

2001

Executive Committee of the Teachers of Psychology in Secondary Schools (TOPSS)

2001 Annual Report



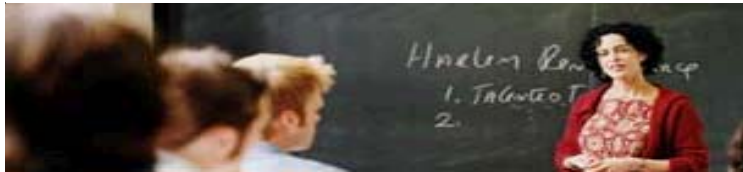
2001 was an exciting, productive, and challenging year for TOPSS. The APA consolidated meetings planned for September were cancelled as a result of the attacks on New York and Washington, D.C. Fortunately, the APA and the TOPSS board found alternate ways to communicate and progress with our work to benefit high school psychology teachers. The TOPSS board for 2001 was: Mary Spilis (Past Chair), Craig Gruber (Chair), Rob McEntarffer (Chair-elect), Marissa Sarabando (Secretary/Treasurer), Dave Johnston (Secretary/Treasurer-Elect), Ruth Martin (Member-At-Large), and Deb Park (Member-At-Large). The following is a short list of the work accomplished for members during this past year:

- We defined specific job responsibilities for each board member. These responsibilities will streamline the work that we do and provide additional information to members who want to run for an office on the TOPSS board.
- TOPSS communicated with the National Standards working group regarding the revision process for that document and ensured TOPSS will be an active participant in the future of the *National Standards for the Teaching of High School Psychology*.
- We worked with the Committee on Animal Research and Ethics (CARE) regarding revisions on the CARE *Guidelines for the Use of Animals in Behavioral Science Projects in Schools (K-12)* aimed to make their guidelines more applicable and usable for high school teachers
- TOPSS sponsored eight speakers at the 2001 convention and they were well received and attended. Speakers included: Dr. Randal Wight, Dr. Dana Dunn, Dr. Carol Wade, Dr. William Dement, Dr. Neil Lutsky, Dr. Drew Appleby, Dr. Carla Golden, and Dr. Christina Maslach
- TOPSS recognized three outstanding high school psychology teaching with the TOPSS Excellence in Teaching Award. The recipients in 2001 were:

Terri Lindenberg of Lake Park High School (Roselle, IL)

Faye Johnson of Paint Branch High School (Burtonsville, MD)

Charles "Chuck" Greiner of James M. Bennett High School (Salisbury, MD).



- TOPSS recognized three winners of the TOPSScholarship Essay Contest:
 - Laurie Deffley of Marion Catholic High School (Chicago Heights, IL) who was sponsored by her teacher, Scott Bodnar;
 - Erica L. Durst of Shawnee High School (Medford, NJ) who was sponsored by her teacher, Eileen McKenna;
 - Rebecca Silverstein of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (Alexandria, VA) who was sponsored by her teacher, Pamela Hannah.
- TOPSS recognized four students through the APF/TOPSS “Excellence in High School Research” Awards:
 - First place winner - Johanna Waldman from Roslyn High School (Roslyn Heights, NY)
 - Second place winner - Emanuel Hossein Steiner from Bronx High School of Science (Bronx, NY)
 - Third place winner - Kejia Sun from Irondale Senior High School (New Brighton, MN)
 - Fourth place winner - Jenifer Anne Jewkes from Carbon High School (Price, UT).
- We are consulting with the APA regarding the restructuring of the 2002 APA annual convention.
- A TOPSS 10th Anniversary party is being planned for the 2002 APA annual convention in Chicago, IL, on August 22-25, 2002. Watch for details on the TOPSS web site.
- We continue with the Unit Plan project. The States of Consciousness unit will be available soon! A unit on the Treatment of Psychological Disorders will be added in 2002.
- The TOPSS Web Page continues to be updated and new features were added in 2001, including the *National Standards for the Teaching of High School Psychology*, the *Psychology Teacher Network*, and the TOPSS unit lesson plans. Check out the web page: <http://www.apa.org/ed/topsshhomepage.html>

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- The TOPSS board consulted with Pat Miyamoto regarding possible membership drives and coordinated an outreach effort to recruit AP Psychology Teachers to join TOPSS in late November 2001.
- TOPSS is investigating the possibility of developing a National Board Certification Process for Psychology Teachers
- The TOPSS State Coordinator Program continued this year with a comprehensive review of on-going work in each state. TOPSS board members attempted to contact each state coordinator and inquired what programs were occurring and how TOPSS could help psychology teachers in that state.
- A new TOPSS College Faculty Representative was selected. The board is excited to work with Dr. David Matsumoto next year.
- A fundraising campaign to support TOPSS initiatives is off the ground and running! Solicitations have been sent in order to obtain donations that will help fund more support materials and activities for high school psychology teachers. The goal is for the fund to reach \$50,000 in five years.
- TOPSS sponsored five workshops for high school psychology teachers in 2001.

University of San Diego
San Diego, CA

February 16-17, 2001
Rob McEntarffer and Ken Keith, PhD
Special guest: David Matsumoto, PhD,
on Cross-Cultural Psychology

MPA Annual Meeting
Chicago, IL

May 4-5, 2001
Carol Dean and Bill Addison, PhD

APA Convention
San Francisco, CA

August 22-23, 2001
Pat Mattimore and Jane Halonen, PhD
Special guest: Phil Zimbardo, PhD

NEPA Meeting
Danbury, CT

October 19, 2001
Allyson Weseley and Rich Velayo, PhD
Special theme: Teaching Research Methods and Fostering the Best in High School Student Research

Spelman College
Atlanta, GA

November 2-3, 2001
Jan Daniel, Bill Buskist, PhD, Mary Lou Frank, PhD, and Linda Noble, PhD