MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Michael Domjan, President, Division 6

The convention in Boston brought back memories of the first APA convention I went to nearly thirty years ago, which was also on the east coast. I was going home to visit my parents, who lived on the outskirts of New York City at the time. I looked forward to seeing them, but as was often the case on such occasions, I felt restless soon after arriving home and was glad to have an excuse to leave the house to attend sessions of the APA convention in Manhattan. My eagerness was soon deflated, however, by the huge size of the program, and by my impression that the things I was interested in (learning and comparative psychology) mattered little in the grand scheme of APA and psychology as a whole.

Superficial evidence may encourage a similar conclusion today. APA and psychology still constitute an immense enterprise (APA is one of the largest publishers of academic journals in the world, for example), and Division 6 seems but a small cog in that enterprise. But, having learned more about psychology and more about APA since my first convention, I am no longer so pessimistic about the impact or importance of the things that I am interested in and the things that are near and dear to members of Division 6.

We deal with the physiological and evolutionary bases of behavior. The questions we ask and the answers we provide are indispensable to a comprehensive account of psychological phenomena. Much to my personal delight and to the great benefit of our work, the importance of our
The Behavioral Neuroscientist and Comparative Psychologist is the official newsletter of Division 6 — Behavioral Neuroscience and Comparative Psychology — and is published 3 times a year in winter, spring, and fall. Mailing addresses used are those appearing on the official APA roster and a separate Division roster. Corrections and changes of address should be sent directly to the APA Directory Office, 1400 North Uhle St., Arlington, VA 22201, and to Fred Helmstetter (see below).

As the official newsletter of Division 6, BNCP publishes official business, committee reports, news items, job announcements, information on technical issues, topics of current interest, and information about the professional activities of Division 6 members. News items and articles should be submitted to the Editor at the address below (preferably by email). Paid advertisements are not officially endorsed by Division 6. The Editor welcomes comments and suggestions for ways in which BNCP can better serve the needs of the members. The preferred method of submission is by email.

Deadline for the receipt of news items and other articles for the next issue is December 15, 1999. Items should be sent to:

Fred Helmstetter
Department of Psychology
PO Box 413
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI 53211
fjh@uwm.edu

WELCOME TO THE NEW DIVISION 6 OFFICERS

by James Grau

Michael Domjan is our new President. Many thanks to Michael Fanselow (Past President) for his efforts over this last year and congratulations to our new President-Elect, Herbert Roitblat. Thanks are also due to Molly Wagster who just completed her 3-year term as Secretary/Treasurer. Jim Grau is our new Secretary/Treasurer.

As President-Elect, Herbert Roitblat has enlisted the assistance of Duane Rumbaugh (Awards), Alexandra Logue (Fellows Nomination), and Peter Balsam (Program). Each will serve as Chair-Elect over the coming year. Current Chairs are Meredith West (Awards), Tim Schallert (Fellows), Mauricio Papini (Membership & Growth), Elaine Hull (Program). Thanks to our Past Chairs, Mark Bouton (Awards), William Greenough (Fellows), Jim Grau (Membership & Growth), and Michael Domjan (Program).

MaryLou Cheal will continue on as our Council Representative. Our two Member-at-Large positions are filled by Alan Kamil and Thomas Zentall. A new Member-at-Large will be elected this coming year (a nomination form is included in the newsletter).

Fred Helmstetter will continue to edit the newsletter and maintain the Division 6 website. Special thanks to Fred for keeping the newsletter going.
contributions to psychology are well recognized by key officials and the administrative structure of APA. The newly appointed Senior Science Advisor for APA, Nancy Dess, is an active member of our Division. The staff of the Science Directorate and other officials of APA work hard to represent our interests with funding agencies, members of congress, and the general public. APA has also done a great deal to meet challenges to the use of animals in research both proactively and reactively. In addition, they publish two of the key journals for our field, *Behavioral Neuroscience*, and *Comparative Psychology*. APA may be a big enterprise, but we are an important part of it, and they know it.

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**NEWS AND NOTES**

*by Michael Domjan, President, Division 6*

**It is not too Early to Think about the Next Year**

Next year's APA convention will be held in Washington, D.C. The convention is scheduled earlier in the summer this time, August 4-8. The Program Chair for Division 6 is now Dr. Elaine Hull. Please send any suggestions or proposals for the 2000 convention program to Professor Hull, at the Department of Psychology, Park Hall, SUNY at Buffalo, Buffalo, NY 14260-41110. (email: emhull@acsu.buffalo.edu.)

**Nominations for Editorship of Behavioral Neuroscience**

It is time again to begin the search for a new Editor of Behavioral Neuroscience. Michela Gallagher, the current editor, will continue to receive manuscripts until the issues for the year 2001 are complete. The Publications and Communications Board of APA is inviting nominations for a new editor, who will begin to receive manuscripts early in 2001. Nominations may be made with a statement of one page or less describing the candidate. Nominations should be sent to Karen Sellman, P&C Board Search Liaison, Room 2004, American Psychological Association, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002-4242.

