Q&A with Division 3 President David Washburn, About the Proposed Name Change
David Alan Washburn, PhD
Georgia State University

Why change the name of the division? As I detailed in the last D3 Newsletter (Experimental Psychology Bulletin), our division is in crisis. On the positive side, our ranks include many loyal members who are distinguished senior scholars with years of service to the discipline. On the negative side, our division is rapidly shrinking as our membership is aging, with most of our division already near or in retirement—and many enjoying the well-earned reward of lifetime-member status, in which dues payments are no longer required (although voluntary contributions to support the division are still welcome!). Few early career experimental psychologists are joining our group, or indeed APA more broadly. Your Executive Committee has been working very hard and very creatively in recent years, but without much effect on this trend. Division 3 is literally dying out. Although a name change alone will not solve this problem, I believe that it is an important step toward making our division more viable and attractive—to APA members, but particularly to experimental psychologists who have made the decision, for whatever reason, NOT to join APA. They could (and I think they will) join the Society for Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science—whether or not they join APA.

Can’t psychologists join Division 3 already without joining APA? Yes they can, although not many people do affiliate with D3 without joining APA. An experimental psychologist who has decided, at least for now, not to pay APA annual dues seems much more likely to invest time and limited professional-association funds to identify with an organization called the “Society for Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science” than the “Division of Experimental Psychology.” The word “division” is just all wrong! It identifies us as a part of a larger organization (the APA, which we recognize as a good thing, but to anyone who doesn’t want to join APA it might be a negative). But “division” also implies differences, disunity, fractionation, and boundaries. We are, in
Q&A ABOUT THE PROPOSED NAME CHANGE (CONTINUED)

fact, a society of scholars, bound together by common interests, activities, and purpose. Psychologists who think of themselves as experimental, cognitive, and similar specializations will perceive the Society for Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science as a professional home where they belong.

Shouldn’t we remain a division of the APA? The beauty of the proposed name change is that we will still BE a division of the APA (Division 3, in fact) whether or not we have “division” as part of our name. The Society for Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science will continue to be APA Division 3. We will continue to participate in APA governance, advocacy, and other activities. Nothing about our role in APA will change when our name changes. This is true for all the APA divisions that have already changed names—while remaining active and influential as divisions of the parent organization. Indeed, what I hear about the Society for General Psychology (D1), Society for the Teaching of Psychology (D2), Society for Personality and Social Psychology (D8), Society of Clinical Psychology (D12), Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (D14), Society for the History of Psychology (D26), Society for the Psychology of Religion and Spirituality (D36), and the other divisions that have adopted “Society…” names (over 60% of the current divisions!) is that their roles in APA are increased, if changed at all, with the new name, because the rebranded divisions have experienced subsequent growth in members and resources.

Why this particular name? We are proud to be called the Division of Experimental Psychology. It is a name with great history, with which we all sufficiently identified to join the division in the first place. The EC debated many alternatives, but wanted to keep “experimental psychology” in our name to preserve this tradition. However the “Society of Experimental Psychologists” is not available to us as an alternative: Titchener snuck in and snagged that name more than eleven decades ago! There is currently no APA division with “cognitive” in its name, and “cognitive psychology” is the second most common way that members of our division identify themselves (after “experimental psychology”). But “Society for Experimental and Cognitive Psychology” would be redundant: Cognitive psychology is a subset of experimental psychology, whereas “cognitive science” includes broader, interdisciplinary perspectives. So the Society for Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science seemed a natural alternative, and was in fact the most highly preferred alternative in the straw-poll we launched in the previous newsletter.

If the name change passes, what next? Once the name change is approved by D3 members, it must be approved by APA—which should not be controversial. Then, our rebranded division will engage in an aggressive marketing and recruiting campaign designed to attract scholars who identify as experimental psychologists or cognitive scientists to join, either by affiliating directly with the division or by joining the APA. Your EC will also consider other actions that might serve to build the Society for Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science. Many APA divisions with “Society…” names have mid-year meetings or program for other conferences (e.g., Society for Teaching of Psychology is very active at APS), and our professional society might benefit from similar activity—which could, for instance, make it easier and less costly to attend meetings of our Society, compared to attending the full APA convention.

