

# **FOCUS**

Notes from the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues Volume 21, Number 2 Spring 2009

### **President's Corner**

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

# CONTINUING THE PATH: CAUTION—AVOID THE ABYSS

### A World of Hopes and Dreams

A short time ago we began a new year filled with hopes and dreams and animated and strengthened

by the election of President Barack Obama. These hopes and dreams were reflected in the belief that his election would help many persons in this country climb out of a social, economic, psychological and moral abyss into which many of them, ourselves included, had fallen.

The renewed hopes, dreams and aspirations resulting from the election easily infused the very essence of the Multicultural Counseling Conference and Summit ensuring the astounding success that it turned out to be. A special thanks goes out from Division 45 to the planning committee members who did the outstanding work that resulted in such a successful outcome: Tania Israel, Jeanette Hsu, Francisco "Cisco" Sánchez, and Lisa Flores. The energy and time that they put forth and the tenacity of the spirit with which they did so should serve as an example of what we might expect of ourselves as we confront barriers and delays that might impede our movement along the path(s) that we have chosen for Division 45.

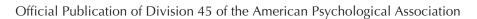
### **Facing Reality**

From another perspective, the spirit of the participants, the motivational quality of the presenters, and the timeliness of the content of the Summit itself (i.e., social justice) helped us to refocus our thinking on ways to address the extensive needs of those brothers and sisters, and especially the "little ones", who had all but been ignored during the past eight years. More specifically, the Summit, reflecting the words of President Obama, "yes we can", helped us to revitalize the belief and the hope that we could take responsibility for continuing our path even in times like this when resources are scarce and budgetary items for projects and programs of great importance to us are being placed on hold and quite probably destined to disappear into an administrative abyss—never to see the light of day again. This can very well happen unless we take the initiative to keep such programs and projects alive and moving, perhaps at a slower pace, through whatever means we have at our disposal. I'm sure that many of us have had to do this before and as such we should be well prepared to do it again.

**Budgetary Cuts**: So what are some of the budgetary cuts and administrative or organizational impediments that we may have to confront if we are to continue on our chosen path(s)? What follows is a nonexhaustive list of such cuts. Not being privy to the most recent data concerning these cuts, my list may not be up to date. While some of the cuts have already been made others are

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### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

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pending the Council's meeting in February. Thus the list that follows is solely to stimulate thought of what may occur and how we might best begin to prepare ourselves to deal with potential cuts:

- CEMRRAT grant funds have been or may be zeroed out.
- All "Special Projects" across the Association have been cut 25%.
- The Council of Representatives' and Board of Directors' discretionary funds may be zeroed out (These funds serve as the source of funding for task forces, etc).
- The Minority Fellowship just got word of discontinuance of federal support of its neuroscience fellowship program directed by Joe Martinez (funding of the mental health research fellowships was cut a couple of years ago).
- A resolution to establish an Immigrant Task Force to develop a report on the psychological science concerning the risk factors, adaptation, development, education, health, as well as the social impact and contributions of immigrants and refugee populations (February, 2007, Legislative Council New Business Form) was put through the appropriate hoops. Unfortunately, without going into detail, BAPPI decided to not support funding for the Task Force as it felt the proposal was too broad and needed to tighten its parameters. This criticism aside, given the cuts in discretionary funds noted above, the Task Force would not have been implemented anyway.

### Moving On...

So where to from here? We can accept the reality that funds as well as other resources are scarce and that many of our woefully needed projects and programs will fall into an organizational abyss of forgetfulness: to never see the light of day. Or we can use all the creativity, fortitude, determination and patience that our ancestors used to help each and every one of us get to where we are today. These are the same attitudes and skills that keep many of our brothers and sisters believing and working for a better tomorrow.

Adhering to the motto "yes we can", I choose the latter option. I firmly believe that if we continue to use the same attitudes and skills we will slowly but surely reach our desired goals and objectives. Wishing to illustrate my perspective I provide the following examples: Wanting to continue moving towards attaining some of the goals inherent in the nonfunded Immigrant Task Force Resolution, I took the following steps: I developed and submitted two project proposals that focused on the issues and concerns associated with immigration/immigrants (documented and undocumented). The first proposal was submitted with support from Divisions 12, 17, and 35 to CODAPAR's Interdivisional Grant Program.

The main purpose of this proposal entitled "Immigration: An Integrative Path Towards Knowledge, Action, and Justice" was to provide a forum from which to identify, address, and understand the type of problems associated with immigration. An overarching objective of the proposal was to deliver a finished product in the form of an annotated bibliography, monograph, or conference. Due to budgetary constraints no proposals submitted to the aforementioned program were funded.

Working with the premonition that the funding might not be forthcoming for the first proposal, I submitted the second proposal also entitled "Immigration: An Integrative Path Towards Knowledge, Action and Justice" as a round table presentation to the NMCS. Similar to the first, this proposal focused on the identification of the problems that plague immigrants, in general, and Latinos, in particular. It went one step further proposing and/or identifying interventions and actions to address such problems. This round table proposal was accepted and presented.

The round table was a success and opened up new possibilities for continuing much needed work, with or without funding, on the problems and challenges associated with immigration. More specifically, it identified a core group of colleagues who have the knowledge base and the expertise to deal intelligently and humanely with the myriad of problems and issues faced by the immigrants among us. Such individuals include but are not limited to the following: Joe Cervantes, Melanie Domenech-Rodriguez, Day Al-Mohamed, Lisa Suzuki, Melissa Morgan, Betty Garcia, and David Acevedo-Polakovich. These individuals and others who would like to join us can serve as the core from which to plan what we can do to keep the spirit, the content, and the objectives of the Immigrant Task Force in the forefront, alive and flourishing. After all, the immigrant, myself included, and the problems faced by this group will still be with us, with or without APA funds and resources. We cannot afford to let this group fall into the abyss.

The same can be said with respect to those millions of individuals who continue to suffer under the yoke of racism. Relative to this group, we can at least continue to respond to requests from APA for information and comments on issues such as those addressed in The Document on Racism. We cannot, we must not, walk down our path ignoring our responsibilities and opportunities to address and work to overcome racism, racial discrimination, intolerance, and xenophobia. There has been some talk that we might not attend the forthcoming conference on racism because of budgetary constraints. I would say that the long-term costs of not attending this conference may be more expensive than attending it. In fact, if the decision to not attend is purely budgetary, many members of our Division have responsibly stated that we consider raising funds so that we as APA mem-

# PRESIDENT'S CORNER (Continued)

bers of color are represented at this Conference.

Another activity that is close to our hearts and that is motivationally vital to our continued work within APA, is the National Multicultural Conference and Summit. At the Town Meeting held at the end of the 2009 National Multicultural Summit Conference, the fiscal future of the Summit was discussed. *Future funding is not guaranteed* and consequently, it is important to think about how to insure fiscal continuity for the Summit. An endowment would be one mechanism; Jessica Henderson Daniel presented an endowment in the American Psychological Foundation as an option. She volunteered to chair a committee to create such an endowment. She has contacted the Founding Divisions to solicit their support. At this time, the current presidents of Divisions 17, 35, 44 and 45 have all endorsed the formation of this committee.

According to Jessica, the concept of the Summit, its goals and objectives, are important now as well as in the fore-seeable future for all psychologists regardless of their educational degrees Seeking to avoid the abyss of neglect you will be hearing more from the proposed committee on how as a collective force we can create an endowment for the Summit. Yes, we can do this—moving from a hope, to a vision, and then on to an endowment.

These are a few examples of how we can continue on our path doing what we believe to be necessary to reach our goals and objectives. Like President Obama, as we face the budgetary realities of our times we do not have to do so alone. We do not have to rely on others to show us the way. We know the way. We know our responsibilities. We know what we have to do. We know that we can do it. So, let's move on with caution and avoid the abyss that may be waiting for us around the corner.

### FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT

Robert M. Sellers University of Michigan

Greetings once again fellow members of the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues (Division 45)! I would like to take this opportunity to update you on my recent activities as President-elect and provide a brief overview of my vision for my presidency. As I mentioned in my previous column in Focus, I am a



newcomer to serving in the leadership of the Society. As such, I have spent much of the past few months trying to get a firm grasp of the issues facing the organization as well as the nuts and bolts of the way in which the organization operates. I have been assisted greatly by the mentorship and patience of the current President and the immediate Past-president as well as the rest of the Executive committee. In January, I attended my first National Multicultural Conference & Summit (NMCS) in New Orleans. The conference organizers should be very proud of the fruits of their labor. The NMCS was an inspirational experience. I would especially like to thank Lisa Flores, our Division 45 representative on the NMCS planning committee, for all of her hard work these past two years. It is our turn to be the lead Division in the next NMCS in 2011. This means that our representative to the NMCS planning committee will also serve as the chair of the planning committee. Please contact me or another member of the Executive Committee if you are interested in serving in that role. In addition, I recently represented the Society at the APA Leadership Conference in January.

The conference provided me with an in depth orientation to the APA governance process as well as an introduction to the many resources that APA offers its divisions. I also met several other division presidents and presidents-elect. The conference also offered several opportunities to discuss potential collaborations among the divisions. My experience at the APA Leadership conference as well as my further participation in Executive Committee meetings and conference calls with the other members of the Presidential trio have provided me with much greater insights into the challenges and opportunities that the Society faces.