**New Editor for the Journal of Comparative Psychology**

The other flagship journal of APA that serves members of Division 6, the Journal of Comparative Psychology, will also have a new Editor. Charles T. Snowdon is completing the 6th year of his editorial term at the end of this year. The new Editor will be Meredith West of Indiana University. Professor West, former president of the Animal Behavior Society and former Editor of Animal Behaviour, is also serving as the Chair or the Awards Committee of Division 6.

**No Dues Increase**

The Executive Committee of Division 6 voted to maintain divisional dues at $9 per year. Friends and colleagues who are not members of APA can become Affiliate Members of Division 6 by just paying this $9 fee. If you know of anyone interested in becoming an Affiliate Member of Division 6, please send have them submit a statement of interest and a check for $9 to our the Chair of the Membership Committee, Dr. Mauricio Papini, Department of Psychology, Box 298920, Texas Christian University, Fort Worth, Texas 76129.

**Ask Your Friends to Join**

Joining APA is expensive, but once one is a member of APA joining Division 6 is rather painless (just $9). If you know of anyone who is a member of APA and has interests that include neural or evolutionary aspects of behavior, urge them to join Division 6. Thank you for your support.

**Herbert Roitblat, New President-Elect of Division 6**

The results are in, and (drum roll please) the new President-Elect of Division 6 is Professor Herbert Roitblat of the University of Hawaii. Herb was elected during the balloting that was conducted earlier this spring. Herb has worked extensively on issues related to animal cognition. He previously served as the Editor of the Division 6 Newsletter. Herb's term as President will begin at the end of the Division 6 Business Meeting to be held at the 2000 APA convention.
DIVISION 6 AWARDS PRESENTED

by Mark E. Bouton

The Division is delighted to announce the following awards given at the 1999 APA meeting in Boston. Congratulations to all the winners!

The Brenda A. Milner Award, for an outstanding paper in the field of behavioral neuroscience or comparative psychology published with the last five years and written by a member within five years of the Ph.D., went to Valentin Dragoi, MIT and formerly Duke University, for his paper (with J.E.R. Staddon) entitled “The dynamics of operant conditioning,” published in Psychological Review, 1999, 106, 20-61.

The F. A. Beach Comparative Psychology Award, given to each author of the best paper published in the Journal of Comparative Psychology in 1998 (selected by the Editor), went to Louis M. Herman, Adam A. Pack, and Matthias Hoffmann-Kuhnt at the University of Hawaii and Kewalo Basin Marine Mammal Laboratory, for their paper entitled “Seeing through sound: Dolphins (Tursiops truncatus) perceive the spatial structure of objects through echolocation,” pp. 292-305. Honorable Mention went to Robert E. Johnston and Anjali Bhorade (Cornell University) for their paper, “Perception of scent overmarks by golden hamsters (Mesocricetus auratus): Novel mechanisms for determining which individual’s mark is on top,” pp. 230-243.

The D. G. Marquis Behavioral Neuroscience Award, given to each author of the best paper published in Behavioral Neuroscience in 1998 (selected by the Editor and Associate Editors), went to Jo Anne Tracy, Judith K. Thompson, David J. Krupa, and Richard F. Thompson (University of Southern California) for their paper, “Evidence of plasticity in the ponto-cerebellar CS pathway during classical conditioning of the eyeblink response in the rabbit,” pp. 267-285.

The C. T. Morgan Distinguished Service to Division 6 Award, which is given on occasion to recognize a member of the Division who has made sustained and exceptional contributions to the Division, went to MaryLou Cheal, Arizona State University.

MEMBERSHIP & GROWTH

by James Grau

As recommended by Michael Fanselow, we mounted a major recruiting drive this last year. In the early Spring, approximately 600 Division 6 brochures were mailed to our membership with a letter requesting that each member try to recruit one new member. In addition, I received approximately 400 requests for information from APA. Eighty-eight applications were completed and returned. Another 65 individuals chose to join the division electronically. Together, we gained 153 new members (142 are members of APA, 11 are affiliates of the division).

We lost 18 members this last year. Another 10 individuals could be dropped for failing to pay their APA dues.

According to the 1998 APA Membership Register, our Division had 611 members in 1998. Over the last year, we gained 142 new APA members, but lost 18. This brings our total APA Division membership to 735, a 20% increase over the last year!

In 1999 we began to bill affiliate members for division dues ($9). There are currently over 120 affiliate members of our division. As of August, only 20 (17%) had paid their dues. We would like to express our thanks to those who have maintained their affiliate status in Division 6. We would also like to express our regrets to those affiliates that were billed but are exempt from dues (e.g., students). To the others, we hope you will choose to continue your affiliate status by sending a check for $9 to the new Chair of Membership, Mauricio Papini (Department of Psychology, Box 298920, Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth, TX 76129). The check should be made payable to "APA-Division 6".