In short, look for the arrival of your electronic ballot, cast your vote in favor of the name change, and get ready to see D3 grow! I look forward to a brighter future for the division under a banner that better describes who we are, what we are for, and why our colleagues should join.

If you have additional questions or concerns about the proposed name change, email dwashburn@gsu.edu. The name-change ballot will appear in your email box in a few days.

COLLABORATION CORNER
Where you can reach out to other researchers — with questions, suggestions, works in progress —

Email your posting to shaleigh@sas.upenn.edu
What Happened at Council?

Division 3 Report

Shortly following each Council of Representatives meeting, Rhea Farberman, Monitor executive editor, publishes a comprehensive summary of the meeting. You can read her full report here: http://apa.org/monitor/2015/04/upfront-advancing.aspx. But we thought you might like to hear our “Division 3 take” on what happened at Council. If so, read on.

Let us first note the big news for our division. It was announced that long-time director of the Science Directorate, Dr. Steve Breckler, had resigned and was moving to new opportunities. Steve had given strong guidance to the Science Directorate for a decade. Dr. Howard Kurtzman, formerly a program director at NIH, and deputy executive director under Steve Breckler since 2007, will serve as acting director during the search for a permanent replacement. In the meantime, the opening of a search for a new Executive Director for Science was announced. The 15-19 members of the Science Directorate staff are experienced and will continue to work for our science within APA and in the Halls of Congress, as they have been doing. This work is especially important given the deteriorating climate for social and behavioral sciences in Congress where we are seen as outside of the core missions for basic research.

One item of general interest to us – especially those who publish in highly specialized journals that receive fewer citations than more broadly focused journals – was the endorsement of the 2012 San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA). Among other things, DORA recommends against reliance on journal-impact factors as measures either of the quality of individual research articles or of an individual scientist’s contributions. APA was one of the last major organizations to take this action, and it would have been deferred this time if Division 3 had not made a plea to Council to add just this one more item to the agenda. The action was in fact non-controversial and passed with nearly 100% affirmative votes. But the opportunity to speak up in this way is why we at Division 3 have to be represented at Council.

Also of importance to us, Council spent more than a third of its time focused on the mega-issue of translating science into public policy. Break-out sessions discussed and ranked approaches within advocacy, education for the public, and translational research. Council also received presentations on advice in trying to translate science into policy. (cont. on next page)
COUNCIL OF REPRESENTATIVES REPORT (CONTINUED)

The advice included: (quoted from Rhea Farberman):

- Speak from the science; don’t roam from the data.
- Personalize and humanize the issue. Tell the “story” of how a certain policy initiative can help people or solve a problem.
- Engage all stakeholders.
- Find allies, including reaching beyond psychology.
- Disseminate your findings in accessible language and formats.

Recognizing the need for APA to be more conscious of its younger members’ needs, Council also approved changes in the association rules that will put an Early Career Psychologist (i.e., an individual within ten years of receiving the doctoral degree) on nearly every board and committee. A related change was made for a high school or community college teacher of psychology to be added to the Board of Educational Affairs.

Of importance to the practice side, APA has entered into agreements with other health professional organizations to place more emphasis on demonstrated “competence” in practice in addition to demonstrated knowledge base. Associated with this effort were the adoption of two documents, one on standards and another on training guidelines.

Council also continued to advance changes in the ways that Council will function in the future by approving rules and proposed changes in the by-laws. The latter motion will be voted on by the broad membership next Fall. Included among these changes will be a new opportunity for the general membership to elect persons to the Board of Directors directly. Because, formerly, only Council Representatives could elect Board members, this change is a step toward greater membership involvement in governance.

The 2.5 days went by rather fast. Being snow-bound by the weather outside kept us focused on the issues.

