Psychological Corporation Offers Major Support Through Foundation To APA Congressional Fellowship Program

A major donation from The Psychological Corporation to the Foundation’s $7 million fundraising effort, the Campaign for a New Era, will soon expand the American Psychological Association (APA) Congressional Fellowship program. Psychological Corporation president Dr. Aurelio Prifitera, APF trustee Dr. Joseph D. Matarazzo, and former APA chief executive officer Dr. Raymond D. Fowler joined APF executive director Elisabeth R. Straus at the APA annual convention in Chicago last year to announce a $150,000 gift, which will provide $75,000 each for a 2003 and a 2004 fellowship. Specifically, the donation will assure that one or more Fellows within the APA program will have a background in testing, education, or clinical psychology. With this generous donation, the Psychological Corporation becomes a leading contributor to the Foundation’s Campaign and a member of its New Era Platinum Society.

“The vision statement of The Psychological Corporation is improving the practice of assessment,” notes Dr. Prifitera. “This aligns well with the APF mission, including the advancement of the practice of psychology to benefit human welfare. By supporting the APA’s Congressional Fellowship Program, we will be helping to achieve both of these missions.”

“The Psychological Corporation understands and appreciates the potential impact that legislation will have on the practice of psychology—both in the school environment and in clinical practice,” Prifitera continues. “This fellowship will provide an invaluable opportunity not only to learn about the legislative impact on our profession, but also to contribute to the development of federal government policy that will model the practice of psychology in the future. We are proud to be sponsors—through the Foundation—of the APA Congressional Fellowship Program in 2003 and 2004.”

Eighty-one Fellows have participated through the APA Congressional Fellowship program, which has been in existence since 1974, and is administered by the APA Office of Public Policy. APA has long supported the program because it provides invaluable public policy learning experience, contributes to a more effective use of psychological knowledge in the government, and broadens awareness about the value of the interaction between psychology and government both among psychologists and government officials.

APA Fellows typically spend one year working as a special legislative aide on the staff of a member of Congress or on a congressional committee. They are involved in a wide range of activities that includes conducting legislative or oversight work, assisting in hearings and debates, preparing briefs, and writing speeches. In preparation, fellows attend an orientation program, administered by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, on congressional and executive branch operations, including guidance in the congressional placement process and a yearlong seminar series on science and public policy issues.

The Psychological Corporation was founded in 1921 by a trio of psychologists, each of whom had served as president of APA: James McKeen Cattell (1895), Edward L. Thorndike (1912), and Robert S. Woodworth (1914). The corporation’s mission is to develop and distribute tests and related products for professionals in psychology; health; business; general, bilingual, and special education; and other areas serving people of all ages and cultures. In 1970, publisher Harcourt Brace and Jovanovich purchased the Psychological Corporation. In 2000, the educational testing division of the Psychological Corporation became a separate company, Harcourt Educational Measurement. Both the Psychological Corporation and Harcourt Educational Measurement were wholly owned subsidiaries of Harcourt General. Most recently, in 2001, Dutch publishers Reed Elsevier purchased Harcourt and the Psychological Corporation. Corporation offices have been located in San Antonio, Texas since 1986.

Interested psychologists should address inquiries and applications to the APA Science Policy Office, which screens and selects candidates for the program. The Psychological Corporation/APF-sponsored APA Congressional Fellowship is a one-year appointment beginning September 3, 2003, with final selection of the Fellow to be made in early 2003.

“This fellowship will provide an invaluable opportunity not only to learn about the legislative impact on our profession, but also to contribute to the development of federal government policy that will model the practice of psychology in the future.”
Fifty Years—A New Era Deserves a New Look!

About sixty years after the establishment of the American Psychological Association, the Association wanted to find a way for members and other psychologists to contribute financially to the continuing development of the field. So, in 1953, at the Hotel Cleveland in Cleveland, Ohio, J. McVickar, Donald Munzinger, Donald Young, and Donald Shaffer—all past or soon-to-be presidents of APA—convened the first meeting of a new organization, separately incorporated from the association, but affiliated with it in the American Psychological Foundation. They began with assets of $550.

In the first forty years of its existence, the Foundation had initiated the sort of programming that could be supported with very limited resources, as well as with ways in which to generate revenue. Through these years, award programs, recognizing significant and innovative careers in psychology, were gradually joined by scholarship and research funding programs, as the Foundation slowly began to work its way into the profession’s consciousness.

About ten years ago, the trustees decided to take a leap of faith and move to a new level of development. They hired a full-time director (now executive director), Elizabeth R. Straus. Together, Lisa and I helped to usher in a new era for the Foundation, and the APA has now evolved into one of the most significant funding resources specifically within psychology, with an estimated net value of almost $10 million. In 2002, scholarships and fellowships (from the high-school level through doctoral dissertation), research grants in diverse areas of psychological enquiry, and achievement recognition throughout the career spectrum accounted for over $425,000 of funding offered by APF.