At the annual meeting, we discussed a variety of ways in which we could improve the value of joining Division 6. Our hope is to maintain a strong presence within APA, further strengthen our scientific program at the national conference, foster ties with our flagship journals (Behavioral Neuroscience and Journal of Comparative Psychology), improve electronic services, and provide a unique forum for research on behavioral neuroscience and comparative psychology.

Over the last year, we gained some momentum and substantially increased our membership, but we are still a long way from our stated goal of 1,000. Please continue to encourage colleagues and students to join APA and our division. Joining Division 6 just requires an e-mail to Mauricio Papini at m.papini@tcu.edu. If we can maintain our current rate of growth, we could reach 1,000 within a couple of years.
COMMITTEE ON DIVISION/APA RELATIONS

MaryLou Cheal, Chair, CODAPAR

Although there was no Division Leadership Conference in 1999, the Committee was active through the year to help divisions. One of the good things for divisions is that there will be a Division Leadership Conference in January 2000. Invitations have been sent to the President-elect (Herb Roitblat for our division) asking them to plan to attend the 2 1/2 day session in Washington, DC. APA supplies transportation and meals during the conference. There may be an opportunity this year for other division officers to attend at their own expense. If you are interested, let Herb know and he can notify you when applications materials arrive.

Other activities of the Committee (commonly known as CODAPAR) include the finalization of the Dispute Resolution Mechanism, which went to the Council of Representatives in August and was approved. This provides a simple mechanism to address differences between divisions.

The Interectional Grants Project was again funded this year. Council provided $10,000 and this allowed four $2,500 grants to be distributed. CODAPAR is hoping (and expecting) that the Grants project will be funded again in 2000. Although we will not know for certain until Council votes on it in March, 2000, now is the time to begin your collaborations so that you will be able to quickly submit the short application when the call is announced. Let me know if you are working on some ideas and I will see that you personally are notified promptly when the call is made. If you want some advance information, the protocol will probably be the same as in 1999, and you can obtain that from Paul Donnelly in the Division Services office (Paul Donnelly <pdonnelly@apa.org>).

Questions about APA services for Divisions can also be address to Paul, or you can contact your CODAPAR liason. Each member of CODAPAR is assigned nine divisions and Division 6 is one that is assigned to me. So if you have questions, you can write me at cheal@asu.edu.

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT: PRESIDENT-ELECT & MEMBER-AT-LARGE

It’s that time of year again! Time for your help in generating nominations for officers in Division 6. Two positions on our Executive Committee will need to be filled this coming year – President-Elect and Member-at-Large. The new President-Elect will serve for three years, starting at the close of the 2000 Annual Meeting. The elected individual will hold consecutively the positions of President-Elect, President, and Past President during his/her term of office. Our current President-Elect, Herbert Roitblat, will assume the role of President after August 2000. The new Member-at-Large will also serve for three years beginning in August 2000 and will replace Alan Kamil who has served in this position since 1997. Our other Member-at-Large is Thomas Zentall who will serve until August 2001.

We ask that you submit your nominations by February 1, 1999. Please list up to three individuals on the enclosed ballot, in order of preference, for each of the positions. You may send the ballot by U.S. mail or by FAX, or you may send a list by e-mail. All nominations should be directed to Jim Grau (address appears on the ballot page of the newsletter). Once our nominations are received, a division slate will be generated and sent to the APA Elections Office. In turn, APA will send election ballots to all APA members who are members of Division 6. As in the past, we anticipate an enthusiastic response to our request for nominations. Look for the nominating ballot on the back cover of this newsletter and look for the APA Division 6 ballot in your mailbox sometime in April.

MARYLOU SAYS THANKS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Division 6 for presenting the Morgan award to me. I am very honored to be chosen by you for this award. Also, knowing the history of the award, I am even more honored. This is only the third time that the award has ever been given. Previously, it was presented to Herb Lansdell and then to Don Dewsbury, both long time active members of the division. To be in the company of these illustrious contributors to the division brings me great pride.

Also, the plaque is beautiful and I will cherish it always. Thank you for your kind support.

MaryLou Cheal
NOMINATION BALLOT

List your nominations for the offices of President-Elect and Member-at-Large in order of preference. See the APA Directory or visit our website (http://www.apa.org/divisions/div6) for a listing of Division 6 members.

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Mail, FAX, or e-mail your nominations to:
James W. Grau, Ph.D.
Department of Psychology
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843
FAX: 409 845-4727
e-mail: j-grau@tamu.edu

Nominations must be RECEIVED by February 1, 1999.

Fred J. Helmstetter, Editor BNCP
Department of Psychology
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
PO Box 413
Milwaukee, WI 53211

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED