Reflections on April 16, 2007
The Tragedy at Virginia Tech

By Reliford T. Sanders Jr., PhD, LCP

As a 17-year veteran of the mental health profession, I’d like to believe that I’ve seen and heard most, if not all, of what can be seen and heard in our offices. But as an FBI agent confided to me just hours after the April 16th massacre on the campus of Virginia Tech, “They prepare us for this, but they don’t really prepare us for this.” I share his sentiments.

I am a licensed clinical psychologist in the Cook Counseling Center (CCC) at Virginia Tech. The primary mission of the center is to serve students by means of a brief therapy model that uses the modes of individual, couples, and group counseling and assessment. We often consult with faculty and staff, but they are not our primary constituents. However, after a tragedy of this magnitude, the rules changed, and our client base grew to include administrators, faculty and staff, students and their families, and the media. In addition, the tasks required of us expanded beyond the traditional duties of a counseling center.

During the first week after the shootings, the CCC organized several presentations to faculty groups to address how they might handle discussions with students when classes resumed (classes were cancelled for the week of the shootings). Professionals from the Employee Assistance Program addressed the personal needs of the faculty and staff. This was a positive and effective collaboration. In addition, the CCC staff conducted similar programs (e.g., in resident halls and clubs) for students who remained on campus. Generally, we spent as much time out of the office in outreach programs as we did in the CCC during that first week. We were also called on to attend to the needs of some of the families of victims. In a few instances, our staff served as the primary liaison to the families and the university, assisting families at area hospitals and university programs (e.g., at the commencement ceremonies).

The struggle was to ensure that we were available to our current clients and to potential users of the counseling center as well as to address the perceived needs of the broader university. We were mostly successful in that endeavor, but it took a concentrated effort to prevent burnout. For the first 2 weeks, our hours of operation expanded from 8:00 a.m. to 9 p.m. We added weekend hours for the first two weeks. There was a 75% increase in appointments in the month following the event, compared with the number of appointments in the same month a year earlier. There was over a 300% increase in walk-in appointments for the same month.

Dealing with an incident of this magnitude also required a great deal of organization. We were bombarded with requests for programs, interviews, and participation in press conferences. We coordinated 275 mental...
Minority Fellowship Program Information

The Minority Fellowship Program (MFP) accepts applications in psychology and neuroscience beginning in the fall of each year. Consistent with Healthy People 2010 and federal initiatives to reduce health disparities, the MFP objective is to increase the knowledge of issues related to ethnic minority populations. We do this by providing financial support and professional development to individuals pursuing doctoral degrees in psychology and neuroscience.

Eligible applicants must be:

1. American citizens or permanent residents.
2. Enrolled full-time in a doctoral program at the time the fellowship is awarded (additionally, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services [MHSAS] applicants must be in an APA-accredited program).
3. Demonstrate a commitment to a career in psychology or neuroscience related to ethnic minority mental health.

- The MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services (MHSAS) Fellowship, which is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), is geared to those pursuing careers as practitioners or researchers specializing in the delivery of mental health service to ethnic minority populations. Trainees make a commitment to receive training in both mental health and substance abuse services. Students specializing in clinical, school, and counseling psychology are encouraged to apply.

- The MHSAS Postdoctoral Fellowship, which is funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), is aimed at early career doctoral recipients who are interested in developing a career in mental health services research, services, or policy. The postdoctoral fellowship requires the submission of a specific application.

- The Diversity Program in Neuroscience (DPN) Predoctoral Fellowship and the Postdoctoral Fellowship, which are funded by the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), support students pursuing careers in neuroscience. The DPN also cosponsors the month-long Summer Program in Neuroscience, Ethics and Survival (SPINES) at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole, MA, every June/July.

The MFP applications will be available online only beginning October 1, 2007, and accepted through January 15, 2008. For more information, visit our Web site: www.apa.org/mfp.

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I t was another day in the hot and dry San Joaquin Valley. I was living in a transitional apartment provided by my employer, the State of California. I woke up and turned on the morning news as usual. My school, Virginia Tech, was in the news. At first I felt surprised, and then I heard the news anchor describe the horrible events of that day. He said an unidentified man had shot a number of students and teachers. Slowly, the terrible details of the day emerged.

At work, the event reverberated in my mind, and I had a constant urge to know what was happening. There was a strange sense of unreality—as if I were there, I belonged to that school, but I was not experiencing the events; it was and was not happening to me through some vicarious link. I called my friends to check on how they were doing. Many people who had not known I was in California contacted me by e-mail and sounded worried and in disbelief.

The week after the shootings, I went to Virginia Tech to defend my dissertation. I had to use all of my coping skills to engage in the task that would eventually honor me with the distinction of doctor of philosophy. I practiced my presentation and prepared myself mentally for my dissertation defense, but I also visited the places where the shootings had occurred. There were reminders of the tragedy everywhere.

I summoned all of my strength and focused only on my work. My dissertation defense took place at Williams Hall. The committee was tough, but I was glad of that. I strongly believe that, regardless of circumstances, “struggles are good for the soul.” The committee members shook my hand and offered their congratulations on my PhD. Exhausted after these events, I went back to the task of thinking about that young man who had taken the lives of so many innocent, unlucky students.

I thought that it was such a shame. As a clinical psychologist (licensed in California), I can clearly distinguish the anger, sadness, anxiety, guilt, and shame that are the sources of depression. The first of these emotions—anger—is the one I consider the most dangerous. The anger that Seung-Hui Cho manifested is an anger directed at everything, animate or inanimate. It literally wipes the individual out of existence, turning him or her into a zombie, the living dead. Nietzsche introduced the era of the self, Rand spoke of humans as heroic beings—but what has happened? Is this the era of the destruction of the self? Of the obliteration of pride, honor, dignity, and integrity—the positive emotions related to the self? Does anyone truly know what honor feels like or what it means? How many have felt honor intensely lately? How did these supremely reverent emotions about the self get minimized in importance? What happened to Seung-Hui Cho?

I experience some guilt when I think about Cho, who died because of his isolation and anger, and I am a little fearful knowing that there are many others like him—some mildly angry and others rapidly approaching terminal velocity. I keep going back to the idea of prevention and screening. Long, long ago, the Virginia Tech killer was a young man crying for help, surrounded by despair, and longing for hope.

