President’s Column

Brian Cutler, President, American Psychology-Law Society

Being asked to write a President’s column with no guidance whatsoever is liberating. For better or worse, I have decided to write my first of three President’s column on a topic of great interest to me: faculty mentoring. It is interesting that AP-LS has undergraduate and graduate mentoring awards, but we do not (yet?) recognize the mentoring of junior faculty members. The mentoring of junior faculty members, however, is critical, as junior faculty members are a much more direct pipeline to senior faculty members than are undergraduate and graduate students! I have had the chance to mentor junior faculty members over the years and to discuss mentoring with other senior colleagues, including colleagues in AP-LS. I have seen my share of effective and ineffective mentoring. I would like to see much more of the former than the latter! Toward that end I thought I would write about a few issues that seem to crop up regularly with respect to the faculty mentoring. I focus on four areas: publishing, grant-seeking, authorship, and service.

First, I have often heard both senior faculty and academic administrators dispense the following nugget of advice: “You should concentrate your efforts on publishing only in the best journals.” Clearly one should aspire to publish in the top-tier journals. But if a junior faculty member were capable of publishing all of her or his work in the best journals, then she or her should be mentoring the senior faculty members! It is very difficult to publish in the best journals, and advising junior faculty members to do the near impossible does not serve them or their respective institutions well. It is important that junior scholars develop a track-record of publishing, and that can be in second- or third-tier journals. Further, it is reinforcing to have success publishing anywhere on the way to publishing in the top journals. When a junior faculty member’s research program matures, the top journals will be in closer reach. It is far worse to have no publications than to have publications only in second- and third-tier journals. So, I recommend the following advice: “You should concentrate your efforts on developing a publication record in first, second, and/or third-tier journals with the aim of eventually reaching the top journals. If you have a manuscript that has at least a chance in a top tier journal, submit it to one. Even if the paper is not accepted, you will likely get good feedback, and this feedback should help you develop a strategy that will benefit your future research. If, however, your manuscript is really not suitable for a top-tier journal, submit it to a more appropriate journal. Editors, who may consider asking you to review manuscripts, will want to know that you are familiar with their journals standards, and submitting a manuscript that is obviously short of the journal’s standards creates the impression that you are not familiar with those standards.”

Second, I have heard senior faculty members advising junior faculty members: “Wait until you are tenured to write grant proposals. It takes up a lot of time, and you could end up with nothing to show for it.” It is true that grant proposals take a lot of time to develop and write, but there are several good reasons for junior faculty members to submit them anyway. Although grant proposals do take a lot of time, they do not take all one’s time, and one should still have time to conduct research and engage in other professional activity. Writing grant proposals gives one the chance to think through one’s research ideas and plans, and there is value in doing so. The ideas and text generated in grant proposals are useful for other purposes. They form the basis for literature reviews and method sections for future manuscripts. Department and university committees like to see that junior faculty members are motivated to get grants and usually give credit for that activity, even when the grants are not successful. When grant proposals are successful, they can form the hallmark of a program of research that is looked favorably upon in promotion and tenure decisions. It can show that one has developed and led a program of research with extramural funding, multiple publications, collaborations, and significant contributions to the research literature. So, I recommend the following advice, coupled with an explanation of why grant-writing is beneficial: “Work grant proposal writing into
Presidential Column Continued

your writing schedule. Submit a grant proposal every year. Do not be discouraged, for persistence often pays in grant-seeking. Further, there is a wide range of grants available. You can, but need not, begin your grant-seeking efforts by going for the gold (e.g., Principal Investigator on a NIH R01 proposal). You can begin with small grants or by serving as a Co-Principal Investigator on a larger grant under the guidance of a more experienced colleague. Also, take grant reviews seriously. If you find that certain ideas are consistently not well received, develop new ones. Aim for continuously improving your grant proposals rather than merely tweaking them in minor ways to appease reviewers who may not see your revised proposal.”

Third, authorship is often a subject of conversation and advice – and down the road can be a source of stress – or worse – divisiveness. I have heard junior faculty members advised that “First authorship is essential.” It is essential that junior faculty members take a leadership role in their research. First authorship is often indicative of taking a leadership role, but it is not the only indicator. For example, when a faculty member serves as second author to his or her graduate student, other researchers typically assume that the mentor had a significant leadership role in the research. Graduate students do not usually carry faculty members in research! Likewise, being PI on the grant that funded the research is evidence of leadership in the research, even if the PI is not first author on the publication. There is more harm done through squabbles over authorship order than there is status gained by being first author. And being generous with authorship makes it easier to recruit collaborators and graduate students. I recommend the following advice: “It is important that you demonstrate leadership in your research program. You can demonstrate leadership in a variety of ways, such as serving as PI on a grant proposal, serving as primary author, mentoring students and serving as secondary author to a student, planning symposia, and recruiting new faculty colleagues to your research program. If you are unsure about the appropriate authorship order, consult Section 1.3 of the APA Publication Manual (6th Edition), and where this is ambiguity, be generous, for it will benefit you in the long term. It is also a good idea to discuss authorship issues early in a research collaboration and to develop common understandings with your co-authors. Where contributions are equal, alternate first authorship.”

The fourth and final advising issue pertains to department, university, or professional service. It takes the form “never serve in the role of X or on the X Committee. It takes up too much of your time.” There is no one professional service activity that a junior faculty member needs to avoid. The important thing is to balance one’s time between research, teaching, and service. If one role is particularly demanding, with careful planning the role can usually be accommodated by modifying other aspect of one’s workload. But keep in mind that departments are small communities. One does not benefit from developing a reputation of being self-centered and selfish. It is acceptable to decline opportunities for service but be prepared to offer up assistance in other ways. I prefer the following advice: “You are a member of various professional communities (department, university, professional association), and it is expected that you will contribute to their common good by performing service roles. It is best when the roles are consistent with your professional interests, but sometimes you have to take one for the team. Manage your time well so that you can contribute high quality service in whatever role or roles you take on, but leave time for other professional and personal responsibilities.”