With these challenges and opportunities in mind, I would like to announce that the theme for my Presidential year is: I am because we are; We are because I am. The somewhat familiar first clause of the theme (I am because we are) recognizes the strength, comfort, and guidance that the identification with one's racial and cultural heritage provides many of us in the face of challenging opposition. The second clause (**We are because I am**) recognizes the responsibility that each of us has to improving the life chances of other members of our racial and ethnic group. With this theme in mind, a major goal of my presidency will be to broaden the focus and impact of the Society beyond APA. There can be no doubt that APA provides an important foundation for the Society. The Society has played an important role in making sure that APA represents the interests of ethnic minority psychologists in an ethical and principled manner. There can also be no

# **FROM THE PRESIDENT-ELECT** (Continued)

doubt that the Society will need to continue to provide leadership to APA in these issues. I believe strongly, however, that the Society must also expand its influence and activities beyond the boundaries of APA's if the Society is to reach its full-potential. (This is why I refer to the organization as a society as opposed to a division whenever possible.) One way that I believe that the Society can broaden its influence is by expanding its membership by attracting more psychologists of color from areas other than clinical and counseling psychology. The Society is uniquely positioned to meet an important unmet need among research psychologists of color. Recently, I attended a reception at the annual meeting of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) hosted by their diversity committee. There were more than 100 individuals in attendance including at least 80 undergraduate and graduate students of color. Disappointingly, relatively few of the attendees knew about our society, even fewer were active members. I know from personal experience that there are similar pockets of students and psychologists of color who attend the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD), American Educational Research Association (AERA), Society for Community Research and Action), as well as Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI). Although most of these organizations have ethnic minority or diversity committees, these committees by definition are not central to the mission of the organization. I have attended the main conferences for each of these organizations within the past two years. In each case, I found a significant

number of ethnic minority psychologists who were clustered together in quiet corners discussing issues that are central to the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues.

In order to achieve the goal of broadening the membership of the Society, I will focus much of my efforts during my presidency on identifying and attracting new constituencies to the organization. The focal point of my effort will be the planning and execution of an inaugural research conference for the Society. Appropriately, the focus of the conference will be on the "Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues". The intent is for the Society to hold the conference biennially. The Executive Committee has voted to move forward with the conference pending approval of a final budget. The conference is tentatively scheduled for June 2010 in Ann Arbor, Michigan. I will be providing more information about the conference in my future columns. In addition to my efforts with the conference, I also plan to make several public and personal appeals on behalf of the Society to ethnic minority students and psychologists in other research organizations whose interests are consistent with goals of the Society. For instance, I will be giving the keynote address at the Black Caucus of SRCD pre-conference at which time I will also promote membership in our Society. I am looking forward to representing the Society to other potential constituents in the coming year.

In closing, I hope that you are as excited about our possibilities as I am. Please contact me via email (rsellers@umich.edu) if you are interested in getting further involved with the Society. See you in Toronto in August.

### PAST PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Beth Boyd, Ph.D. University of South Dakota

### **CELEBRATIONS, CHALLENGES & CONTINUING OUR PATH**

Greetings Division 45 friends and relatives –

It was wonderful to see so many of you in New Orleans in January at the National Multicultural Conference & Summit. It was another wonderful event with much celebration, ceremony and great presentations. I especial-



ly enjoyed the Elders Ceremony once again this year. It was so inspiring to see and listen to the contributions of those inducted this year: Drs. Florence Denmark, Anderson J. Franklin, Janet Helms, Derald Wing Sue, Charles Silverstein, Bonnie Strickland and Martha Mednick. The keynote speakers, Drs. Patricia Arredondo, Linda Mona, Gargi Roysircar, Lisa Porche-Burke, and

Rev. Jamie Washington, moved us and inspired us to continue the work begun by the Elders and contribute in the special ways that each of us are able. New Orleans provided us with wonderful food, great music, chances for community service, and many opportunities to visit with each other. Congratulations and thank you to our coordinators, Drs. Tania Israel, Jeannette Hsu, Francisco Sanchez and Lisa Flores for a wonderful event this year!

As chair of the Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Issues (CNPAAEMI), it was my great pleasure to award the first Henry Tomes Award for Emerging Contributions to the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Psychology to Dr. Joseph Gone and the second Henry Tomes Award for Distinguished Contributions to the Advancement of Ethnic

# PAST PRESIDENT'S COLUMN (Continued)

Minority Psychology to Dr. Joseph Trimble. These two Native American psychologists have made truly significant contributions to ethnic minority psychology and it was an honor to recognize their achievements. Dr. Trimble was unable to attend this ceremony and his award will be presented at the Division 45 Business Meeting in Toronto on August 8, 2009. I hope you can join us.

Speaking of Toronto, thank you to Melanie Domenech-Rodriguez and our Program Committee for putting together what looks to be another outstanding Convention program. I look forward to the presentations, poster sessions, special events, and seeing you all again.

This issue of FOCUS contains the Candidate Statements for our new Division 45 Executive Committee officers. I hope you will read them carefully and participate in the election process. Regardless of the outcomes, I know we will be in good hands. It has been a real pleasure these last few months to work with our President, Manuel Casas, and President-Elect, Rob Sellers, on the many issues relevant to our Division.

It looks like we are in for some difficult and challenging times ahead. But this is also an exciting time with new possibilities and the potential for working together to find new and creative solutions to the issues facing our communities and our Division. It is always during the challenging times that we realize who we really are. Our Elders and our Ancestors have shown us and continue to remind us of how we have found ways to thrive in the past — with few resources and nothing but hopes, dreams and lots of talent and resolve. We remember the sacrifices that they have made and we honor them by continuing forward on the paths they have set. So, now, even in the midst of challenges, we go about Continuing the Path...

See you in August! Nya:weh (Thank you), Beth

"Give birth to a book? Been given a new title? 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, 2009 to mmorgan@education.ucsb.edu."

### FROM THE EDITOR

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



Hello Division 45 members! I am pleased to offer you this issue of FOCUS, the first in my new stint as the Division 45 FOCUS newsletter editor. I am honored to be able to serve the Division in this way, and want to publicly thank Dr. Michi Fu for her guidance and help as I take over this role.

Inside this edition you will find updates from our Executive Committee and Standing and Ad Hoc Committee members highlighting recent and ongoing Division 45 activities including the division executive committee meeting in January, the APA representatives Council meeting, and programming for APA Toronto. Also, please peruse the candidate statements for this year's election of President Elect, Member-at-Large Latino/a Slate, Member-at-Large Diversity Slate, and Treasurer-Elect and Graduate Student Representative. Enjoy!

### TREASURER'S REPORT

Alfiee M. Breland-Noble, Ph.D. Duke University Medical Center



## I. Introduction and Background for Report

I respectfully submit this edition of the Treasurer's Report for the Spring FOCUS. In my prior report, I shared that I was in the process of preparing a preliminary budget for review by our Presidential

Trio, Executive Committee (EC) and subsequently, our division membership. I am very happy to report that I completed and submitted a preliminary version of this report in advance of our Executive Committee's mid-winter meeting incorporating feedback from all members of the EC obtained during our Convention meeting in August 2008.

I am also pleased to report on the exponential growth that the division has experienced via our membership and journal subscriptions. I am hopeful that our entire division is able to embrace the positive nature of this growth and its impact on our mission and goals. Following, please find the summary of my current fiscal efforts (with primary support from our Finance Committee – Drs. Siony Austria and Manny Casas)

### TREASURER'S REPORT

(Continued)

### II. Completed Efforts

In the fall of 2008, I had the great fortune of hiring Ms. Antoinette Burriss to support my efforts as treasurer. Ms. Burriss has been instrumental in supporting the day-today operations of the division's treasury including completing standard forms, corresponding with members, APA Division Services and our accountants. To support her efforts and those of our division, I am currently collaborating with our accounting firm to revise the budget so that it more closely matches their specific record keeping protocol, our mission and efforts and more accurately reflects the vision of the Presidential Trio, EC and membership. Though we have completed a version of the budget for 2009-2010, we are committed to revising it slightly by March 1, 2009; and in the next issue of the FOCUS, sharing a detailed and current accounting of the monies you have entrusted to us via your membership dues, contributions and journal subscriptions.

### III. Action Items

During our mid-winter EC meeting, we 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 current fiscal year (2009-2010)

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 midwinter meetings (specifically meetings where EC members represent our division).

I am grateful for your continued patience as we organize and finalize the accounting procedures and measures within our division. 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 REPORT

Shamin Ladhani, Psy.D. Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare-All Saints

I want to introduce myself as your Membership Chair. As a former Division 45 student representative, I am excited to rejoin this amazing team. For the last three years I have served on the Committee on Early Career Psychologists as the Division representative and Chair and am also the



current Chair of the Division on South Asian Americans. These experiences have had me intimately involved in working on membership issues and I bring lots of ideas about how to connect to you, the members. However, I am very interested in working with the members of Division 45 to find out what you would like most in your membership. Please feel free to email me at drshaminladhani@gmail.com with your suggestions, comments, and ideas. I look forward to working collaboratively with all of you.

### GRADUATE STUDENT COLUMN

Arpana Gupta, M.A. University of Tennessee

# TRANSITIONS: TIME TO VOTE FOR A NEW CAPTAIN!

Greetings!!

It is with mixed feelings that I get ready to rotate off as student representative to Division 45. The journey has been one filled with joy, but now comes the time to vote for a new captain. It is with great pleasure that I get to announce the nominees for student representative for the year 2010 to



2012. This year we have a spectacular group of students running for this position (Andrea Ballesteros, Annel Cordero, Laura R John, and Tonie Marie Quaintance). Looking at the statements of the nominees, one can see that these students have already accomplished a lot with regard to ethnic and racial diversity issues. This is a clear indication of the many good things that they have to offer and bodes well to the future of students within Division 45. I encourage ALL division 45 students to please vote, and have your voices heard. In addition, please feel free to contact us with requests, ideas, and suggestions of what you may see for the future of the Division. There are many ways to get involved within Division 45 at a leadership level or at the community service level.

# **GRADUATE STUDENT COLUMN** (Continued)

At this time I would like to take the time to thank the various students who were actively involved in making my role as student representative a very smooth, successful and rewarding one. Many students and professionals

were an integral part to my role, without whom my job would have been a lot more difficult.

