THE PRESIDENT’S COLUMN

MARY BETH MORRISSEY, PRESIDENT

As we head into the Thanksgiving season, I extend my very best wishes to all our division members and your families and friends, as well as all our allies across other divisions and diverse communities! It’s hard to believe that it’s already three months since Convention 2018, and time for our fall newsletter!

Permit me at the outset to thank our immediate past president Alan Tjeltveit for his generous support in facilitating a seamless transition to our new leadership group. I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to work with each of you, and mindful every day of the solidarity we share and enjoy in the division in the smallest of our tasks.

This fall 2018 newsletter issue features vignettes from San Francisco, as well as brief updates from many of our leadership teams, including Midwinter Meeting 2019 and Convention 2019. Our Special Interest Groups have also been extremely busy, as you will read about! The Critical Theories and Social Practices Interest Group has hosted two zoom meetings of its Women’s Initiative. Our thanks to Lisa Cosgrove and Akansha Vaswani for their early fall presentation, *Beware the global mental health movement: Why routine depression screening is bad for women's rights and health.* A few things of note that I do wish to highlight that you may have missed. In light of the division’s diversity of awards, Gary Brill has very generously agreed to chair a slightly re-organized awards process this year to help facilitate a seamless process. In that context, we are delighted that Mary Watkins has agreed to deliver a keynote in Nashville and to accept the division’s Award for Distinguished Theoretical and Philosophical Contributions to Psychology. Mary’s contributions to liberation psychology unquestionably merit the division’s highest recognition and regard.

Mary will be joined at the MWM by Bruce Jennings who is a member of the division and co-edited (along with Mary Beth) a special issue of the JTPP in 2016 on health care. Bruce brings a deep background in public health and ethics to our dialogues, and will strengthen our interprofessional and transdisciplinary focus.

There is one special new project we are embarking upon that I draw your attention to, and that is the ambitious undertaking of documenting oral histories of our leaders in the division. It is important that we have taken time in this newsletter to remember our distinguished colleague Dan Robinson. In that spirit, we hope to begin building a highly participatory process for strengthening our division history through the employment of oral history methods. We welcome all who wish to be a part of these herculean but exciting efforts!
On more mundane notes, please hold the Thursday evening (February 28, 2019) before the MWM in Nashville for a meeting of the Executive Committee. Scott Churchill and I will be presenting proposed revisions to the bylaws at that meeting. We will circulate them in advance of the meeting. We encourage you to register for the MWM and make your reservations as early as possible so we may assure a comfortable environment for our scholarly dialogues!

Our very special thanks to Amy Fisher Smith for her work in putting this issue together. An exciting new feature we bring you in this issue is photo-journalistic narratives of your summer and fall sojourns – Erin’s family camping trip, Lisa Cosgrove’s students’ visits to wine country, Brent’s and Jack’s new homes, and Mark’s daughter Brenna’s nuptials!! I have taken the liberty of sharing pictures of myself too with gerontologist Carole Cox from the State Society on Aging of New York conference where I received the presidential award, and with several other esteemed colleagues – at least one of whom you will recognize – at a recent event to help support the missionary work of the Sparkill Dominican Sisters. My friend and colleague Joe Fins, MD, who is a renowned clinical ethicist, spoke at that event about the relationship of theorizing to pragmatism. This is a theme that is embedded in our immigrant and refugee advocacy project and other social justice work, and one I look forward to discussing in more depth at our division programs in the upcoming months.

I look forward to speaking with many of you during the year-end budget call (December 14th at Noon EST), and hopefully seeing you in person in Nashville!!

Best wishes for peace, health and bushels of joy this holiday season!

In solidarity,
Mary Beth

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Program Chairs Report:
2018 APA Convention

By Justin M. Karter and Lisa Cosgrove

We were both honored to serve as program chairs for the Society for Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology at the 2018 APA Convention in San Francisco (Aug. 9-12, 2018). The convention program featured Alan Tjeltveit’s presidential address, Jill Morawski’s award presentation, and an invited talk by philosopher Louise Antony.

On Friday, philosopher Louise Antony presented her invited talk, “What is Naturalized Epistemology? Continuity versus Reduction.” Antony, an American philosopher who is currently professor of philosophy at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, presented “a naturalized approach to the study of knowledge takes the existence of human knowledge as a datum, and looks to both science and philosophy to explain how it is that we are capable of knowing what we know, in the circumstances in which we know it.” Following her presentation, Antony led a discussion hour on the role of women in philosophy and psychology in the suite.