More generally, we must remain mindful that universities have changed and continue to change under challenging economic and political climates. For our mentoring to remain effective, we should ensure that our advice applies to the current state of our universities. And be kind. Thanks to Kirk Heilbrun and Margaret Bull Kovera for their thoughtful comments on earlier drafts of this column.

I wish all members a healthy, satisfying, and productive 2011-2012. I look forward to seeing you in San Juan!
Law and Human Behavior is in transition from outstanding to even better! On January 1, Margaret Bull Kovera begins her service as Editor-in-Chief and I step down from this role. Also on January 1, APA will take over from Springer as our publisher. I am using my (final!) column to update our membership about the transition.

The transition from me to Margaret as Editor will be very smooth. As you know, Margaret has been serving as Associate Editor – in an Action Editor role – since 2005. On January 1 Margaret will begin accepting new manuscripts and assigning them to her Associate Editors or to herself as Action Editor. I will continue to handle manuscripts for which I served as Action Editor for a couple of months. Meanwhile, Margaret will assemble her 2012 Editorial Board.

The transition from Springer to APA is going smoothly. To facilitate a timely and orderly transition, all parties agreed that we would publish the electronic and print versions of the October and December 2011 issues, and those issues have been printed and distributed. Starting in August, all new manuscripts accepted for publication will be published on APA’s Online First web page. Manuscripts published on Springer’s Online First website will be moved to APA’s Online First website with an APA logo instead of a Springer logo (the DOIs for these articles will be transferred to APA and will not change). As soon as possible (after January 1), APA will publish all of our back issues on its website. As of this writing we have not determined which manuscript manager system we will use for the editorial review process and are continuing to use Editorial Manager until we decide to change. It is our hope that by January 1, everything will be smoothly in place with APA.

Together with APA we are preparing announcements to members indicating where they will find the newly published articles online (the URL for APA’s LHB website) and how they will obtain full-text access to these articles. Members who do not have university appointments and normally access LHB through the AP-LS website will now be able to access LHB through the MyAPA website. If AP-LS members are not APA members, they will be provided with a MyAPA account for this purpose. If any member needs help accessing the journal, APA customer service is poised to provide assistance to any member who needs it.

Let me take this opportunity to sincerely thank the AP-LS membership for the opportunity to serve in the capacity of LHB Editor. This is NOT a thankless job. Many members have graciously thanked me by email and in person. I am very grateful to all parties that have contributed to the journal’s success: the AP-LS Executive Committee and membership, my Editorial Board and reviewers, authors, readers, and our publishers. I consider my work as Editor to be among the highlights of my professional career. Last, please join me in welcoming Margaret to this important role. And send Margaret your best work!
Introduction

He was a pitiful soul, all right - straight from a Dickens novel. What I thought was going to be a routine competency evaluation in the jail turned into an adventure by the odd combination of wretched human misery and shocking unprofessionalism. I didn’t so much find him, as the odor of his waste found me, snaking across 30 paces of labyrinthine hallway and a locked cell door. When the officer opened the door to his solitary cell, he lay there, motionless, unresponsive, completely naked, in a catatonic state. A pool of his urine and feces spilled through the open doorway. Despite the services of more than thirty professionals of various kinds, he had been suffering, just like this, for 18 months.

This poor man is an extreme example of many forensic clients I have seen — mentally ill but getting ineffective treatment or no treatment at all. Just like this man, not all patients seek help, but what should we do when patients refuse help, are unable to request it, or their needs are simply being ignored by the system? The causes of poor treatment are many, but we clinicians too often fail to act when we can. Some background may shed a little light on the current state of affairs (for a good summary, see Cornwall, 1998).

History

As many of you know, the current state of mental health law began in the late 1960s. Lawsuits involving patient abuse at state facilities were heard in many courts, which revealed widespread mistreatment (See, e.g., Doe v. Gallinot, 1981). Many hospitals were closed under President Kennedy, and those displaced patients were supposed to be served by Community Mental Health Centers but were never fully funded. Then, in the 1970s, anti-psychiatry forces (e.g., Szasz, 1974) argued that schizophrenia did not exist and mental illness was a myth. Patients’ rights advocates, using this research and due process arguments, successfully advocated against forcible treatment and for greater patient rights in a series of landmark civil rights cases.

In some cases (e.g., Riggins v. Nevada, 1992; Sell v. United States, 2003; Washington v. Harper, 1990), the issues focused on the patient’s right to autonomous decision-making versus the government’s right using its police power to make society safe from dangerous persons. Although certain civil cases (Lessard v. Schmidt, 1972; O’Connor v. Donaldson, 1975; Rouse v. Cameron, 1966; Wyatt v. Stickney, 1972) could have created better treatment for the mentally ill, the holdings ultimately were that treatment was largely not therapeutic, and that the state’s police power should be further curtailed. In other cases (e.g., Estelle v. Gamble, 1976; Godwin v. ? , ????, Farmer v. Brennan, 1994), the question was not one of better treatment for the mentally ill, but ‘when does poor treatment sink so low as to become abuse?’ The effect of these decisions has been to restrict treatment when the patient refuses or does not request treatment to conditions of imminent dangerousness with mental illness as a secondary requirement.

This legal struggle between civil rights and police power ignored society’s parens patriae responsibility to the less fortunate - patients’ reduced insight into their need for treatment, how mental illness already impacted their liberty, the potential benefits of treatment, the possibility of treatment restoring autonomy, and the shared doctor-patient interest in securing the patient’s improved health. In what might be the culmination of institutionalization as a pretext for treatment (Perlin, 1998), Kansas v. Hendricks (1997) permitted the commitment of sex offenders. Perhaps more importantly, the issues ignored the revolving door nature of service provision to the mentally ill, whereby ineffective treatment, delivered too late, results in much more service utilization in the future. Perhaps, in part because we value patient autonomy and independence, we clinicians too easily accept this overreliance on the dangerousness standard, and ignore patient needs.