If interested in becoming a member of the Student Committee or if wanting more information about issues relevant to Division 45 please feel free to contact me at agupta4@utk.edu

### **COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

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

### THE APA COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES: THE FUTURE IS NOW!

The APA Council of Representatives convened February 20-22 in Washington D.C. for their twice yearly meeting. The agenda was full; the weekend series of meetings were productive and herein lays a snapshot of what transpired.



President James Bray presided over the proceedings that were launched by a moment of silence for our departed colleagues. Following this acknowledgement Dr. Bray provided an update of the work of the Future of Psychology Task Force, a project that reflects one of his presidential initiatives. The task force will host an invitation only Future of Psychology Conference May 14-17, 2009 in San Antonio, Texas. Delegates represent various constituencies within APA. The topics to be addressed at the conference range widely and diversity is promised to be a thematic component. Dr. Bray also mentioned two other projects he is pursuing, namely the future of psychology science education and psychology's contribution to ending homelessness. To learn more about James Bray and his initiatives go to: www.apa.org/about/president/

Norman Anderson, CEO then delivered a state of the Association address wherein he laid out recent successes as well as current challenges. As an example of a recent success, the Association was able to attract Dr. Nancy Gordon Moore to the position of Executive Director of APA Governance Affairs. Dr. Moore, who is past Executive Director of the Kentucky Psychological Association, brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the position that was vacated with the retirement of Judy A. Strassburger. Judy was a 40 year employee of the APA and was a very special jewel in the crown of the Association. Her style and grace accentuated her absolute command of her role in the Governance Office and though her presence will be missed her legacy lives on. Thank you, Judy, and may you enjoy in full measure all of the new opportunities that await your exploration.



Dr. Anderson reported on another success relative to crafting the mission and vision statement. The consulting firm of McKinley Marketing had been hard at work since the August 2008 COR meeting pulling together suggested wording from Council members

for a mission and vision statement that best reflects the present and future of the APA. After a brief presentation of their work to date and following some discussion within APA Council about the presentation, a mission and vision statement for the APA was approved. The full version of this first-time ever proclamation will be printed in upcoming APA publications and will appear on the APA website. Related, during the weekend gathering, council members participated in a break-out group exercise that was designed to identify goals and strategies that are consistent with the newly adopted mission and vision statement. The fruits of these latter efforts will be shared as they unfold.

A current and very real challenge that Dr. Anderson addressed centered on the Association's response to the national fiscal crisis. The APA has been impacted by these unprecedented financial times and many tough decisions have already been made and more are expected. Some examples of tough decisions include: a freeze on all hiring, a suspension of one of the two annual consolidated meetings and related conference call business particularly related to new business, postponement of introducing new positions such as the Diversity & Equity Officer, suspension of projects such as CEMRRAT, elimination of APA on NPR, delayed launching of the new APA website, decrease number of APA Congressional Fellows, no salary increases for most of the work force (except staff, who APA wants to retain given the increased allure of jobs in the federal government under the Obama administration) and the executive management group will forego bonuses earned this past year. APA came in at a deficit last year and in order to avoid a deficit for 2009 the above decisions had to be made.

# **COUNCIL REPORT** (Continued)

Archie Turner, APA's Chief Financial Officer underscored the current and likely future fiscal challenges and added that APA's history of prudent fiscal management under former CFO Jack McKay has positioned APA to fair well up to this point during these uncertain times. Given the uncertainty that surrounds the national fiscal picture, however, Archie Turner, CFO, Norman Anderson CEO and their Executive Management Group (EMG) colleagues have committed to remain focused as responsible stewards of APA finances by closely monitoring changes in the fiscal climate and keeping the Association apprised of the evolving situation. Stay tuned.

Seating the Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Issues (CNPAAEMI) as full voting members was discussed among many Council members and Caucuses. After careful thought and considerable input from multiple sources, a decision was made to postpone asking the larger Council to vote for a third consecutive time on advancing the issue of seating the 4 ethnic minority psychological associations as full members to the APA membership for their vote. CNPAAEMI (the 4 seats) will continue through 12/2009 to be seated as "observers" and Dr. Bray has put the "4-Seats" issue on the agenda for the August 2009 Council of Representatives meeting that convenes during the APA convention. At that time discussion about accomplishing the seating of the 4 ethnic minority psychological associations as full members will take place as will renewing their status as observers for another three years (2010-2013) and with related compensations until their "full voting member" seating takes effect.

Nathalie Gilfoyle, JD, General Counsel for APA shared information regarding a dispute between APA and APA Insurance Trust (APAIT) and the following summary statement captures the essence of the situation. In January, Council learned that there has been a five-year dispute between APA and the APA Insurance Trust (APAIT) over the release of information from APAIT to the APA Board of Directors. Many attempts have been made by all parties to resolve this dispute; those attempts have failed, and in January, APA filed a lawsuit in order to obtain a judicial ruling on the narrow issue of what APA's specific rights are with regard to the information the APA Board has requested, and the APAIT has opined it will not give. Many of the details discussed at Council were shared with us confidentially by APA's legal counsel, so must remain confidential. However, anyone insured by APAIT, should be reassured that this conflict should not have any impact on your insurance premiums, or on APA's continued commitment to make high-quality, reasonable-cost insurance products available to its members. The lawsuit is not a commentary on APAIT or

the work it does. Rather, it is an effort to obtain a formal judicial ruling on a point of dispute that has not been resolved through five years of informal dispute resolution.

After considering input from a variety of sources the APA Board of Directors resolved to refrain from sending a representative to the Durban Review Conference believing that the highly publicized nature of that meeting would not create a venue in which a meaningful discussion of the nature, causes intervention and prevention of racism, xenophobia, discrimination and related intolerances could be held. Further, in response to requests from many divisions, including D45, to reconsider the decision, the Board discussed the process and outcome at its January 24<sup>th</sup> meeting at the Division Leadership Conference and decided to reaffirm its earlier decision.

In September of 2008, a petition resolution was approved by a vote of the APA membership that prohibits psychologists from working in settings "where persons are held outside of, or in violation of, either International Law (e.g., the UN Convention Against Torture and the Geneva Conventions) or the US Constitution (where appropriate), unless they are working directly for the persons being detained or for an independent third party working to protect human rights" or they are providing treatment for military personnel.

In November, then APA President Alan Kazdin created the Presidential Advisory Group on the Implementation of the Petition Resolution to review APA actions already taken related to the resolution and to address whether there were additional options that the Council should consider as it determines how best to implement the resolution. The report of the advisory group was prepared (the full text will appear on the APA website in the near future) and received by APA-COR.

Finally, as your representatives we are invested in having the D45 membership learn about APA governance and related structures. In line with this desire we are providing the following links a places to start to become acquainted with the organization of which all of us are a part and to which all of us can contribute to making it relevant for its members as well as for the local, national and international communities with which we have regular interface: www.apa.org/about/org\_chart.html and www.apa.org/about/structure.html

# MEMBER-AT-LARGE (AFRICAN AMERICAN SLATE) REPORT

Current Effects of Historical Trauma:
An Epigenetic view
Cheryl Talley, Science Chair and liaison to
Division 56, Trauma Psychology
James Madison University



In the December 2008 on-line edition of the *Annals of the New York Academy of Medicine*, Dr. Moyra Smith presents the notable accomplish-ments made in Medical Genetics over the last two years. In her article, Dr.

Smith references a number of studies that have broad implications for those who study the cause and progression of chronic diseases. One interesting finding is that poor or unbalanced nutrition during fetal life induces specific cellular adaptations that result in reduced fetal growth and a subsequent predisposition to adult onset heart disease or diabetes. Other studies cited in the review show that even in the absence of low-birth weight, prenatal challenge may be caused by exposure to toxic levels of chemical agents or pollutants or the reduced intake of micronutrients. Furthermore, there is evidence from animal studies that sperm DNA are altered for up to three generations in mice exposed to particulate air pollution commonly found in urban/industrial areas. Hence, behavioral/environmental influences such as a poor prenatal diet or exposure to environmental pollutants could trigger the cellular mechanisms associated with adult diseases later in life or even possibly affect progeny decades later. The mechanisms linking environmental exposure and phenotypic expression are collectively known as epigenetic factors

Recent reviews also cited by Smith implicate genetic and epigenetic factors in the onset or progression of hypertension and anxiety disorder,

depression, metabolic disorders and addiction. To explain these findings, some scholars suggest that epigenetic factors that show all levels of influence on the genome would necessarily include not only the cellular environment but the bidirectional influence of tissue, organ systems, behavioral and even social environmental factors.

Anyone familiar with race-related health disparity would recognize some of the afore-mentioned diseases as disproportionately prevalent among people of color in the United States. For instance, as compared to the national average, Native Americans have twice the rates of both clinical depression, and heart disease and over five times the rate of alcoholism. There has also been evidence of increased disease susceptibility in children of Holocaust survivors and Japanese interment camp survivors.

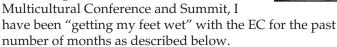
Additionally, African American men show hypertension rates not mirrored in native African populations. An understanding of the effects of racism and historical trauma could help explain these disparities.

A representative from the newest APA Davison, #56 Trauma Psychology, made a short presentation at the recent mid-winter meeting and requested that a representative from Division 45 serve as a liaison to their Division. Conspicuous by its absence on the new Division's website is direct reference to racism and/or Historical Trauma. Fortunately there are members of Division 45 that are also actively involved in Division 56. Our joint-members will certainly continue to shape the new Division's direction and scope to include all the varied aspects of Trauma, including the effects of historical traumatic events on current health and behavioral outcomes. For more information on how to join in this effort visit the Division 56 website http://www.apatraumadivision.org/

# MEMBER-AT-LARGE (AMERICAN INDIAN SLATE) REPORT

Lisa Rey Thomas, PhD (Tlingit) University of Washington

It is with great excitement and honor that I write my first column as the Division 45 Member-at-Large, American Indian/Alaska Native (AIAN) Slate! While the Division 45 EC hit the ground running in our mid-winter meeting at the 2009 National



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, 8 and 17 years old who keep me very happy and busy when I'm not working. 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.

