



FOCUS

Notes from the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues
Volume 22, Number 2
Spring 2010

President's Corner

Robert M. Sellers
University of Michigan



I am now at the midpoint of my tenure as President of Division 45. I thought that I would take this opportunity to share with you some of the activities that I have been involved in over the past six months as President of the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues (APA Division 45). To date, most of my efforts and focus have been dedicated to helping plan the first-ever Division 45 conference to be held in Ann Arbor in June 2010 (<http://www.div45conference.com>). I am very excited about this major initiative. I believe that it will be a significant milestone in the life of the division. The conference is moving along smoothly. We have received significant attention and very positive response from the membership and beyond. As part of the planning process I have been working with three very hardworking and productive subcommittees: Program Subcommittee; Advertising and Finance; and Operations. As a result, we have made significant progress in the past few months. The conference website has been posted. Advertisements have been sent out to a variety of different groups and list serves. Accommodations and facilities have been secured. The plenary events and preconference workshops are in the process of being finalized. Significant funds have been raised. The University of Michigan has been an especially generous sponsor. We have also received support from a number of other APA Divisions. Most of this support has been in the form of scholarship funds for students. As a result of the generous support that we have received so far, we hope to make a profit from the conference. Hopefully, this profit will be used to underwrite future Division 45 conferences.

In addition to working on the planning of the conference, I have also been working with the Treasurer (Alfiee Breland-Noble) and the rest of the Finance committee to develop a more effective budgeting process for the division. In particular, our goal is to develop a system that will allow us to better track our current revenue and spending as well as make accurate predictions of our future expenditures and resources so that we can maintain the long-term fiscal health of the division. Also, I believe that such an overhaul of our budgetary process will help to ensure that we are devoted financial resources in a way that is in keeping with the overall strategic plan and mission of the organization. Members of the Finance committee and I will be meeting in Washington in late February to work on this new budgetary structure. One of the recommendations that have already been put forth is amending the Division's by-laws so that the Presidential Trio's terms start on January 1st of each year instead of at the APA Convention. This change would result in the terms of the Presidential Trio being in sync with the terms of the fiscal year as well as the rest of the Executive Committee. At present, there are two different Presidents during each fiscal year, which also means that each President must operate under two different annual budgets. This makes it very difficult to

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER (Continued)

align the Presidents' initiatives with the division's annual budget. The Executive Committee voted to support the proposed amendment at the Midwinter meeting. As a result, the issue will come to a vote by the membership at the Division 45 Business Meeting during the APA Conference in San Diego.

Another issue that has come up in the past few months is the Division's response to a proposed boycott of the Manchester Hyatt during the convention. The proposed boycott has been primarily based on two issues: 1) the title owner of the Manchester Hyatt's financial support of California Proposition 8 that resulted in a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage in California and 2) the Manchester Hyatt's long-standing refusal to recognize and negotiate with a union for its custodial and house-keeping staff. Both of these issues disproportionately impact on a number of members and are important social justice issues. As such, the Executive Committee and I have worked with other Divisions to coordinate a response to APA. At the charge of our Executive Committee, I have written two letters over the past six months to the APA Board of Directors, the APA President, and Board of Convention Affairs in which we stated our disappointment in APA holding convention activities at the Manchester Hyatt. In these letters, we also requested that APA avoid scheduling any Division 45 convention activities at the Manchester Hyatt. The Executive Committee has also committed to staying somewhere other than the Manchester Hyatt during the convention. The Executive Committee further calls upon the Division 45 membership to act in accordance with their own personal consciences with respect to their own actions regarding this issue. To date, we have been told APA convention affairs that they will attempt to work with us on our request not to schedule any of the division's activities in the Manchester Hyatt. I will continue to keep the membership abreast to issues as they unfold via the membership listserv.

Also, I have made two committee appointments over the last six months that I believe will serve the division well. First, in early October, I appointed Maria Sharon del Rio to serve as our website coordinator. In addition to working to update the current website, Maria has been working with the website committee and our consultant team to develop a new interactive website for the division. We expect that the new website will be going on-line in the upcoming months. A second committee appointment that I made was to appoint Beth Boyd to serve as Chair of the Council of Past-Presidents. The Council of Past-Presidents provides a wealth of knowledge that could be extremely helpful to the organization. Having the Council become more actively involved with the running

of the organization can only help it become more efficient and effective. I know as President, I welcome such wisdom and counsel. Thus, I asked the Executive Committee to support another By-law amendment that would place the Chair of the Council of Past-Presidents on the Division 45 Executive Committee as ex-officio members. This is another issue that will be up for a vote during the Division's business meeting at the APA convention. Both Maria and Beth have worked very hard for the division in the past few months and deserve our gratitude.

Finally, I have had the pleasure of representing the Division as its President at a couple of conferences. At the end of October I attended the NIMH-COR conference in Albuquerque. As a former COR graduate, I was honored to provide the keynote talk at the banquet. I met a number of bright and engaged undergraduate students of color who were presenting their primarily psychology research. I put a plug-in for the Division and the conference every opportunity that I got. The response from the students was great and was quite reaffirming for me personally. One of the things I love most about my job is the opportunity to interact with young people. I was also scheduled to represent the Division at the APA Science Leadership conference in November. Unfortunately, I became ill and was unable to attend the conference. I was especially disappointed about missing the Science Leadership conference because I and several other Division members are concerned about the current direction of the National Institute of Mental Health's (NIMH's) funding focus and its impact on research in ethnic minority communities as well as training support for ethnic minority scholars. I feel strongly that this is an issue that the Division needs to take a leadership role. As President of the Division, I will work within and outside of the APA structure to try influence a change in the current funding priorities at NIMH as well as work towards developing other opportunities.

In sum, the first-half of my tenure as President has in some ways gone by way too fast and not fast enough in other ways. In all instances, I have been honored to serve in this capacity and deeply appreciate the tremendous support that I have received from the Executive Committee, membership, APA staff, family, and friends. I hope that I will have the opportunity to express that gratitude to you in person at the upcoming Division 45 Conference in June.

Sincerely,

Robert M. Sellers, President
The Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic
Minority Issues (APA Division 45)

FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

Jean Lau Chin, EdD, ABPP
Dean, Derner Institute for Advanced
Psychological Studies, Adelphi University

CALLING ALL DIVERSE LEADERS

As we look around us, I believe Barack Obama, our first African American and biracial president, faces significant challenges unlike that of his predecessors. He was challenged early on about race even though he did not run his campaign on race. He entered the presidency at a most challenging period of economic recession. One might wonder whether his challenges have been more intense because of his race. He is diminished by some as merely a good orator?