Solutions

We have a professional duty not only to ‘do no harm’ to our patients, but also to try to improve their circumstances. Principle A of the ethics code advocates that we “safeguard the welfare and rights of patients” (American Psychological Association, 2002). Principle B reminds us of our relationship of trust, to reduce the potential for exploitation or harm, and to serve the patient’s best interests (APA, 2002). Likewise, the Forensic Specialty Guidelines warn us against “… taking on a professional role when … interests or relationships could … expose others … to harm …” (Committee on Ethical Guidelines for Forensic Psychologists, 2011, Guideline 1.03).

So what can we each do in our practices? First, consider that we may sometimes accept the status quo when it may be possible to challenge institutional policies, thereby creating more effective patient care. Each of us can become better educated about the reasons patients may not request treatment (e.g., medication side effects, costs of treatment, or lack of illness awareness). For gravely disabled defendants, consider contacting the state attorney, or writing a letter to the court requesting diversion. Lobby police departments for crisis intervention training (CIT) to identify mentally ill persons and de-escalate situations. Request the creation of a mental health court or even a ‘mental health day’, where all mentally ill defendants are seen on the same day. If malingering instruments are improperly used to deny treatment, consider advocating for a more valid use of the instruments. Consider educating other professionals on therapeutic jurisprudence and the cost of ineffective treatment. Consider working with attorney-advocates to have treatment be given in the “least restrictive alternative.” Consider writing a letter to the editor, calling attention to the inappropriateness of the mentally ill in the criminal justice system. In institutions whose policy is to withhold treatment for patients who do not request it, consider writing advocacy letters to policy makers. Educate yourself on “deliberate indifference,” so that you will be able to speak with authority on the subject.
Conclusion – Coming Back Full Circle

What happened to our pitiful inmate with catatonia? The evaluation occurred on a Saturday. I was so disturbed by his plight that I called the Sheriff the following day. To his credit, he called back immediately, and we had the inmate involuntarily committed the same day. He received appropriate treatment, recovered from his illness, pleaded guilty to a reduced charge, and was given probation. Subsequent to his commitment, I wrote a letter to the Court, expressing my concerns about the apparent unresponsiveness of all concerned; the judge called me personally to express her gratitude and to inform me that she had distributed the letter widely.

Many thanks to those of you who reviewed this article, especially to Bruce Frumkin and Joel Dvoskin, who provided many suggestions.

References


*Doe v. Gallinot*, 657 F.2d 1017 (9th Cir. 1981).


*Bowring V. Godwin*, 551 F.2d44 (4th cir.)


*O’Connor v. Donaldson*, 422 U.S. 563 (1975)


Law and Human Behavior Goes Green!

Given the increasing tendencies of our members to access journals electronically, the environmental impact of printing and shipping 3000 journals six times per year, and the cost to APLS for member subscriptions, at its August 2011 meeting, the APLS Executive Committee voted to go green! Specifically, beginning with the February 2012 issue, LHB will be made available electronically to all members (as usual). Print copies will be sent only to those members who register to receive print copies. In other words, if you want to continue to receive the print copy of LHB, you must register to receive it; otherwise, you will receive only electronic access. Once you register to receive the print copy, you will continue to receive it until you change your status. There will be no extra charge to you for receiving the print copies. If you do not use your print copies and do not care to collect (or dust) them, consider going electronic only!

To register to receive the print copies, please email Kathy Gaskey at apls@ec.rr.com with “Want Print Copy of LHB” in the subject line. Requests for print copies must be received at least six weeks before the publication of the next issue (issues are published in February, April, June, August, October, and December of each year) to be guaranteed receipt of a print copy of that issue. Any requests received within six weeks of the publication of an issue will start receiving print copies with the publication of the following issue (e.g., sending a request on January 15th will result in receiving a print copy of the April issue and every issue thereafter until APLS is notified to stop mailing print copies).
Response Letter to AP-LS Expert Opinion (Summer 2011)

Michele Peterson-Badali  
Department of Human Development & Applied Psychology  
University of Toronto

Tracey Skilling  
Centre for Addiction and Mental Health  
Toronto, Canada

The Expert Opinion article by Brooks-Holliday et al. titled “The Application of Risk-Need-Responsivity to Risk Assessment and Intervention Planning: Opportunities, Limitations, and Relevant Research Needs”, published in the Summer 2011 issue of the American Psychology Law Society News, nicely describes the state of the research on the efficacy of the risk-need-responsivity (RNR) framework. This article also highlights the importance of connections between the framework, its implementation, and research necessary to inform the continued development and application of the model.

In the article, the authors point out that a key gap in the RNR literature is that research has almost exclusively focused on the efficacy of the RNR principles at the *group* level, although the model is intended to inform *individualized* assessment and intervention based on each individual’s identified risk level, criminogenic needs, and responsivity factors. We would like to draw attention to the fact that for the past several years we have been engaged in this very work, which does indeed support the efficacy of the RNR framework at the individual level.

In Vieira, Skilling, and Peterson-Badali (2009), we report results of a study of justice system-involved youth who received comprehensive court-order assessments conducted in accordance with the RNR framework using the Youth Level of Service/Case Management Inventory, scoring of which was based on information gained from standardized testing, interviews with multiple informants, and a review of collateral information. The goal of the study was to determine whether youth who had a higher proportion of *individually-identified* criminogenic needs met through treatment (coordinated through probation services) showed lower recidivism rates than those who had fewer criminogenic needs “matched” through intervention. Controlling for youths’ individual risk levels, the results indicated that youths for whom a low proportion (i.e., 25% or less) of clinically identified needs were met via therapeutic services re-offended significantly earlier than youths for whom a greater proportion of criminogenic needs were matched. Further, youth for whom less than one third of criminogenic needs were met were over eighteen times more likely to re-offend prior to the end of the follow-up period than youth who had the majority of their needs met. Moreover, youth in the low needs match group had only a 24% probability of remaining crime-free over the approximate three-year follow-up period in comparison with youth in the moderate and high needs match groups.