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Asian American Psychological Association Mourns Virginia Tech Tragedy

San Francisco - The Asian American Psychological Association joins with the rest of the nation in mourning the tragic loss of the members of the Virginia Tech community. In particular, we extend our heartfelt condolences to the families and friends of those who have suffered a personal loss and our deepest hopes for the healing of those who were injured and bore witness to this horrific event.

As psychologists and counselors, we understand the complexities of this incident and the multiple needs and emotions that are now pulling at us...as individuals, as a community, and as a nation. First and foremost among these, are the needs of those individuals who have been directly affected by this tragedy. So, as a community we will, in whatever way is available to each of us, honor and contribute to the healing of students, staff, faculty, their families, the community of Blacksburg, Virginia, and others across the nation who have been affected by this tragedy.

We also join with the nation as we struggle and search to find explanations for this tragedy. As we grapple with what happened, it is clear that in the search for simple answers and even simpler sound bites, the spotlight may swing towards the issues of race, ethnicity and culture. We caution against simplifying the situation in this way. Although the alleged perpetrator has been identified as a Korean American immigrant, it is important to remember that no person's actions are solely related to their race and/or culture. We know that race and culture do affect [an] individual's actions and social relationships in a way that contributes to stress and psychological difficulties. However, it is vital that our understanding of this tragedy not be reduced to and grounded in simplistic and stereotypic assumptions about Asian Americans in general or Korean Americans in particular. Psychological research has indicated that beliefs about and experiences with specific individuals of color have the clear potential to be generalized to the community as a whole—to the detriment of the community and the shared goal of justice and equality. Therefore, we caution against the assumption that this tragedy is representative of Asian Americans. Given the historical precedents, we also caution against retaliation directed at members of the Asian American community and call attention to the injustice and inappropriateness of such possible responses in the hope of preventing them.

As mental health professionals, we believe that this incident highlights the critical value of mental health services both as a step towards prevention and in response to tragedies such as this. Thus, during this time of shock and grief, it is our hope that mental health professionals will contribute to the healing that is to come.

The Asian American Psychological Association is the primary, national organization dedicated to the advancement of the psychological well-being of Asian Americans.

The Virginia Tech shooting hit near and dear to the heart of all Americans. The aftermath of this tragedy has left many people searching for answers as to why Seung-Hui Cho went on this killing spree and whether his horrible rampage could have been prevented. What can people learn from this incident and how can this experience be used to make communities stronger? Two important thoughts come to my mind.

First, the stigma associated with mental illness needs to be reduced. Although many people have characterized Cho as having a sick and twisted mind, it is evident that he was mentally ill and potentially had one or more psychiatric diagnoses (e.g., schizophrenia, major depression, bipolar disorder, antisocial personality disorder, etc.). Although not enough is known about him to make an accurate diagnosis, we do know that the stigma of mental illness prevents people from getting the help they need. This problem is particularly salient for collectivistic cultures in which social interactions and public image play an influential role in determining people’s behaviors. Asian Americans evidence a strong stigma toward mental illness and as a consequence are less likely to seek the help they may need. This must change if Asian Americans, as well as other ethnic Americans, are going to strengthen their communities and provide people with effective mental health services. It is also imperative to educate communities about mental illness and its treatment by demystifying cultural stereotypes, correcting misinformation, and clarifying misconceptions.

More generally, individuals who have a mental illness often feel embarrassed, afraid that others may judge them, and unsure about what is happening to them. In cases where the illness involves extreme paranoia, those affected sometimes don’t want any help because health-care providers are incorporated into their delusions and can be seen as allying with those who are out to get them. In these situations, families are a very important safety net. Their intervention and support can sometimes mean the difference between life and death, or in this case mass murder. However, given the nature of many mental illnesses, even the most supportive families need professional help. Unfortunately, families are also victims of stigma. Public embarrassment, loss of face, and fear of community reactions inhibit them from taking the necessary steps to deal with mental illness. Stigma toward mental illness is a societal value and families and individuals respond to these values based on very real feelings. Until these societal values can be changed, those suffering from mental illness will continue to delay seeking help until their problems get intolerably worse—or will not get any help at all.

Second, as part of the most multicultural country in the world, Americans must show solidarity and act in the best interest of all our people by teaching and practicing racial tolerance. After the shooter was identified as being Asian or Asian American, many people within the various Asian American communities had the reaction, “I hope he wasn’t one of us.” Why do ethnic minorities in the U.S. have this kind of reaction following such an incident? Why don’t white Americans have the reaction of “I hope he wasn’t white”? In addition, why did so many individuals, organizations, and community organizations feel apologetic and issue condolences? Why were Koreans afraid that diplomatic relations would be hurt and why did Korean Americans fear that their businesses and communities would be harmed?

The answer can be found in racial threats, hate crimes, and violence toward Asian Americans before the incident.
many of you have heard that MFP is facing uncertain times. The federal climate for funding training is changing, which has affected all of our fellowship programs. Below is a summary of the changes occurring and how our programs will be affected.

National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)

NIMH has decided to reduce its training budget from roughly 10% to about 8.6%, a level more consistent with other NIH institutes. The majority of cuts will occur by a significant reduction of funds allocated for institutional training grants (T32). MFP has held two T32 grants (Mental Health Research and Diversity Program in Neuroscience) with NIMH for over 20 years.

In the 2006 grant cycle, MFP submitted competitive renewal applications for both T32 grants. The Mental Health Research grant received a score outside of the fundable range, and although we disputed some of the reviews, we were not allowed to resubmit the application. As a result, NIMH will support our Mental Health Research, HIV/AIDS Research, and Substance Abuse Research fellows for only one additional year.

The Diversity Program in Neuroscience was funded, but the number of available slots was reduced by approximately 40%, and we were informed that there would be no additional funding after 3-5 years. Subsequently, we learned that our sister programs in social work and sociology will not be allowed to reapply when their current grants end in 2010. Our understanding is that NIMH is discontinuing its funding of associations in this area.

Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

When President Bush released his FY 2008 budget to Congress, no funds were authorized for the Minority Fellowship Program. As of June 14, 2007, the budget is being discussed in the House of Representatives’ Committee on Appropriations. Representatives Jesse Jackson Jr. (IL), Patrick Kennedy (RI), and Barbara Lee (CA) have expressed support for the program. However, some subcommittee members are questioning the importance of programs like ours.