At the business meeting on Saturday, Jill Morawski (a past president of Division 24 and Division 26) was honored with the Division 24 Award for Distinguished Theoretical and Philosophical Contributions to Psychology. In receiving her award, Morawski, a social psychologist whose research focuses on gender issues, the psychology of women, the psychological dimensions of
reproductive technologies, and the history of psychology, presented a talk, "Chasing Psychology’s Objects: The Quest for Ontological Certainty.” Following her presentation, Division 24 president, Alan Tjeltveit, delivered his presidential address, "Professional ethics needs theoretical and philosophical psychology, and vice versa." His talk focused on the ways in which professional ethics and theoretical and philosophical psychology can engage one another to mutual benefit.

Finally, on Saturday night, Division 24 hosted Division 27 (Society for Community Research and Action) for a social in the suite with food and drinks. The leadership of each division welcomed members and encouraged the development of future cross-division collaboration.

In keeping with the Division’s commitment to outreach and support of early career professionals and students, a graduate student lunch was hosted in the division suite on Friday afternoon. Students came together to get to know one another and discuss the topic of “Medical Neoliberalism and Contemporary Mental Health Research and Practice.” The conversation, facilitated by Lisa Cosgrove, provided a time for students to build solidarity with one another through conversation and a discussion of the role that a critique of neoliberalism might play in their work and lives.

Additionally, the critical theories and social practices initiated the Women and Diversity initiative at the conference. Cacky Mellor and Robyn Long led this effort in keeping with shared goals about inclusion. While all new membership is encouraged, the title of the initiative reflects an intentional hospitality toward and invitations to new members who are visible minorities, members of marginalized groups, persons who self-identify as not fully enabled, and/or women.

Midwinter Meeting

This year's Midwinter Meeting will be held on March 1-3, 2019 in Nashville, Tennessee: otherwise known as "Music City" and now for a brief time, home of theoretical and philosophical psychology! Our venue, Holiday Inn Nashville-Vanderbilt, has a terrific central location adjacent to Vanderbilt University and close to many local attractions.

This year's conference will have an explicit social justice focus, with an collaborative and interdisciplinary emphasis. The official presidential theme, "What is Social Justice?," may be interpreted broadly and flexibly. You can find the
official call for proposals along with registration and submission information here, or visit our website. The deadline for all submissions is November 1.

In keeping with this theme, we are excited to announce our two keynote speakers: Mary Watkins and Bruce Jennings. Mary, currently chair of the Depth Psychology program at Pacifica Graduate Institute, is a lifelong activist and major pioneer in the Liberation Psychology, Community Psychology and Eco-Psychology movements (website). Bruce, who is Senior Fellow at the Center for Humans and Nature and faculty at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, works at the intersection of bioethics, public health and public policy (website).

Finally, take note that the conference hotel is offering the reduced rate of $169/night for attendees. The number of rooms available is currently only 35, so we strongly recommend booking your room early to ensure that you are able to take advantage of this offer. There will also be single-day and onsite registration available for those unable to register early or attend the entire conference. These day rates make it easier for local residents to attend, so by all means alert friends and family in the Nashville area.

Please join us in March for what promises to be a wonderful event!

Midwinter Program Committee:
Erin Thrift, Gary Brill, Cacky Mellor, Michael Arfken, Chris Schuck, Bruce Jennings

By Joe Ostenson & Tasneem Mandviwala

The APA Annual Convention will take place August 8-11, 2019 in Chicago, Illinois. Collaborative proposals are currently under review and APA is now accepting proposals for divisional programming through December 3. Proposals that focus on this year's presidential theme, 'What is social justice?' are especially encouraged. Any questions concerning this year's convention should be directed to Joseph Ostenson 9jostenso@utm.edu or Tasneem Mandviwala (tasneem@uchicago.edu).

Division 24 Shared Calendar

https://calendar.google.com/calendar?cid=dDUycXJtZGhobWRia2kwYmlrNJQwaHE4Z2dAZ3JvdxXuY2FsZW5kYXJuZ29vZ2xILmNvbQ
In Memory of Daniel N. Robinson

The following summary of accomplishments is adapted from a letter of nomination submitted to the American Psychological Foundation on Dan's behalf for the 2011 Gittler Award, with permission from its authors. The award is given for "the most scholarly contribution to the philosophical foundations of psychology."