As recommended by Brooks-Holliday et al., we have continued to focus on the effectiveness of the RNR framework when implemented on an individual level. In our research program, we examine this question within the context of a broad system of assessment/case management/service provision rather than within one particular service or agency. For example, in a recent study, we examined the question of whether the framework is differentially effective in predicting outcomes for male versus female youth, in order to address the question of gender-specificity in criminogenic needs (Vitopoulos, Peterson-Badali, & Skilling, 2011). Further, we are beginning to examine more closely processes and gaps in the implementation of RNR-based assessments in youth receiving community (probation) supervision.

As highlighted by Brooks-Holliday et al., there is still much work to be done focusing on the efficacy of the RNR framework at the individual level and examining the implementation of the principles in front-line work. This response serves as a guide in this regard, and we hope that others join us in the research necessary to continue the development of the RNR framework.

References:


In 2005, California passed a law prohibiting the sale or rental of violent video games to minors, and requiring that such games be labeled as not for sale unless the purchaser was 18 (i.e., that the packages have a label reading “18”). An association of video game merchants sought a declaratory judgment in federal district court ruling that the statute was unconstitutional, and in 2007 the court ruled that the statute could not be enforced. Two years later the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit affirmed that ruling, on three grounds: first, violent video games did not constitute “obscenity” under First Amendment jurisprudence, and thus could not be regulated as such; second, the State of California did not have a compelling interest in protecting children from psychological harm associated with such violent video games; third, even if there was such an interest, the statute in question was not sufficiently “narrowly tailored” as to withstand First Amendment scrutiny. (Finding that the games could be regulated as obscenity would have placed the statute in a line of cases making it easier to uphold; the focus became the second and third factors of analysis.) The U.S. Supreme Court granted certiorari to review the case.

This past June, the Court affirmed (Brown vs. Entertainment Merchants Association, 2011). Justice Scalia wrote the 7-2 opinion, with Justice Alito, joined by Chief Justice Roberts, concurring in the judgment; Justices Thomas and Breyer issued separate dissenting opinions. The Court’s ruling was perhaps both a surprise and not one at all. On the one hand, the Court has a predilection for reversing the Ninth Circuit. On the other, as the Court noted, as a legal matter, it is rare that statute regulating the content of speech will survive strict scrutiny under the First Amendment; as a practical matter, the empirical studies on which California relied had been rejected as legally insufficient by every court to which they had been presented.

It was, of course, the level of scrutiny that doomed California’s attempts to support the statute. By applying strict scrutiny the Court virtually required a showing of causation, rather than correlation, in the social science literature provided. At least according to the Court, California seemed to have abandoned its argument in the Ninth Circuit that there was indeed a causal link between violence in video games and negative, or even dangerous, behavior. Given the questioning at oral argument, and the way in which courts to have previously addressed the issue had ruled, to argue that the games caused violent behavior may very well have been a losing battle. California’s attempt to instead emphasize the correlational, and thus predictive, nature of the findings—was unsuccessful, as the Court held that such an approach would only be viable with an intermediate level of scrutiny. Just as important, the Court’s emphasis on strict scrutiny precluded deference to the California Legislature, which had engaged in extensive fact-finding on the empirical questions.

One perhaps odd moment involved Justice Breyer’s dissent. Justice Breyer, “with the assistance of the Supreme Court Library,” canvassed the social science literature to compile two Appendices to his dissent, one listing studies that supported the idea that violent video games are harmful; the other listing ones that did not support or that rejected the idea (Entertainment Merchants, pp. 2771-2779). Justice Scalia, in a footnote, responded that most of the studies canvassed were “outside the record” of the case and in any case, could not satisfy strict scrutiny because Justice Breyer could not say whether the studies “on his side”—i.e., showing a causal link—were right or wrong (Entertainment Merchants, p.2739, note 8). There is nothing odd, of course, in a judge taking judicial notice of existing facts, even of existing social science data. Justice Scalia’s objection, most likely, was that the studies Justice Breyer collated had not been presented in court and subjected to cross-examination—though it is still unclear how effective that device is at uncovering shoddy science (see McAuliff & Groscup, 2009). On the other hand, objecting that the findings were not considered hints that had they in fact been in the record and considered, Justice Scalia might have condensed paying that consideration some deference—which would be atypical given the level of scrutiny he identified as appropriate.

As is sometimes the case in the Supreme Court (e.g., McCleskey v. Kemp, 1987), the majority took the “even if” approach: even presuming that the empirical research showed what its proponents asserted, that there is some causal effect of violent video game exposure on subsequent aggressive behavior, the effect sizes in question were too small (indeed, “minuscule,” Entertainment Merchants, p. 2739) to be persuasive. Here the Court was somewhat disingenuous; Justice Scalia noted that the research did not prove that violent video games cause minors to act aggressively (which would at least be a beginning). Instead, “[n]early all of the research is based on correlation, not evidence of causation, and most of the studies suffer from significant, admitted flaws in methodology.” . . . [The studies] show at best some correlation between exposure to violent entertainment and minuscule real-world effects, such as children’s feeling more aggressive or making louder noises.
in the few minutes after playing a violent game than after playing a nonviolent game.

(p. 2739, emphasis in original). In the immediately following footnote he cherry-picked one study that “found that children who had just finished playing violent video games were more likely to fill in the blank letter in ‘explo_e’ with a ‘d’ (so that it reads ‘explode’) than with an ‘r’ (‘explore’)…. The prevention of this phenomenon, which might have been anticipated with common sense, is not a compelling state interest.”

Of course, this sort of semantic and related priming, and its causal effect on behavior, is one of the most familiar effects in social psychology (e.g., Dijksterhuis & Bargh, 2001). Moreover, the research demonstrating a link—even a causal link—between violent video games and aggressive behavior—not just feelings or word completions—is quite robust, though effect sizes do vary across task or DV. Had the Court cited the meta-analytic work that is available, a different picture might have emerged.