APA’s Government Relations Office (formerly the Public Policy Office) is working with House staff to address the members’ concerns. In addition, we have asked our fellows to contact their representatives and inform them of the importance of the MFP program. However, if the president’s budget prevails, MFP will not receive funding for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellowships after the 2007–2008 academic year.

What Can You Do?

Given the funding climate as outlined here, MFP must reinvent itself and look for other sources of funding. The APA Board of Directors has approved funds for us to create a planning committee. This committee will investigate how MFP can be restructured as well as how and where to secure other grant funding. It is imperative that we receive input from our fellows. Therefore, I recommend that you do the following:

1. Respond to MFP requests as soon as possible. In many cases, time is of the essence when trying to convey accurate information about our program.

2. Attend the MFP Alumni Business Meeting at the APA convention in San Francisco. We will discuss how our alumni can take a more active part in helping to shape MFP’s future. The meeting will be held:
   Sunday, August 19, 2007
   5:00–6:00 p.m.
   Hilton San Francisco Continental Parlor 8

3. Stay connected to MFP! Make sure we have your most recent contact information so that we can keep you updated on current events.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. once said, “The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.” During this time of challenge, let’s stand together for MFP! ✨
Spotlight on MFP fellow

Jennifer Richeson

MFP Mental Health Research fellow Jennifer Richeson, PhD, was named a 2006 MacArthur Fellow. According to the MacArthur Foundation: “Jennifer Richeson is a social psychologist who examines the behavioral and cognitive consequences of prejudice and racial stereotyping to reveal original insights into the dynamics of interracial interaction. Using a broad range of empirical methods, including fMRI measures, survey techniques, implicit cognitive processing measures, and self-report measures, Richeson analyzes the experiences of members of both minority and majority groups in their interactions with one another. A key finding of her work is that such interactions require heightened self-control to combat expressions of prejudice, calling on increased cognitive effort and resulting in decreased effectiveness on other cognitive tasks. Her work provides a novel way of examining and calculating the ‘costs’ associated with intergroup interactions. In related research, Richeson addresses factors preventing individuals from engaging in interracial interactions, finding evidence that systematic mutual misperceptions—‘pluralistic ignorance’—create unnecessary psychological barriers. In other investigations, she explores motivational and contextual variables that influence how racial cues are used in categorizing other people. Bringing new life to the topic of intergroup relations, Richeson takes the lead in highlighting and analyzing major challenges facing all races in America and the continuing role played by prejudice and stereotyping in our lives.

Jennifer Richeson received an ScB (1994) in psychology from Brown University and a PhD (2000) in social psychology from Harvard University. Since 2005, she has been an associate professor in the Department of Psychology at Northwestern University, where she is also a faculty fellow at the Institute for Policy Research. Prior to joining the faculty at Northwestern, she was a visiting fellow at the Research Institute for Comparative Studies in Race and Ethnicity at Stanford University (2004-2005) and an assistant professor of psychological and brain sciences at Dartmouth College (2000-2005).”


Miriam Martinez, PhD

MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow Miriam Martinez, PhD, is an associate clinical professor of psychiatry and pediatrics in the UCSF School of Medicine and the director of the Division of Infant, Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center. She will be the executive director of the Pritzker Center at UCSF. According to a story on the UCSF Web site:

“UCSF has announced that a $25 million donation, one of the largest ever given to an American university for child and adolescent mental health services, will jump-start the creation of a comprehensive program dedicated to improving the emotional well-being of Bay Area youths, regardless of socioeconomic status.

In a single location, the Pritzker Center at UCSF, named for donors John and Lisa Pritzker, will expand the nationally recognized programs and services of San Francisco General Hospital Medical Center (SFGH) and the specialty clinics, training and research of UCSF’s Langley Porter Psychiatric Institute (LPP) into one cohesive program… By integrating mental health services from birth to young adulthood—across disciplines and demographics and between research and clinical care—the center is designed to have a national and global impact on child and adolescent mental health knowledge, prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

‘Many children actually have overlapping problems and multiple disorders, making proper diagnosis and treatment a complex puzzle that requires teamwork and collaboration among health care providers,’ says Miriam Martinez, PhD. . . . who will be the executive director of the Pritzker Center at UCSF.”

(From “Pritzker Center at UCSF Launched to Improve Emotional Well-Being of Bay Area Youth,” May 23, 2007. Copyright 2007, The Regents of the University of California. Reprinted with permission.)
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health volunteers to attend departmental graduations and to be available to professors for the first class meeting following the incident for every class on campus. Nearly every request of our services was honored. The outpouring of support from other institutions of higher learning and other professionals, community groups, colleagues, and friends was astonishing. People sent cards, books on grief, handouts, quilts, snack foods, CDs, and care packages for each counselor. Local businesses donated food and massages. These donations needed to be catalogued so that we could properly acknowledge each gift.

I am used to being with people who are in emotional pain. It is what I do. However, the intensity and amount of grief our community experienced were nearly overwhelming. Our campus was overtaken by police and media. Students did not know where to target their anger. Many felt unsafe, and those more personally affected became hypervigilant. They struggled to make sense of something illogical. Many students either did not go home or they returned from home early when the university was closed. They wanted to be in Blacksburg with their friends, a testament to the strong sense of community at Virginia Tech. The university did a great job of providing several opportunities for the community to mourn together at the convocation, the candlelight vigil, the community cookout, and the numerous public and private memorial services.

My final thoughts are that counselors must remember to take care of themselves. The system is such that mental health professionals are called on to give and do more, with little regard for their personal well-being. The people making the requests for our help are not malevolent. They are simply overwhelmed and need help, and we are the specialists. However, we need to establish some boundaries, take care of each other, and take time off. Most important, we need to acknowledge and appreciate those who matter in our lives and engage in activities that bring us joy. We cannot be of help to anyone if we are in poor mental health ourselves.

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and the increase immediately following. Racism in the U.S. still exists and it has very real consequences for ethnic-minority communities. After the Columbine shootings, for example, there was no increase in racial violence toward white Americans. Governmental agencies of European nations did not issue public condolences, nor were white Americans afraid of racial backlash. Does this mean that Asian Americans are still not accepted as Americans or that being “American” is still synonymous with being “white”? There isn’t a clear answer to these questions.

Let us bring all Americans together by valuing ethnic differences and recognizing that cultural acceptance is a better option than racial conflict.