I am looking forward to serving Division 45 on the EC primarily through three activities. I have been invited to represent Division 45 on the 2011 National Multicultural Conference and Summit planning committee. I join representatives from Divisions 17, 35, and 44 in this effort and we are so fortunate to have the guidance, support, and mentorship from the previous NMCS planners! The 2011 planning committee members were invited to sit in on 2009 planning conference calls beginning in 2008 and we shadowed the 2009 committee during the actual

# MEMBER-AT-LARGE (AMERICAN INDIAN SLATE) REPORT

(Continued)

Summit. This experience will leave us better prepared to build on the excellent foundation that has been laid and to carry on the important vision for the NMCS with regards to promoting diversity in all aspects of psychology. I am looking forward to the coming two years and will look forward to working with Division 45 members as the 2011 conference unfolds!

My next focus while on the Division 45 EC will be to participate in the development of the Council of National Psychological Associations for the Advancement of Ethnic Minority Interests (CNPAAEMI) Leadership Development Institute. This idea has been percolating among the member organizations of CNPAAEMI, many of the psychologists of color who are leaders in our organization, and the APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs. The draft vision of this Leadership Institute is to strengthen leadership skills and knowledge, as well as building relationships among/between psychology's future ethnic minority leaders. Please stay tuned for more info over the coming months as well as how you can participate!

Finally, I hope to strengthen the ties between Division 45 members and the APA Public Interest Government Relations Office (PI-GRO). I had the good fortune to work with these folks while serving on the APA Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs and am excited to continue working with them as a member of the Div 45 EC. The PI-GRO staff serve as incredible advocates for addressing health disparity and health equity issues on "the hill" and provide on opportunity for psychologists to use their expertise in any number of ways to improve the health of our communities. We can support them as they push forward with health care reform, the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, Health Disparities legislation, etc. Again, stay tuned for more!

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 the next three years.

Respectfully,

Lisa Rey Thomas

NMCS CNAAPNMe Work with APA policy

# MEMBER-AT-LARGE (ASIAN SLATE) REPORT

Michi Fu, Ph.D. Asian Pacific Family Center of Pacific Clinics

Di Hou (Taiwanese for "Greetings"),

It is my pleasure to report to you my activities as one of your Members-at-Large. I'd like to thank Dr. Gisela Lin for mentoring me as I have been adjusting to this new role. I look forward to working on your behalf for the next three years.



I have been transitioning the Newsletter Editor Duties to our new and extremely capable Newsletter Editor, Dr. Melissa Morgan over the past few months. I will be providing her with ongoing support, as needed. Additionally, I will be helping her to co-draft Newsletter Editor Guidelines for the Executive Committee Manual.

As a student member, I recall being overwhelmed by the support of more seasoned members as they offered words of wisdom on how to survive graduate school. I am thrilled to be coordinating the Links and Shoulders program for this year's convention in Toronto. *Be on the lookout for the call for mentors and mentees.* This signature networking event is not to be missed!

I am especially excited to be part of a Communications Committee charged with the task of exploring ways of communicating timely and relevant issues within our Division. For example, we held a Publications conference call to explore the possibility of supporting publications from the 2008 Evidence Based Practices Conference. We are looking at how to revamp our Division's website (suggestions welcome). We are even playing around with ideas of using social networks or harnessing the power of web-based tools to relay information within our Division. Stay tuned (pun intended).

I am also excited to be serving as our Liaison to the Practice Directorate. The Practice Directorate engages in a broad range of activities on behalf of practicing psychologists and health care consumers...Virtually every Practice Directorate activity is intended to deal with issues, problems and opportunities regarding the fast changing health care delivery system. The directorate's advocacy efforts on behalf of professional psychology are organized around four interrelated initiatives—legislative advocacy, legal and regulatory strategies, marketplace

activities, and public education. *If you have any thoughts you'd like for me to exchange with the Practice Directorate, please let me know so I can voice them on your behalf.* 

When I think about what I would like to see with our Division years from now, I have a vision that we would position ourselves to have Sections within our Division to highlight the diverse interests our membership have. For example, what would it look like to have a section on women, practice, trauma, etc? I also envision that our membership would grow to offer a leadership pipeline for students/early career colleagues as well as reengage former members or leaders, whom we have so much to learn from. I invite you to contact me to let me know how I could be of service to you. Thank you for allowing me to represent you.

Warmly,

Michi Fu, Ph.D.

# MEMBER-AT-LARGE (DIVERSITY SLATE) REPORT

Rebecca Toporek, Ph.D. San Francisco State University

Exciting things are in the works for the upcoming Convention in Toronto.

First, two symposia have been organized collaboratively with Division 45, 44 and 35 to address intersections of identity and interests.



"How do Margins Intersect? Ethnicity, Sexual Orientation, Disability and Gender" is a 2 hour conceptual symposium on the complexities of multiple oppressions and privileges and how these influence our relationships professionally and personally. Recent political events such as the presidential election and anti-gay marriage legislation as well as strategies for engaging in dialogue across and within communities will be discussed. Presenters include: Brian Ragsdale, Kirstyn Yuk Sim Chun, Glenda Russell, Martha Banks and the Discussant is Roger Worthington. Chairs are Rebecca Toporek (Div 45) and Jane Simioni (Div 35)

"Research Implications: Intersections of Race, Sexual Orientation, and Gender Identity" is a 2 hour research symposium highlighting research that informs about the experience of individuals and communities that reflect more than one oppressed identity. In particular, research that reflects LGBT and ethnic minority status will be pre-

sented. Presenters include: Maria Celia Zea, Eduardo Morales, Jane Simioni, Michael Mobley, Mei-Fun Kuang and the Discussant is Nadine Nakamura. Chairs: Rebecca Toporek (Div 45) and Kirstyn Yuk Sim Chun (Div 44)

In addition, we are planning to have an informal gathering in the Division 45 Hospitality Suite for those interested in the ways in which race and ethnicity intersect with other aspects of identity.

Save the date for the annual Division 45/35 Section 1 Dance! It will be held on Saturday night, August 8. Get ready to celebrate!

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

Y.Evie Garcia, Ph.D. Northern Arizona University

### **Hospitality Suite**

Division 45 is pleased to host a Hospitality Suite at the 2009 APA Convention in Toronto. The suite will be open from Thursday, August 6 through Saturday, August 8, 2009 from 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Suite activities will include programming for graduate students (leadership training, publishing, finding funding and more!),



conversation and social hours, discussions, panels, committee meetings, and meetings of national ethnic minority associations. Look for the Hospitality Suite location and schedule to be posted on the Division 45 website and list-serv a few weeks before Convention. Please make time in your busy convention schedule to take advantage of our excellent programs. Meet up with old friends, make new ones, and enjoy happy hour at the Hospitality Suite Open House on Saturday, August 8 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM—before heading off to the annual dance hosted by Divisions 45 and 35!

### **MEMBERSHIP**

To change incorrect information on your newsletter mailing label, please contact:

Dr. Shamin Ladhani, Psy.D., drshaminladhani@gmail.com

### **REPORT ON THE 2009 NATIONAL MULTICULTURAL CONFERENCE & SUMMIT**

Lisa Y. Flores, Ph.D., (Div. 45 Representative) University of Missouri

The 2009 National Multicultural Conference and Summit was exciting, energizing, emotional, and enlightening. The NMCS hit a major milestone—the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary since the initial NMCS in Newport Beach, CA.

Throughout the conference, we honored the history of this conference and the work of the NMCS Founders (Drs. Melba Vasquez, Rosie Bingham, Lisa Porche-Burke, and Derald Wing Sue) as well as their successors who coordinated prior conferences. During the luncheon on the first day, Dr. Melba Vasquez announced her candidacy for APA President and received a standing ovation.

In an effort to build upon the successes of prior NMCSs and to continue to move forward the field of multicultural psychology, the conference included keynote presentations and break-out sessions that promoted research, practice and dialogue around social justice issues. The conference theme, Advancing our Communities: The Role of Social Justice in Multicultural Psychology, provided conference attendees an opportunity to discuss and advance efforts to link multicultural psychology practice

and scholarship beyond the ivory tower and into the neighborhoods and learning communities.

Keynote speakers included **Drs. Gargi Roysircar, Lisa Porche-Burke, Linda Mona, Jamie Washington, and Patricia Arredondo**. These keynote presenters inspired participants to examine personal privilege within our intersecting identities, to advocate for strategies in working with persons with disabilities and from immigrant backgrounds, to apply social justice principles to communities affected by natural disasters, and to reflect on the role of forgiveness in our lives and work.

The tradition of honoring elders in the profession who have made significant contributions to the development and promotion of multicultural psychology was a highlight of the conference. Anyone who has attended past Summit's knows how special it is to witness the presentation of this award and to hear the life and career narratives that the Elders shared with the participants. We were deeply moved by their stories and we celebrated the incredible accomplishments each one of them made during a time when multiculturalism was not embraced or



National Multicultural Conference and Summit, New Orleans, LA., January, 2009

valued within psychology. The elders who were honored in 2009 were **Drs. Florence Denmark**, **AJ Franklin**, **Janet Helms**, **Martha Mednick**, **Charles Silverstein**, **Bonnie Ruth Strickland**, and **Derald Wing Sue**.

Finally, we continued the practice that started at the 2007 NMCS of recognizing distinguished professionals in the field who had passed away. The ancestors who were recognized in 2009 were Drs. Toy Caldwell-Colbert, Asa Grant Hilliard III, Naomi Meara, Adrienne Smith, Donald Atkinson, Martha Bernal, Robert V. Guthrie, Reginald L. Jones, Patrick Okura, Carolyn Payton, and Dalmas Taylor.

