. An issue of the *Psychology Teacher Network* newsletter (Fall 2006) focused on diversity. In addition, Ladonna Lewis, PhD, was selected as a member of the APA Task Force on Diversity Education Resources.

Outreach to Community College Faculty

To provide special programming for community college faculty at regional and national meetings, PT@CC members hosted events at the annual meetings of Eastern Psychological Association (EPA), Western Psychological Association (WPA), the Southwestern Psychological Association (SWPA), and the APA Convention.

Each year, the APA Education Directorate distributes two mass mailings to PT@CC. In 2006, mailings included information updates and specific APA teaching materials. All PT@CC members received the APA publication, *Toward an Inclusive Psychology: Infusing the Introductory Psychology Textbook with Diversity Content*. In addition, the mailings included the PT@CC Excellence in Psychology Certificates to recognize the accomplishments of outstanding students. New PT@CC members also received copies the *Activities Handbook for the Teaching of Psychology*.

The committee has changed its listserv, the PT@CC Electronic Update, into a discussion list so that online discussions and information sharing can occur. The listserv provides a means for networking and helps to build a sense of community among psychology faculty. The committee

wants to share the resources of APA with faculty at community colleges, and hopes to expand the network of teachers and students involved in APA.

PT@CC Composition

The APA Committee of Psychology Teachers at Community Colleges (PT@CC) has six members. In 2006 five committee members were female and one was male. One member was an ethnic minority. In preparation for the annual PT@CC Committee elections, diversity is considered as the slate of candidates is developed for the election.