

Women's Psych-E

E-newsletter of the APA Women's Programs Office: January 2006

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NEWS

January Is National Stalking Awareness Month

The National Center for Victims of Crime is recognizing the 3rd National Stalking Awareness Month to focus on the serious and deadly crime that victimizes more than one million women and nearly 400,000 men in America each year. For more information, please visit the NCVV Stalking Resource Center website at www.ncvc.org/src.

E-STATS: Stalking

- 1 out of every 12 women will be stalked during her lifetime
- 59% of female victims and 30% of male victims are stalked by an intimate partner.
- 76% of intimate partner femicide (murder) victims had been stalked by their intimate partner.
- 59% of female victims and 30% of male victims are stalked by an intimate partner.

Source: National Center for Victims of Crime – Stalking Resource Center, Stalking Factsheet, www.ncvc.org/src/AGP.Net/Components/DocumentViewer/Download.aspx?DocumentID=41223.

President Signs VAWA

On Thursday, January 5, the *Violence Against Women Act of 2005* (VAWA) was signed into law by President George W. Bush as part of legislation to authorize appropriations for the Department of Justice. The reauthorization of this landmark legislation to protect victims of violence extends the law for five years and appropriates approximately \$3.9 billion for VAWA programs. In addition to extending many existing programs, the new law creates several new groundbreaking initiatives, including opportunities to train health care providers to support victims of abuse, programs to assist children exposed to violence, and crisis services for victims of rape and sexual assault.

The APA Public Policy Office, in conjunction with the WPO, worked closely with a national coalition of advocacy organizations to encourage the reauthorization of VAWA and to ensure that the mental and behavioral health needs of victims of violence and their families were included in the final legislative language. For more information, please contact Diane Elmore, PhD, in the APA Public Policy Office at delmore@apa.org.

See also, *APA Resolution on Male Violence Against Women* <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/maleviol.html>.

OTHER NEWS

Childhood Sexual Abuse Associated with Difficulty in Adult Relationships

In a study published in the December 2005 *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, researchers from the University of Buffalo Institute on Addictions examined the association between childhood sexual abuse (CSA) and women's adult sexual risk behaviors, in addition to the quality of their intimate relationships. Using a household sample of women ($n = 732$), researchers found that elevated sexual risk behaviors among CSA survivors reflect difficulty in establishing stable and safe relationships and may be reduced by interventions aimed at improving intimate relationships.

Testa, M., VanZile-Tamsen, C., & Livingston, J.A. (2005) Childhood sexual abuse, relationship satisfaction, and sexual risk taking in a community sample of women. *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*, 73(6), 1116-1124.

Number of Female Faculty and Doctorates on the Rise

An article published in the December 2005 *American Psychologist* examines the progression of graduate programs and departments of psychology in the United States and Canada over the past three decades. Using data from the 2005 edition of *Graduate Study in Psychology*, authors Norcross, Kohout, and Wicherski, examine characteristics for entire departments in 1970-71, 1979-80 and 1992-93 compared with those of 2003-04. Trends for female faculty and students appear to be increasing. In fact, 40 % to 45% of faculty are now women and 68% of new doctorates in psychology are awarded to women.

Norcross, J.C., Kohout, J.L., & Wicherski, M. (2005). Graduate study in psychology: 1971 to 2004. *American Psychologist*, 60(9), 959-975.

See also, Graduate Faculty Interested in the Psychology of Women at www.apa.org/pi/wpo/gradfaculty2005.html.

ASSOCIATION NEWS

APA President-elect 2006: Sharon Stephens Brehm, PhD

Sharon Stephens Brehm, PhD, Professor of Psychology in the clinical and social programs at Indiana University Bloomington has been elected as President-elect of the American Psychological Association. She will assume the presidency in 2007. Dr. Brehm will focus on several major areas that are crucial for the association, such as the importance of communications, increasing advocacy on behalf of psychology, expanding the APA website and preparing psychology for the future. Additionally, Dr. Brehm sees math and science as an area where psychology can make a major contribution, particularly by developing new teaching methods to improve performance for all students, particularly women and ethnic minority groups, which tend to be underrepresented in this field.

Dr. Brehm will assume the role of APA president on January 1, 2007 making her the 10th woman to be elected as APA President. For a list of all former APA Presidents, please visit <http://www.apa.org/about/paspres.html>.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR PSYCHOLOGISTS

CWP Leadership Awards – Call for Nominations (Deadline: February 14th)

The APA Committee on Women in Psychology (CWP) invites nominations for its twenty second annual Leadership Awards. These awards serve to actively demonstrate CWP's commitment to ensure that women receive equity both within psychology and as consumers of psychological services, and that issues pertaining to women are kept at the forefront of psychological research, education, training, and practice. Nominees will be identified as “emerging” or “distinguished” leaders in one or more areas of influence: service provision, scholarship, public interest, and service in psychology. For more information, please contact Gabriel Twose at gtwose@apa.org or visit <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/leadershipawards.html>.

SPSSI James Marshall Public Policy Fellowship

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI: APA Division 9) is seeking candidates for its James Marshall Public Policy Fellowship. The next appointment begins September 2006. The recipient (AKA: Scholar) represents SPSSI in approved policy and advocacy activities. The Scholar splits time between SPSSI Central Office and the Public Policy Office of the American Psychological Association (APA) in Washington, D.C. The Scholar participates in supervised activities including using psychological research to (1) analyze specific social policies and (2) develop policy advocacy. The policy focus of this work varies from year to year as SPSSI and APA priorities shift and as the interests and expertise of the Scholar differ. An endowment provided by the James Marshall Foundation in part supports the work of this position. Application deadline is January 30, 2006. For more information, please access: www.spssi.org/James_Marshall_Flyer.html.

CEMRRAT Grants 2006

The APA's Public Interest Directorate has been allocated \$100,000 in 2006 to continue implementation of the CEMRRAT Plan as recommended by the APA Commission on Ethnic Minority Recruitment, Retention and Training in Psychology (CEMRRAT). These small-grants "seed funds" energize, empower, and support interested individuals, organizations, and educational institutions committed to enhancing ethnic minority recruitment, retention and training in psychology. See http://www.apa.org/pi/oema/programs/cemrrat2_grant_fund_announcement.pdf for more information.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sixth Interdisciplinary Conference on Work, Stress and Health, Miami, FL, March 2-4, 2006.

<http://www.apa.org/pi/work/wsh2006.html>

2006 American Psychological Association Annual Convention, New Orleans, LA, August 10 – 13, 2006. <http://www.apa.org/convention06/>

Contributions, comments, and subscription requests may be submitted for consideration to Tanya L. Burrwell, Editor, at tburrwell@apa.org. Check the Women's Programs Office website at <http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo>.