The initial planning for the 2011 NMCS is underway, and the date and location of that conference will be announced shortly. The 2011 NMCS Coordinators are Drs. Francisco (Cisco) Sanchez, (Chair), Debra Kawahara, Lisa Rey Thomas, and Roger Worthington. Please contact the coordinators with any ideas or suggestions for the 2011 NMCS. Dr. Lisa Rey Thomas will serve as Division 45's NMCS Representative. We wish Lisa the best of luck in the planning process!

### **FELLOWS REPORT**

Edward A. Delgado-Romero, Ph.D.

Please join us in Toronto for the induction of these three new fellows to Division 45: Dr. Lydia Buki, Dr. Jose Cervantes and Dr. Azara Santiago-Rivera. The induction ceremony will take place during the Division 45 Awards Ceremony and will be followed by a reception. The Fellows Committee is in the



process of reviewing applications made in 2008 for both new and current fellows of APA. Current fellows approved by the fellows committee will be recognized in Toronto and any new fellows will be recognized in 2010 in San Diego.

For anyone interested in nominating a division 45 member or self-nominating for status as a new or initial fellow, please visit: http://www.apa.org/divisions/div45/fellows.htm or email the chair at edelgado@uga.edu.

### REPORT FROM CONVENTION PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Melanie Domenech-Rodriguez, Ph.D.

### 2009 TORONTO CONVENTION: PROGRAM REPORT

This year's convention in Toronto promises to be exciting. We received a large number of proposals for review. Symposia and posters were reviewed using a blind process. The group of accomplished scholars that donated their time and wisdom are acknowledged below. The top proposals were selected for inclusion in the division program. We would like to thank all submitters and encourage everyone to consider making contributions in the future.

This year's program consists of 26 total program hours. Of those 16 are considered "substantive" and include the symposia and poster sessions. The remaining hours include the business meeting, awards ceremony, dance, and our Links & Shoulders meeting. Typically each division is allotted two poster session hours. Because of the number of terrific proposals, we petitioned APA Board of Convention Affairs and received a third hour for our posters. The result is three sessions with unique foci: the Friday session is on *Mental and Physical Health in Ethnic Minorities*, the Saturday session focuses on *Culture, Identity, Acculturation, and Discrimination*, and Sunday, *Ethnic Minority Psychology in Context*.

In following Dr. Casas' presidential theme to *Continue the Path*, this year's Presidential Address will be delivered by APA presidential nominee Melba J. T. Vasquez. Her talk titled, *On the Shoulders of Our Elders: Celebrating their Legacy*, promises to be historically relevant both in terms of highlighting the past (our elders) and showcasing the future (the first Latina presidential nominee of APA). Indeed to build a bright future, we have to shine a light on past lessons learned. To that effect, we will also honor our elders in the James Jones Conversational Hour. In *Open Discussion with Past Presidents*, our divisional past presidents will discuss the past, the present, and the future of the division. Please join us so that we can build the future of the division on the lessons of the past.

This year we are participating in the Convention within the Convention (CWC), President Bray's initiative. We will highlight one of own senior scholars, Guillermo Bernal, an expert on delivery of interventions to ethnic minorities. His talk, *Toward Evidence-Based Treatment and Practice Embedded in Multicultural Contexts*, will infuse a much needed focus on issues of diversity in this specialty conference program. This contribution from division 45 was pivotal in infusing diversity into the CWC program.

Many thanks to our cadre of reviewers who gave selflessly

# **CONVENTION PROGRAM** (Continued)

of their time: Cherly Boyce, Elizabeth McKenzie, Guerda Nicolas, Joe Gone, Guillermo Bernal, Gayle Morse, Tim Ketterson, Joe Hovarth, Ignacio David Acevedo, Tamara Brown, Jill Hill, John Gonzalez, William Parham, Maria Sharron del Rio, Lekeisha Sumner, Joseph Trimble, Rebecca Toporek, Laura Smith, Helen Pratt, Courtney Ferrell, Lisa Edwards, Mia Smith Bynum, LeShawndra Price, Yvette Tazeau, Jovier Evans, Pamela Deters, Anabel Bejarano, and Tiffany Yip.

I would like to personally thank John Gonzalez and Pamela

Deters, who prepared me well to take on the program chair position, and whose shoulders I have stood on this year. I would also like to thank Stephanie Rowley and ask all of you to give her a warm reception for her outstanding participation in the division's 2009 program. As the incoming chair, she jumped in with both feet to log countless hours in reviewing, entering program information into the APA portal, and organizing poster sessions into themes. Please be sure to give her all of you support and encouragement next year as she takes leadership to build the 2010 division program.

We hope to see you in Toronto!

### **APA 2009 PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

THURSDAY		SATURDAY	
1:00P - 1:50P	Culturally Informed Services for Disadvantaged	9:00A - 10:50A	How do Margins Intersect? Ethnicity, Sexual
	Populations: From Evaluation to Intervention –		Orientation, and Gender (Cosponserd with D35)
	Chair: Monique A. Levermore (Carlos Albizu		<ul> <li>Chairs: Rebecca Toporek (San Francisco State</li> </ul>
	University)		University) and Jane M. Simoni (University of
2:00P - 2:50P	Doing CBPR: The People Awakening Projects –		Washington)
	Chair: James Allen (University of Alaska,	11:00A – 11:50	P CWC: EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE.
	Fairbanks)		Presenter: Guillermo Bernal (University of
3:00P - 3:50P	Psychologists making a difference on campus:		Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras)
	Innovative approaches in graduating under-	12:00N – 12:50	P National Discussion on Race, Justice, and Peace:
	served populations – Chair: Claytie Davis III		Research findings – Chair: Judy Daniels
4.00D 4.50D	(University of California, Davis)	1.00D 1.50D	(University of Hawaii)
4:00P – 4:50P	JAMES JONES CONVERSATION HOUR: Open	1:00P – 1:50P	Protective Factors for Substance Use in African
E.00D (.E0D	Discussion with Past Presidents. LINKS & SHOULDERS – Host: Michi Fu		American Children – Chairs: LeShawndra Price
5:00P – 6:50P	LINKS & SHOULDERS – HOSE WHEH FU		(National Institute on Drug Abuse) and April Harris-Britt (University of North Carolina,
FRIDAY			Chapel Hill)
9:00A – 9:50A	Addressing and Overcoming Heterosexism and	2:00P - 2:50P	POSTER SESSION: Culture, Identity,
7.0011 7.0011	Homophobia in Communities of Color — Chair:	2.001 2.001	Acculturation, and Discrimination
	Rachel Navarro (New Mexico State University)	3:00P - 3:50P	Latino fathers in research and parenting inter-
10:00A - 10:50A	A American Muslim Youth: One Religion, Diverse	0.000	vention – Chair: Ana Baumann (Washington
	Paths to Identity — Chair: Sameera Ahmed		University, St. Louis)
	(Institution/Company: The Family and Youth	4:00P - 4:50P	The Interplay of Culture, Coping, and
	Institute & MAS Youth)		Psychological Well-Being – Chair: Janet Chang
11:00A - 11:50F	P POSTER SESSION: Mental and Physical Health		(Trinity College)
	in Ethnic Minorities	9:00P +	D45 / D35 DANCE
12:00N - 12:50F	P Contextual Influences on Racial and Sexual		
	Socialization Among Ethnic-Minority Youth:	SUNDAY	
	Implications for Social and Emotional Well	10:00A – 10:50	APeer Socialization in Diverse Adolescents –
	Being – Chair: Stephanie J. Rowley (University		Chair: Stephanie J. Rowley (University of
4.00D 4.50D	of Michigan)	44.004.44.50	Michigan)
1:00P – 1:50P	Cultural Influences on Social Interaction and	11:00A – 11:50	P POSTER SESSION: Ethnic Minority Psychology
	Relationships – Chair: Anna Lau (University of	12.00NI 12.E0	in Context
2:00P - 2:50P	California, Los Angeles) PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS: On the Shoulders	12:00IN - 12:50.	P Decolonizing the Professional Development School: Reducing Disparities using a
2.001 – 2.501	of Our Elders: Celebrating their Legacy.		Multicultural Approach – Chair: Deborah
	Presenter: M. J.T. Vasquez (San Antonio, TX)		Shanley (Brookly College, CUNY)
3:00P - 4:50P	BUSINESS MEETING & AWARDS CEREMO-		offilley (blookly conege, colvi)
2.001 1.001	NY		
5:00P - 6:50P	D45 SOCIAL HOUR		



# Psi Alpha Omega

# Membership Application



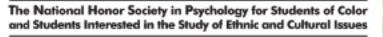
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### **ELECTION OF DIVISION 45 OFFICERS: CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS**

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 2009 – Aug 2010) (Asian-American Slate)

Treasurer-Elect (Jan 2010 – Dec 2012) Member-at-Large (Latino/a Slate) (Jan 2010 – Dec 2012) Member-at-Large Diversity Slate (Jan 2010 – Dec 2012) Graduate Student Representative" (2009-2011)

### Nominations Received:

President-Elect:

Vivian Wang, Ph.D.

Jean Lau Chin, Ph.D.

Treasurer Elect:

John Gonzalez, Ph.D.

Member-at-Large (Latino/a Slate):

Donna Casteneda, Ph.D.

Melanie Domenech-Rodriguez, Ph.D.

Member-at-Large (Diversity Slate):

Jeffrey Ring, Ph.D.

Graduate Student Representative:

Andrea Ballesteros, Annel Cordero, Tonie Marie Quaintance and Laura R. John

### Vivian Wang, Ph.D.

Candidate for President-Elect

I am honored to be nominated for President - Elect of Division 45. Professionally, my work related to race and culture began nearly twenty five years ago. As a psychologist, geneticist, and genetic counselor, my training has provided me a unique combination of scientific and clinical breadth. Coupled with research, education, clinical, administrative, and policy experiences, I have been able to work across professional, scientific, clinical, and policy communities. I received a BA in Biology (Colorado College), an MS in Genetic Counseling (University of Colorado), and an MPhil and PhD in Counseling Psychology (Teachers College – Columbia University). My pre-doctoral work in rehabilitation/neuropsychology was at New York University's Rusk Institute of Rehabilitation Medicine. I am a Fellow of the American Medical Association's American College of Medical Genetics, Diplomate of the American Board of Medical Genetics, Diplomate of the American Board of Genetic Counseling, Clinical Laboratory Specialist in Cytogenetics and a licensed psychologist.