It is clear, however, that real and perceived racism is still a part of American society and there is much work to do before our country can truly racially accepting. Our darkest prejudices are often ignited during stressful times and entire communities must not be held responsible for the actions of an individual.

As Americans, we all play a significant role in the evolution of our social and societal values. Educators, community-based organizations, influential public figures, role models, governing bodies, parents, students—they must all take initiative in making our country a better place. Let us mourn our losses, but from the wake of this tragedy, let us all take responsibility and make the U.S. a better place for all of our people. Let us educate our communities about mental illness and reduce the stigma associated with seeking help. Let us bring all Americans together by valuing ethnic differences and recognizing that cultural acceptance is a better option than racial conflict.

Wei-Chin Hwang is a professor of psychology at Claremont McKenna College in Claremont, CA. Copyright © 2007 The Seattle Times Company. Reprinted with permission.
By Andrew T. Austin-Dailey

The MFP hosted its Fourth Annual Psychology Summer Institute (MFP PSI), July 23–29, 2006, in Washington, DC. MFP PSI is designed to provide mentoring as well as educational and professional development experiences for advanced predoctoral and early career MFP fellows, thereby helping them in their efforts to develop tangible projects.

Applicants submitted concept papers detailing their ideas for projects related to ethnic minority mental health research or treatment. They were asked to discuss the significance of the problem they were addressing, goals and objectives, methodology and procedures, a budget, and ideas for evaluation and analysis.

Joining our fellows were five early career psychologists from ethnic-minority-serving institutions who were awarded a small research/training grant toward reducing health disparities. The Promoting Psychological Research and Training on Health Disparities Issues at Ethnic Minority Serving Institutions Grant (ProDIGS) is administered through the APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA).

Participants benefited from one-on-one mentoring with established ethnic minority psychologists. Throughout the course of MFP PSI, the fellows were challenged to revise their concept papers and to return to their mentors for additional feedback.

Informative workshops and seminars were also provided. Participants expanded their skills and knowledge base in areas such as grant writing, cultural competence, publishing, advanced research methods, program evaluation, and funding opportunities with the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA).

The responses from many of our participants are summed up in the following comment: “Overall, an excellent experience that I wish I had been fortunate enough to have as a grad student. I am truly grateful for this experience. It will be very valuable not only to this project but also for my career.”

MFP PSI 2007 (July 22–28 in Washington, DC) will be another exciting training experience for our fellows. A new cohort of participants will benefit from networking with some of the top ethnic minority psychologists in the country.
James M. Jones, PhD, Principal Investigator, APA MFP in Psychology, is a professor of psychology at the University of Delaware as well as the principal investigator for the APA MFP. He has written extensively about race relations over the past 20 years and continues to be a prolific researcher and author. Dr. Jones authored the seminal text *Prejudice and Racism* and is a member of several editorial boards, including those of the journals *Ethics and Behavior*, *Journal of Black Psychology*, and the *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*.

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La Pearl Logan Winfrey, PhD, is a professor and associate dean for clinical training and psychological services in the School of Professional Psychology at Wright State University. She is also the chief psychologist for the predoctoral and postdoctoral residency programs. She has many years of experience providing psychotherapy to diverse populations and has been involved in the education of doctoral students in schools of professional psychology since 1990. Dr. Winfrey is a past chair of the Chicago Chapter of the Association of Black Psychologists and has served on the association’s board of directors and National Convention Committee. She was president of the National Council of Schools and Programs of Professional Psychology (NCSPP), having served as a council delegate since 1992 and as a member of the Ethnic and Racial Diversity and Women’s Issues committees. She was appointed in 2005 to a 3-year term on the Committee of Accreditation, where she serves as one of two representatives from NCSPP.

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Michelle Cruz-Santiago, MFP Mental Health Research fellow, has conducted a study of Latino parents and adolescents in a low-income, high-crime neighborhood that is over 90% Latino. She hopes to gain a better understanding of the dominant challenges and rewards of parent-adolescent relationships and to explore how these responses relate to environmental stress, personal and/or family stressors, cultural values, and sources of strain or support outside of the family. Preliminary analyses reveal that the most salient concern across all groups is safety in the schools and in the neighborhood. Michelle and her advisor (Jorge Ramirez Garcia) are now extending this project to examine whether these findings generalize to other Latino populations. This multimethod, multisite approach will allow them to gain a better understanding of the environmental and cultural influences on Latino adolescents and their families.

Michelle received a Center on Democracy in a Multiracial Society Graduate Fellowship and a National Science Foundation Psychology Research Grant in 2007. In addition, she received an APA Travel Award for summer 2007.

Kimberly Miller, MFP Mental Health Research fellow, received first prize for best student paper (“The Importance of Assessing Meaning in a Clinical Population”) at the International Conference on Personal Meaning. She was recognized at the conference award banquet and received a $200 award. She also presented at three poster sessions (Division 50, 5, and NIDA’s early career poster session) during APA’s 2006 convention. Kimberly was awarded travel grants by both the MFP and NIDA for her presentations at APA. Her publications over the past year have included three book chapters and three journal articles (see publications on p. 16).

Kimberly was awarded the Walter C. Wittich Memorial Scholarship 2007 ($3,000) from the Colorado State University (CSU) Department of Psychology and was nominated by the associate dean of natural science at CSU for membership in the AAAS/Excellence in Science Program. This summer Kimberly plans to attend both the APA convention in San Francisco and the American Indian Psychologists and Psychology Graduate Students convention in Utah, where she will present the paper “Is Marijuana Use Becoming Normative Among American Indian Adolescents?”

Lindsay Smart, MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow, has been a volunteer research assistant and therapist for a project known as HEAL (Helping Evacuees Adjust to Life in Colorado) for the past year. This is a project developed by her research mentor, Dr. Karen Mallah, and funded by a grant from an independent foundation called the Colorado Trust, administered by the Jefferson Center for Mental Health. The program provides free mental health services to a number of families from Louisiana and Texas who relocated to areas of Colorado after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Her duties as a volunteer research assistant have included contacting individuals who have been referred for services, conducting initial evaluations of their symptoms and experiences, and conducting follow-up and posttherapy evaluations to track the program’s effectiveness. She has been using trauma-focused cognitive-behavioral therapy and cognitive-behavioral therapy for traumatic bereavement in children.

