

Division 3 News

Division 3 Leadership Team

Dear Division 3 Members,

The [Leadership Team](#) has been working hard on your behalf. Examples include:

- **Piloting co-chairs on Committees** to share the workload and offer community-building and networking opportunities.
- Partnering with the [SPARK Society](#) and [WiCS](#) to **promote a happy hour event at Psychonomics in Boston.**
- **Meeting with the recently re-established Early Career Committee** about how the division can support scientists who are the future of our field.
- Holding a **Zoom panel** with the SPARK Society on Oct 28 about "[Making the Job Market Less Scary](#)" (and plans for more like it next Spring!)
- **Meeting with [APA Science Directorate](#) Team members about our needs** (e.g., support for access to samples that allow students to collect data beyond WEIRD samples).



SPARK, WICS, and Division 3 Members gather at a Psychonomics Happy Hour Event.

For the health of the Division, we need your support! Here are ways you can help:

1. **Renew** your membership.
2. **If you are not** a member of APA, please consider joining it and supporting APA's efforts to increase funding for basic science.
3. If you are a member of APA, please cast all—or at least some—of your 10 allotted apportionment votes for Division 3. This is critical to keeping the voice of basic scientists at the table for APA Council votes.

Please share with your colleagues who are APA members and who are supportive of basic experimental psychology.

The APA Apportionment and Bylaws Amendment election
will end at 11:59pm EST on December 15, 2022.

Should you have questions about the Division and/or wish to increase your involvement, please reach out to any of us on the [Leadership Team](#).

Thank you!

Division 3 Leadership Team (2022-23)

Executive Board

President **Kristi Multhaup**
Past President **Valerie Reyna**
President-elect **Gene Brewer**
Secretary **Bennett Schwartz**
Secretary-elect **Blaire Weidler**
Treasurer **Marianne Lloyd**
Treasurer-elect **Jennifer Frymiare**
APA Council Reps **Morton Ann Gernsbacher** (through 2022), **Anne Cleary**, & **Mark McDaniel**
Early-Career Rep **Michelle Rivers**
Graduate Student Rep **Alexis Torres**

Members at Large

Christopher Koch
Jyotsna Vaid
Jeffrey Katz
Cleotilde Gonzalez
Debbie Kelley
Cristina Zepeda

Standing Committee Chairs

Program Committee **Nadia Brashier & Robert Greene**
Newsletter Editors **Laurent Pretot & Michelle Rivers**
Fellows Committee **Hajime Otani**
Awards Committee **Christopher Koch**
Membership Committee **Janine Jennings & Nayantara Kurpad**
Webmaster **Bennett Schwartz**
Historian **David Washburn**
List-serv **Anne Cleary**

Early-Career Committee

Chair **Michelle Rivers**
Paulo Carvalho
Marianna Kapsetaki
Laurent Prétôt
Alexis Torres

Welcome Cristina Zepeda, our newest Member-at-Large



Dr. Cristina Zepeda ([Twitter](#)) is an Assistant Professor of Psychology and Human Development at Vanderbilt University, where she directs the [Advancing Learning Lab](#). Dr. Zepeda's research investigates how to best support student learning by focusing on how students regulate and adapt their learning processes. In particular, she focuses on examining how metacognition, motivation, and other instructional techniques can inform our understanding of learning and transfer with the goal of making education more equitable.

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In my role as a Member-at-Large for APA Division 3, my priorities center around advocating for early-career researchers and implementing initiatives and strategies to improve diversity, equity, and inclusion. I would like to see the Division build additional supports and opportunities for researchers early in their careers, grow their community, and make stronger community connections with related societies (e.g., WiCS and SPARK).

CRISTINA ZEPEDA

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Science Summits at the next APA Convention

The Science of Aging

Psychological science has offered tremendous advances in understanding many aspects of aging, including changes in social and cognitive functioning, and in occupational performance or status. Psychological science also contributes to understanding pathways to Alzheimer's Disease and dementia; as well as developing prevention and intervention strategies for these conditions. In this agenda-setting summit, we will discuss the latest findings and highlight areas where basic and applied research is needed.