Currently, I am a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Agency Representative to the National Science and Technology Council (NSTC) of the Executive Office of the US President. I am responsible for leading the ethical, legal, and social implications (ELSI), public outreach, and communications activities for the National Nanotechnology Initiative (NNI), a federal research and development program. In this capacity, I established and Chair the official NSTC chartered Nanotechnology Public Engagement and Communications (NPEC) Working Group, helped organize the federal nanotechnology public engagement workshop, helped create the federal government's general nanotechnology brochure, developed nanotechnology risk communication training materials, and helped draft the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development guidelines for public engagement and outreach. These activities have been particularly satisfying since they allowed me to identify and connect psychologists with other physical/natural scientists and policymakers.

Prior to joining the NIH as a *Program Director of the Ethical, Legal, and Social Implications (ELSI) Research Program at the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI-NIH)* and *Senior Advisor to the Director of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR-NIH),* I held tenure-track faculty positions at Rutgers, Arizona State, and Vanderbilt universities where I maintained research and teaching programs focused on how race, racial identity, and research ethics influence public outreach, public health, and science policy. I am published in peer-reviewed science, genetics, genetic counseling, and psychology journals and have served on the *Journal of Multicultural Counseling and Development* and the *Journal of Genetic Counseling* editorial boards.

Focused on developing ways of identifying ethical, clinical, and education factors contributing to health disparities, the National Society of Genetic Counselors (NSGC) presented me their Special Projects Fund Award, one of two national awards (at that time) to develop a multicultural genetic counseling curriculum. Achieving national and international prominence, this curriculum has been taught in US accredited genetic counseling programs and adapted for domestic and international medical, mental, and public health programs. I currently serve as an expert for the NSGC's organizational cultural competence strategic planning process.

I co-founded and co-directed the national Relevance of Assessment of Culture in Evaluation (R.A.C.E.) conference that focuses on state-of-the-art research and practices for improving standardized achievement tests, program evaluations, instruction, and assessments in education and health. I also have served as an expert and trainer for the American Association for the Advancement of Science's *Racial and Ethnic Minorities as Research Subjects:* 

Challenges for Research Ethics Short Course and the American Psychological Association's Advanced Training Institute on Research Methods with Diverse Racial and Ethnic Groups. I am currently an Adjunct Professor at George Mason University where I teach graduate courses in research design and methods and advanced counseling.

In science policy, as a founding member of the NIH-National Institute of General Medical Science's Pharmacogenetics Populations Advisory Group, our work about potential stigma and discrimination of racial and ethnic minorities participating in genetic research informed their landmark Policy for the Responsible Collection, Storage, and Research Use of Samples from Named Populations. I also served on the Food and Drug Administration's Cardiovascular and Renal Drugs Advisory Committee for Isosorbide dinitrate/hydralazine (BiDil), the first race-specific approved drug. As Senior Advisor to the Director of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research (OBSSR), I worked on a genomic institute for social and behavioral scientists, the NIH National Cancer Institute-OBSSR Minority Investigators Workshop on Behavioral Methodologies for racial and ethnic minority investigators, and increased social and behavioral scientist participation in the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Gene Environment Health Initiative (GEI) by expanding the project's research scope to include psychosocial stress (e.g., responses to discrimination) and social environments (e.g., neighborhoods). I also served on the NIH Genome-wide Association Studies (GWAS) data access and participant protections policy team.

I have contributed to federal government strategic plans including the NHGRI-NIH 2003-2008 Five-year Genomics Strategic Plan and the OBSSR-NIH The Contributions of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research to Improving the Health of the Nation: A Prospectus for the Future. I also contributed to the drafting of the 2007-2010 National Nanotechnology Initiative's Strategic Plan; the 2008 National Nanotechnology Initiative Strategy for Nanotechnology-Related Environmental, Health & Safety Research, and the Trans-NIH Nano Task Force's strategic plan where I also co-chaired its' ELSI and Communications Working Group.

My work has been honored by a US Department of Health and Human Services Secretary's *Award for Distinguished Service*, a NIH *Director's Award*, the National Society of Genetic Counselors *Special Projects Award*, the Colorado College *Louis T. Benezet Award* for outstanding achievement, excellence through unusual success or contribution, and the Asian American Psychological Association's *Distinguished Contributions Award*.

I believe each of us has a responsibility to make a difference. This has meant valuing the Kuhnian mindset that

thinking "outside the box" can lead to revolutions that can make a difference. For me, I have focused on bringing the social and behavioral sciences and scientists to participate in policy and large-scale "Big Science" projects where the science we do, the expertise we possess, and the diversity issues we find essential, are often needed but are neither included nor when present, overlooked.

My experiences in academia, NIH, and the Executive Office of the President have given me leadership experiences of developing and implementing strategic plans and diversity-infused research programs and policies. It is now time for me to bring what I have learned back home...to Division 45. If elected, I will direct my efforts in completing projects of Division 45's longer-term strategic plan that focuses on research, training, policy, and practices. I will continue implementing the Guidelines on Multicultural Education, Training, Research, Practice, and Organizational Change for Psychologists by carrying on and integrating the efforts of the "Strengthening our Science to Improve our Practice" initiative into this work.

For new issues, I propose two initiatives. Using Sam Johnson's "Knowing That Versus Knowing How," I would like to enhance science-informed policy by developing targeted policy and leadership training so our membership can more fully participate in science and health policy activities and leadership and policy positions. Second, I would like to Broaden Our Horizons by exploring how other contextual factors such as environment (social and physical), biological, and genomic variables can be better integrated into our race, ethnicity, and culture research and practices paradigms.

I feel my leadership and working style are effective, culturally responsive, and fair, qualities I believe are necessary for the leadership responsibilities for the position of President-Elect. I also believe my training, experiences, and track record as a leader, negotiator, and administrator in diversity-related research, clinical, and policy activities can make a difference in Division 45. I look forward to the opportunity of serving Division 45.

### Jean Lau Chin, Ph.D.

Candidate for President-Elect

It is a privilege to be nominated for President of Division 45. The division's commitment to racial and ethnic diversity resonates with mine. The division has modeled this commitment through its initiatives and policies that celebrate and appreciate diversity. The Council of Research Elders values the cultural traditions and wisdom of its past. The Shoulders and Links program attempts to transmit this wisdom to the next generation. The policy of rotating leadership reflects the inclusiveness and collaboration important to advancing an agenda of racial

# **CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS** (Continued)

and ethnic diversity. If elected, I would be proud to continue this tradition and to advance the mission of the division.

I am currently Professor and Dean of the Derner Institute for Advanced Psychological Studies at Adelphi University. I have spent a long career both in academia and in the community in leadership positions as an administrator, clinician, and educator. I was Systemwide Dean at Alliant International University, Executive Director of a community health center serving Asian Americans in greater Boston, and Co-Director of a child guidance clinic serving inner city minority communities. My service within APA divisions includes being President of Division 35 (Women), President of Section VI, Division 12 (Clinical Psychology-Ethnic Minorities), and APA Council Representative. My service on APA boards and committees include: Board for the Advancement of Public and Professional Interests (BAPPI), Committee on Professional Practice and Standards (COPPS), and Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA). Outside of APA, I have served on national boards including the National Asian Pacific Americans Against Substance Abuse (NAPAFASA). I have been appointed to a number of federal advisory committees, and am currently serving on the Eliminating Mental Health Disparities Committee under SAMHSA. In all these roles, I have modeled my commitment to diversity and ethnic minority issues. I supported inclusiveness in my development of policies and procedures at the institutions of which I have been a part. I have been committed to a collaborative approach in my exercise of leadership.

Issues of diversity and the promotion of cultural competence have been central in my life's work and scholarship as an underlying value and framework. I have published extensively on psychotherapy, prejudice and discrimination, cultural competence, women and leadership, clinical training, community health, and Asian Americans. My two upcoming books are: Diversity in Mind and in Action, and The Psychology of Prejudice and Discrimination.

I am Chinese American, born in New York City and the child of immigrant parents. Growing up in one of largest and most diverse cities in the country, I was made acutely aware of the issues facing ethnic minorities in this country from a very early age. It is a different experience and a different conversation. These struggles of the immigrant experience are captured in Learning from My Mother's Voice, my book that chronicles and narrates my mother's struggle amidst biculturalism and racism in this country. She escaped from Nanjing, China 3 days before

the invasion and massacre by the Japanese.

I went to school at a time when diversity was not an underlying core value. I was generally one of few, if not the only, Asian American in my school including my graduate training at Teachers College, Columbia University. There were no role models or mentors to speak of. I was the first Asian American to be licensed as a psychologist in Massachusetts; no one followed me for more than 10 years.

These experiences have helped to shape my view of the world, and influence my advocacy for issues of social justice. From these experiences, I believe I can bring much to being President of Division 45. I will support and continue to advance the work and initiatives of the division while bringing new energy through initiatives of my own. Diversity and leadership is one of my more recent pursuits. While we have made gains in many areas of affirmative action and promoting diversity in our institutions and services, there is still not equity in the higher echelons of our institutions. Theories of leadership are still inattentive to issues of diversity. I believe we can work together to further this agenda. I ask for your support for my candidacy so we might work together on advancing the issues of racial and ethnic diversity.

### John Gonzalez, Ph.D.

Candidate for Treasurer -Elect

Boozhoo, I am truly honored to be nominated for treasurer-elect of Division 45, which has been my home in APA since my graduate school days. In thinking about all the amazing leaders and Elders of our division, it is with great humility that I accept the nomination and opportunity to serve Division 45 and continue the mission for People of Color.