Glenna Stumblingbear, MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow, has been providing counseling services at an urban American Indian mental health clinic. She has always desired to provide and improve the services to underrepresented ethnic groups, and as an American Indian, she is grateful that she has been able to do so at an American Indian mental health clinic. “The counseling process can be scary and it may be difficult to establish a therapeutic relationship. This is also very true when working with American Indian people. Historically and still today, many American Indians have either felt or feel misunderstood because they don’t share all the values or traditions of the mainstream culture. This can make it very hard for people who really need help to get the help they need. Many people at my site have been in total shock to see that I am American Indian, too. I think this reaction is significant because it highlights the reality that there needs to be more diverse (and I use the word diverse broadly) health care providers to help provide services to diverse populations—specifically, the populations that research has already shown are having great difficulties (e.g., high poverty, suicide).”

Fellows and Alumni News, continued on page 18
The Minority Fellowship Program in Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services received 174 applications this past January. Each application underwent intensive reviews. Each application is afforded special attention to evaluate the applicant’s potential for a promising and productive career in mental health services. Fellows are chosen from national applicants to receive financial support for up to 3 years of funding. Fellows also gain access to professional networks and lifelong support systems.

The staff and Advisory Committee of the Minority Fellowship Program would like to extend congratulations to our newly appointed fellows for the 2007–2008 academic year. We hope that their experience during their time with MFP is richly rewarding.

**CONGRATULATIONS, NEW FELLOWS!**

**Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services Fellows (2007)**

**Frank Castro** received his BA from Brown University and is a fourth-year doctoral student at Temple University.

**Umi Chong** received her MS from the University of Pennsylvania and is a first-year doctoral student at George Washington University.

**Le Ondra Clark** received her MS from the University of Wisconsin—Madison and is a second-year doctoral student there.

**Eugenio Duarte** received his BS from the University of Miami and is a fourth-year doctoral student at UM.

**Nicole Ebberhart Duranceaux** received her BA from the University of New Mexico and is a fourth-year doctoral student at San Diego State.

**Valerie Gifford** received her MSW from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University and is a first-year doctoral student at the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

**Shanta Kanukollu** received her BS from Rutgers University and is a second-year doctoral student at the University of Michigan.

**Kelly Moore** received her MEd from the University of Pennsylvania and is a first-year doctoral student at Rutgers University.

**Sangeeta Parikshak** received her MS from DePaul University and is a first-year doctoral student at the University of Kansas.

**Nelupa Perera** received her BA from Carleton College and is a first-year doctoral student at the University of Minnesota.

**Jennifer Stevenson** received her MPH from Emory University and is a third-year doctoral student at Washington State University.

**Jill Kee Straits** received her MA from the University of New Mexico and is a third-year doctoral student at Utah State University.

**Shaquita Tillman** received her BA from the University of California, Los Angeles, and is a second-year MA student at Pepperdine University.

**Kristen Williams** received her BA from the University of South Carolina and is a second-year doctoral student at the American School of Professional Psychology at Argosy.
The MFP Initial Review Committee

Each year, the MFP is fortunate to draw members from our talented network of alumni to assist with the important task of reviewing hundreds of applications for new MFP fellowships by serving on the MFP Initial Review Committee (IRC). In 2007, the following alumni provided valuable assistance and expertise in this process. We hope that you, too, will find a way to give back to the program!

MFP 2007 Initial Review Committee

Dr. Kimberly Brooks, House of Ruth, Washington, DC
Dr. Anthony Chambers, Northwestern University
Dr. Anita Fernander, University of Kentucky
Dr. Gaithri Fernando, California State University, Los Angeles
Dr. Christina Gee, George Washington University
Dr. John Gonzalez, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Dr. Beverly Goodwin, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Dr. Martin Harris, Vanguard University
Dr. Kaeawe‘Aimoku Kaholokula, Department of Hawaiian Health
Dr. Eric Kohatsu, California State University, Los Angeles
Dr. Eduardo Lugo, University of Puerto Rico
Dr. Micah McCready, Virginia Commonwealth University
Dr. Justin McDonald, University of North Dakota
Dr. Helen Neville, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Dr. Quang (Charles) Nguyen, Debakey Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Dr. Lorie Nicholas, U.S. Department of Justice
Dr. Yesilernis Pena, Pontifica Universidad Madre y Maestra, Dominican Republic
Dr. Armando Pina, Florida International University
Dr. Reliford Sanders, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
Dr. Lisa Thomas, University of Washington
Dr. Veronique Thompson, The Wright Institute
Dr. Mary Wilkie, Children’s Developmental Services Agency of the Blue Ridge
Dr. Janice Williams-Petersen, Office of Prevention, North Carolina
Dr. Sinead Younge, Emory University

MFP PSI 2006 Faculty

Keynote, Federal, and Special Speakers

Norman B. Anderson, PhD, American Psychological Association
Bertha G. Holliday, PhD, APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs
Gwendolyn Puryear Keita, PhD, APA Public Interest Directorate

Mentors

Kathleen Burlew, PhD, University of Cincinnati
Miriam E. Delphin, PhD, Yale University
Nancy E. Hill, PhD, Duke University
Yolanda Flores Niemann, PhD, Washington State University
Jorge Ramirez Garcia, PhD, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Howard C. Stevenson Jr., PhD, University of Pennsylvania
Yu-Wen Ying, PhD, UC Berkeley

Presenters

Kermit Crawford, PhD, Boston University School of Medicine
Camara Jules P. Harrell, PhD, Howard University
Suzanne M. Randolph, PhD, MayaTech/University of Maryland
Diane Scott-Jones, PhD, Boston University
Brian D. Smedley, Opportunity Agenda

Representatives from SAMHSA, NIMH, and other NIH institutes also provided mentoring and conducted workshops.

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Anthony Chambers, PhD


Denise Chavira, PhD


He Len Chung, PhD


Wanda Lee, PhD


Kimberly Miller, MA


Lisa Pugh, PhD

Pugh, L. A., & Bry, B. H. (2007). The protective effects of ethnic identity for alcohol and marijuana use among...


**Zewelanji Serpell, PhD**


**Michelle Silva, PsyD**


**Quyen Tiet, PhD**


**Rheeda Walker, PhD**


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Anthony is a regular expert guest on the “Relationship Thursdays” portion of the Santita Jackson Show (Chicago: 1690 AM, WVON). WVON is a talk radio station geared toward African American professionals. Santita Jackson is the daughter of Rev. Jesse Jackson. Listeners can tune in online at www.wvon.com (the show runs daily from 9:00 a.m. to noon CST; the Relationship Thursday segment begins between 10:30 and 11:00 a.m.).