The Science That Will Save Our Planet

The crisis of climate change can only be changed by adjusting human behavior. There are many areas of psychological science, and many scientists, who can offer an important impact on how humans understand, communicate, and respond to climate change issues and change behavior in ways that can extend the survival of our species on earth.

The Science of Diversity, Free Speech, & Academic Freedom

The U.S. is in the midst of vigorous debates about free speech, particularly regarding content that centers the origins and consequences of oppression. Banning books featuring LGBTQ+ characters and people of color are at an all-time high. New restrictions on K-12 school curricula have increased. High-profile news events spotlight growing concerns about academic freedom to teach critical race theory and other polarizing scholarly content at the college level. This summit will include a discussion of the role of psychological science in this debate and discuss research priorities for the future.

More information about the Science Summits is located [here](#). The deadline for submitting proposals is January 10, 2023. Proposals can be submitted [here](#).

Nominate a Division 3 member who studies Emotion, Motivation, and/or Personality

The American Psychological Foundation (APF) is a part of APA that offers grants. APF is preparing for the 2023 APA Convention, which will be held in Washington, DC, from August 3-5.

One of APF's Convention programs is the Spielberger EMPathy Symposium. The Symposium was established as a forum for leading experts to present and discuss recent findings in the areas of Emotion, Motivation, and Personality - EMPathy. More information on the Symposium [here](#).

APF requests that the presidents of APA Divisions 3, 8, and 12 each submit one lecturer from their division for the symposium.

Nominations can be made at [this Google form](#) by December 15, 2022.

Early Career Spotlight

Laurent Prétôt, on behalf of the Division 3 Early-Career Committee

2022 APA Conference: Early-Career Researcher Data Blitz!

The 2022 [American Psychological Association Conference](#) took place in Minneapolis last August, and Division 3 was well represented (see [full Division 3 program](#)). For the occasion, Division 3 Early-Career Committee organized a Data Blitz session dedicated to early career scholars. We heard from a wide range of topics, including how group membership influences children's cooperative decision-making in social dilemmas, how attorney guidance impacts juries, how consistently do individuals use prototype vs. exemplar strategies to categorize, how aging impacts on moral decision-making, and how we can use decision-making theory to investigate the issue of concussion underreporting. Check below for a quick introduction of our speakers and their presentations!



Researchers Presenting at the 2022 APA Early-Career Data Blitz.



Presentation: *Children Cooperate More with In-Group Than Out-Group Members in the Prisoner's Dilemma*

Laurent Prétôt is an Assistant Professor of Experimental Psychology in the Department of Psychology & Counseling at Pittsburg State University, Kansas. He conducts research to understand the relative roles of cognition and ecology in shaping decision-making. His data blitz talk discussed how to promote cooperation in the face of social dilemmas.

Presentation: *Per Diem Arguments: Theoretically Guiding Jury Damage Award Decisions*

Krystia Reed is an Assistant Professor and head of the Legal Decision Lab. She is interested in applying social-cognitive psychology to understand how people make legal decisions, and is currently studying how technology and language impact legal decisions. Her data blitz talk discussed how juries make damage award decisions in civil cases, specifically how attorney guidance impacts juries.



Presentation: *How Consistently Do Individuals Use a Prototype Vs. Exemplar Strategy to Categorize?*

Caitlin Bowman is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and a first-generation college graduate. She conducts research on how people form and use two types of memories: memories for individual events and knowledge that is accumulated across many experiences. Her data blitz talk discussed whether people are biased to represent categories as one or the other, or they are flexible and can use either depending on the situation.

Presentation: *An Intent-to-Outcome Shift in Moral Judgment in Old Age*

Isu Cho is a Postdoctoral Associate working with Dr. Angela Gutches in the Department of Psychology at Brandeis University. She currently explores how social cognitive abilities and behaviors change with age and what factors are associated with such age-related changes using behavioral and neuroimaging methods. Her data blitz talk focused on aging and moral decision-making patterns.