Respectfully submitted by your Representatives, Bruce Overmier and Karen Hollis

3rd Annual International Weight Stigma Conference, 18-19 September 2015, Reykjavik, Iceland: Call for papers

We are now accepting abstracts for oral presentations and posters, as well as session proposals including brief symposia, round tables, debates, and workshops. For more information about the conference, please visit: stigmaconference.com

Submission deadline for posters: June 30th.
Letter from the Graduate Student Representative

Ali Zakrzewski

Hello fellow students and congratulations on reaching the end of Spring 2015! I hope your semesters ended well and, like me, you are excited to begin a productive summer. Speaking of summer, as you may know, the 2015 APA Convention takes place this summer in Toronto, August 6-9. For those of you attending, I encourage you to check out the APAGS schedule (http://www.apa.org/convention/programming/apags/schedule.aspx), which has a huge variety of talks relevant to graduate school, such as student leadership, internship, teaching, and (perhaps, most importantly) graduating!

If you haven’t already “liked” our Division 3 Facebook page, please do so here: https://www.facebook.com/apadiv3. 1,392 people have “liked” / subscribed to our page, which includes important information for experimental psychology students, including funding opportunities and, soon, updates on activities at the 2015 APA Convention that are especially relevant to Division 3 members. If you have important news or resources to share, feel free to post it on the Facebook wall or email me at azakrzew@buffalo.edu. It would be wonderful to hear from you!

In this issue, I would like to talk about elevator talks. In light of the upcoming convention, this topic seemed appropriate to discuss. A few years ago, one of the faculty members in my department hosted a special “brown bag” meeting in which each of us grad students performed our “elevator talk” to prepare for an upcoming conference. You may have heard this term before, or something like it (elevator pitch, speech, or statement). It is a short summary akin to an advertisement that simply defines a person’s profession and, for academics, research. The idea is that it should be possible to deliver this talk in the time span of an elevator ride. These talks are especially important to prepare before a conference because you never know when you might step into an elevator with your academic idol (or stand next to them at Starbucks, or sit next to them in a seminar).

So, how do you prepare? ThePostdocWay website contributor, Uyen, suggests three simple steps: 1) eliminate jargon terminology, 2) draft the elevator pitch on paper, and 3) practice it out loud with friends and family members.

The first step is perhaps the most important because you don’t always know if the person who asks you the question, “What do you study?”, knows anything about your area of expertise. Asking them if they are familiar with XYZ is a good way to gauge their knowledge and adjust your terminology appropriately. To account for the possibility that you might need to get more (or less) technical, Uyen also recommends practicing multiple versions of your talk. The second step, drafting your elevator talk on paper, can allow you to think more care-
fully about your wording and decide what needs to be said and cut out what’s not necessary in a description that may last 30-60 seconds. The last step, practicing in front of friends and family, is one that most might overlook. I’ve heard even tenured professors admit that they have a “grandma” version of their research description, just in case they need it. Practicing with others will also help you sound less scripted.

Having a prepared elevator talk doesn’t just keep you sounding smart. It can lead to collaborations and jobs. The person you meet might end up on a search committee years down the line, see your name on an application, and remember the excellent impression you made! (No pressure). See http://thepostdocway.com/content/elevator-pitches-scientists-what-when-where-and-how for Uyen’s full article and additional resources.

Good luck and I hope to see you in Toronto! †
ADVICE, PLEASE!

Need advice? Post your question anonymously to

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/13nGTV0gpbo528jaZIkhgcdjMmSSp48dZi34xUcySfw/viewform

One question will be chosen to be answered in the next issue.

Q: "As a post-bacc student without an undergraduate degree in psychology, I’m trying to make up coursework and put myself in the best position for Ph.D. applications. It appears that there are two ways to do this. The first would be applying for research positions and continuing to take undergraduate post-bacc courses in the hope of applying to Ph.D. programs directly. The second would be applying to a Master’s program first and, while taking classes, become part of a research team. Given that the two options are roughly the same amount of time, does one appeal to faculty and graduate admissions more? Is there one that will put me in a better position for future applications?"

Have an answer for this student? Please email your response to shaleigh@sas.upenn.edu.