Denise Chavira, PhD, MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow, was appointed in August 2006 as assistant professor of psychiatry at the University of California, San Diego (UCSD). She is also a member of the UCSD Faculty Diversity Committee and in February 2007 became a UCSD National Center of Leadership in Academic Medicine fellow.

He Len Chung, PhD, MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow, completed a grant from the Pittsburgh Foundation (May 2006-August 2006) titled “Promoting Healthy Adolescents and Young Adults: Synthesis of Research on Community-Based Programs.”

Gaithri Fernando, PhD, MFP Mental Health Research fellow, received funding from the Asia Foundation for a research project examining coping and resilience among the people of Sri Lanka. He will be working in the summer, training local research assistants and conducting focus groups. “I hope that the findings will inform intervention programs so that people can ‘build up’ their resilience if they need to, even under very difficult circumstances such as those that exist in Sri Lanka. The strength of the project is the training of local staff so that they will be available to help future international researchers conduct their projects. These staff are from the community, so they know the status on the ground, and I’m hoping that with their collaboration, research on Sri Lankans will be a little more culturally relevant.”

Elena Flores, PhD, MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow, is the co-investigator on a newly funded NIH grant titled “Family Influences on Obesity Among Mexican American Children” (Jeanne Tschann, PhD, is the other investigator). This will be a 5-year study; funding is expected to be up to $3.8 million.

Angela Franklin, PhD, MFP Mental Health Research fellow, became executive vice president/chief operating officer at Meharry Medical College in Nashville, TN, in July 2007. Before that appointment, she had been vice dean and associate vice president for academic and student affairs and was a full professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Science.

Larry Grant, PhD, MFP Mental Health Research fellow, has progressed from associate professor with tenure to professor with tenure in the School of Social Work at the University of Michigan. Congratulations!

Wanda Lee, PhD, MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow, has served as associate dean in the College of Health & Human Services at San Francisco State University since August 2006.

Patrick Nickoletti, PhD, MFP Mental Health Research fellow, has been very active since last year’s Summer Institute. He continues to administrate an on-campus, after-school tutoring program that he initiated for inner-city grade school children in West Hartford, CT. He also advises the Milner School Project, a best practices approach to community violence prevention (Dept. of Children and Families [DCF], Hartford, CT); the Violence Prevention & Intervention Team
Fellows and Alumni News, continued from page 18

(Justice Dept. and DCF); and the Injury Prevention Summit (DCF). He consulted with local schools on identity development, self-image, and peer pressure and was also active on Hartford’s Truancy Task Force. In another aspect of his work, he was an invited speaker and panelist at a regional seminar, “The Academic Achievement of Minority Males K-12: Trends, Challenges, and Remedies,” as well as an organizer for a seminar on girl-on-girl violence, “What is the Truth About ‘Mean Girls.’” For his efforts he was awarded a Community Service Award by the Hartford Board of Higher Education. He became the evaluator for a large proposal to SAMHSA on sexual abuse among immigrant families and individuals with disabilities (Multigenerational Family Therapy Program, St. Francis Hospital, Hartford, CT). Finally, he was the commencement keynote speaker at a local college.

Wizdom Powell, PhD, MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow, has accepted her first tenure-track position—at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Public Health Behavior, Health Education Department.

Wizdom will begin this position in September, following the completion of her postdoc at UCSF Berkeley.

Zewelanji Serpell, PhD, MFP Mental Health Research fellow, received a Virginia Tobacco Youth Project Small Grant titled “Preventing Youth Tobacco Use by Treating the Risk-Factor of ADHD: A Follow-Up Study of Adolescents With ADHD” from the Virginia Tobacco Settlement Foundation (P.I. funding amount: $39,964). She has been appointed the Alvin V. & Nancy Baird Professor in Psychology at James Madison University.

Michelle Silva, PsyD, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow, has been promoted to a junior faculty position in the Department of Psychiatry at the Yale University School of Medicine. In line with her professional passion to work with the Latino community, she will be assisting in the development of a regional behavioral health network of services whose goals include overall service expansion (including direct care/social rehabilitation), teaching and education initiatives to enhance cultural competency among providers working with Latino populations, recruitment and retention efforts of bilingual/bicultural personnel, advocacy, and programmatic evaluation.

Cortney S. Warren, PhD, MFP Mental Health Substance Abuse Services fellow, finished her internship at McLean Hospital/Harvard Medical School in June and graduated from Texas A&M University in August 2006, after which she started a tenure-track assistant professor position in the Department of Psychology at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The majority of her research focuses on the development, maintenance, and treatment of eating disorders from a cross-cultural, multiethnic perspective. She currently has three graduate students working under her tutelage.

She has published various articles over the last year. One that might be of particular interest to the MFP community details three easy-to-use activities designed for undergraduate courses that teach why multicultural factors are critical to consider in psychology (“Incorporating Multiculturalism Into Undergraduate Psychology Courses: Three Simple Active Learning Exercises”). These activities, which use intelligence testing as a platform, highlight issues of language and cultural loading of test items and assessment methods.

Congratulations to Lark Huang, Fred Leong, and Melba Vasquez for winning APA awards!

Lark Hung, PhD, won the APA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Psychology in the Public Interest (Senior Career). She will give her award address at the APA convention in San Francisco on Sunday, August 19, 2007, from 2:00 p.m. to 2:50 p.m. in the Moscone Center, Room 220.

Fred Leong won the APA Award for Distinguished Contributions to the International Advancement of Psychology. He will give his award address at the convention on Saturday, August 18, 2007, from 10:00 a.m. to 10:50 p.m. in the Moscone Center, Room 222.

Melba J. T. Vasquez, PhD, an MFP fellow and member of the APA Board of Directors, won the APA Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions to Independent or Institutional Practice in the Private Sector. She will give her award address at the convention on Sunday, August 19, 2007, from 3:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. in the Moscone Center, Room 2004.
Pamela Jumper Thurman, PhD

MFP Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services fellow Pamela Jumper Thurman, PhD, is a senior research scientist with Colorado State University’s (CSU) Center for Applied Studies in American Ethnicity. According to an account on CSU’s Web site:

“Thurman has been named chair of a committee which will seek to improve protocol for substance abuse treatment in Native populations by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration.