As I prepare for my presidency, I am planning for an initiative on Diversity and Leadership to understand the factors contributing to how individuals from diverse racial/ethnic backgrounds and women access formal positions of leadership and exercise their leadership. We know it is a different experience, but we do not have the data to support it. What exist in the literature are largely some cross-cultural studies on leadership while mainstream models of leadership are largely inattentive to how the diversity of leaders and followers influence the exercise of leadership. While studies about ethnic minorities are numerous, few are about leadership. The GLOBE study (House, Hanges, Javidan, Dorfman & Gupta, 2004) is a comprehensive study of leadership that identified leadership styles associated with different cultural patterns across 62 cultures/countries. Cultural variation of leadership style included some dimensions not typically found in leadership studies conducted in the U.S., e.g., humane orientation and collectivism.

While the GLOBE study did not study the diversity of individuals within a country/culture, the results have implications for the exercise of leadership among diverse leaders within the U.S. I plan to collect some data via a leadership questionnaire to identify the leadership styles of diverse leaders and whether there is an experience of bias which hinders the access to and exercise of leadership. More importantly, does one's ethnic identity interact with one's identity as a leader?

The image of leadership has been evolving over time. While a masculine leadership prototype of task orientation has prevailed (Hielman, 2001; Schein, 2001), there has been growing recognition of the importance of people skills for leaders, and the increased prominence of the

transformational leadership and leader-member exchange paradigms in the leadership literature (e.g., Eagly & Carli, 2003; Rudman & Glick, 2001). More androgynous conceptions of leadership have emerged which emphasize both task and people skills, and may well be associated with the greater number of women and racial/ethnic minorities in the workplace and in leadership positions. Globalization has also introduced the influence of Asian management styles, which have been noted to be more relationship focused (Triandis, 1993).

While case studies of white male leaders abound, there is little on the experiences of diverse leaders and their exercise of leadership. I hope to reach diverse leaders as part of my presidential initiative to sample these perceptions and experiences as leaders in higher education, corporations, community agencies, health care, and psychologists in management positions. I invite all in Division 45 to participate by filling out the leadership questionnaire which is forthcoming or encouraging those in leadership positions to do so.

I hope the results will enable us to promote, mentor, and train diverse racial and ethnic students and early career psychologists as leaders. It will build on Division 45's Links and Shoulders initiative and Leadership Institute. It will start from a strengths-based position of how race and ethnic identity influences leader identity toward the successful exercise of leadership. Look for the upcoming activities and questionnaire on leadership.

Jean Lau Chin
President-Elect

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PAST PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

*J. Manuel Casas, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus
University of California, Santa Barbara*

BRINGING LOGIC AND CARE TO THE IMMIGRATION PROCESS: EFFORTS CONTINUE

Although I retired in July from my full-time job at the University of California, Santa Barbara, I have been busier than ever during this interim. Yet, as I write this report, I find myself challenged to identify "all" that I accomplished. Is such a lapse a symptom that comes with retirement...old age? Oh well, before I continue forgetting, let me share with you two accomplishments that were most gratifying to me and that I believe brought some positive attention to our Division. Both of these accomplishments direct attention to the socio-psychological impact of immigration on children and families.



One of the major themes that I undertook during my term as president was to continue to address and confront the numerous health, social, and economic problems as well as politically driven issues that plague many of the immigrants (documented and undocumented), our brothers and sisters, that walk and work amongst us. My goal in taking up this theme was to produce a publication or be a part of an event that would help us to move forward to sensitize others to the suffering of the immigrant. These two accomplishments enabled me to do so.

With respect to a publication, as a member of the Committee on Children, Youth and Families with an interest and commitment to issues surrounding immigration, I was asked/volunteered by the Committee to put together the fall issue of the CYF News that focused on a number of topics relevant to immigrant and refugee children, youth, and families. These include resettlement stresses, acculturation, resilience in the face of adversity, cultural competence and sensitivity, and finally the impact of immigration across diverse groups. This issue can be found on line:
<http://www.apa.org/pi/cyf/CYFNews-Fall-2009.pdf>.

The publication has been very well received by individuals who are committed to bringing more logic to the

whole immigration, detention and deportation processes and, more important, making such processes more humane. In fact, the second accomplishment, exemplifies this reception. More specifically, it involves my having been invited to represent APA at a Congressional briefing on two bills that have been sent to committee that, while not seeking to change existing immigration laws and policies, seek to standardize the detention and deportation processes while also making them more responsive to the human rights of the immigrant.

The first bill, the Humane Enforcement and Legal Protections for Separated Children Act (H.R. 3531), would provide critical, nationwide protocols to help keep children with their parents or caregivers and out of the foster care system while their parent's or caregivers case is pending by ensuring that vulnerable populations apprehended during immigration enforcement activities are identified and treated with dignity. The second bill, the Immigration Oversight and Fairness Act of 2009 (H.R. 1215), seeks to restore this nation's commitment to humanitarian values, due process, civil liberties and human rights, to ensure immigrant detainees are treated humanely, to expand the use of community-based alternatives to detention and other release options, and to protect vulnerable children.

It is my hope that my works and accomplishments in the area of immigration that are noted here will serve to motivate you to join forces with me and the Children, Youth and Families Committee to work this year with President Obama to fight for a much needed immigration overhaul.

Advertising Policy

All articles and advertisements are subject to review and approval by the editor. Submissions must be relevant to Division 45 interests.

The following rates apply to announcements for job openings and publisher's new releases based on a three-column per page format:

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| 3 inches | \$50 |
| 1/2 column (5") | \$75 |
| 1 column (9") | \$140 |
| 1/2 page | \$200 |
| 1 page | \$400 |

Deadline for Spring Issue (May): February 15
Deadline for Winter Issue (Dec.): September 1

Contact:

**Newsletter Editor
Melissa Morgan**

Email: mmorgan@education.ucsb.edu

FROM THE EDITOR

Melissa L. Morgan, Ph.D.
University of California, Santa Barbara

Hello Division 45 members!

Welcome to our first online edition of FOCUS. As you know, "going green" with our newsletter has been considered for a while by the division...and with this edition it has finally happened.



Thanks to all the members who gave input on this decision after my call in the last newsletter. In this Winter 2010 FOCUS you will find important updates from our executive committee members: an update on the presidential activities and the Manchester issue at APA, a preview of the initiatives of our President-Elect, a report on Division 45's fiscal situation, an update from our new graduate student representative, as well as reports on various important activities from our members at large.

As always, if you have news, kudos, announcements, or article ideas, send them to me at: mmorgan@education.ucsb.edu.

Enjoy!
 Melissa Morgan

APA Division 45 Treasurer's Report

Dr. Alfiee M. Breland-Noble
Duke University Medical Center

I. Introduction and Background for Report

I respectfully submit this edition of the Treasurer's Report for the Spring FOCUS. I am very happy to report that upon my recommendation and with full support from Dr. Robert Sellers; I, President Sellers, President-Elect Chin, Cheryl Talley and Assistant to the Treasurer Ms. Antoinette Burriss met in person for a full day meeting on February 22, 2010 to develop a clear and accurate accounting of the current status of our division finances. Following, I provide detail regarding exactly what was accomplished and how this significant achievement meets our divisional strategic plan.