Dan Robinson was an accomplished psychologist with a substantial contribution to the neuropsychology of vision (which itself plays no minor role in contemporary philosophy of psychology), when in his mid-career he formally added philosophy to his intellectual accomplishments. For the last two decades of his life he taught that subject at one of the most prestigious philosophy faculties in the world, Oxford University.

Professor Robinson inspired and encouraged countless young (and not so young) people to delve into the deep waters of the philosophy of psychology in particular and the intellectual foundations of psychology in general. His work in the philosophical foundations of psychological knowledge spanned his entire career. At the end of his life he was still going remarkably strong. His 18 authored books (not counting revisions, translations, etc.) include not only such scientifically oriented volumes as *The Enlightened Machine: An Analytical Introduction to Neuropsychology*, but also such highly praised volumes as *An Intellectual History of Psychology* (Macmillan, 1976); *Systems of Modern Psychology* (Toward a Science of Human Nature: Essays on the Psychologies of Hegel, Mill, Wundt, and James* (Columbia University Press, 1982); *Philosophy of Psychology* (Columbia University Press, 1985); *Aristotle’s Psychology* (Columbia University Press, 1989); and *Wild Beasts and Idle Humours: The Insanity Defense from Antiquity to the Present* (Harvard University Press, 1996); *Praise and Blame: Moral Realism and Its Applications* (Princeton University Press, 2002) and *Consciousness and Mental Life* (Columbia University Press, 2008); “How Is Nature Possible? The Project of Kant’s First Critique” (Continuum, 2012). Edited works include the important 28-volume *Significant Contributions to the History of Psychology* (University Publications of America, 1977), and *Scientism: the New Orthodoxy*, with Richard Williams (Bloomsbury, 2012). In addition to his widely respected books, he published numerous articles and chapters, book reviews and encyclopedia entries. These appeared in such distinguished publications as *Science* (three times) as well as such distinguished philosophical mainstays as the *Review of Metaphysics, Philosophy*, and *The Monist*. Indeed, Professor Robinson is the only person we know who has published in both the top scientific journals of his field as well as the top philosophical journals of his most penetrating and prolific works in the philosophy of psychology.

Professor Robinson’s excellence transcended that of a distinguished scholar: he practiced a second skill, namely, that of the master teacher, one who upheld the Ancient Greek dictum that human life in all of its manifestations has need of harmony and hence education, which is not only a task for the intellect but also for the aesthetic sense, broadly conceived. Having spent the better part of a career teaching at Georgetown University, in 1990 he began teaching at Oxford and was eventually named a member of the Philosophy Faculty as a Faculty Fellow, a rare honor for a psychologist! In 2003 Professor Robinson was also elected as a Member
of Congregation, a numerically limited body that votes on matters of academic concern to the University. Hence, over his ongoing career Professor Robinson has contributed broadly to the education of students—both undergraduate and graduate—at numerous institutions in America and beyond.

Recognized for his exceptional skill in teaching, he was approached by the Teaching Company to produce a series of recordings for them, which have subsequently become best sellers. Of the thousands of professors vetted by this company, very few make it to the point of getting on the record. Professor Robinson not only produced a highly influential series of DVDs and CDs on the “Great Ideas of Psychology” (48 lectures) but he subsequently also produced a series on the “Great Ideas of Philosophy” (60 lectures) and another on the making of the American Constitution (“American Ideals: Founding a ‘Republic of Virtue’” – 12 lectures). In addition, Professor Robinson was a consultant on the PBS series “The Brain” (1978-1984) and “The Mind” (1984-1988). His consultation was not limited to that of a general consultant for what were, at the time, extremely popular series. These series included his considerable on-camera segments that were highly informative yet accessible to the point of being capable of appreciation by an audience with varied educational backgrounds and ages. In this way, he has educated and inspired millions beyond the academy, an accomplishment that requires a mind that is itself nothing short of brilliantly knowledgeable.