SAMHSA’s Center for Substance Abuse Treatment is beginning work on a new Treatment Improvement Protocol publication, ‘Substance Abuse Treatment for American Indians, Alaska Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders Living in Rural Areas.’ The TIPS series is an exceptional therapeutic tool that is offered free throughout the U.S. in an effort to improve treatment services. This one focuses on Native issues which is particularly exciting. I am very honored to be a part of this process,” Thurman said.

Thurman will head up the effort to provide practical information for substance abuse treatment counselors and program administrators regarding the unique treatment and recovery needs of Native populations living in rural areas and strategies to improve service access, delivery, and retention.

Thurman has over 20 years of experience in research on such topics as cultural competence, mental health, substance abuse, violence and victimization, rural women’s concerns, HIV/AIDS prevention, solvent abuse, and partner violence as well as 20 years in the provision of program evaluation and direct treatment and prevention services. She is a co-developer and co-author of the Community Readiness Model and has directly applied the model in over 1,000 communities nationally and internationally. She has served as principal investigator or co-principal investigator for federal grants that examined intimate partner violence, methamphetamine prevention, rural drug use, American Indian substance use/epidemiology and solvent use among youth.

Thurman is a Project Director of another national endeavor, the HIV/AIDS Prevention Project at CASAE. CASAE, part of Colorado State’s College of Liberal Arts, is dedicated to meeting the educational and research needs of students and faculty interested in issues such as inclusive histories, identity formation, cultural practices and beliefs, and historical representations of racial and ethnic groups. The program is designed to provide an instructional and resource base for future professionals working in fields where an understanding of ethnicity will enhance their professional effectiveness.”

(From “CASAE Researcher to Head Effort to Improve Addiction Treatment in Native Groups,” in Colorado State University News & Information, May 2007. Copyright 2005 Colorado State University. Reprinted with permission.)

Useful Resources

National Postdoctoral Association (NPA)

The NPA provides a national voice for postdoctoral scholars. Its goals are to:
• Assist in the creation and maintenance of postdoctoral associations at institutions;
• Provide information for postdocs on policies and compensation at institutions;
• Host a Web site to serve career needs of postdocs and provide a forum;
• Facilitate the implementation of the Sigma Xi Postdoc Survey;
• Participate in national meetings and conferences focused on postdoc issues;
• Collaborate with funding agencies and professional societies to improve the postdoc experience.

http://emergingscholars.net/index.html
RECENT PUBLICATIONS OF THE TRAINING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Hortensia Amaro, PhD


Miriam Delphin, PhD


Gordon N. Hall, PhD


Mario Hernandez, PhD


Last September, the Training Advisory Committee (TAC) visited two substance abuse treatment programs in Mattapan, a suburb of Boston. Entre Familia and Mom’s Project are the visions of Dr. Hortensia Amaro, an MFP fellow and TAC member.

Entre Familia is a residential treatment program for substance-abusing Latina women and their children. Funded by SAMHSA’s Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, the mission of the program is to improve the overall health, development, and well-being of each woman, her children, and the family as a whole.

Entre Familia provides family-centered, comprehensive, linguistically and culturally appropriate treatment that responds to the reality of Latina women’s lives. The program’s services include:

• a 12-month residential treatment program
• a 12-month after-care and relapse prevention program
• substance abuse counseling, support groups, family therapy, case management, health education and access to health services, educational and vocational counseling, and job training
• services for children, including child care, case management, and access to health, mental health, and specialized education services
• program support services, including transportation and clothing for women and children.

The Mom’s Project is a comprehensive community-based program designed to improve the health, well-being, parenting, and life success of drug-addicted pregnant women. The program also seeks to improve birth outcomes by reducing substance abuse in pregnant women, reducing HIV infection, and providing a critical link to vital health and social services.

The Mom’s Project provides a link to services that affirm a woman’s ability to bring about change in her life. This approach is based on the belief that women possess the internal resources that will help them solve their problems. Through collaborative agreements, the project provides a link between clients and an existing network of prenatal and other medical services, mental health counseling, substance abuse treatment centers, housing, and more. The project first addresses the concerns identified by the clients themselves, such as finding shelter and food, accessing needed medical care, and getting protection from abusive relationships. Once critical survival and safety concerns have been addressed, project staff assist women with recovery from substance abuse, HIV education, parenting skills, and setting long-term plans for recovery.

Staff and residents from Entre Familia graciously presented the highlights of the program to the TAC and took them on a tour of the residential facility. The TAC also observed a support group at Mom’s Project and enjoyed a delicious lunch prepared by members of the Entre Familia/Mom’s Project community. Thanks to Dr. Amaro and the entire community for an inspiring site visit!


**Russell Jones, PhD**


**Deborah Jones-Saumty, PhD**


**Frederick Leong, PhD**


**Robert Sellers, PhD**


Minority Fellowship Program Schedule of Events

APA Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA
Thursday, August 17 to Sunday, August 20, 2007

The New Fellows Professional Development Workshop
Thursday, August 16, 2007
8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
San Francisco Marriott Hotel, Sierra Conference Suite I

&

Friday, August 17, 2007
8:00 a.m.-12:00 noon
Hilton San Francisco Hotel in the MFP Suite

The MFP Dissertation Symposium:
New Directions in Ethnic Minority Research
Friday, August 18,
12:00 noon-1:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, 2nd Floor, West Bldg., Room 2003

Chair: Gordon Nagayama Hall, PhD

Participants:
Joyce Chu, PhD
“Cultural Influences on Expression and Coping: A study of Asian American Men”

Patricia Iron Shell-Hill, PhD
“Seeking Lakota Elder Wisdom on Grief and Healing: The Role of Lakota Women, Historical Grief, and Educating Children on Healing From Grief”

Catherine L. Packer, PhD

Cortney S. Warren, PhD
“Assessment of Body Dissatisfaction in Racially Diverse Women: Examination of Racially-Relevant Body Areas”

Achievement Awards and Poster Session and Social Hour
Saturday, August 17, 2007
6:00-8:00 p.m.
Hilton San Francisco Hotel, Lobby Level, Plaza Room A

This is a great networking opportunity for you to meet many MFP alumni and important ethnic minority psychologists.