Two years ago, the Foundation embarked on a Campaign for a New Era, to raise $7 million over a five-year period. Our goal is, with additional resources, to further the continuing development of the field of psychology—just what Hilgard, Hunt, Marquis, and Shaffer set forth as the APF mission fifty years ago.

In 2003, we will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of APF in a number of ways. First, as you can see, we’ve changed the format of our newsletter to better convey our current donors and potential contributors and ensure that the Foundation’s next fifty years make an even greater mark than those since our inception.

After 32 issues in our previous format, I welcome our readers to Volume I/Issue of Psychology Giving!
The Foundation’s Campaign for a New Era has reached $5.9 million of its $7 million goal, receiving approximately $441,000, since the August 2002 APA convention. Major donors of $10,000 or more will be featured on the Campaign for a New Era donor wall, to be installed in the lobby of APA headquarters in 2005. The Foundation would like to recognize the following recent major donors, who made their commitments since August 2002 and prior to the copy deadline for this issue:

New Era Gold Society ($50,000 and above)

Drs. Joseph D. and Ruth C. Matarazzo pledged an additional $20,000 to complement the $30,000 in campaign contributions that they have made to the Foundation since 2000. After a $43,000 contribution in 1997, the AFP Trustees recognized the Matarazzos generosity by naming one of the Foundation’s graduate scholarships in their honor. For 40 years, Joseph Matarazzo served as chair of the Department of Medical Psychology at the Oregon Health Sciences University School of Medicine, where he is now professor of behavioral neuroscience. He also has served as president of numerous organizations, including APA in 1989, APF from 1994 until 2000, and the Academy of Behavioral Medicine Research.

Ruth Matarazzo is professor emerita of medical psychology at the Oregon Health Sciences University School of Medicine. She was professor (1967-1999) and then a woman liaison officer to the Associate Dean of American Medical Colleges (1978-1990). She has been president of the Portland and Oregon Psychological Associations.

Drs. Raymond and Rosalee Weiss have contributed $50,000 to support grants for research and program innovation. Their gift launches the Rosalie G. and Raymond A. Weiss Research and Program Innovation Fund, which will be augmented with a major bequest from the Weisses that will ensure renewable awards for psychological research and program innovations to come.

Dr. Raymond A. Weiss, Ph.D., Ed.D., received his doctoral degrees from New York University and Columbia University. After serving in the Air Force during WWII, he taught, conducted research at NYU. In 1981, he took an “early retirement” from the university and completed the requirements to become a licensed psychologist. Rosalie G. Weiss, Ph.D received a “Certificate of Merit in Recognition of an Outstanding Contribution to the Nation’s War Effort” for her work during World War II. After the war, she received her Ph.D from NYU and became senior clinical research psychologist for the State of New Jersey at the Diagnostic Center in Menlo Park. After leaving the Center, she continued her clinical practice in Teaneck, NJ, while serving as a consultant to school systems, institutions, and agencies. In the early 1980s, Raymond and Rosalie formed Weiss and Weiss, Psychological Associates, PA.

New Era Silver Society ($25,000 and above)

Dr. Leonard Eron and Mrs. Madelene Eron have contributed $8,000 to the Foundation since the campaign began and recently pledged an additional $17,000, in support of the General Fund.

Leonard Eron served as chief psychologist (1948-1955) and research associate (1956-1960) in the Department of Psychiatry at Yale University School of Medicine, chief psychologist and director of research at the RupVan Winkle Clinic and Foundation (1955-1962), and professor and director of graduate training at the University of Iowa (1962-1969). In 1969, he was transferred to the University of Illinois at Chicago and, in 1990, retired as emeritus research professor of the social sciences in psychology. He is renowned for his study of violence and aggression and their prevention in children.

New Era Bronze Society ($10,000 and above)

Dr. Harry P. David and Mrs. Tena David have pledged $10,000. The pledge will augment the Harry P. David Travel Award Fund, which Dr. David established in 1993, with a $50,000 gift to enable young psychologists to participate in international congresses.

Dr. David is the founder and director of the Transnational Family Research Institute in Bethesda, Maryland. For over 30 years, Dr. David has devoted his career to studies of reproductive health and public policy both here and abroad. He has served as a consultant to the World Health Organization and other international agencies and is currently a board member of the Moscow Center for Gender Studies and the Instituto Mexicano de Investigacion de Familia y Poblacion.

Dr. Donald K. Freedheim has contributed $1,000 to the Foundation since the campaign began and recently pledged an additional $10,000 to be used for the APA Division 29 Early Career Award.