In addition to the Gittler Award, Professor Robinson was honored in many ways, including the Lifetime Achievement Award from Division 26 (Society for the History of Psychology) and the Distinguished Contribution Award from Division 24 (Society for Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology) of the APA. In 2009 he also was awarded the President’s Distinguished Alumni Award from the Graduate Center of The City University of New York. He was also a Fellow of the Wheatley Institute. Professor Robinson has continued to submit—indeed insist—that the discipline of psychology is not only worthy of our best efforts but that it also has a foundation that contains well-wrought echoes of the greatest philosophical thinking and thinkers of our Western traditions.

This summary of accomplishments and accolades serves to honor Professor Robinson in a formal way, yet cannot capture the inimitable personhood. Therefore we include here a few more personal reflections on the part of some of us who were honored to know him well.

**Some Words of Tribute to Dan Robinson**

**Some observations about Dan as an educator**

Fittingly, much attention has been given here to Dan Robinson’s scholarly accomplishments. It is truly staggering to ponder at once the breadth, depth, and volume of his writings. Yet, viewed in just that context, his devotion to teaching is all the more remarkable.

At the undergraduate level, his course offerings were regularly enrolled to capacity despite his reputation as a demanding grader. No doubt this was due in large measure to his engaging style as a lecturer and his talent for making flowing classroom presentations without lecture notes or other pedagogical aids.

Dan’s enthusiasm for and dedication to undergraduate teaching was further reflected in his refusal to accept a one course reduction in his teaching obligations during any of the many academic years when he served as Chair of the Psychology Department. Instead, he insisted upon teaching a full complement of two courses per semester, convinced that by not doing so he would be disserving students. (This conviction did not incline him to insist that other Department Chairs likewise continue to teach two courses during their respective terms in office.)

At the graduate level, Dan’s love of teaching was vividly reflected in the innovative Ph.D. program he installed beginning in the fall, 1981
semester. The program was conducted on the tutorial model of instruction long practiced at the world-class universities of Oxford and Cambridge in the U.K., and was designed to lead to a Ph.D. in General Psychology. With the exception of some coursework in statistical methods, all instruction took place within the context of one-on-one meetings (typically semi-weekly) of professor and student. Readings would be assigned in advance of a given meeting, and at that meeting the instructing professor would listen as the student presented a draft of a paper reviewing and commenting critically on the readings. Discussion between student and professor would typically ensue, with each meeting lasting approximately 90 to 120 minutes. At the conclusion of the meeting, the reading assignment for the next meeting would be made.

All teaching in the graduate program that Dan designed took place in addition to, and not instead of, each faculty member’s regular two-course undergraduate teaching assignment. Obviously, this created considerable extra teaching responsibilities for the faculty, but the willingness of Dan’s colleagues to accept those responsibilities was a testimony to Dan’s infectious enthusiasm and persuasiveness, and the result was a Ph.D. program that was effective in educating the students broadly in the field of psychology and not merely training them to conduct research in some narrow sub-specialty within the field. To Dan, intellectual narrowness was anathema, specialty expertise and technical sophistication notwithstanding.

According to the arrangement under which the Ph.D. program just described could be launched, it was obligated to function without any financial support from the Georgetown University Graduate School. However, despite ample evidence of the program’s success over the first decade of its existence, that arrangement was never altered, and it eventually proved practically unsustainable, its intellectual richness notwithstanding. In 1994, the program ceased admitting new students, and Dan Robinson decided to leave Georgetown in favor of spending more of his academic life at Oxford University. Eventually, the Psychology Department’s original Ph.D. program in General Psychology was replaced by a more conventional Ph.D. program in Developmental Science that was launched in 2003.

**Some personal observations**

Dan Robinson was an enormously consequential figure in my own professional life, and I shall ever be grateful that we were colleagues. Very early in my post-Ph.D. career, when I was a young, untenured assistant professor at the University of Illinois, I began to see what I regarded as certain deep conceptual problems in the way that psychologists were using aggregate (population level) statistical methods in their research. I stopped the empirical work that I was doing at the time (which entailed the use of those very methods), and turned my efforts toward conceptual work intended to bring to light the problems that I saw. That led to the publication of an article in the March, 1981 issue of the *American Psychologist*. A senior and very influential member of my departmental offered to me his perfunctory congratulations on the publication, following up with the remark “but the work is merely theoretical.” By “theoretical” he meant ‘conceptual,’ and the way he said ‘merely’ made his point clear: conceptual (as opposed to empirical) work was of little if any real value. The following year, a letter over the signature of that same department member informed me that my scholarship was “not of sufficient quality” to warrant promotion and tenure.