Though perhaps (indeed, probably) not a different result. At the broader level, of course, Entertainment Merchants—and the “even if” approach in particular—highlights a recurring tension between different values of social science and the legal system, one that goes to the heart of the psycholegal endeavor. Notwithstanding the best research design, the most externally valid study, it is unfortunately (?) true that the legal system elevates certain principles and doctrines that can make that research irrelevant. In one sense this is laudable; since Brown vs. Board of Education many scholars have been hesitant about having “constitutional rights . . . rest on [the potentially] flimsy foundation” of some social science (Cahn, 1955), and it is not unreasonable to be concerned about changing or even contradictory empirical findings over time (e.g., Faigman, 1989). In another sense, though, the tension highlights that all aspects of the legal system—even constitutional principles—are based on assumptions about human behavior, and when empirical findings demonstrate difficulties with, or even disprove, such assumptions, even constitutional principles warrant reconsideration. An important role of psycholegal scholars is to understand and acknowledge these competing values and principles, and to present findings in such a way that legal actors understand their importance, even (especially) in constitutional matters (Blumenthal, 2002).

References


We strongly encourage others (particularly students) to be guest editors. If you would like to be a guest editor (or have questions), please email Allison at aredlrich@albany.edu.

The vast majority of known wrongful convictions, including more than 90% of the first 250 DNA exonerates, involve defendants who were erroneously convicted at trial by juries or judges (Innocence Project, 2009). While much research has been devoted to understanding juror decision-making at trial, to our knowledge, scholars have not yet examined the potential after-effects of exonerations on the jurors who handed out the original faulty verdict. In this month’s column, we describe the case of Cameron Todd Willingham, a recent high-profile case involving a man convicted of murdering his children in a fire. Though Willingham has yet to be exonerated, enough questions regarding the legitimacy of the conviction have been raised that the case is appropriate for discussion here. Though a full description of this case and the arson science central to it could not be captured in this brief forum, we encourage you to view the recent episode of Frontline dedicated to this case (http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/death-by-fire/). And to see the Innocence Project (http://www.innocenceproject.org/Content/Cameron_Todd_Willingham_Wrongfully_Convicted_and_Executed_in_Texas.php) and the case overview here.

Case Overview

On December 23, 1991, Cameron Todd Willingham awoke to his Texas home on fire. By the time a neighbor made it to the house, Willingham was on the front porch wearing only jeans, with his chest covered in soot and his hair and eyelids singed. After several failed attempts to enter the children’s room through the window, Willingham fell to his knees in the yard, crying “My babies!” before becoming silent. Shortly thereafter, the window of the children’s room, where his three daughters had been sleeping, exploded. Willingham’s wife had been out shopping for Christmas presents. When investigators arrived, Willingham was hysterical and even tried running back into the house when he saw a firefighter exit holding his oldest daughter.

The fire was studied by leading arson investigator Manuel Vasquez. Based on his investigation, Vasquez determined that a liquid accelerant had been used and that the fire had been set intentionally. Furthermore, the burn patterns, he suggested, indicated that the fire was set in such a way as to not allow the children to escape. The case was thus determined to be a triple homicide, with Willingham as the key suspect. Several neighbors stated that at the time of the fire, Willingham was in control, not hysterical or upset, and only put on a show in front of the authorities. Further investigation uncovered Willingham’s previous arrests for driving under the influence, stealing a bicycle, and shoplifting. He was interrogated a few days later, but maintained his innocence, claiming that the fire must have started in the children’s room since that was the first place he saw flames. A possible cause, he thought, was the space heater that was used to keep the room warm.

Willingham maintained his innocence throughout the ensuing trial, but was convicted based on the testimony of forensic experts and that of a jailhouse informant who claimed that Willingham had confessed to him. Willingham was sentenced to death in October 1992. Prior to his execution 13 years later, a report was sent to the governor and Board of Pardon in which Gerald Hurst, a leading arson expert, concluded that the conviction was based on erroneous forensic analysis. Still, Willingham was executed in February 2004. Since his execution, however, doubts continue to mount about Willingham’s guilt. The Texas Forensic Science Commission agreed to investigate the case, but was continually interrupted. In one instance, an arson expert hired by the commission issued a report saying that the trial experts should have known that their analysis was wrong at the time; several key panel members were replaced just days before the expert was set to testify. Another report, namely that of investigative journalist David Grann (2009), suggest that many, if not all, aspects of the evidence used to convict Willingham were invalid or, at least, questionable. Interestingly, around the same time in Texas, nearly identical evidence was used to convict another man, Ernest Willis, who has since been exonerated after a determination that the forensic evidence used to convict him was invalid.

Research Ideas

Though Willingham’s case has not been overturned and thus does not constitute an official wrongful conviction, the serious doubts raised regarding the scientific evidence used to convict him have led many to question his guilt and some advocacy organizations to even claim that Texas has wrongfully executed an innocent person. One particularly interesting aspect of this is that one of the jurors who convicted Willingham has since expressed concerns about the validity of the conviction. Dorenda Lynn Brokofsky, one of the original jurors, has continued to follow the case for nearly two decades, saying that she has not slept very well since that was the first place he saw flames. A possible cause, he thought, was the space heater that was used to keep the room warm.

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Like many, Brokofsky remains unsure of Willingham’s guilt:

“When you’re sitting there with all those facts, there was nothing else we could see. Now I don’t know. I can’t tell...
you he’s innocent, I can’t say 100 percent he’s guilty… I have gone back and forth in my mind trying to think of anything that we missed. I don’t like the fact that years later someone is saying maybe we made a mistake. That the facts aren’t what they could’ve been” (Brokofsky, quoted in Kaye, 2009).

Clearly, participating in handing out a questionable conviction has taken an emotional toll on Brokofsky, and there is some evidence to suggest that it may not be unique to the Willingham case. For example, five jurors in the case of Alfred Trenkler, who was convicted of building a bomb that killed a Boston police officer in 1991, have now come forward with doubts about their original conviction (Cramer, 2009), one stating that “[m]any aspects of the trial still haunt me” (letter from Robert Woods to Judge Zobel). Furthermore, three original jurors who convicted Richard Danzinger, who has since been exonerated through DNA evidence, have said that the “shocking discovery left us confused, angry, and wondering how this tragic error could have happened” (Bohls, Diamond, & Roland, 2009). They state they still feel “horrified” and “are still dismayed at participating in what we can only describe as the destruction of a young man’s life” (Bohls, et al., 2009).