Dr. Freedheim began his career at the Mental Development Center, an interdisciplinary outpatient clinic for children at Case Western Reserve University where he still teaches as emeritus professor in the Department of Psychology and co-directs the Schubert Center for Child Development. He has chaired the APA International Committee and has served on the APA council of representatives, board of directors, and board of professional affairs.

Dr. Donald K. and Mrs. Marion Routh have contributed $3,700 to the Foundation since the campaign began and recently contributed an additional $7,000 to supplement the Lizette Peterson-Homer Memorial Injury Research Fund.

At the 110th annual meeting of the American Psychological Association in Chicago, Illinois, two of the three graduating high school seniors recognized as the winners of the 2002 APF/Teachers of Psychology in Secondary Schools (TOPSS) Scholarship Competition met with their chosen mentors at the Chicago Convention. Their travel grants were sponsored by the American Psychological Foundation, now renamed to honor Dr. Peterson-Homer, who died in 2002.

Shakmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York, was the site for the second annual Pinnacle Project Summit, where for one week in August 2002, masters students from a wide array of disciplines interacted with seven highly gifted adolescents in a relaxed setting of group discussions, nature walks, and group projects. Coordinated by the Foundation, with additional support from the Clay Mathematics Institute, the Pinnacle summit spans across levels of academic background and a wide array of fields, including psychology, journalism, music composition, visual art, computer science, theoretical physics, and creative writing.

Rena Subotnik, Ph.D, director of the APF Center for Gifted Education (CGE), says it was a life-changing experience for the adolescents in two ways. “One was in terms of being exposed to high levels of expertise,” says Subotnik. “The other was socially, where they had a chance to be among other kids who were not competitors, who each had their own level of expertise but who were very talented and very serious about their work.”

Julia Carney, 16, of Newton, Massachusetts, says meeting with her mentor continued to page 4
In Memory...

September 1 – November 30, 2002

Anonymous — “In memory of Kevin L. Moreland, Ph.D.”
Dr. Robert Perloff — “In memory of Chuck Kiesler—exemplary APA executive officer, prison psychologist, and principled leader in higher education.”
Dr. Peter Francis Menden — “In memory of Nicholas Vacek.”
Dr. Robert Perloff — “In memory of Emerit R. Hågglund if anyone has earned the sobriquet as America’s—indeed the whole blooming world’s—Renaissance psychologist and educator, certainly that person has got to be Jack Hägglund.”
Dr. Robert Perloff — “In memory of Clifton J. Caruth, Ph.D.”
Dr. Mary E. Rodgers — “In memory of Dr. Marvin Iverson.”
Dr. Daniel and Mrs. Grace Rhoton — “In memory of Michael Paul Rothstein, Ph.D., who devoted his life to the psyche.”
Dr. William Seinfeld — “In memory of Sparky H. Huthnow.”

Correction

The Foundation would like to clarify two statements in the fall 2002 newsletter (issue 31) notice of a major contribution to its campaign for a New Era. By Dr. Williams and Mr. Dorothy Benen Free, the Williams Bevan Annual Lecture Series on Psychology and Public Policy was established by the trustees of the Foundation in 1993 to honor Dr. Bevan’s contributions in this area; it was not established by Dr. Bevan himself. Second, the Dale Talbot Identification Program (at Duke University) benefits gifted and talented children and adolescents across a 16-state area.

In Honor...

September 1 – November 30, 2002

Dr. Leonard and Mrs. Magdelene Eden — “In honor of Dr. Sol Garfinkel.”
Mr. Shelley L. Greens — “In honor of the Folkash family.”

Spotlight on...

Mathilda B. Canter, Ph.D.

“One reason why I’ve chosen, over the years, to contribute to APF is that, by doing so, I’ve been able to make at least a small statement of support for a broad spectrum of programs that could not have been implemented without gifts, both small and large, to the Foundation. Another reason is trust. I trust the APF to administer its funds efficiently, and I trust its Trustees to understand enough about psychology, psychologists, and our society, so that they will—and do—disperse their discretionary funds wisely, for projects that advance psychology for human welfare.”

American Psychological Foundation Legacy Club

If you have included APF in your will or estate plans, please let us know. You will become a member of the APF Legacy Club and will receive invitations to special events and recognition in APA publications (unless you request otherwise). To become a member of the APF Legacy Club, please call (202) 336-5843.

American Psychological Foundation

The American Psychological Foundation, established in 1953, is a nonprofit, philanthropic 501(c)(3) organization that provides grants, scholarships, and awards to individuals and groups in order to advance the science and practice of psychology for the understanding of behavior and the benefit of human welfare.

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In Memory...

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