To my great good fortune, an opening for an assistant professor in the psychology department at Georgetown became available at just that time, and although Dan was not then the Department Chair, it was, as I would come to find out, largely due to Dan’s advocacy and influence that I was hired into the position. Moreover, and thanks further to Dan’s advocacy and influence, an intellectual atmosphere fully hospitable to the conceptual work that I was doing prevailed at Georgetown, enabling me to continue in the scholarly direction that I thought I needed to go. In short, I was able to flourish there, and it is quite possible that it was only in a department so heavily influenced by Dan where I could have flourished.

Following Dan’s departure from Georgetown in the mid-1990s, I had little contact
with him. In August of 2015, however, I participated with him in a symposium held at the APA convention in Toronto. He and I agreed to meet for breakfast one morning, and although we had not corresponded for several years, the conversation flowed from the very first minute. Indeed, we sat at the table for a full hour before even walking over to the buffet! Through alternating hearty laughter and furrow-browed seriousness, just as ever, we continued almost breathlessly for another hour, and I was able to experience once again something of the intellectual richness and personal vibrancy that was Dan Robinson.

-James T. Lamiell

Reflections

Although I had known of Dan’s work since graduate school when I was first introduced to his impressive An Intellectual History of Psychology, I did not meet him until he asked me to present an Invited Address to Division 24’s annual meeting in Boston in 1990. Dan was President of the Division and had created a diverse program. But I was unprepared for the honor, particularly since Dan was such a major figure in both historical and philosophical circles. On the occasion of the address I gave some general remarks on psychological theory and traced some of our then problems to, among others, work by Sigmund Koch. Little did I know that Koch was in the audience and that he was a good friend of Dan’s. Along with Francine, Dan, Sigmund Koch and I had an interesting and productive gathering afterward. To watch Dan and Sig engage in verbal sparring was a rather intimidating experience.

Dan had invited me because I had just founded the journal Theory & Psychology and of course he would be a natural board member as one of psychology’s most profound intellects. Dan had just begun his annual lectures at Oxford, so I had assumed he would be a kind of figurehead on the editorial board not unlike some other senior scholars, but I had not yet met Dan. How pleasant to discover instead that his would be an active role and his willingness to assist with all manner of issues was an inspiration. He was not only an indefatigable reviewer but also a strong contributor – over the span of a quarter of a century we published 17 articles, commentaries and book reviews authored by him. He took reviews of his articles and requests for revisions in stride but frankly there was little for him to revise. His arguments were clear and these positioned him among our foremost authors. And more important, he sent other authors our way, especially in the early years. These could be students to senior scholars but they were always serious scholars. He helped the journal grow into the kind of generalist, but thoughtful publication it is today. In 1990 he was clear in what he thought the field needed, not another publication that chased after citations and large numbers of submissions but a small journal for those who would reflect on the enduring problems of a discipline. I don’t know if we lived up to this, but he was always there to lend a hand, generous with his time and his criticism as well as open about his views. One knew where one stood with Dan and I am grateful for his mentorship, but above all, his friendship.

In the course of time he visited the University of Calgary on several occasions and it was a pleasure to see him joust with our philosophers. In 2010 the Department of Psychology invited him to present our Annual Distinguished Lecture in Psychology. Of course he agreed, responding with “I am utterly ‘chuffed’ and will try not to disappoint.” He certainly didn’t disappoint even if some of the members of my own department did not grasp what his lecture on consciousness might indicate for their own work. I imagine this was Dan’s fate, not to be understood in a discipline that was moving in directions that he saw as unhelpful and driven by fads. However, he presented us with an alternative vision of a discipline that might yet be, and for that we can all be grateful.

-Henderikus Stam
I have had the privilege of calling Daniel Robinson a friend and mentor for more than 30 years. It has been a singular privilege and a blessing. No one has had a greater influence on my intellectual life and my moral sensibility. He was endowed with a keen and creative intellect. This was coupled with a great capacity for work, and an unwavering commitment to truth, good and beauty, and an unflinching moral courage. In this as in so many other things, Dan was man for the ages. His own time was not enough for him – it could not contain him. Just as no intellectual discipline was enough for him. He transcended time and topic, and lived in history – among friends and interlocutors in every age. He taught me, more than anyone else has, the importance of knowing and caring about “the best things thought and written.” He taught me to be intellectually and morally serious. I learned from him also that true greatness is not given to vanity, but inclines to charity. With his passing, our nation and our culture loses one of the great minds of our time.

Perhaps more than anything Dan was a teacher – he could not help himself. He could not do otherwise. To me, he extended charity and trust far beyond what I ever deserved. He saw something in me that I did not see in myself, and he drew it out of me. I saw him do this for so many others. On a more personal level, Dan taught me, and extended to me, the highest form of friendship – grounded in desiring only the good of the other, for the other’s own sake. I can now aspire to a form of friendship that I would never have known without Dan. It is this loss, the loss of a friend, I feel most keenly. But it is only for a while.

-Richard Williams

Dan’s passing left me with heavy sadness and with gratitude beyond what I am capable of expressing. He was my graduate mentor and much more than this, and I can only hint at his significance by adding some thematic content to my colorful experience.

Possibility: My first encounter with Dan was in a library, when, during a casual browse of the psychology section, the title Philosophy of Psychology startled and instantly engrossed me. I soon after discovered An Intellectual History of Psychology, and made an almost immediate decision to apply to study with him. Dan was for me an entry into a new world of intellectual engagement and possibility - a rupture and a new direction, where suddenly “the weather suits my clothes.”

Hope: My second encounter, this time with the person, was no less affecting and consequential. On paper Dan is elegant, refined, a trifle restrained, dwelling in remote centuries. In person he was theatric, warm, and utterly present. A commanding figure in a black cape, he radiated kindness as I stood trembling in wait of my interview. He assuaged my self-doubt with his expansive assurance, giving me hope for a meaningful future - that I could participate in “the long debate,” and perhaps even organize a life around it.

Encouragement: My time of study with Dan worked wonders for my confidence and sense of my own potential. Dan consistently challenged me but believed in me, held me to high standards not only of production but of practice, and treated me collegially before I had earned the honor. He pushed me to do more than I would have ever thought possible – present papers at APA, submit manuscripts for publication in heady journals, tackle topics of perennial heft and significance. I never found him condescending, only desirous to empower me. Dan liked to refer to himself as “an old-fashioned gentleman,” but he had thoroughly modern ambitions for his female students. I never felt that “gender” was among Dan’s central constructs. Rather, he seemed to divide the world between those who concern themselves with fundamental questions and those who do not. I was fortunate that he included me in the former category, and that was enough for us both.

Inspiration: Dan was unfailingly extraordinary as a teacher, formally at the podium and informally over coffee. He possessed a near-photographic memory,
enabling him to recite long passages from Homer and Aristotle, to convey the results of psychophysics experiments in precise detail, and to explicate with eloquence the real and lasting significance of ideas others dismissed as out of fashion. He was outrageous, unpredictable, and extremely funny. I readily admit that I idealize Dan, but I do so in view of his full humanity. His own great gifts and strong convictions sometimes made it challenging for him to maintain patience, even peace with other psychologists. He would sigh when slogans substituted for scholarship, berate the privileging of method over question, and bemoan the narrowness and conceptual inadequacies of much graduate education. He railed against the growing menace in academic life of big grant culture, which he saw as a threat both to speculative thought and to classroom engagement. All of this made him intimidating at best and at worst irascible, but for those he considered to be earnest seekers he extended extraordinary generosity.

Identity: Dan modeled the life of the mind and much beyond it. Relationships for Dan were aspirational and encompassed the moral dimension as much as affiliation and companionship. I can remember very few conversations in which he did not reference his beloved bride Francine (“Ciny,” or “The Kid”), and in their interactions, they demonstrated a level of affection and mutual edification unmatched in my experience. Dan was fond of reminding others that Odysseus self-identified not only as King of Ithica but “Husband of Penelope,” revealing, of course, the enduring relational structure of Dan’s own identity. “Student of Dan Robinson” remains essential to mine.