MFP Special Interest Symposium:
Conversation on Racial and Ethnic Identity—Where Do We Go From Here?
Sunday, August 19, 2007
2:00-3:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, 2nd Floor, West Bldg., Room 2002

Chair: Gordon Nagayama Hall, PhD

Participants: William Cross, PhD; Jean Phinney, PhD; Robert Sellers, PhD; Adrianna Umana-Taylor, PhD; and Tiffany Yip, PhD

(For more on this symposium, see www.apa.org/mfp/convention/identitysymp.html.)

For other interesting programs, please see the Web site of the APA Public Interest Directorate (www.apa.org/pi/convention_2007.html).
MFP Fellows’ Presentations

Hortensia Amaro, PhD
Invited Address: Mind, Body, and Spiritual Community-Based Behavioral Health Interventions for Latina and African American Women
Sunday, August 19, 2007
11:00-11:50 a.m.
Moscone Center, Room 307

Julia Austin, MS
Poster Session: International Issues of Measurement, Adjustment, and Culture
“Do Girls in Mexico Dislike Their Bodies Too?”
Sunday, August 19, 2007
11-11:50 a.m.
Moscone Center, Halls ABC

Cheryl Boyce, PhD
Discussion: Diversity Within Science and Practice of Clinical Psychology Diversity [participant]
Saturday, August 18, 2007
9:00-9:50 a.m.
Moscone Center, Room 3002

Le Ondra Clark, PhD
“Social Justice: From the Classroom to the Community: A Student’s Perspective
Friday, August 17, 2007
12:00 noon-12:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Room 3004

Anthony Chambers, PhD
Rodney Clark Memorial Symposium for Early Career Clinical Science
“Implementing a Career Plan Through Mentorship: Vision, Hard Work, & Serendipity”
Saturday August 18, 2007
2:00-3:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Room 303

Zoua Chang, PhD
Poster Session: Career Counseling and Training and Supervision Issues
“Relationship Among College Major Commitment, Vocational Interests, and Personality”
Saturday, August 18, 2007
3:00-3:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Halls ABC

Sheri-Ann Cowie
Poster Session: Religion and Spirituality—Diversity, Education, and Health
“Forever Abiding by Jah: Religious Motivations and HIV/AIDS Among West Indians”
Saturday, August 18, 2007
3:00-3:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Halls ABC

Presentations, continued on page 26
2007 APA Convention Information

Presentations, continued from page 25

(Sheri-Ann Cowie, continued)

Conversation Hour: 2007 Distinguished Student Research Award

“Ethnographic Phenomenological Approach to Scale Development”

August 17, 2007
11:00-12:30 p.m.
Division 45 Hospitality Suite

Michelle Cruz-Santiago, PhD

Poster Session: Psychology Across Specialties

“Family and Neighborhood Domains in Substance Abuse Among Latino Adolescents”

Saturday, August 18, 2007
2:00-2:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Halls ABC

Melissa Foynes, MS

Poster Session: Current Issues in Ethnic Psychology

“Trauma, Ethnicity, and Psychopathology”

Sunday, August 19, 2007
2:00-2:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Halls ABC

Joseph Horvat, PhD

Panel Discussion: Links and Shoulders Mentoring Program for Students of Color [chair]

Sunday, August 19, 2007
5:00-6:50 p.m.
San Francisco Hilton, Continental Parlor 2

Patricia Iron-Shell-Hill, PhD

Symposium: MFP New Directions in Ethnic Minority Research

“Seeking Lakota Elder Wisdom on Grief and Healing”

Saturday, August 18, 2007
12:00 noon-1:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Room 2003

Cesar Leon, MA

Poster Session: Career Counseling and Training and Supervision Issues

“Influence of Barriers Coping Self-Efficacy on Adolescent Career Indecision”

Saturday, August 18, 2007
3:00-3:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Halls ABC

Jeffrey Mio, PhD

Poster Session: Social Issues and Public Policy

“Metaphor Generation in Political Debates in the Post-9/11 World”

Sunday, August 19, 2007
10:00-10:50 a.m.
Moscone Center, Halls ABC

Poster Session: Issues of a Spiritual Nature—What Do We Know?


Sunday, August 19, 2007
11:00-11:50 a.m.
Moscone Center, Halls A B C

Victoria Ngo, PhD

Poster Session: Current Issues in Ethnic Psychology

“Differential Functioning in the Child Behavior Checklist for 6-Year-Old African American Children”

Sunday, August 19, 2007
2:00-2:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Halls ABC

Leonard Tamura, PhD

Symposium: Incidents Affecting Psychologists’ Competency to Practice and Barriers to Seeking Help [participant]

Sunday, August 19, 2007
3:00-3:50 p.m.
Moscone Center, Room 226
The purpose of this first MFP Alumni Business Meeting is to develop an alumni association and to discuss the MFP’s future.

**When:** Sunday, August 19, 2007

**When:** 5:00 p.m.–6:00 p.m.

**Where:** Hilton San Francisco Hotel Continental Parlor 8

**Please plan to attend!**
a young man crying for help, surrounded by despair, and longing for hope. Bit by bit, he destroyed himself, and no one seemed to notice. In a society such as ours in which the freedom of the individual reigns supreme, an individual’s existence is considered sacred. Individuals are to be left alone to choose who they want to be. The prevailing attitude seems to be “so what if they are a bit quirky or look dissatisfied? It is their choice to be dissatisfied with life!” No one helps, no one intervenes, no one has the courage to be the hero and to break the unspoken codes that kept this young man from becoming what he could have been. After all, he was only a boy and could not have done the work all on his own.

I am ultimately an optimist. I do not believe that this student was a born killer or was inherently evil—or do I believe that society made him that way. But I do believe that in making the choice between honor and dishonor, all of us—including Cho—directly or indirectly chose the path of dishonor.

Useful Web Sites

www.apa.org/earlycareer
APA’s Web Site for early career psychologists contains links to career information, licensure, an early career Listserv, funding resources, ways to further your education, and other information.

www.finaid.org
The SmartStudent Guide to Financial Aid (Scholarships)

www.nas.edu
The National Academies Web site provides information on fellowship and postdoctoral training opportunities (on the NAS site, click on fellowships & postdoctoral opportunities, click on fellowship programs, and then on other programs).

www.nida.nih.gov
National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

www.nimh.nih.gov
National Institute of Mental Health

www.samhsa.gov
Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration