2017 WPA Convention Featured Outstanding Program in Sacramento

The 2017 WPA Convention was a huge success with over 2,600 attendees. The meeting was hosted by the California State University, Sacramento. Rebecca Cameron and Lawrence Meyers served as Program Co-Chairs. Drs. Cameron and Meyers and WPA President Joan Tucker planned an outstanding program. The convention included over 1,100 submitted posters, papers, and symposia that were reviewed by the WPA Program Review Committee.

The WPA Distinguished Speaker program featured presentations by outstanding psychologists who were invited by the program chairs and by affiliated groups such as Psi Chi, Psi Beta, and the Society for the Teaching of Psychology. Conversation hours with a number of these speakers were organized by Paige Murwin, the WPA Graduate Student Council Representative. A synopsis of each of these invited presentations can be found in the 2017 online convention program. The program may be downloaded or search online at the WPA website: http://westernpsych.org/convention/

Joan S. Tucker (RAND Corporation) delivered the WPA presidential address, HELPING THE HOMELESS: WHAT’S THE ROLE OF PSYCHOLOGY? Dr. Tucker also organized a presidential symposium: NON-ACADEMIC CAREER PATHS IN PSYCHOLOGY: ADVICE FROM THE EXPERTS. This symposium featured Bryan Baldwin (California Department of Human Resources), David Black (Cordico), Robin Black (Federal Bureau of Investigation), and Le Ondra Clark Harvey (California State Assembly Committee on Business and Professions), besides Dr. Tucker, who works at the RAND Corporation.

2016 Award Winner Presentations

Heidi Riggio (California State University, Los Angeles) gave the WPA Teaching Award address: REALITY BITES: CHALLENGING Cherished Student BELIEFS. The WPA Early Career Research Award address was given by Cameron L. Neece (Loma Linda University): FAMILIES AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN WITH INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES: A DEVELOPMENTAL PSYCHOPATHOLOGY PERSPECTIVE. The E. E. Jones Clinical Research Award address was given by Joshua K Swift (Idaho State University): THE ROLE OF THE CLIENT IN PSYCHOTHERAPY: RESEARCH ON CLIENT VARIABLES RELATED TO PSYCHOTHERAPY INITIATION, PREMATURE TERMINATION, AND OUTCOMES. The Social Responsibility Award (Roxane Cohen Silver, University of California, Irvine) and the Lifetime Achievement Award (Robert Cialdini, Arizona State University) were delivered in 2016 at the Long Beach convention.

Psi Chi Program

The Psi Chi program was organized by Ethan McMahen (Western Oregon University). The Psi Chi Distinguished Speaker was Peter H. Kahn, Jr. (University of Washington), and his talk was entitled: HUMANS INTERACTING WITH NATURE AND TECHNOLOGICAL SYSTEMS: TOWARD A DESIGN METHODOLOGY FOR URBAN SUSTAINABILITY. Psi Chi also sponsored two other distinguished speakers. Paul Hettich (DePaul University) was the Psi Chi Career Speaker and his
talk was entitled: CREATING A SKILLS PATH TO YOUR “FRESHMAN YEAR” IN THE WORKPLACE WITH A BACHELOR’S DEGREE, and Stanley Sue (University of California, Davis, Emeritus) was the Psi Chi Distinguished Diversity Speaker, whose talk was entitled: CULTURAL COMPETENCY: THE STORIES BEHIND THE STORY.

Society for the Teaching of Psychology Program

The Society for the Teaching of Psychology (STP) program was organized by Heidi Riggio (California State University, Los Angeles). It included the STP Last Lecture featuring presentations by Steve Luck (University of California, Davis), Jerry Rudmann (Irvine Valley College), and Kimberley Duff (Cerritos College). The STP Distinguished Speaker was Brigitte Matthies (California State University, Los Angeles), whose talk was entitled: INTRODUCTION TO PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE: COMBINING CRITICAL THINKING, RESEARCH METHODS, AND ADVISING.

Other Distinguished Speaker Presentations

- Sharon Hamill (California State University, San Marcos): CRYING FOR HELP: YOUNG CAREGIVERS IN NEED OF SUPPORT FOR FAMILY CAREGIVING, PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED-DYING, AND BEREAVEMENT.
- Josef I. Ruzek (National Center for PTSD, VA Palo Alto Health Care System): TREATMENT IMPROVEMENT IN PTSD AND MENTAL HEALTH.
- Karen S. Rook (University of California, Irvine): THE SOCIAL CONTEXT OF CHRONIC ILLNESS MANAGEMENT: HOW OTHERS HELP OR HINDER.
- Dean Keith Simonton (University of California, Davis): CREATIVITY, AUTOMATICITY, IRRATIONALITY, FORTUITY, FANTASY, AND OTHER CONTINGENCIES: AN EIGHTFOLD RESPONSE TYPOLOGY.
- Marguerita Lightfoot (University of California, San Francisco): PREVENTION IN THE DIGITAL AGE: TECH, TEXT, AND THRIVE.
- Nolan Zane (University of California, Davis): ADDRESSING THE ELEPHANT(S) IN THE SESSION FOR CLIENTS FROM SHAME-BASED CULTURES: EVIDENCE-BASED STRATEGIES FOR MITIGATING STIGMA, SHAME, AND FACE LOSS.
- Serena Chen (University of California, Berkeley): ME WHEN I’M WITH YOU: HOW SIGNIFICANT OTHERS INFLUENCE THE SELF IN PRESENT AND FUTURE RELATIONSHIPS.
- Amber M. Gaffney (Humboldt State University): THE ROLE OF SOCIAL IDENTITY POLITICS IN CONSTRUCTING THE RED-BLUE DIVIDE.
- Judith Torney-Purta (University of Maryland): INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH IN THE BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES.
- Delia S. Saenz (Arizona State University): CONTEMPORARY BIAS TOWARD AN AGE-OLD COUPLING ARRANGEMENT: VIEWS OF ‘SUGAR BABY/SUGAR DADDY’ RELATIONSHIPS.
- Lynette H. Bikos (Seattle Pacific University): RE-ENTRY FROM ABROAD: PLOTTING THE PATHWAY HOME.
• **Simine Vazire** (University of California, Davis): SAFER SCIENCE: MAKING PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE MORE REPLICAble.

• **Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi** (Claremont Graduate University): PSYCHOLOGY IN ACTION: SOME RECENT APPLICATIONS.

• **Harold Takooshian** (Fordham University): 125 YEARS LATER: TEN SURPRISING FACTS ABOUT INTERNATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY.

• **Linda R. Mona** (VA Long Beach Healthcare System): CULTURALLY COMPETENT SEXUAL HEALTHCARE FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES.

• **Robert Gifford** (University of Victoria): THE DRAGONS OF INACTION AN DOTHER BEASTLY NARCISSISMS.

• **Bella DePaulo** (University of California, Santa Barbara): WHAT NO ONE EVER TOLD YOU ABOUT PEOPLE WHO ARE SINGLE.

• **Gail S. Goodman** (University of California, Davis): CHILDHOOD TRAUMA, MEMORY, AND SUGGESTIBILITY.

**Statistics Workshop**

The WPA Statistics Workshop program, coordinated by **Chris Aberson** featured:

• Greg Hurtz (California State University, Sacramento): STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF OUR METHODS OF STATISTICAL ANALYSIS: AN INTRODUCTION TO MONTE CARLO RESEARCH.

• Kathleen S. J. Preston (California State University, Fullerton): A GENTLE INTRODUCTION TO R.

• Shelley A. Blosis (University of California, Davis): LATENT GROWTH CURVE ANALYSIS.

• Christopher L. Aberson (Humboldt State University): INTERMEDIATE PROGRAMMING AND ANALYSES IN R.

**Speed Research Mentoring**

For the second year in a row, **Melinda Blackman** organized two Speed Research Mentoring sessions where students were able to interact with various professors about their research and ways of designing studies.

**Special Program**

**Philip Zimbardo** (Palo Alto University), **Bob Levine** (California State University, Fresno), and **Harold Takooshian** (Fordham University) hosted a program showing the film “The Witness” and discussing how the Kitty Genovese case was reported incorrectly, but led to a series of studies on the bystander effect. This program was entitled: THE CURIOUS CASE OF KITTY GENOVESE: HOW A FABRICATED STORY LED TO INCREASED UNDERSTANDING OF BASTANDER APATHY.

**Student Scholarship Winners**
The Following students received **WPA Student Scholarships**. All were first authors on a WPA presentation that received outstanding reviews by Program Committee reviewers: Paul Winakur and Makayla Gray (co-first authors, Northern Arizona University), Andrea Barrera (CSU San Bernardino), Angelica Chakos (Loma Linda University), Zachary Goodman (CSU Sacramento), Miranda Henein (CSU Long Beach), Verdah Kazi (University of San Francisco), Claudia D. Manes (Albizu University), Isabel Mendiola (Claremont McKenna College), Dottie Rhoten (Point Loma Nazareen University), Jianmin Shao (Soka University of America).

**The Robert L. Solso Research Awards** were presented to Alica Corrales (CSU Long Beach), Catherine Grosz (CSU Northridge), and Christina A. Nicolaides (UC Riverside).

**The Christina Maslach–Philip Zimbardo Social Psychology Research Awards** were presented to Alexandra Bitter (Point Loma Nazarene University) and Angela Hart (CSU Stanislaus).

**The Gottfried WPA Student Research Award in Developmental Psychology** was presented to Brittney Hernandez (CSU Fullerton).

**The Dr. Steven Ungerleider WPA Graduate Research Award** was presented to Kimberley Potter (San Diego State University).

**The Barbara Tabachnick Award for Outstanding Application of Quantitative Methods** was presented to Rosalyn G. Sandoval (CSU Sacramento).

**The Scott C. Fraser Student Research Award in Applied Psychology** was presented to Ekaterina Aladjieva (University of Washington).

**The Multivariate Software Award** provided by Multivariate Software, Inc. that includes a license for EQS was presented to Daniel Rose (Arizona State University).

**2017 Terman Teaching Conference**

The **Western Psychological Association** has long offered the Terman Teaching Conference on the day preceding its annual convention. This year, the Terman Teaching Conference was held on Wednesday, April 26, 2017 from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. This year’s teaching conference was again organized by J. Kris Leppien-Christensen, Saddleback College (Chair) and Diane Simpson Brown, Everett College (Associate Chair). The major theme this year was on teaching difficult topics. The presenters were:

- The Role of Animal Research in Psychology. John Capitanio, UC Davis.
• Becoming America’s Next Top Model [Teacher]: An Evidence-Based Guide. Aaron Richmond, Metropolitan State University of Denver.
• Teaching Controversy: Sexuality and Related Topics. Heidi Riggio, CSU Los Angeles.

New WPA Fellows

The Fellows and Awards Committee welcomed three new Fellows of the Association:
• Kimberley Barchard, University of Nevada, Las Vegas
• Jon Grahe, Pacific Lutheran University
• Sharon Hamill, CSU San Marcos