-Lisa Osbeck

Critical Theories and Social Practices Special Interest Group

By Michael Arfken, PhD
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Critical Theories and Social Practices (CTSP) is a Special Interest Group (SIG) composed of Division 24 members who are interested in exploring the relationship between critical theories and social practices. We use a number of critical approaches to inform our scholarly and professional work. While our work focuses on a variety of topics, we share an interest in questions of power, resistance, equity, community, social justice, and diversity as it relates to psychological theorizing, research, and professional practice. Interdisciplinary inquiry is strongly supported and encouraged. This year we’ve had an opportunity to sponsor/co-sponsor a number of projects including the Women & Diversity Initiative paper series and the Pathologies of Capitalism gathering at CUNY Graduate Center this fall. It was a great pleasure the have Tod Sloan speak to the SIG about integrating theory and practice into more robust forms of activism and we are looking forward to Fred Wertz updating our group on the structural reorganization of APA. CTSP is also co-sponsoring an event at the MWM in Nashville that seeks to integrate theory and practice in the struggle for social justice. To that end, we’ve invited scholar-activists in the Nashville area to participate in what should be a memorable event.

We’re also happy to announce that several of our past and present SIG coordinators (Michael Arfken, Mary Beth Morrissey, and Thomas Teo) are editing a new book series on Critical Psychology (Springer) and look forward to the involvement of members of the SIG and Division in this exciting endeavor. For more information about our group, please visit our website (https://ctspdiv24.wordpress.com/). If you are interested in joining the group, please feel free to contact any of the coordinators through the website.
From clockwise: Napa Valley; Lisa Cosgrove’s students and friends enjoying wine country: Justin Karter, Zenobia Morrill, Sadie Cathcart, Courtney Hess, and Bediha Ipecki; Long time Division member Mark Freeman with his wife and daughter, Brenna, who was recently married in Sturbridge, MA; Veritas Award conferred upon Mary Beth Morrissey by Dominican Sisters of Sparkill, pictured with Dean John Feerick (Fordham Law), Dr. Christopher Comfort (Calvary Hospital), Dr. Fred Wertz (Fordham College), and Dr. Joseph Fins (Weil Cornell Medical College); Long time Division member Jack Martin celebrating Halloween in his new home in Delta, British Columbia; Long time Division member Brent Slife’s beautiful view from his new home in St. George, Utah; Division member Erin Thrift’s family on a 4-day backpacking trip in Big Basin Redwoods State Park.
The Society for Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology, Division 24 of the American Psychological Association (APA), has opened nominations for the editorship of the Journal of Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology. Brent D. Slife, PhD, is the incumbent editor.

The successful candidate is expected to join APA and Division 24 if not already a member. The successful candidate should also be available to start receiving manuscripts in early 2020 to prepare for issues published in 2021. Please note that APA encourages participation by members of underrepresented groups in the publication process and would particularly welcome such nominees. Self-nominations are also encouraged. Although not limited to the following, the committee is also interested in a candidate’s:

- Knowledge of theoretical and philosophical psychology and its application in its full breadth.
- Record of significant contributions to the literature of theoretical and philosophical psychology.
- Openness to a range of diverse orientations and a commitment to the exploration of psychological knowledge in international contexts.
- Ability to work with teams of authors to develop innovative special issues/sections of the journal devoted to important theoretical issues in psychology.
- Communication skills and management experience.

The chair of the search committee is Stephen C. Yanchar, PhD. Candidates can be nominated through APA’s EditorSearch website or by emailing Sarah Wiederkehr (Associate Publisher) at: swiederkehr@apa.org. Prepared statements of one page or less in support of a nominee can also be submitted by email to Sarah.

Deadline for accepting nominations is Monday, January 7, 2019, when reviews will begin.

About the Journal

The Journal of Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology® is devoted to fostering discussion at the interface of psychology, philosophy, and metatheory. The journal addresses ontological, epistemological, ethical, and critical issues in psychological theory and inquiry as well as the implications of psychological theory and inquiry for philosophical issues and practice in both research and applied settings.

In keeping with the journal's interdisciplinary mission, both psychology and philosophy are construed broadly to encompass a diversity of forms of inquiry such as conceptual, speculative, theoretical, empirical, clinical, historical, literary, and cultural research.

The Journal of Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology encourages and facilitates the informed, innovative, and critical exploration and discussion of psychological ideas and practices in both their scientific and philosophical dimensions and interrelationships.

For More Information

Visit the Society for Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology homepage for more information.