For those who don't know me – my name is Bimibatoo-Mashtag (Running Horses), I am member of the Ojibwe-Anishinaabe Nation from White Earth MN, and I belong to the Crane Clan. Most people know me as John Gonzalez and as an Assistant Professor at Bemidji State University in northern MN. Prior to returning home this past fall to work with my People, I was an Assistant Professor at the University of Alaska Fairbanks where I had the most amazing and wonderful opportunity to work with Indigenous communities on prevention programs for Alaska Native youth. I received my PhD from the University of North Dakota with the support of the Indians into Psychology (INPSYDE) Program and also received an MFP Fellowship, which was a great honor.

Most recently, I served as the Division 45 Program Co-Chair for the Boston Convention. This was a fantastic opportunity for me to give back to the division that has inspired me (and still does) in many ways – but also allowed me the chance to be exposed to and attend the EC meetings for our division and get a sense of the work that needs to continue. As I mentioned above, Division 45 has been my family and home in APA since the beginning of my career. I remember as a student reading the countless journal articles, book chapters and listening to the stories about our amazing leaders and Elders in Division 45 – by way of my Mentors Joseph Trimble and Doug McDonald. So, when attending my first APA convention and Multicultural Summit I was very nervous and a little intimidated about having the chance to meet many of the heroes I read and heard about. However, this nervousness was melted away in minutes by big smiles, warm welcomes, and sincere interest and encouragement. My dad used to tell me, "Indian life is tough - it's hard to be Indian, but I am happy that I was born an Indian". Sounds paradoxical, but I believe this is very true for me also and that it applies to our division family. It is sometimes hard to be a Person of Color, an ethnic minority, but when I hear the stories and meet the leaders and Elders of our family, I sure am happy and proud to be a Person of Color and a member of Division 45.

My generation has acquired great opportunities from the pain, suffering, and hard work of our Elders in Division 45, in our communities and in our families. For this I am truly grateful everyday. However, my life experiences growing up on the "Rez" and since becoming a professional, also remind me there is always work to do for People and Communities of Color. That is my passion personally and professionally. I appreciate this chance to introduce myself and would be honored to serve you in Division 45 as treasurer-elect. Chi-Miigwech! (Many Thanks)

### Donna Casteneda, Ph.D.

Candidate for Member-at-Large (Latino/a Slate)

It is an honor and pleasure to be considered for the member-at-large (Latina/o Slate) position within Division 45. I received my Ph.D. in social psychology from the University of California, Davis and I am currently a professor in the Psychology Department at San Diego State University-Imperial Valley, an Hispanic-serving institution. My scholarly interests focus on the interconnections between gender, ethnicity, close relationships, and physical and mental health. These themes are integrated in all sectors of my work—research, teaching, and service. As a social psychologist, I emphasize the role of contextual elements at different levels of analysis from the intra-individual level to the community level in behavior and psychological experience. I have had a long-standing interest in close relationship issues, particularly among Mexican Americans. Most recently, this interest is reflected in my research on the relationship between marital satisfaction

and mental health in Mexican American couples, intimate partner violence among Latina/o young adults, and understanding risk for HIV/AIDS among Mexican American women.

Throughout my career I have been committed to development of scientifically based, empirical research that can inform policy and practice and enhance people's physical and mental health, particularly for groups that have been historically underrepresented in the psychological literature. This commitment is consistent with the statement in Division 45's strategic plan to "advance psychology as a science and promote public welfare through research." I have also seen ethnic minority psychology grow and increase in its acceptance and importance in the larger field of psychology. It is a joy today to see undergraduate and graduate students have greater access to ethnic minority mentors, something that was rare when I was a student. Nevertheless, racial and ethnic diversity within APA continues to be minimal and we must work to increase the number of researchers who are able to conduct culturally sensitive and informed research. Furthermore, we must continue to advocate for development of theory and research that accurately and effectively incorporate the lived reality of persons from differing cultural groups. My efforts as a member-at-large will be to work collaboratively and creatively to advance these two objectives and to ensure that all voices are heard. By way of experience relevant to this position, I have served on many boards at the local, state, and international (Mexico/U.S.) levels and conference organizing committees; I have been a consultant on community HIV/AIDS prevention and mental health needs assessments; and I have served as chair of an interdisciplinary division at my University. These activities have given me much experience in effectively developing and accomplishing specific goals and it is the skills derived from this work that I will apply to the position of member-at-large (Latina/o slate) within Division 45. I thank you for your consideration of my candidacy.

### Melanie Domenech-Rodriguez, Ph.D.

Candidate for Member-at-Large (Latino/a Slate)

What in the world is a member-at-large? A member-at-large serves on the division's executive council (EC) for three years, and is a voting member directly involved in the governance of the division. The member-at-large is charged with the important mission of representing division members at the EC table. The Latino/a member-at-large is responsible for having a specific sensitivity to issues of relevance to Latino/a constituents. While I might be most aptly described in the "flyweight" category for boxing, I believe I can pack a punch in this post. I have a significant amount of experience serving in professional organizations, including division 45. Essential to the productivity of the division is the shared responsibili-

# **CANDIDATE STATEMENTS** (Continued)

ty of governance tasks. I have a history of making active contributions to governance as well as supporting colleagues in their leadership roles within the EC. Also essential to the health of the division is the identification and promotion of new leaders. My involvement in leadership positions has led to broad networks and I have a track record of bringing people into organizations to promote new leaders. Specific to the Latino/a member-atlarge post, I have significant experience in both research and practice in the area of Latino/a mental health. While there are grants and publications that I could report here, what I believe is most important to highlight is that my knowledge regarding Latino/a mental health, and ethnic minority mental health broadly, can be of use to the division as we select special projects to promote within the division as well as within the greater APA governance (e.g., through our involvement in the Practice, Science, Public Interest, and Education Directorates). My experience as a licensed psychologist who provides services to Latino/a children and families, as well as a mentor to ethnic minority graduate students, gives my knowledge of Latino/a mental health much needed dimensionality. I am committed to the development and promotion of ethnic minority professionals broadly and of division 45 particularly as a vehicle to support professionals within psychology. It is an honor to be considered for this post, and it would be a pleasure to serve the division and its members.

### Jeffrey M. Ring, Ph.D.

Candidate for Member-at-Large (Diversity Slate)

"Of all the forms of inequality, injustice in health care is the most shocking and inhumane." Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King

Although I stumbled across this quotation only a few months ago, the idea has been a guiding force across the entire span of my career. I have been serving as a faculty member in a Family Medicine Residency Program in East Los Angeles as Director of Behavioral Sciences over the past 13 years. My work is to contribute to the training of young physicians who plan to provide health care to minority and underserved communities. My charge is to provide them with counseling skills, practical health psychology knowledge, and a strong grounding in the awareness, knowledge and skills components of culturally responsive, patient-centered health care. I served as lead author of our new book, Curriculum for Culturally Responsive Health Care: The Step-by-Step Guide for Cultural Competence Training, published by Radcliffe Publishing last October (2008). I also authored 'The long and winding road: Personal reflections of an anti-racism trainer' in the American Journal of Orthopsychiatry (2000).

I have long been interested in dismantling racism, sexism and heterosexism, particularly as they are embodied in health disparities and health access. The power and conviction to do this work has been nurtured, supported and encouraged all along the way by my involvement and participation in the Society for the Psychological Study of Ethnic Minority Issues.

After several years of leadership responsibilities in the Society of Teachers of Family Medicine (as Co-chair of both the Group on Minority Health and the Group on Multicultural Education), I am eager to return to participating as a leader in Division 45, where I have previously served as Membership Chair and Convention Program Co-Chair.

If elected, I will work to ensure that Division 45 continues to serve as a comprehensive source of information, collegiality, support and academic rigor in our field for both psychologists and graduate students alike. I will eagerly remind my colleagues of the key role that psychology must play in collaborative health care and the elimination of health disparities. Finally, I hope to continue to serve as a role model as a White male eager to creatively and powerfully take on inequality issues both within the APA and without.

### **Andrea Ballesteros**

Candidate for Graduate Student Representative No Statement

### **Annel Cordero**

Candidate for Graduate Student Representative

The relationship I have with Division 45 developed gradually over the years. I began as a disconnected and unsure student member. With time and increasing involvement, I realized the uniqueness of our division. Division 45's support for its students is evident in its commitment, approach, and inclusion of students on committees, awards and travel grants, mentoring from prominent psychologists of color through the Links and Shoulders Program, and the development of Psi Alpha Omega National Honor Society for psychology students of color.

My service to Division 45 began as a Hospitality Suite volunteer during APA's 2007 Convention where I helped with some administrative duties. Eventually, this led to my current role of helping to develop and coordinate the division's Hospitality Suite programming, which involves working collaboratively with the Executive Committee (EC), other national associations for psychologists of color, student committees, and APA personnel in order to develop a successful meeting schedule, much of which is

student-oriented. In addition to this, I have been responsible for ensuring that our team of student volunteers is organized and prepared to staff the multiple hours of programming held in the suite.

Currently, as Arizona's State Advocacy Coordinator for the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students (APAGS), I recruit campus representatives for universities and lead the campus representative network within my state. In this team effort, we work to inform psychology graduate students about issues relevant to the field of psychology and legislative issues that impact psychology. I have also served psychology students in my roles as Campus Representative for APAGS and Campus Representative for the Arizona Psychological Association (AzPA). As campus representative, I made it one of my priorities to invite students to join and participate in Division 45.