II. Action Items

During our mid-winter meeting in 2009, the Division 45 EC began a discussion of the fiscal factors most important for our EC going forward. As a result, we decided to

include the following items as priorities for the 2009-2010 fiscal year:

- Creation and solidification of a policy for requests for donations/support from other organizations.
- Refinement of our budget to clearly reflect the division's strategic plan and mission.
- Establishment of a clear financial investment policy.
- Development and finalizing of a clear and concise treasurer's handbook.
- Finalization of a policy for travel requests by EC members to meetings other than the convention and mid-winter meetings (specifically meetings where EC members represent our division).

I am so excited to report that we have met objectives A and B (with objective B being one of the most crucial and setting the tone for almost all other priorities outlined above). We are currently awaiting a few key pieces of information from the APA finance office and our accountants, CBIZ. Once we have these final key pieces of information, we will present a schedule and formal proposed budget for 2010-2011. The schedule that we will provide to the EC will reflect a combination of action items A and B and will involve our efforts to formalize a process for our EC to invest in and have their voices clearly heard regarding the development of our annual budget. Additionally, we anticipate full disclosure to our division membership with a clear and concise presentation of our annual budget along with our ideas about funds will be allocated.

In meeting the objectives and action items outlined above, I believe that our efforts are in line with Strategic Goal 1: To improve the Division's functioning for efficiency and effect.

My involvement as treasurer of the EC was in large part due to the encouragement, coaching and support of our dear colleague, Dr. Toy Caldwell-Colbert. It is an honor to have been entrusted with a leadership role in the fiscal management of our division and I look forward to our continued growth and prosperity.

Peace & Blessings,
 Alfiee M. Breland-Noble

Membership Update

Shamin Ladhani, Psy.D.
Membership Chair

Membership numbers for last year were slightly down when compared to the previous year which is consistent with the economic downturn and with other organizations. However, we want to continue to



meet our members' needs and retain the wonderful members we have. In an effort to address that, I had submitted a request for Division 45 member participation and I am happy to announce the new Membership Committee:

| | |
|----------------|----------------------|
| Debbiesiu Lee | Le Ondra Clark |
| Radhika Sehgal | Erlanger Turner |
| Kelly Kovack | Sherry Craft |
| Myeshia Price | Amanda Sullivan |
| Nicole Manns | Marguerita Lightfoot |
| Emilia Lopez | |

The team is made up of students, early careers and professional members in the effort to best meet the needs of our diverse membership. The committee is open to any

and all ideas so please feel free to email me at anytime and look for more information through the Division 45 listserv.

Also, in my last newsletter, I had requested that members send me their Division 45 "memoirs" or "highlights." Perhaps you attended a Division 45 social hour and made a great connection or maybe a Division 45 member reached out to you in some way that influenced your career. I would like to feature these stories in upcoming versions of FOCUS and include them as testimonials.

As always, feel free to reach to me with any questions about membership or suggestions for the membership committee at drshaminladhani@gmail.com.

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

*William D. Parham, John F. Kennedy University
Jessica Henderson Daniel, Children's Hospital, Boston, MA.*

FROM THE FLOOR OF COUNCIL

True to form, your Council of Representatives engaged in spirited conversations and thoughtful deliberations during the recent meeting (February 19-21, 2010) that convened in Washington, D.C. Space prohibits an exhaustive review of the 2.5 days, 38 agenda items venue. Related, APA Communications will share more detailed results of the weekend meetings but here are a few highlights. First, in a nearly unanimous vote, your Council of Representatives decided that they will not convene their APA-San Diego meeting at the Manchester Hyatt. Know that the letter writing efforts of several APA divisions, including Division 45, influenced the final vote.



The proposed revision to the APA ethics code regarding conflicts between ethics and law and conflict between ethics and organizational demands was accepted by Council. In essence, clarity was brought to heretofore loophole/open to interpretation language regarding the aforementioned conflicts.

Largely due to sound fiscal management, including needing to make some difficult decisions, APA's fiscal health is good and the organization is positioned to respond to future economic challenges. Related, in a move to respond to membership growth and retention APA-COR accepted a plan to offer discount dues to several APA-affiliated entities.

On Saturday, the Council participated in a diversity training program and this year's theme focused on the Intersection of race, gender, social class and other ele-



ments of living in a multicultural society. The training was informative and stimulated important discussion.

Important conversations regarding the revision of APA's Model Act for State Licensure of Psychologists took place and resulted in a nearly unanimous adoption by Council of the revision. States often use the "Model Act" as a template for reviewing and making decisions about licensing psychologists to practice in their states.

The Final Report of the 2009 Presidential Task Force on the Future of Psychology Practice, a project of Past-President James Bray, was accepted by Council. Related, efforts to promote psychology as a STEM discipline continue and implications of said promotion for marketing APA to its broad constituency were discussed.

Though not on the official agenda, the goal of seating the four ethnic minority psychological associations on the floor of Council moved closer to fruition. Carol Goodheart, APA President, appointed Drs. Melba Vasquez and Rosie Phillips Bingham as members of the newly formed working APA group (co-chaired by Drs. Armand Cerbone and Jean Carter) that is tasked with shepherding the process of seating the four ethnic psychological associations as full members of Council. Important strategies for accomplishing this goal were discussed by the working group that includes representatives of the ethnic psychological associations and William D. Parham, Chair of the Ethnic Minority Caucus of APA Council. Dr. Bertha Holiday (Executive Director of the

COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES (Continued)

Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs (OEMA) also participated in the discussions. Plans to operationalize some of the agreed upon strategies were outlined and special attention was directed to implementing some of the strategies during the upcoming APA Consolidated meetings.

Related, the APA Consolidated meetings, where Boards and Committees convene at one location to conduct their business, will take place mid-March and a key item on the agenda is the further development of the APA strategic plan, mission statement and related initiatives. Collaboration took place among many colleagues to ensure that the aforementioned strategic plan and mission statement embrace and actualize diversity as a core value.

This update doubles as an invitation to all Division 45 members and others reading this issue of FOCUS to become familiar with APA's new and more user-friendly website wherein more details of the recent APA Council of Representatives meeting is posted. Lastly, as your representatives, we want to hear from you regarding your concerns and questions as our ongoing goal is to make your voice heard on the floor of Council.

GRADUATE STUDENT COLUMN

Andrea Ballesteros
Graduate Student, Spalding University

Hello all! My name is Andrea Ballesteros and I am the new student representative for Div 45. I want to introduce myself and let you know some plans to make this a great couple of years. I am a graduate student at Spalding University in Louisville, KY at the moment but not originally from here. I was born in San Jose, Costa Rica and moved to Tampa, FL when I was 5 years old. I lived most of my life in Tampa until I went to college at the University of Florida (Go Gators!). I am really excited to be part of Div 45, and think it is vital to increase student involvement within the division. I have noticed that the student listserv is not being utilized to its potential. Therefore I would love any suggestions to improve this hitch. I would like to have students email me accomplishments or events that are going on by/for minority students. I can put them together and send them out on the listserv about once a month so we know what is going on around the country. Also it would be great to have discussions about our experiences in graduate school and ways we can make it better. I would also appreciate if you have any personal stories on



how Div 45 has influenced your graduate career please send them my way. On another note, I am planning on developing a student committee to help out in brainstorming ideas and planning events. If you want to get involved also message me privately. I am very excited to get a jump start to the year!