Presentation: *A Fuzzy-Trace Theory Approach to Concussion Underreporting in Sports*

David Garavito is an Interprofessional Polytrauma & Traumatic Brain Injury research fellow working with Dr. Jim Bjork at the Hunter H. McGuire VA Medical Facility in Richmond, Virginia. He conducts research on developmental cognition. His data blitz talk focused on the application of decision making theory to the issue of concussion underreporting.

***Thanks to all our brilliant speakers and all the best in your current and future research!
We cannot wait to hear more from you and other early-career researchers at next year's
APA Convention in Washington, DC.***

Division 3 Twitter Account: Spread the Word!

Last April, our Early-Career Committee started a new initiative where we feature recent publications and accomplishments of experimental psychologists and cognitive scientists on Twitter. Scholars can access a **Google form** to share information about their recently published article which we can then disseminate on our **Division 3 Twitter page**.



Additionally, we have launched a "Today's Division 3 Feature", in which we post weekly tweets about recent articles published in **APA Division 3's flagship journals**, which includes *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Applied*, *JEP: Animal Learning and Cognition*, *JEP: General*, *JEP: Human Perception and Performance*, and *JEP: Learning, Memory, and Cognition*. In an effort to promote diversity, we prioritize research from early-career researchers, especially those from historically excluded and/or underrepresented groups in higher education.

Follow our Twitter Account (@APADivision3) and stay tuned for new posts featuring exciting research from early-career experimental psychologists and cognitive scientists!



President's Column

Kristi Multhaup, Division 3 President

Gene Brewer, Division 3 President-Elect

Please take a moment to consider two questions:

- *What ignited your passion for conducting research in experimental psychology and cognitive science?*
- *Why is the research you conduct important for the people you pass in the grocery store to fund via the government through paying their taxes?*

We know you have interesting answers to those questions, and **we'd like to help you amplify your individual work and the important work of our field**. One way to promote your individual work is via our [Twitter account](#). We realize that the world may be moving to other outlets and should that be the case, we'll join another academic-Twitter-like forum. In the meantime, we thank **the Early-Career Committee** for promoting our science.

Promoting the field's work is a larger task and one that we need to do as a community. Here are possibilities:

1. **APA plans to reach out to Division Trios** (Past President, President, President-Elect) when they need comments about a social issue, **such as the effect of daylight savings time on attention, students' metacognitive skills, or eyewitness memory**. We will forward that to Division members and if the timeline for responding works for you, **we hope you will work with APA to convey findings from our field to a broader audience**.
2. Join us at the [APA Convention in Washington DC Aug 3-5, 2023](#). **Nadia Brashier** and **Bob Greene** are working on a fantastic program, and **we all can share our field's findings with other psychologists who teach students** in introductory psychology courses, for example.

3. **Help us grow the Division.** We currently have two seats in the APA Council, ably filled by **Morton Ann Gernsbacher** (through 2022), **Anne Cleary**, and **Mark McDaniel**. The more members our Division has, the more people we send to the table for discussion of APA priorities. **What can YOU do?**
- Do a quick poll among your colleagues and students whose work is in Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science – how many are members?**
Please encourage anyone not a member to consider joining either by adding Division 3 to their list of APA memberships (\$25) or joining ONLY the Society (no APA membership (\$25).
 - Nominate a colleague who could be named a Fellow** (details are here). **Hajime Otani** is the current Fellows chair and would welcome your suggestions.
 - Share your ideas about how the Division can better meet the needs** of you, your peers, and/or your students. The Leadership Team is listed here and we all welcome your ideas, particularly our Membership Co-Chairs, **Janine Jennings** and **Nayantara Kurpad**.

By virtue of this co-authored column, we are demonstrating **our commitment to increasing collaboration within the Division**. For example:

- We are piloting co-chairs of committees which inherently increases our networking and community-building efforts, as well as shares the work of the Division.
- **Bennett Schwartz** is showing the Secretary ropes to **Blaire Weidler** who will take on that role next August. Similarly, **Marianne Lloyd** is showing the Treasurer ropes to **Jennifer Frymiare** who will take on that role next August.

We are also working on **collaborating with other organizations**.