I believe in community and in all of my leadership roles my goal has been to work with and on behalf of students and provide them with information that will enable their success. In addition to this, I have served with an open mind to new ideas and ways of doing things. As your student representative I will not veer from this path and will continue to work to give students a voice. One of my goals will be to develop a more functional and clearly distinguishable student section on our website which contains easily accessible information. I will continue building upon initiatives of past student representatives that have benefited the student membership, such as student awards, student representation on the division's various committees, and the student listsery. I will collaborate with student members to develop and present to the Executive Committee initiatives and projects that you see as important for students of color.

Based upon my demonstrated history of service to Division 45 and psychology students, and my commitment to working for you, I am asking for your vote for Division 45 Student Representative. Thanks for considering my qualifications for the position and no matter who you vote for, be sure to vote! Student participation is vital because YOU are the future of psychology!

### Laura R. John

Candidate for Graduate Student Representative

Hello, my name is Laura R. John. I am of the Blackfeet and Seneca Nations and am currently working towards a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of Montana. My research interests include community-based participatory research in Native American communities, and the effects of stereotypes on Native American's views of the self.

Prior to attending the University of Montana, I attended

Haskell Indian Nations University, where I earned an undergraduate degree in Native American Studies and Portland State University, double-majoring in Psychology and Social Science. I then attended Washington State University and worked towards an Ed.M. in Counseling Psychology. I have been involved with Native American issues over the course of my academic and professional career. Previously, I served as a research intern for the Oregon Social Learning Center. In 2004, I was selected as an Early Career Scientist for the Native American Research Center of Health (NARCH) and am currently a NARCH scholarship recipient through the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board. I have also worked for the Native American Rehabilitation Association of the NW and the National Indian Child Welfare Association. In the future, I hope to bring my expertise as a clinician and educator to tribal communities, as well as educate non-Native Americans about our culture and its relationship to psychological health.

I am currently running for the APA Division 45 Student Representative position and would like to respectfully ask for your vote. Holding this position will allow me to continue in my pursuit of ensuring that culture is appropriately represented in the field of psychology. My nomination for this position came from Dr. Joseph Stone, a clinical psychologist currently working for the Indian Health Service. Dr. Stone has played an integral role in my educational pursuits. His mentoring and encouragement has helped me to successfully enter into a doctoral program. In the spirit of service that he has modeled to me, I look forward to working closely with APA Division 45 to assist in advancing the understanding of multi-cultural psychology. In this position, I also hope to provide mentorship to other students of color who are interested in the field of psychology. In all, I hope to assist in advancing the understanding of how culture and psychology interact, the impact of culture on the field of psychology and how people from all cultures can come together and learn from each other. In light of this, I ask for your vote as the APA Division 45 Student Representative.

# Tonie Marie Quaintance, B.A., or Yethnhahnilats "makes her life strong"

Candidate for Graduate Student Representative

Shekoli! (Hello) I am honored to be nominated to serve as the Division 45 Student Representative. I am an enrolled descendent in the Oneida Tribe of Wisconsin Turtle Clan. I have earned a B.A. in Justice, with a Minor in Psychology, and am a third year student in the University of Alaska Joint Ph.D. Program in Clinical-Community Psychology with a rural and indigenous emphasis. Throughout my work, I have demonstrated a passionate life-long commitment and a dedication to facilitate health

# **CANDIDATE STATEMENTS** (Continued)

and well-being to ethnic minority communities. In addition to being a full-time student, I am a Research Assistant for The Center for Alaska Native Health Research where I assist in research methodology and strategies for assessments in rural Alaska Native communities. The project I am currently involved with uses the Community Based Participatory Research approach, and is working on developing a way of assessing stress and trauma in a Yup'ik cultural context. More importantly, the project looks at how Yup'ik people find healthy ways of coping with stress and trauma. The goal of this project is to use the information gathered from community members to develop a culturally appropriate stress management intervention that can be used by other communities to help people manage their stress. As a student, I demonstrate cultural attunement, sensitivity and awareness of issues faced by rural communities in Alaska and contribute many valuable insights regarding this phenomenon. I am also the Ph.D. student representative for the Cultural Experience Committee where I assist in organizing cultural experiences for students and faculty in the Ph.D. program. I have the ability to make connections with elders who facilitate the experience, with whom I show sensitivity and dedication to making sure they feel respected and their needs were met, and I work hard to assist that the cultural experience is enjoyed by everyone.

I am a third year graduate student member of the American Psychological Association (APA); Alaska Psychological Association; Native Research Network; Society of Indian Psychologist; and a subcommittee member of the Alaska Psychology Association Diversity Committee. I am a Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, United National Indian Tribal Youth Scholar (2006); an Indian Health Service Spirit of Eagles Scholar (2007 and 2008), an American Indian Graduate Center Fellow, an Alaska Natives into Psychology Scholar, and a member of the Psi Alpha Omega Honor Society: The National Honor Society for Psychology Students of Color. In addition, I have served on the Native Health Research Conference scientific program committee (2008), and I am currently serving on the Native Health Research Conference planning committee (2009). My extra curricular activities involve volunteering in the Alaska Native community by representing tribal children in the court system as a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) and working closely with the Alaska Native Professional Association. If elected, I believe I have a lot of support to offer students of the Division. It would be my privilege to serve and represent the students of Division 45.

### **KUDOS TO DIVISION 45 MEMBERS**

Dr. Geneva Reynaga-Abiko (no photo available) started a new job as Assistant Director at U.C. Merced's Counseling and Psychological Services in January 2009.

Stanley Sue was elected President of the Western

Psychological Association and will preside at the 90th WPA Convention April 22-25, 2010 in Cancun, Mexico. Steven Lopez is serving as Program Chair for the Convention. The theme of cultural





Stanley Sue

Steven Lopez

diversity will be emphasized and it is hoped that Division 45 members will participate and attend.

Division 45 members Ann Fischer and coauthor Kurt DeBord won the 2009 Oliva Espin Award for Social Justice Concerns in Feminist Psychology, in the area of Ethnicity, Religion, and Sexual Orientation.



### **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
1/2 column (5")
1 column (9")
1/2 page
1 page

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

### Contact:

Melissa Morgan, Focus Newsletter Editor 2009-2011

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### **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CEMA seeks two new members The Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs (CEMA) is seeking nominations for two new members to begin three-year terms on Jan. 1, 2010. The committee functions as a catalyst for action on ethnic-minority issues and concerns by interacting with and making recommendations to the various components of APA's governing structure, membership and other groups. Committee members plan, develop and coordinate activities related to advocacy and promoting an understanding of the cultures and psychological well-being of ethnicminority populations, monitoring and assessing institutional barriers to equal access to psychological services and research, and ensuring equitable ethnic/racial representation in the psychology profession. To fulfill its mandate for ethnic representation and its commitment to gender equity, the **two vacant slates** are for Asian American/Pacific Islander female and male psychologists.

CEMA also welcomes nominations from candidates who possess knowledge and expertise of other diverse populations (such as, disability, early career, national origin, sexual orientation, etc.). CEMA members must participate in no less than two committee meetings a year. No more than two meetings will be convened at APA headquarters in Washington, D.C. Members also work on CEMA priorities when necessary between meetings. If possible, CEMA members attend the APA annual convention at their own expense to participate in CEMA convention programming. Nomination materials should include the nominee's qualifications (including a statement of relevant experience), a curriculum vita and a letter of interest. Self-nominations are encouraged. Nominations and supporting materials should be sent no later than Sept. 5, to the APA Office of Ethnic Minority Affairs at the APA address.

### University of New Hampshire Counseling Center

Announces

### Pre-doctoral Internship 2010-2011

APA Accredited

Situated in Seacoast New Hampshire, with easy access to Boston to the south, and Portland, Maine to the north, this internship has much to offer a candidate seeking a well-rounded counseling center experience.

See our web site for details:

http://www.unhcc.unh.edu

### **DIVISION 45 LISTSERV**

### **Division 45 Listserv**

Are you an active and current member not on the Division 45 listsery? You can go to the Division 45 webpage http://www.apa.org/divisons/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.

### To join the List:

Write to LISTSERV@LISTS.APA.ORG and, in the text of your message (not the subject line), write: SUBSCRIBE DIV45

### To Leave the List:

Write to LISTSERV@LISTS.APA.ORG and, in the text of your message (not the subject line), write: SIGNOFF DIV 45

### For More Information:

Write to LISTSERV@LISTS.APA.ORG and, in the text of your message (not the subject line), write: "HELP" or "INFO" (without the quotes). HELP will give you a short help message and INFO a list of the documents you can order.

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.

### 2009-2010 Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Chairs, Roster

(Persons whose addresses are not listed are members of the Executive Committee. Their addresses are listed in the EC roster or elsewhere in this roster.)

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# SOCIETY FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY OF ETHNIC MINORITY ISSUES MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

In order to assess the interests and needs of new members, we ask you to please print your answers to the following questions:

$\vdash$	Name:		Date:	
7	Mailing Address:	City:	State: Zip:	
	Tel: ()	E-mail:	•	
$\varepsilon$	Highest Degree:	Date Awarded: Awarding Institution	itution:	
4	Currently an APA Member? Yes:	s: No If Yes, Membership Number:		

Self Identification (Check all that apply): \_\_African American/Black; \_\_American Indian; \_\_Euro-American; \_\_Asian/Pacific Islander; \_\_Latino/Hispanic; Current Professional Activities (Check all that apply): \_Teaching; \_Research; \_Clinical; \_Administration; \_Other (Specify).

If Yes, Which Member Level? \_\_Member; \_\_Fellow; \_\_Associate; \_\_Student Affiliate; or \_\_Professional Affiliate

What are the two most important issues you would like to see the Division address? \_Other (Please specify)\_

In what member capacity would you like to serve Division 45? \_Task Force; \_Committee; \_Elected Office; \_Other (Specify).

\_Student Affiliate (\$25.00) Division 45 Membership Status and Dues: \_\_Member (\$57.00); \_\_Professional Affiliate (\$57.00); \_

To join, please complete the application form, detach and send it with a check to: Division 45 Administrative Office; APA Division Services, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4242

DIVISION 45

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