Andrea Ballesteros
gatorabc@gmail.com

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (AFRICAN AMERICAN SLATE) REPORT

*Cheryl P. Talley African American Member at
Large, Science Committee Chair*

WHEN REALLY BAD NEWS IS GOOD NEWS

My first Focus news article was written in 2007 and was titled "When bad news is good news." In the article I highlighted the 2006 report authored by the previous Science Committee chair on the representation of racial/ethnic minority scientists within the APA. I thought that the reported baseline data could serve as a point of departure and that future data would surely document increases in the number of awards, recognitions, scholarship, governance positions and research grants given to psychologists of color. I expected that the number of awards would become more proportional to the number of ethnic minorities within the organization.



As I begin my final year as a member of the Executive Committee, it seems that I was overly optimistic. One of the major factors has been the recession.

For many people the bad news of the economy has been very bad. Research from the Pew Research Center shows blacks and Hispanics were twice as likely as white workers to have been laid off at the beginning of the recession between June 2007 and February 2008, (<http://pewsocialtrends.org/pubs/714/youre-laid-off>), a trend which has continued (http://iris.lib.neu.edu/dukakis_center_pub/11/). More sobering, however, is the tendency for workplace discrimination to increase during tough economic times. Industrial/organizational psychologist, Eden King of George Mason University writes "In good economic times, people know they are supposed to support diversity and will tend to hire a minority candidate to get affirmative action points," ... "But when times are tough, people tend to look out for their own group and isolate outsiders, and that's when discrimination can rear its ugly

MEMBER-AT-LARGE REPORT (Continued)

head" (<http://ac360.blogs.cnn.com/2009/03/17/how-the-recession-is-affecting-racial-diversity-in-the-work-place/>).

These findings may help provide perspective for some of the recent actions at APA that may have long-lasting effects on the training of future psychologists. I'm speaking of the elimination of such programs as the APA/NIGMS project that supported minority biomedical research talent in psychology and the end of the CEMMR-RAT program that promoted multicultural education and training in psychology. In addition, there have been major staff and budget cuts in the Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs. The search for a chief diversity and inclusion officer is on hold, indefinitely.

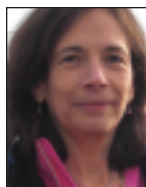
MEMBER-AT-LARGE (AMERICAN INDIAN SLATE) REPORT

*Lisa Rey Thomas, PhD (Tlingit),
Member-at-Large, Native Slate
Alcohol and Drug Abuse Institute,
University of Washington*

Greetings everyone! It is nice to see signs of Spring in the Pacific Northwest – the days are getting longer, the birds are singing, and there are even a number of flowers beginning to bloom.

It is my honor to write this column as the Division 45 Member-at-Large, American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) Slate! For those of you who don't know me, it is proper protocol for me to first introduce myself. My family comes from SE Alaska and my late father is Lonnie Thomas, Raven, Dog Salmon Clan; I am Eagle, Wolf Clan. I have two wonderful boys, 9 and 18 years old. My career is focused on promoting culturally appropriate practices to build on and improve health in AIAN communities through the use of Community Based and Tribally Based Participatory Research approaches.

We've all been very busy since the last issue of Focus as you can see from all of the reports. If you remember, I am focusing on four activities in service to Division 45: 1) serving on the planning committee for the 2011 National Multicultural Committee; 2) working on a team to develop the Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Interests (CNPAAE-MI) Leadership Development Institute (CLDI); strengthening the ties between Division 45 members and the APA



Just like Obama, the next president of the APA, Melba Vasquez will begin her term with unprecedented challenges. Now is *not* the time to bail. On the contrary, now is the time to become more productive and more involved. The recession has impacted the entire organization and in so doing may provide "teachable moments" for many constituents. Dr. Vasquez will most certainly need the support of Division 45 members in promoting her vision of an organization that promotes parity, equality and inclusion. One way to support her is to make your knowledge and expertise more easily available to APA members and the public. Division 45 wants to highlight your accomplishments on our new website. Please forward information about your grant or publication so that it can be posted. Information may be emailed to ctalley@vsu.edu. This could be the best time ever to be involved in APA and Division 45.

Public Interest Government Relations Office (PI-GRO); and building and strengthening collaborations between Division 45 and Native organizations.

2011 National Multicultural Conference and Summit (NMCS). The NMCS planning committee (Cisco Sanchez, lead coordinator Div 44; Debra Kawahara, Div 35; Roger Worthington, Div 17; Lisa Rey Thomas, Div 45) continues to work hard for a successful Summit in 2011! The NMCS Coordinators are excited to announce The Westin–Seattle Hotel as the host hotel for the 2011 NMCS (www.Westin.com/Seattle). The NMCS will be held on January 27–28, 2011. We are also planning a half-day pre-conference and kick-off reception for Wednesday, January 26, and community service projects for Saturday, January 29. The theme of the 2011 NMCS is "*Unification through Diversity: Bridging Psychological Science and Practice in the Public Interest*". We are very excited about this theme and hope you are, too!

The other important NMCS update is the selection of the 2011 NMCS Distinguished Elders. We had a record number of nominees with very impressive nomination packets so thank you to all who were involved in submitting these nominations! While we would have liked to include all of them we could only select eight of the accomplished nominees. The following will be honored at the 2011 NMCS as Distinguished Elders: **Patricia Arredondo**, Ed.D. (University of Wisconsin–Milwaukee); **Carolyn Barcus**, Ed.D. (Utah State University); **Doug Kimmel**, Ph.D. (Private Practice, Hancock, ME); **Gerald Mohatt**, Ed.D. (University of Alaska–Fairbanks); **Paul Pedersen**, Ph.D. (Syracuse University); **Stanley Sue**, Ph.D. (University of California–Davis); **Richard Suinn**, Ph.D. (Colorado State University); and **Mary Tatum Howard**, Ph.D. (St. Cloud VA Medical Center). It is with great sadness that I inform you that one of the 2011

NMCS Distinguished Elders, Dr. Gerald (Jerry) Mohatt passed away on February 10, 2010. Dr. Mohatt committed his life and career to the health and welfare of America's indigenous populations and his research project, "People Awakening: Alaska Native Pathways to Sobriety," has been described as a landmark study in addictions science. Jerry was a dear mentor, colleague, and friend to me and I will miss him very much. He will be honored posthumously at the 2011 NMCS. For more information or to share your thoughts please see this site that his family has created <http://mohattfamily.wordpress.com/>.

The 2011 planning team continues to meet via conference call every two weeks to keep us on track and we welcome your ideas and feedback as we plan for 2011. Please join us on Facebook and Twitter to stay informed with breaking NMCS news! To find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=87498768180> and to find us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/NMCS2011>.

Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Interests (CNPAE-MI) Leadership Development Institute.

A committee has been formed to develop the Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Interests (CNPAEMI) Leadership Development Institute (CLDI). This idea emerged from member organizations of CNPAEMI, many of the psychologists of color who are leaders in our organization, and the APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs. Accomplishments to date include: (a) draft mission and vision statements for the CLDI; (b) draft mentoring guidelines; (c) identification of leadership training models that could be incorporated into the CLDI; and (d) the appointment of a small working group to draft the proposal to be submitted to CNPAEMI in 2010. This sub-committee of six has representation from the Society of Indian Psychologists, the National Latino Association of Psychologists, the Asian American Psychological Association, the Association of Black Psychologists, and APA Divisions 17 and 45. We have drafted a proposal to submit to the American Psychological Foundation (APF) Visionary and Weiss Grants program. Look for updates in the next issue of Focus!

Division 45 members and the APA Public Interest Government Relations Office (PI-GRO). As many of you know, the PI-GRO serves as an advocate for addressing health disparity and health equity issues on "the hill" and provide an opportunity for psychologists to use their expertise in any number of ways to improve the health of our communities. Since the Fall newsletter, the two staff that I worked with left APA and I have not yet been notified of the new contact person(s). I hope to have an update in the next issue of Focus.

Building and strengthening collaborations between Division 45 and Native organizations. Another activity that I feel is critical is networking with others who work with and serve American Indian and Alaska Native communities and I enjoy sharing information and resources across a number of listservs. Please send any information and resources that you think are relevant for Native health and I would be happy to post that info on various email lists including the Native Research Network, Psychologists in Indian Country, the Society of Indian Psychologists, Community-Campus Partnerships for Health Aboriginal Section, the Native American Center for Excellence, National Congress of American Indians Policy Research Center, and the Native Research Group! Please let me know if there are other organizations and listservs that we can network with!

In closing, please let me say again how honored I am to be of service to Division 45 members and how excited I am to have the opportunity to work with my friends and colleagues on the EC. They are truly a dedicated group of individuals who demonstrate integrity, grit, intelligence, and humor in their work. Also, they are quite fun! Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time and I look forward to continuing to work with all of you!

Respectfully,

Lisa Rey Thomas

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (ASIAN AMERICAN SLATE) REPORT

Michi Fu, Ph.D.

*California School of Professional Psychology,
Los Angeles, & Asian Pacific
Family Center of Pacific Clinics*

Thank you for the opportunity to represent our division as member-at-large, Asian slate. I have been serving as our **liaison to the American Psychological Association's Practice Directorate**. This is the branch of APA that promotes the practice of psychology and availability/accessibility of psychological services. For example, they have developed a disaster response network, psychologically healthy workplace program, public education campaign, and offer rural health resources. For more information about their many programs, check out: <http://www.apa.org/practice/>.



It's also been my pleasure to serve as a member of Division 45's **Communications Committee**. Did you know we have a Facebook presence? Become a "friend" of Division 45. We are also revamping our website. If you have any suggestions for things you would like to see

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (ASIAN AMERICAN SLATE) REPORT

(Continued)

on our website, please don't hesitate to contact our webmaster, Maria Scharron del Rio at MariaRS@brooklyn.cuny.edu. Have any ideas for how to harness technology to communicate with one another in the division? Please forward your ideas to me at drmichifu@gmail.com.

Finally, I am pleased to continue coordinating our mentoring program during our convention in San Diego. If you attended last year's **Links and Shoulders** event, you know that we had an unprecedented amount of attendees – even crashers! To make sure you are part of the fun, please be sure to RSVP to me if you'd like to attend as a mentor or mentee. Looking forward seeing you in Southern California.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (DIVERSITY SLATE) REPORT

Jeff Ring

UNNATURAL CAUSES: IS INEQUALITY MAKING US SICK?

I want to share my enthusiasm for this remarkable documentary film which was shown last year on PBS, and about which more information is available at <http://www.unnaturalcauses.org/> Martin Luther King said, "Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane." Sadly, the disparities that Dr. King witnessed during his lifetime have, for the most part, only grown in size and gravity. Unnatural Causes documents the extent and impact of health disparities on the lives of individuals, and explores the contributions of poverty and racism to the harsh disparities seen in the United States and beyond.



Most impressive to me, is the film's focus on what the field of psychology brings to our understanding of the issues at hand. From epidemiological research to physiological and illness correlates of stress and social dominance, the film builds in intensity as personal narrative is interwoven with expert commentary and the dissemination of relevant research findings.

As psychologists, we have an ethical responsibility to practice and investigate and teach with the highest of cul-

tural respect and sensitivity. Moreover, I believe we have a solemn responsibility to find our voice and become actively involved in the elimination of health disparities, whether we do this through political action, research, teaching and/or advocacy and patient empowerment.

The Unnatural Causes documentary is a powerful and dramatic way to quickly get 'up to speed' on the scope, nature and impact of health disparities. It is both devastating and hopeful, overwhelming and empowering. It reminds us that we have no luxury of dawdling or procrastinating. The precious gift of good health is slipping away from members of our minority and underserved and impoverished communities with alarming speed.

The discussions of health care reform in Washington and across the land offer another important opportunity to raise our voices and argue for fair and affordable access to excellent health care that is delivered in a patient's preferred language and is embracing of their cultural worldview.

I incorporate the film in my work as a faculty member in a family medicine residency. While health care disparities certainly arise from multiple sources and etiologies, I believe that the physician (and psychologist) contribution to disparities is an area that can be successfully addressed through education and professional development of culturally responsive attitudes, knowledge and skills. I look forward to future discussion and collaboration on these issues at our annual convention and at our Division Conference and Multicultural Summit.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (LATINO/A SLATE) REPORT

Melanie M. Domenech Rodríguez
Utah State University

As the year begins, we are already planning activities for the APA Convention Hospitality Suite in San Diego, CA. As in years past, the suite will be open between 8am and 5pm on Thursday (8/12), Friday (8/13), and Saturday (8/14) and have a broad array of events for all division members. Suite programming will include sessions of interests for graduate students, conversation and social hours, committee meetings, and meetings of national ethnic minority associations.

We are looking for student volunteers! If you are interested in supporting the hospitality suite please contact me (Melanie.Domenech@usu.edu) or Annel Cordero (annel_pastel@hotmail.com). Volunteers can stay in the



(Continued on Page 12)



Psi Alpha Omega

Membership Application



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**The National Honor Society in Psychology for Students of Color
and Students Interested in the Study of Ethnic and Cultural Issues**

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (LATINO/A SLATE) REPORT (Continued)

suite free of cost, meet senior ethnic minority psychologists, network with other students and psychologists, and hopefully make new friends. Student volunteers share suite duties equally and support suite activities by (a) shopping for food, (b) preparing for the open house (about 100 attendees), host, and clean up, and (c) hosting the suite while programming is taking place (set out snacks, keep the place tidy, give 10-minute warning that a group's time is expiring and make sure groups are out on time so the next group can get in at the specified time). If you're reliable, work well in a team, can live with a relatively "early rise" (suite must be tidy and ready for the public at 8a!), and are comfortable sharing a bed/room, then contact us!

The Manchester Issue. The location of this year's APA convention has given us, and other like-minded divisions, much cause for concern. Two major issues have sur-

rounded the Manchester issue, Doug Manchester's large financial contribution toward a (now successful) ballot initiative to ban same-sex marriage in California and accusations of unfair labor practices. As you may already know, our division leadership has sent a letter to APA requesting that all division activities are held outside of the Manchester Grand Hyatt. We have specifically requested that the Hospitality Suite be housed outside of the Manchester Grand Hyatt so that none of our members are faced with having to make a choice to participate in division activities while potentially compromising their values. We are working diligently to ensure the suite, as well as other division 45 activities, is held at another convenient location.

Look for the Hospitality Suite schedule and location to be posted on the Division 45 website and sent to the membership listserv during the summer months. Please make time in your busy convention schedule to join us for some refreshments and some fantastic programs in the Division 45 Hospitality Suite!

DIVISION 45 STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Cherry N. Lee, M.S.Ed

Graduate student in the Advanced Certificate program of School Counseling at Brooklyn College.

A NEW SCHOOL COUNSELOR'S ACCOUNT OF THE 117TH APA CONVENTION

This past August, I went to my first American Psychological Association (APA) Convention, which was held in Toronto, Canada. For many counselors, educators, psychologists, professors, and scholars, the APA convention is an annual event for sharing and learning about research. As a first-time attendee, I was having mixed feelings of excitement, anxiety, and intimidation.

My decision to attend the APA convention did not come out of nowhere. For the past year, I have been working with Professor María Scharrón-del Río as her research assistant. Because one of my future academic and professional goals is to pursue a doctorate in counseling psychology, Professor Scharrón-del Río emphasized that attending a professional conference was an opportunity for me to network, obtain resources and ideas for my research, and learn about other related fields and specialties.

There were a great many things to do after I made the decision to attend the conference. Since I was a full time

student, my budget was very tight. Looking for an affordable travel package was the initial challenge. I also needed to take care of my admission fee to the conference. I was very fortunate to find a volunteer opportunity with the APA's Office of Continuing Education in Psychology (CEP) as their workshop monitor. I assisted in a workshop given by Sam Goldstein, Ph.D, and Jack Naglieri, Ph.D, "Cognitive and Behavioral Approaches to Understanding, Evaluating, and Treating ADHD". Because of this, not only did the CEP office pay for my admission fee in full, I could participate in the workshops and learn from outstanding scholars for FREE!

As a first-time attendee at the APA Convention, my experiences were illuminating. I can vividly remember how exhausted I was every night when I got back to my hotel, because of all the things I had learned and all the people I had met during the day. I also remember how lost and overwhelmed I felt when I looked at the two-inch thick program catalogue and had no idea what presentations I should attend. Fortunately, Professor Scharrón-del Río could guide me to ensure that I had an optimal experience at the conference.

The APA Convention is a day and night conference. Activities did not just stop by the end of the day. During the daytime, we had a hectic schedule of workshops and presentations; once the night-time came, another round of the program began, the social hours. In APA, there are about 60 divisions based on special interests and specialties. Personally, I belong to Division 17 and 45, which are the Society of Counseling Psychology and the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues respec-

tively. At first, the social events were not my favorite part of the program because I did not have any prior networking experiences in this type of setting. When Professor Scharrón-del Río asked me to go and directly introduce myself to other psychologists and graduate students, I almost wanted to faint. It was very challenging for me, but I ultimately found that I felt more and more comfortable engaging in various conversations.

During one of the social hour events of Division 45, there was a session called Speed Mentoring. The division had invited different experienced professors to sit with graduate students and early-career counselors and psychologists in various topics. There were about ten different topics, and I joined one regarding the certification and licensure process in psychology. This table was led by Melanie Domenech Rodriguez, Ph.D. At the end of the speed mentoring, I realized how much I liked this learning experience. Not only were my speed mentors very knowledgeable and supportive, I was also able to learn

about the research being conducted by graduate students.

The Exhibition Hall was also one of my favorite places in the convention. There were hundreds of exhibitors from North America, who provided information about their products, services, and publications. During my visit to the Exhibition Hall, I paid particular attention to the graduate schools that offer doctorate programs. It was a great opportunity to talk to the admission representatives about post-doctorate study and potential specialties for my future academic and career development.

My first APA Convention experience was a fascinating one, so much so, that I am looking forward to the next one, in San Diego, next August. I would strongly encourage graduate students who are in the field of counseling and psychology to attend the coming APA Convention. It will be a great professional learning opportunity and I will be there, no longer a novice, to help them make the most of the experience.

ELECTION OF DIVISION 45 OFFICERS: CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

We will be electing officers for the following positions within the executive committee of Division 45 (see below). Nominees for each position have provided candidate statements for your review:

President-Elect (Aug 2010 – Aug 2011) (American Indian Slate)

Council Representative (2011-2013)

Member-at-Large (African American Slate) (Jan. 2011 - 2013)

Nominations Received:

President-Elect:

Art Blume, Ph.D.

Doug McDonald, Ph.D.

Council Representative:

Bill Parham, Ph.D.

David Chiriboga, Ph.D.

Lisa Porché-Burke, Ph.D.

Member at Large (African American Slate)

Cathy McDaniels, Ph.D.

Jennifer Manly, Ph.D.

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS:

Art W. Blume, Ph.D.

University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Candidate for President-Elect

I am honored and humbled to be nominated for President of Division 45.

Many of my "Division 45" interests preceded becoming a psychologist. For example, in the 1980s, I campaigned for Chicago Mayor Harold Washington in a hostile election, and my first career was a substance abuse counselor serving indigent clients. My Ph.D. (clinical) was earned from the University of Washington. In 2003, I was presented an early career research award and elected President of the ABCT Addictive Behaviors division. My research applies psychological science to improve the health and well-being of people of color. I serve Division 45 as Associate Editor for *CDEMP*, and recently finished a three-year term as the Native American male representative to the Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs. As an associate professor, the only American Indian faculty member in a large historically White university in the south, I currently serve as Diversity Coordinator in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

In addition to promoting current Division 45 initiatives, we must continue to support early career psychologists of color and help them transform APA. With the imminent retirements of countless psychology faculty in mind, we must prepare for the opportunity to significantly increase ethnic minority representation. By increasing faculty of color, the number of students of color interested in psychology will increase. Finally, we must continue to advocate for voting representation of the ethnic minority societies on APA Council. I look forward to working with you on these issues regardless of the election results.

CANDIDATES STATEMENTS (Continued)

Doug McDonald, Ph.D.

Professor of Psychology and Director
UND INPSYDE Program

Candidate for President-Elect

Hau Kola Waste ("Hello Good Friends!"). I am honored to be considered for candidacy for president-elect of Division 45. I am an Oglala Lakota (Sioux) nation member and a Navy Submarine Force veteran. I grew up on a ranch on the Northern Cheyenne reservation in Montana and received my Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of South Dakota in 1992. I'm a Full, tenured Professor and Director of the UND Indians into Psychology (INPSYDE) Program. My research has focused on the effects of Biculturalism. I began my interesting APA governance journey as president of the Society of Indian Psychologists (SIP) in 1995. I was then on APA's Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest (BAPPI), and then Board of Educational Affairs (BEA). I was honored to be on two APA Presidential Task Forces (Drs. Suinn and Johnson), and opened two APA Conventions with a traditional Lakota songs and prayers. I was then especially honored to serve as Treasurer of Division 45. I am in my second term as the SIP Council of Representatives Delegate. I believe those I've served with in APA governance will affirm that I've consistently and unapologetically fought for diversity issues in psychology in general and ethnic minority representation in APA particular. The "issues" are sometimes confrontational, even painful, but they must be respected and embraced nonetheless. My potential presidential initiative would be "Expanding the Sacred Hoop: Increasing Ethnic Minority Representation in Psychology Training and Governance". I humbly thank you for the honor of this possibility. .

Council of Representatives' Statements

Bill Parham, Ph.D.

Candidate for Council or Representatives

Dear Colleagues ... please receive this correspondence as a "Thank you" for allowing me to represent you on the APA Council of Representatives for the last three years. Much in the Association happened during that time and I enjoyed serving you by providing reports that kept you informed.

This letter also doubles as an invitation that asks you to consider having me represent and serve you for another 3-year term. Given my recent and ongoing involvement with Council deliberations I will be able to hit the ground running when the the next session of the APA-COR convenes. What's more, I am committed to bringing our con-

cerns to the floor of Council and to bringing back to you information regarding the Association's latest developments.

In addition to serving as your current Representative to Council my participation in APA governance is longstanding. I have served in several roles including, President of Division 17, 2-time Chair of Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA), member of the 6-person delegation that represented APA at the World Conference against Racism that convened in Durban, South Africa, Programs Chair of Division 45, APA Site Visitor, and member of the APA Council of Representatives for Divisions 47. This aforementioned involvement has added, and will continue to add, important context to my approach to representing you.

You matter and your voice counts! I appreciate your consideration of me for a second term as your Representative. Thank you.

David Chiriboga, Ph.D.

Candidate for Council of Representatives

The experiences I would bring to the table as a Division 45 Council representative come from many years of applied research with diverse populations. My interests in diverse populations began when, at UC-San Francisco, I was conducting a longitudinal study of marital separation and divorce, and was faced with the need to develop recruitment strategies appropriate to Blacks, Hispanics, Asians as well as non-Hispanic Whites. These interests developed further when I collaborated with Kokos Markides on his epi study of Mexican American elders. Now at the University of South Florida my work focuses on access and service utilization in diverse populations: (1) an epidemiological study of 1440 elders in Florida, including non-Hispanic Whites, Cuban Americans, Other Hispanics, and African Americans (co-PI); (2) a study of mental health literacy among Korean elders living in Tampa and Orlando (co-PI; Yuri Jang is PI); (3) an evaluation of a new waiver program designed to keep Medicaid beneficiaries with Alzheimer's disease out of long term care facilities (PI); and (4) a Medicaid-funded project designed to assess behavioral health disparities in non-Hispanic White, African American, and Hispanic Medicaid recipients of all ages, with foci on cultural competence of health care organizations, including nursing homes (PI). These various projects have demonstrated to me the need for research and interventions that respond to the needs of people whose culture and beliefs may differ from the mainstream, and whose English language proficiency varies. Thus, evidence based practice should be informed by these diverse needs and tailored accordingly.

Lisa Porché-Burke, Ph.D.

Candidate for Council of Representatives

I am truly honored to be nominated to serve as Council Representative for Division 45 and I feel that my numerous activities both within the Division and the Association have prepared me well to serve in this role. Serving in this capacity would enable me to contribute my time and experience to the consideration of policies and actions that would benefit the advancement of issues of diversity within the Association and within the field of psychology.

Having been in higher education for the past 20 years, I have been intimately involved in the promotion of diversity in the education and training of students and have remained committed to the inclusion of multiculturalism in the development of policies and procedures that impact the field. Since becoming a member of the APA over the past 20 years, I have served in numerous governance positions within the association. I have also been actively involved in the diversity movement within the APA having served as a co-founder of the Multicultural Summit and Conference which has just celebrated its 10 year anniversary. If elected, I will do my best to advocate for issues that affect the education, training and research of psychologists and will work hard to ensure that our collective voices are heard. I remain committed to aggressively increasing diversity among our professional ranks and in the integration of multiculturalism and social justice within the Association.

I appreciate your time and consideration on my behalf.

Member at Large (African American Slate) Candidate Statements**Cathy McDaniels, Ph.D.**

Candidate for Member at Large (African American Slate)

Greetings,

I am Cathy McDaniels Wilson; I have experience in representing communities of color and other underrepresented and hidden groups in my community. For the short time that I have been involved within APA governance, I have continued to demonstrate effective leadership skills that have led to several elected positions within the association. In my educational efforts, community outreach, and in my leadership agenda, I consistently address issues of multiculturalism and diversity not only from a theoretical perspective but also an applied perspective. As a professor of Psychology at Xavier University, I value full integration of multiculturalism across curricula and have been an active voice of such throughout my tenure in the academy. In addition, I maintain a small private practice where I specialize in the treatment of traumatic sexual experiences and intimate partner violence.

I was President of the Ohio Psychological Association last

year (2007-2008) and currently serve as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, Public Sector Issues Committee and Chair of our Development Sub - Committee. For several years, I served as Chair of the Diversity Committee for the Ohio Psychological Association. Under my leadership, our association was awarded the Division 31 Diversity Award in 2004.

From a national perspective, I am a member of the Council of Representatives for the state of Ohio and I am currently the Chair-elect of the Committee of State Leaders, I was elected to serve on the Committee of State Leaders (CSL) in 2006. I served as Chair of the Advocacy Mentoring Committee for CSL and Chair of the Diversity Task Force for Division 31. Prior to these positions, I was a Diversity Delegate from Ohio, and then was elected to the position of Diversity Liaison for CSL.

If elected, I would bring additional talent and energy to the position of Member at Large (African American slate of Division 45) and would commit to assuring that issues of diversity and inclusion would be well represented.

Jennifer Manly, Ph.D.