DIVISION 3 MEMBERS SPEAK

A COLLECTION OF VIDEOS FEATURING DIVISION 3 MEMBERS

- Michael Proulx, University of Bath and Queen Mary University of London: http://tedxtalks.ted.com/video/How-well-do-you-see-what-you-he

Have a video you want to share here? Email link to: shaleigh@sas.upenn.edu
APA
Division 3 Convention
Program
August 6-9, 2015

Online registration and housing for the APA Convention in Toronto, August 6-9, 2015 is open: http://apa.org/convention/register-housing/index.aspx

Join us for drinks and appetizers at the Joint Science Social Hour (Divisions 1, 3, 5, 8, 23, 27, 34 & 40) Wednesday August 5, 5:00–7:00 PM Kingsway Room, Intercontinental Toronto Centre Hotel
All sessions are open. Co-listed divisions are given in parentheses. Please contact Bill Hockley (whockley@wlu.ca) for further information.

Thursday – August 6, 2015

10:00 AM – 10:50 AM  Convention Centre Room 712
Paper Session: Cognitive and Executive Function (6)

Chair: Bill Hockley
Ewald Neuman, University of Canterbury. Deciphering Interactions Between Visual Selective Attention and Working Memory.
Steven J. Howard, University of Wollongong. Engaging and Enhancing Children’s Executive Function and Self-Regulation Through One-on-One and Group.

11:00 AM – 11:50 AM  Convention Centre Room 103B
Invited Address (6 & 41)

D. Stephen Lindsay, University of Victoria. Assessing Eyewitnesses Proclivity to Choose on Culprit-Absent Lineups.

2:00 PM – 3:50 PM  Convention Centre Room 101
Symposium: Memory and Aging Research at the Rotman Research Institute – A 25-Year Perspective (6 & 20)

Fergus Craik, Chair, Cognitive Aging at the Rotman Institute.

Nicole D. Anderson, Learning From Mistakes: Effects of Learning Errors on Memory in Younger and Older Adults.
Jennifer D. Ryan, Memory Binding and Unification.
Bradley Buchsbaum, Aging Effects on Neural Activation and Reactivation of Complex Multifacetal Memories.
Cheryl Grady, Can Age-Related Dedifferentiation of Brain Activity Explain Reductions in Associative Memory?

Morris Moscovitch, Discussant.
APA Division 3 Convention Program
August 6-9, 2015

Friday – August 7, 2015

10:00 AM – 11:50 AM  Convention Centre Room 201F
Symposium: What Do Psychology and Law Research Have to Do with Child Complaints of Sexual Abuse? (7 & 41)

Kim Roberts, Chair, Wilfrid Laurier University.
Paula Thompson, Durham Crown Attorney’s Office. Legal Impediments in R vs JN.
Jodi Quas, Discussant, University of California, Davis.

1:00 PM – 2:50 PM  Convention Centre Room 206D
APA EMPathy Symposium
Division 3 participant - Gerald Clore (U. Virginia), The Impact of Affect Depends on its Object

Division 8 participant - Andrew Eliot (U. Rochester) The Hierarchical Model of Achievement Motivation

Division 12 participant - Ann M. Kring (UC-Berkeley) Lessons Learned from Translating Affect Science Research and Theory to Schizophrenia

4:00 PM – 4:50 PM  Convention Centre Room 713A
Division 3 2015 Lifetime Achievement Award:
Larry Jacoby

Fergus Craik, Chair, Rotman Research Institute.

APA Division 3 Convention Program
August 6-9, 2015

Toronto

Saturday – August 8, 2015

8:00 AM – 9:50 AM Halton Room, Intercontinental Toronto Centre Hotel
Division 3 Executive Committee Meeting (closed)

9:00 AM – 9:50 AM Convention Centre Room 705
Symposium: Policy Contexts Shaping Green Decision Making (21, 23 & 34)

Christie M. Manning, Chair, Macalester College.
Judith de Groot, University of Bath. Designing Climate Change Mitigation Policies.
Barbara Hartl, University of Vienna. Do We Need Rules for "What's Mine Is Yours"?

10:00 AM – 11:50 AM Convention Centre Room 704
Paper Session: Memory and Learning (6)

Chair: Bill Hockley
Mark A. Krause, Southern Oregon University. How Many Proximate Mechanisms Are Needed to Account for the Survival Processing Effect?
Douglas J. Mewhort, Queen’s University. Applying Detection Theory: A Monte Carlo Analysis.
D. Stephen Lindsay, University of Victoria. The Materials-Based Bias Effect in Recognition Memory.
APA Division 3 Convention Program
August 6-9, 2015

Saturday – August 8, 2015
1:00 PM – 1:50 PM Poster Session

1st Author/Title:
A3. Sylvia D. William, Contextual Congruency Challenged During Short-Term Retention
A4. Signy Sheldon, Imagine That: Individual Differences in Imagery Ability Determine How We Remember Events
A5. Henrietta Lempert, Musical Expertise Affects Learning Foreign Words From Song Versus Speech
A6. Sandra K. Webster, The Effects of Pleasure, Arousal, and Dominance on Recall and Recognition of Emotion Words
A7. Christina Bermeitinger, Response Activation or Inhibition After Perceived Motion: Motion Type, SOA, and Age Matter.
A9. Maureen J. Reed, Changes in Multistable Perception in the Oldest-Old Adults.
A10. Anny L. Bonilla, Effects of Auditory Perceptual Load on Conflict
A18. Nyssa Petersen Ventura, Implications of an Emotional Go/No-Go Task As a Measure of Empathy.
A20. Angela J.C. La Sala, Is Altruism a Myth for Today’s College Student?
A22. Robert W. Botelho, Cognitive Dissonance As a Predictor of Voter Beliefs.
APA Division 3 Convention Program
August 6-9, 2015

Sunday – August 9, 2015

8:00 AM – 8:50 AM  Convention Centre Room 712
Division 3 Business Meeting

9:00 AM – 10:50 AM  Convention Centre Room 802B
Paper Session: Social Cognition

Chair: Bill Hockley
John B. Dinsmore, Wright State University. Need for Closure and the Preference for Paid Versions of Products Over Free Versions.
Metehan Irak, Bahcesehir University. Neurobiological Differences Between Anxious and Avoidant Attachment Styles on Implicit Memory.

11:00 AM – 11:50 AM  Convention Centre Room 712
Symposium: Publish or Perish! What Everyone Needs to Know About Publication and Peer Review. (15, APAGS)

Alexa A. Lopez, Co-Chair, Virginia Commonwealth University
Jacklynn Fitzgerald, Co-Chair, University of Illinois at Chicago
M. Cristina Cruz-Guet, Yale University. Navigating the Publication Process: What to Expect and How to Prevail.
Danice L. Brown, Discussant, Southern Illinois University.

1:00 PM – 1:50 PM  Convention Centre Room 205A
Division 3 and 6 Presidential Address

David A. Washburn, Georgia State University
Stimulus Control Versus Cognitive Control: 80 Years of Stroop
Your Division 3 Bylaws Amendment Ballot will arrive in the next few days.
Please vote ☑YES on the proposed change:

Current bylaws, Article I, section 1 “The name of this organization shall be the Division of Experimental Psychology of the American Psychological Association.”

Proposed bylaws, Article I, section 1 “The name of this organization shall be the Society for Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science.”

Rationale (see President’s Column for more details): We will be Division 3 of the American Psychological Association, whether or not this is specified in our name. The proposed new name identifies our organization as a society of scholars, bound together by common interests, methods, and activities. It connects us with our distinguished and ongoing history while embracing ways that our field has grown. The proposed name allows us to continue to participate fully in APA’s governance and activities, while providing new opportunities for recruitment and outreach consistent with the mission of our society. It is a name that will clearly serve as a professional home to experimental psychologists and cognitive scientists, whether or not those scholars also choose to join the American Psychological Association.
The mission of Division 3 is to promote scientific inquiry through teaching and research, and to support experimental psychology through the advocacy and educational programs. We work closely with the Science and Education Directorates. Our membership consists of people who do basic and applied research in cognitive psychology, animal behavior processes and neuroscience. In addition, we welcome members who do experimental work in developmental, social, and other areas. Many of our members are primarily teachers of psychology in these areas. Division 3 provides strong leadership in APA Council, representing members' views on training and federal funding, and on APA journal and publication policy.