These instances suggest that the effects of wrongful convictions may stretch far beyond the lives of exonerees and their families. Yet to our knowledge, no studies have examined the aftermath of exoneration on jurors. Several interesting and important questions come to mind when one thinks about the severity of learning that you may have convicted and sentenced an innocent person to prison or even death. Do jurors follow the cases in which they participate beyond their own involvement at trial? How do they react when they learn that a case in which they voted to convict ends in exoneration? Are they convinced by new evidence or deny the error, maintaining the guilt of the defendant? What affects their reactions, which are likely to be quite varied? These and other questions can and should be addressed by researchers if we are to gain a more complete understanding of miscarriages of justice and their far-reaching consequences.

A strong starting point may be to draw on similar studies of jurors from capital cases. For example, the Capital Jury Project has and continues to interview jurors from capital cases to gain an understanding of their experiences, decision-making, and responses to the task of serving on juries in death penalty cases. Some jurors have discussed the long-term impact of serving on a capital jury, including both mental and emotional suffering and changes in their lifestyles and relationships. Others reported an inability to stop thinking about the trial, constant memories of the crime, and the emotional drain that causes, including feelings of fear and regret. Furthermore, jurors even reported physical after-effects, including inability to sleep, sickness, and vomiting. Also of importance, several jurors reported gaining a sense of a failed justice system, both in terms of its procedures and proceedings and regarding its lack of counseling for jurors at the conclusion of such cases (Antonio, 2006). Thus, not only do these cases affect the personal lives of those involved, they also threaten, to some extent, the perceived legitimacy of the criminal justice system. It seems possible, perhaps even likely, that cases that end in exonerations may have even more serious consequences for jurors, and this is a topic worthy of exploration by social scientists.

Conclusion

Though research on innocence issues continues to increase our understanding of wrongful convictions, we still have little sense of the collateral consequences of justice system errors. In particular, we know nothing about the effects of exonerations, or even doubts about guilt, on the jurors who handed out the original convictions. This is an area ripe for research, one that can provide compelling information regarding the effects of wrongful convictions beyond the lives of exonerees. A fascinating topic of inquiry, such studies might give some direction as to the handling of jurors beyond their immediate involvement in a criminal case.

References


(Footnotes)

1 Information about the case was gathered from the Innocence Project (http://www.innocenceproject.org/Content/Cameron_Todd_Willingham_Wrongfully_Convicted_and_Executed_in_Texas.php) and Grann (2009).

2 The letters from the five jurors to the judge are available at http://freealfrondow.org/jurors-disavow.html.

3 For more information about the Capital Jury Project, see http://www.albany.edu/scj/13192.php.
Division 41/American Psychology-Law Society Executive Committee (EC) Meeting Minutes
Washington, D.C. August 3, 2011


II. Patty Griffin called the meeting to order at 5:20 PM

III. Introduction and meeting procedures: Thank you: President Griffin welcomed the EC to the meeting and thanked the co-chairs Lora Levett and Chris Finello, and the administrative assistant, Kathy Gaskey, for their hard work on the conference.

Meeting procedures: Griffin reviewed meeting procedures and policies. Voting members for the current meeting are those people who hold the following positions: President, Past-President, President-Elect, Treasurer, Secretary, Members-at-large, Student section president, and APA representatives. Newly elected officers do not vote at the current meeting.

Minutes: Cutler motioned to approve minutes. Meissner seconded. The motion passed.

For future meetings, Gaskey will send the most recent EC meeting minutes when she solicits agenda items/committee reports so that officers and committee chairs can more easily review their tasks and responsibilities.

IV. Treasurer’s Report: McAuliff reported that the organization is in excellent financial shape. We have approximately $1.5 million overall, but we are going into a more uncertain budget years with the new Law and Human Behavior contract and a few other issues.

One issue is the new guaranteed minimum from our new LHB contract. Our former guaranteed minimum was $100,000, but we always made approximately $200,000 over the minimum. Another issue is that we are going to be charged for any print subscriptions to LHB at $20 per member above 2500 people. Discussion was had about ways in which to encourage members who do not want the print editions to opt out of receiving them. Kavanaugh moved to have the default option for LHB to be electronic with the option for members to choose to receive it in print form. McAuliff seconded. The motion passed.

In order to develop the best possible budget each year in August, committee chairs and officers should submit their budget requests much earlier than they have in the past and should include more details. This extra time will allow for consideration of the budget in a more informed way and allow for better estimates of budget items.

In addition, Cutler noted that different committees requested different amounts for conference speakers. Discussion was had about setting maximums for honorariums and travel. The Conference Advisory Committee will report to the EC in March concerning what honorariums and travel costs have been paid in the past and will make a recommendation for future speakers.

V. Meeting information:
A. APLS, March 2-5, 2011, Miami, FL. Conference co-chairs Kovera and Zapf reported that the 4th International Congress on Psychology and Law, which included members of the American Psychology-Law Society, the European Association of Psychology and Law, and the Australia and New Zealand Association of Psychiatry, Psychology, and Law had a large number of submissions from which to build the conference program. The co-chairs have received numerous comments regarding the excellent conference program content. Almost 900 paper and posters were submitted for consideration for the conference program: 774 individual papers and posters were accepted (676 of these were accepted for the final conference program) and 122 papers as part of organized symposia were submitted (115 of these were accepted for the final conference program).

The acceptances consisted of a proportional number of papers and posters submitted in 14 different categories (13 content areas and 1 “other” category): Jury Decision Making; Developmental/Juvenile Justice; Interrogations, Confessions and Deception; Witnesses and Memory; Forensic Assessment; Legal Decision Making (Non-Jury); Other; Psychopathy; Interpersonal and Domestic Violence; Sexual Offenders; Adult Clinical Issues; Corrections/Correctional Psychology; Public Policy; and Mental Health Law [Note: categories have been listed from highest to lowest submission numbers, reflecting relative acceptances]. The co-chairs noted that they were fortunate to have had 598 individuals serve as reviewers; a total of 1900 reviews were completed!

Due to the international nature of the conference and the expense incurred in traveling to Miami, as well as unforeseen cuts in spending and funding, a significant number of accepted papers and posters were pulled by their respective authors prior to the conference. The final conference program consisted of 365 posters (across 4 poster sessions) and 255 papers (divided into 53 paper sessions; 34 symposia; and 6 plenary sessions). To accommodate the large number of submissions as well as allow for as many individuals as possible to attend this conference, the co-
The call for submissions has been distributed. Deadline for submissions is 9/23/11.

Site visit has been completed. Hotel is beautiful, guest rooms and meeting rooms are spacious, and staff are helpful. Exhibitors should be pleased with their central location. Poster sessions will also be centrally located. Venues for receptions are gorgeous.

CE workshops have been planned and contracts are being prepared. Please see CE report for more information.

Contact with All Academic has been made and the site will be up and running in early September.

Contact with Puerto Rico Psychological Association has been established.

The co-chairs are exploring the possibility of a mobile application for the conference.

The following timelines have been established: Deadline for submissions 9/23/11; Submissions sent to reviewers 10/14/11; Recommendations for accept/reject due to conference chairs 11/14/11; Authors informed of decision on acceptance by 12/1/11; Draft of program available 1/9/12; Deadline for early registration 1/31/12.

The co-chairs recommended keeping the registration fees the same as they were in Miami for the following reasons: The co-chairs would like to increase the length of paper sessions and symposia to 80 minutes as thus will permit more in-depth exploration of topics presented. In order to increase the time allotted to each presentation but not decrease the number of papers accepted, they would like to add a 7th concurrent paper session. Doing so will increase AV costs. The hotel has a room available for this 7th session. Food and beverage costs in San Juan are comparable to Miami where the higher registration fees were established. Travel costs for one conference co-chair will be higher than originally anticipated, as she will have moved to Australia by 3/12. The cost for conference bags (about $6000) will not be covered by Springer as it had been in the past.

Otto moved that we give the chairs the authority to charge up to the Miami rates, Mulvey seconded. Motion passed.

D. APA, August 2 – 5, 2012, Hotel, TBA, Orlando, Florida

E. APLS, March 7-9, 2013, Portland Hilton, Portland, Oregon

F. APA, July 31 – August 4, Hotel TBA, Honolulu, Hawaii

VI. Current Issues/New Business:

Business handled by email since last meeting: Interrogations and false confession resolution: This resolution passed through an email vote. Council representatives, Foote and Otto, will begin the process to submit this as a new business item this week. If it becomes a new business item, then it will then be sent to all the APA boards and committees. Location for APLS 2014: The CAC put forward three possible locations for APLS 2014: Las Vegas, Nashville, and Atlanta. The EC voted by email and chose Nashville first and Atlanta second.

Strategic planning initiative

Cutler reported that there will be a strategic planning steering committee consisting of the president (chair), past-president, president-elect, and the three members-at-large. The steering committee will review APLS Purpose and establish key committees (e.g., Research, Practice, Education, Governance). These key planning committees will: review relevant documents and plans of other entities; develop three or five-year goals, action plans, and outcome measures; and review APLS Committees for relevance to plans. The Steering Committee will review all key planning committee plans and submit it to EC for review/approval. The Steering Committee will review ongoing governance structure and activates in light of approved strategic plan and recommend adjustments.

Cutler plans to have a report ready by the March EC meeting. He also reported that he may involve an outside consultant as discussed at our March meeting. Foote commended Cutler for taking on this very important task. Spellman suggested that one goal should be to focus on the legal community. Meissner moved to approve
Proposed New Journal Roesch reminded the EC that a few years ago he proposed that APLS consider starting a new journal. The working title for the new journal was Developmental Psychology and Law. The proposed journal would promote core goals of the American Psychology-Law Society by disseminating interdisciplinary research that bridges social science with law. In addition, it would emphasize the importance of examining law and psychology within a developmental context, and building strong ties to developmental theory and research. As currently envisioned, this journal would publish both experimental and clinical research. It would adopt a broad lifespan developmental perspective, rather than focusing on specific developmental periods. Examples of topics covered by this journal would include: Offenders, ranging from young offenders through aging offenders; Assessing risk; Interventions; Mental health issues; Competency to stand trial; Capacity to understand arrest rights; Child witnesses; Child abuse; Child custody; Developmentally-focused research on adults in civil and criminal contexts.

There was initial support for this journal, and at the August, 2007 EC meeting the following motion was approved: Motion to approve the proposed bylaws change to allow for the possible creation of new journals was passed unanimously with the friendly amendment that the creation of any new journal must first be approved by the EC and then by a simple majority of members voting on the issue. The possible journal was also discussed at the August, 2008 EC meeting, and the discussion focused on whether this was a good time to start a journal and it was also expressed that it would be useful to do a market analysis. It was decided that Saul Kassin, who was then president-elect, would form a task force (with Roesch’s input) to determine whether the association should have another journal and if so, what type of journal it should be. As far as Roesch knows, this was not done. Roesch is now raising the issue again to see if there is interest in pursuing this proposal.

Taylor & Francis Publishers indicated that they still have an interest in discussing a proposal to publish this journal. They are also willing to do a market analysis. Kovera noted that our new LHB contract includes language that requires we discuss any new journals with APA.

Cutler and Otto suggested that we consider additional possible topic areas for journals, but to do it in a broader more general way. Cutler will raise this issue with the strategic planning committee and report back to the EC in March.

Membership Renewal

Gaskey reported that she has developed a new membership application form that includes more information than we have previously been collecting. The new membership committee chaired by Foote (core committee members include the ECP chair, student chair, secretary) will work with Gaskey and Cutler to develop a letter a membership renewal to be mailed to the approximately 2000 people who were members in the past two years, but are not currently members.

Discussion was had about the need for more reminders and more personalized reminders. Gaskey will also send monthly email reminders from September 1 through December 31 to encourage renewals and informing members that their membership will expire on December 31. This email will be officially from the president. Although there was also support for an automatic renewal option, our current payment gateway does not permit that.