Candidate for member at Large (African-American Slate)

I am an Associate Professor of Neuropsychology at Columbia University. I am currently serving my second term as Council Representative for Division 40 (Clinical Neuropsychology). My activities within Div 40 included initiatives to mentor and support the training of ethnic minority psychologists via a CEMRRAT grant and as a member of the Steering Committee of the Div 40 Ethnic Minority Affairs Committee. I also served on the APA Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs and I am currently the co-chair of the Board of Scientific Affairs. I am the principal investigator of grants funded by the NIA and the Alzheimer's Association to investigate the role of cultural experience, quality of education, and literacy on cognition among African American and Latino older adults. I am an associate editor of the *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society*, and am a consulting editor for several other journals. I received Early Career Awards from both Division 40 and from the National Academy of Neuropsychology, and I am a Fellow of APA. I am the author of over 50 peer-reviewed publications and 8 chapters. I am a passionate advocate for psychological research among ethnically diverse groups, and support strong mentorship and training of our young scientists. My interest in these areas has led to collaborations with creative and passionate people involved in APA governance within many divisions, including 45. I hope to increase my involvement within Division 45 and will advocate for its members if elected as Member at Large.

KUDOS TO DIVISION 45 MEMBERS!!

As you may know, Melba J. T. Vasquez, PhD, has been elected 2011 president of the American Psychological Association. Throughout her career, Dr. Vasquez has focused on raising the visibility and participation of women and ethnic minorities in psychology, developing feminist and culturally competent services for women and minorities and advancing scholarship and ethics within the field. She has been integral in implementing ethical responsibility standards for psychologists. As a member of APA's Board of Social and Ethical Responsibility for Psychologists (later re-named the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest), she helped spur APA to cancel its investments in South Africa during apartheid and raised awareness about HIV/AIDS. Dr. Vasquez has almost three decades of experience in APA governance, including service on the Ethics Committee, the Board of Professional Affairs, the Committee for the Advancement of Professional Practice and on the Committee of Women in Psychology. She also co-founded two divisions, the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues and Trauma Psychology. As APA's first Latina president, and only the 13th woman out of the 120 presidencies in APA, Vasquez plans to make inroads with minority groups that are traditionally underserved by psychology. "Strategies to promote coping and resilience for members of those groups are important to communicate to the public," she said. She also hopes to promote opportunities for students and early career professionals by implementing many of the recommendations from APA's 2009 Practice Summit, and through dissemination of the APA Workforce Analysis findings. Vasquez says she will be eager to focus on making mental health parity a reality. "All members of our society should have access to affordable health care. I will support efforts to educate con-



Vivian Ota Wang and Cheryl Boyce receive Meritorious Research Service Citation at APA Board of Directors Meeting 2009.

sumers about the role psychology plays in health and wellness." (excerpts from press release; Washington).

- A Meritorious Research Service Citation was presented to Vivian Ota Wang and Cheryl Boyce at the APA Board of Directors Meeting in December 2009 <http://www.apa.org/about/awards/bsa-merit.aspx>. Dr. Ota Wang has also been selected to serve as a member on the newly formed APA Board of Scientific Affairs Committee on Human Research (CHR) (<http://www.apa.org/science/about/psa/2010/01/human-research.aspx>) and as the CHR liaison to the APA Ethics Committee. (See photo.)
- Ezemenari M. Obasi, PhD from the Department of Counseling and Human Development Services at the University of Georgia was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure starting Fall 2010. Dr. Obasi is the principal investigator of a NIDA R03 Grant: Stress and drug use vulnerability in rural African Americans (1R03DA027481-01). NIH: National Institute on Drug Abuse, R03. Bethesda, MD. Principal Investigator. 09/09 – 08/11. Awarded: \$325,022. Dr. Obasi is also the co-investigator of a NIDA P30 Grant: Transdisciplinary center focused on rural African American families (1P30DA027827-01). NIH: National Institute on Drug Abuse, P30. Bethesda, MD. Co-Investigator. 09/09 – 06/14. Awarded: \$4,408,638.
- Rheeda Walker was recently tenured and promoted to Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Georgia.

Give birth to a book? Been given a new title? Have exciting research to report? Something else of interest to share with our Division 45 colleagues?

Please send your submissions to FOCUS Newsletter Editor, Dr. Melissa Morgan, by September 1, 2010 to mmorgan@education.ucsb.edu to be included in the next edition of FOCUS.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL FOR BOOK PROPOSALS.
APA DIVISION 45 BOOK SERIES
Cultural, Racial, and Ethnic
Psychology, Series Editor:
Frederick T.L. Leong, Ph.D.

Cultural, Racial, and Ethnic Psychology is the official book series of the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues (Division 45) of the American Psychological Association. The series is designed to advance our theories, research and practice related to cultural, racial and ethnic psychology. It will focus on, but not be limited to, the major racial and ethnic groups in the United States (i.e., African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, and American Indians). For example, book proposals concerning Asians and Asian Americans will also be considered.

The books in the series will contain original materials that address the full spectrum of methodological, substantive, and theoretical areas related to cultural, racial and ethnic psychology in the United States. This would include topics in Behavioral Neuroscience, Cognitive, Developmental, Personality, and Social psychology. Also of interest would be volumes in the applied areas of psychology such as Clinical, Counseling, School, Community and Industrial-Organizational Psychology. In covering psychology related racial and ethnic groups, the series will include both books that examine a single racial or ethnic group (e.g., Development of Ethnic Identity among Asian Americans) as well as books that undertake a comparative approach (e.g., Racial and Ethnic Variations in Depression).

As state-of-the art volumes in cultural, racial and ethnic psychology, the books in the series will be of interest to both professionals and researchers in psychology. Depending on the specific focus of each volume, the books in the series may be of greater

interest to either scientists or practitioners or both. The series might also be used as ancillary textbooks for courses in psychology in order to advance a multicultural perspective in the field.

Finally, the guidelines in this statement of purpose are subject to change in response to suggestions by members of the Editorial Board, interaction with authors of books in the series, and in response to persons reading books on racial and ethnic minority psychology in this series. The primary goal is to identify gaps in the existing literature and fill those gaps. As the needs for new directions in the field become apparent the guidelines for this series will change accordingly.

All correspondence should be addressed to the Series Editor:

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 Multicultural Psychology Research
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Division 45 Listserv

Are you an active and current member not on the Division 45 listserv? You can go to the Division 45 webpage <http://www.apa.org/divisions/div45/>, to learn more about our vibrant and engaging organization.

On our webpage under the membership section (look at the right hand panel about halfway down) there is a link called "listserv."

You can join here or if you are a member, all you have to do is to follow the easy steps below.

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Please note that, members have to sign up for the listserv. The Division doesn't automatically add people when they become members.

Division 45 utilizes APA division services for trouble-shooting problems like getting on the general listserv and address changes. Members should send change of address information and problems enlisting on the listserv to Keith Cooke in APA division services via email at kcooke@apa.org.

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