MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

by David Riccio

Along with the honor of assuming the presidency of our Division, the expression “I’m a stranger here myself” comes to mind, since it is not clear that I am either a behavioral neuroscientist or a comparative psychologist. My state of intellectual limbo may explain the theme of this message—a modest plea that we retain some breadth in our training of graduate students.

There is no question about the abilities and technical sophistication of many of our younger colleagues. What is worrisome, however, is that we too often see little appreciation for a broader or historical context for their research—and sometimes that missing context even includes “behavior”. Have you not encountered apparently attractive, well published job candidates who are disappointingly unaware of basic phenomena (and I do mean basic, not the latest findings) in areas close to their own, to say nothing of more distant domains? Or prospective faculty, who at the mention of a prominent name, give a polite shrug indicating that they have no idea who the person is or what he/she has contributed. Perhaps it should not surprise us that becoming a member of APA (and Division 6) is a low priority for many.

Some of the problem may reflect the artificial structural divisions that, unfortunately, seem so common in our profession. For example, it seems dismaying that a graduate student in a first-rate Cognitive Science program would have no familiarity, let alone contact, with the world class investigators doing research on cognitive processes in human and nonhuman animals in the adjacent Psychology Department. Yet that is exactly the situation I happened to encounter recently.

Although I do not want to promote the view that we should be “jacks of all areas, masters of none”, I confess to thinking that there is merit in incorporating breadth into doctoral training. Perhaps my model for Ph.D. training is along the lines of the liberal arts degree—far more specialized and constrained, to be sure, but an education that...
Division Officers and Committees 2001-2002

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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 Stephen Fountain (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. Items should be sent to:

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Kent State University
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Phone: (330) 672-3826
e-mail: sfountain@kent.edu
FAX: (330) 672-3786

Welcome to New Officers

by James Grau

David Riccio is our new President. Many thanks to Herb Roitblat for his efforts over this last year and congratulations to our new President-Elect, Norman Spear.

As President-Elect, Spear has enlisted the assistance of Jeff Alberts (Awards), Mark Bouton (Fellows), Roger Thompson (Membership), and Mark Stanton (Program). Each will serve as Chair-Elect over the coming year. Current Chairs are Karen Hollis (Awards), James Brennan (Fellows), Nancy Dess (Membership), and Roger Mellgren (Program). Thanks to our past Chairs, Duane Rumbaugh, Alexandra Logue, Ruth Colwill, and Peter Balsam.

MaryLou Cheal will continue on as our Council Representative until December of 2002. We are currently seeking nominations to fill this position (see page NNN). Ralph Miller was elected to the Member-at-Large position held by Thomas Zentall who had served since 1998. William Timberlake will serve as our other Member-at-Large for two more years.

Jim Grau will continue to serve as Secretary/Treasurer and Donald Dewsbury as the Historian/Archivist. Fred Helmstetter will be ending his term as the editor of the Newsletter with this issue. Our new editor is Stephen Fountain who will also maintain the Division 6 website. Special thanks to Fred for keeping the Newsletter going, and building its content, over the last 3 years.
2001 AWARDS FOR DIVISION 6 OF THE APA

by Duane M. Rumbaugh, 
Awards Committee chair

The D. G. Marquis Behavioral Neuroscience Award was given to Eve DeRosa and Michael Hasselmo for their paper, “Muscarinic cholinergic neuromodulation reduces proactive interference between stored odor memories during associative learning in rats,” Behavioral Neuroscience, 114, 2000. The award is given each year to recognize the best paper published in that journal.

The F. A. Beach Comparative Psychology Award was given to Lisa Parr, James T. Winslow, William D. Hopkins, and Frans de Waal for their paper, “Recognizing facial cues: Individual discrimination by chimpanzees (Pan troglodytes) and rhesus monkeys (Macaca mulatta),” Journal of Comparative Psychology, 114, 2000, pp. 47-60. The award is given each year to recognize the best paper published in that journal.

The F. A. Beach Comparative Psychology Award was given to Kazuo Okanoya, Satoru Tsumaki, and Eri Honda for their paper, “Perception of temporal properties in self-generated songs by Bengalese Finches (Lonchura striata var. domestica),” Journal of Comparative Psychology, 114, 2000, pp. 239-245. The award is given each year to recognize the best paper published in that journal.

The C. T. Morgan Award for Distinguished Service for 2000 was given to J. Bruce Overmier (Department of Psychology, University of Minnesota). This award is given to recognize a member of Division 6 who has made sustained and exceptional contributions to the division.

The D. O Hebb Distinguished Scientific Contributions Award for 2000 was given to M. E. Bitterman (Bekesy Laboratory of Neurobiology, University of Hawaii). This award is given for outstanding work in the field of behavioral neuroscience or comparative psychology.
MESSAGE TO DIVISION 6 FROM YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TO THE COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES (COR)

by MaryLou Cheal.

During the past week, there have been many messages from the CEO of APA, APA President, Norine Johnson, and President-elect, Phil Zimbardo. I have forwarded some of these messages to our division list serve, because I wanted you to know that APA was making an effort to offer help where it could. Although most of these efforts are of a clinical nature and do not affect our division members directly, I still thought you may find comfort that our organization was doing something. I also want to add my concern for the welfare of each of you and your loved ones. Obviously, because of the proximity of APA headquarters (about two blocks from the White House), the many full time APA people were right in the thick of things. We just hope that each one of you is safe.

In regard to the summer meeting of COR, I want to strongly apologize for not being able to attend. You can believe that I would have much rather been there than being in the hospital at that time. Fortunately, my problem (severe dehydration and electrolytic imbalance) was not long lived, but was severe at the time. I was able to notify our Executive Committee, and Herb Roitblat substituted for me at the Sunday session. Don Dewsbury offered me his draft of his report to Division 26. This report, as edited by me, follows. My edit mainly consists of additions of which I have knowledge and changes specific to Division 6.

Meeting of the Council of Representatives
August 23 and 26, 2001

Written by Donald A. Dewsbury, Representative for Division 26 and edited by MaryLou Cheal, Representative for Division 6

The APA Council of Representatives was held at the Marriott Hotel in San Francisco. A primary topic of discussion was the new format for the annual convention. In brief, we will go from a 5- to a 4-day format (Thursday through Sunday). The program will be divided into segments allocated to featured speakers, cluster programming, and division programming. There will be no overlap of meetings between these groups. Division 6 will be in a cluster of several divisions (Divisions 1 (General), 3 (Experimental), 6, 7 (Developmental), 8 (Personality and Social), 15 (Educational) working together on science issues. There will be 12 clusters with concurrent programming. Furthermore, there will be a reduction of division program time, and the program chair will be given the actual number of hours. There will also be concurrent sessions within the allotted time for division programming. Council approved a process for the evaluation of the new format to be done jointly by Council and the Board of Convention Affairs and to take two years but to be started after the first year.

An effort is being made by the Coalition for Academic, Scientific, and Applied Psychology to involve more scientists and academics in APA governance. Those interested in serving in the governance structure should contact president, Dave Riccio (driccio@kent.edu) or past president, Herb Roitblat (roitblat@hawaii.edu). The list of Boards and Committees can be found in the August, 2001, Annual Report issue of the American Psychologist.

Among the items approved by the Council were a.) a policy allowing new divisions to be approved at both the winter and summer meetings b.) a new College Teacher Affiliate membership category, and c.) a revised wild-card apportionment of seats on Council that will ensure that all divisions and state associations are allocated at least one representative. All three are bylaw changes that will be voted on by the membership. The Council also passed a resolution opposing the death penalty and approved a policy to pay full expenses for members of ethnic minorities elected to the Council. It gave final approval to an increase of $7 in APA dues for next year with future increases to be linked to the Cost of Living Index. Dues provide only 17% of the APA’s annual budget. There was discussion of Board certification in professional psychology and of the recent controversy concerning The American Psychologist.
AWARDS COMMITTEE SEEKS NOMINATIONS

The Awards Committee of Division 6 seeks nominations for the three awards described below. By February 28, 2002, please submit the name and institutional affiliation of your nominee, plus a short (150-300-word) statement explaining why the nominee is deserving of the award. Send nominations preferably by email (khollis@mtholyoke.edu) or by post to:

Karen L. Hollis, Ph.D.
Chair, Division 6 Awards Committee
50 College Street
Department of Psychology
Mount Holyoke College
South Hadley, MA 01075-1462

The D.O. Hebb Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award honors a psychologist who has made distinguished theoretical or empirical contributions to basic research in behavioral neuroscience and/or comparative psychology. The recipient is expected to present the D.O. Hebb Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award Lecture at the APA Annual Convention.

The Clifford T. Morgan Distinguished Service to Division 6 Award recognizes members of Division 6 who have made sustained and exceptional contributions to the Division. Recipients of this award are expected to have made a prolonged contribution in terms of both scholarly content and service to the Division.

The Brenda A. Milner Award recognizes an outstanding paper in the field of behavioral neuroscience or comparative psychology, either published or in press, that is written by a member of Division 6 who is within five years of having received the Ph.D. at the time of the deadline for submission. Although the paper may be co-authored, the applicant should be the senior author and the paper must represent the original work of the applicant. The paper must be in press or must have been published within the last five years. (Please note: Nonmembers of the division may apply for membership at the time of nomination.)

NOMINATIONS SOUGHT: PRESIDENT-ELECT & COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

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 Council Representative. The new President-Elect will serve for three years, starting at the close of the 2002 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, Norman Spear, will assume the role of President after August 2002. The new Council Representative will serve for three years also, but on a slightly different schedule. The council terms now follow the calendar year. Our current Council Representative, MaryLou Cheal, will rotate off Council as of December 2002. Our new Council Representative will take office as of January 2003. Council Representatives attend two Council Meetings per year – February and August.

We ask that you submit your nominations by February 1, 2002. 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 James Grau (address appears on the last page). Once our nominations are received, a 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.

Continued from page 1

includes a sampling of the diverse aspects of our discipline. Every so often I am forced, kicking and screaming, to teach a section of General Psychology to the great unwashed hordes. Yet I must admit that the ordeal can be a salutary experience. Sometimes, not often but sometimes, I get to see relationships between my own interests and quite different areas of behavioral research. (A confession that I would not want to get back to my Chair!)

Are there exceptions to the insularity that I mention? Of course, and it is my good fortune to have some as colleagues. But they do seem to be exceptions, I fear.

Finally, I hope these comments will not be taken as the carping of an aging psychologist towards a new generation of behavioral investigators. My remarks are offered in the spirit of constructive criticism toward achieving collegiality and communication both within and among our APA divisions.
APA 2001
Division 6 Photo Highlights
**BYLAWS BALLOT**  Please vote on the proposed change to the Division 6 bylaws. Information on this change is provided on page 3. Add the editors of Behavioral Neuroscience and Journal of Comparative Psychology to the Executive Committee as voting members.

___ yes, ___ no, ___ abstain

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**NOMINATION BALLOT**

List your nominations for the offices of President-Elect and Council Representative 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 77843-4235
FAX: 979 845-4727
e-mail: j-grau@tamu.edu

Nominations must be RECEIVED by February 1, 2002.