- We are continuing our support of a Travel Award to Psychonomics administered by Women in Cognitive Science (WiCS).
- Our October Zoom panel on “Making the Job Market Less Scary” was a collaboration with the **SPARK Society**. The recording is now on our website here.
- We supported a **SPARK/WiCS event at Psychonomics** (so successful, it filled quickly!)

If you have interest in joining our Leadership Team and/or suggestions for productive partnerships, we welcome them.

Be on the lookout for future Zoom panels (e.g., negotiation/starting a lab) and initiatives to share the important work that experimental psychologists and cognitive scientists are doing (e.g., webinars to share demonstrations to Introductory Psychology teachers who may have trained outside of our area).

We hope you'll support APA Division 3 with your membership dues or your time.
In turn, the organization hopes to promote our members and our field.



**President's Farewell Column:
Civility, Positivity, and the Gist of COVID-19**

Valerie Reyna, Division 3 Past President

It has been a pleasure to serve as President Elect, President, and Past President of the Society for Experimental Psychology and Cognitive Science (Division 3) during these tumultuous times of the COVID-19 pandemic. Looking to the past, Division 3 has played an historic role in the science of our field and it has been my honor to preserve that precious tradition. Looking to the future, we have made progress in diversity and inclusion, ranging from our youngest (e.g., our Early Career Committee) to oldest (e.g., distinguished senior Fellows) members. I want to thank everyone who has agreed to serve on our Board and Committees. Our representation has broadened but we have miles to go before we sleep (with apologies to Robert Frost). I look forward to a future in which we can celebrate the talents and creativity of all of our members: ¡Sí, se puede!

I have been pleased to serve APA in various capacities, such as Chairing the [Publications and Communications Board](#) and supporting psychology as a STEM science. During my time as President of this Division, we were able to secure an agreement to ensure that authors have access to complete copyedits to manuscripts, which saves a huge amount of time in checking articles prior to publication. [Our 5 flagship journals](#) are the soul of our Society and we must ensure that they remain responsive to authors. We have also been able to work with Mitch Prinstein, Adrienne Butler, and many others in strengthening science at APA. I believe strongly in the relevance of experimental psychology to both basic and translational science, which were incredibly well represented at this year's convention thanks to our indefatigable Program Chairs, Angela Gutches and Krystia Reed. You can still take a peek at the Program and some recorded talks; you will be assured of the vibrancy and relevance of our field.

In these COVID-19 times, it has never been clearer that psychological science can be a matter of life and death. Working with partners (e.g., the World Health Organization), APA is addressing these issues (e.g., [risk taking during the pandemic among students on college campuses](#)). Like many of us, I pivoted to research on COVID-19 and related topics, such as misinformation, during the pandemic.^{1,2} Together, we can work to prevent some of the world's suffering. Your rigor and skills – experimental psychology – are needed more than ever, which is sometimes underappreciated among faculty, students, and society at large. Let's not diminish the importance of those WEIRD experiments using laboratory tasks while diversifying our samples and extending our research beyond the laboratory. We have two arms so we can embrace both lab and "life" sciences, recognizing their interdependence. Defend basic science at this difficult time because solutions often begin with basic science.

I am gravely concerned by trends in our field that are well-meaning but have devolved in some instances into ad hominem conflict. Many yearn for greater civility, positivity, and mutual tolerance, which does not require agreement but respects the autonomy of individuals. Freedom of speech and of inquiry are essential for science to flourish. It is time to turn the corner on negativity and focus more on the substance of science. The bureaucracy has become overwhelming and does not ensure good science; we must reduce the bureaucracy so that we have time for family, community, and work. With charity toward all and malice toward none, as Abraham Lincoln said, think about the vital work that is not getting done as we worry about our colleagues' motives instead of doing substantive science. In these difficult times, we must come together to reject anger and turn toward kindness so that young people want to join our field and make a difference.

¹ Reyna, V. F. (2021). [A scientific theory of gist communication and misinformation resistance, with implications for health, education, and policy](#). *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 118 (15), 1-6.

² Reyna, V. F., Broniatowski, D. A., & Edelson, S. M. (2021). [Viruses, vaccines, and COVID-19: Explaining and improving risky decision-making](#). *Journal of Applied Research in Memory and Cognition*, 10(4), 491–509.