Bylaws – Brank and Griffin reported that the revision will be presented at or before the March meeting. If people have changes they know need to be made they should send them to Brank by early October.

Science Directorate – Heather O’Beirne Kelly and Steve Breckler presented about the work at the Science Directorate.

VII. Old Business

Dvoskin Presidential Initiative: Using Social Science to Reduce Violent Offending has been printed. The book’s description states: Over the past three decades, the American criminal justice system has been decreasing, but APA is working on
promoting the electronic versions of its journals.

The Guidelines for telepsychology is moving forward and the developers are looking for input. Please contact Linda Campbell about comments with this.

APA Council of Representatives approved the revised Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology, which take effect immediately. The revised guidelines—which were jointly developed by AP-LS and the American Board of Forensic Psychology—will be published in the American Psychologist. Until that time, go to the site link below to access a copy of the revised guidelines.

Special thanks go to AP-LS members Christina Studebaker and Sol Fulero, who served on the SFGP Revisions Committee and were integral to the revision process.

Book Award:

Woolard reported that the 2010-11 APLS Book Award was presented to Dan Lassiter and Chris Meissner for their 2010 edited volume, “Police interrogations and false confessions: Current research, practice, and policy recommendations.” Their award address at the APLS annual conference was well received. Because this is a biennial award, no nominations are actively sought at this time. Announcements will go out to the membership next year for the 2012-13 award.

Conference Advisory Committee (CAC):

The CAC has recently been focused on (1) identifying co-chairs for upcoming AP-LS conferences and APA conventions, and (2) making recommendations to the EC regarding locations for AP-LS 2013 and 2014. The CAC is composed of the conference co-chairs from the last two annual meetings and a student member. In addition, the upcoming co-chairs for AP-LS 2012 (Galin, Sivasubramanian, and Woolard) and APA 2012 (Finello and Goodsell) were appointed to the committee. The committee is currently looking for a graduate student member.

Dave DeMatteo is stepping down as Chair of the CAC in August 2011 due to his recent election to the position of Council Representative, and Jeff Neuschatz has been appointed as the new CAC Chair (by Patty Griffin). Neuschatz’s term as Chair will run from August 2011 to August 2014.

In March 2011, the CAC released a “call for co-chairs” for the AP-LS Program at the 2012 and 2013 APA Annual Conventions. The committee received several nominations, and Charlie Goodsell was appointed as a co-chair by Brian Cutler.

The CAC reviewed proposals for the locations of AP-LS 2013 and 2014, and then offered recommendations to the EC. The EC selected Portland for 2013 and the committee considered Nashville, Atlanta, and Las Vegas for APLS 2014. The EC voted by email and chose Nashville first and Atlanta second. The committee and Gaskey will now begin negotiations with the Loews Hotel in Nashville.

The committee is still seeking co-chairs for 2013 and 2014 APLS conference.

Continuing Education

Preconference Workshops: Galin reported that the CE committee is in the process of planning continuing education preconference workshops for March 14, 2012 in San Juan. The following workshops are planned and contracts are being prepared: Kirk Heilbrun on Risk Assessment (full day); Yossi Ben-Porath on Forensic Applications of the MMPI-2-RF (full day); Ed Mulvey and Carol Schubert on Pathways to Desistance Study (half day); Candice Odgers- Longitudinal Data Analysis in SEM (half day); Greg DeClue on Disputed Confessions; Mary Alice Conroy on Expert Witness Testimony. Individuals registered prior to January 15, 2011; however, a decision was made to Seventy-eight individuals attended CE workshops in Miami. Feedback from the workshop participants was extremely positive. One participant who attended Lorraine Johnstone’s workshop noted, “Presenter was fantastic! Keep bringing her back! She is well informed and a very effective communicator. Fabulous! Learned a lot!” Presenters were uniformly rated as well-prepared, responsive to questions, and skilled communicators. Contracts indicated that workshops could be canceled if a workshop had less than 15 individuals registered prior to January 15, 2011; however, a decision was made to proceed with all of the workshops.

Galin reported that the committee will attempt to advertise more in order to increase the number of participants and will negotiate the best AV contract. Other recommendations for staying budget neutral are welcome.

One issue is whether CEs should be considered a service to the membership. Cutler noted that it might be helpful to know how beneficial the CEs are to the attendees. Zapf and the conference co-chairs will ask on their evaluations about whether attending the CEs during the conference with Concept is more or less valuable than the pre-conference workshops and report back to the EC after the March meeting.

Overall, $3,140 more was spent on workshops than was collected from registration. Discussion was had about the need to raise workshop fees in order to offset workshop expenses. Cutler moved that there be a 10% increase in CE rates for non-students. Otto seconded. The motion passed.

The CE committee is still in need of additional members to join the committee.

Concept CE provider: Zapf reported that approximately 40 people participated in Concept and she received positive feedback from the participants. McAuliff motioned that we allow Concept to offer the CEs at the 2012 conference. Groscup seconded. The motion passed.

Corrections
Kroner submitted a report indicating that the committee has been active for 4 years. Members are: Joel Dyoskin, Patty Griffin, Robert Morgan, Ira Packer, and Jennifer Skeem, Karen Galin, Annette Christy, and Sarah Manchak. The student member is Megan O’Connor.

The purpose of the committee is to increase the presence of correctional research/activities within APLS. Traditionally, corrections has had a weak to non-existence presence. Yet there are thousands of Psychologists who service the 7M plus people who are under a criminal sanction. The committee’s goal is for these Psychologists to have APLS as their professional home.

Over the past few years there has been a slow and continuous increase in the number of correctional related activities at both APLS and APA. Even with this increase there are certain activities outlined below that the committee believes will further assist in attracting correctional researchers/Psychologists.

Invited address speaker. Fred Osher, a well-known correctional mental health psychiatrist, delivered the invited address in 2011. The session focused on the delivery of services for offenders with mental disorder. This session was well attended. It is proposed to have Frank Cullen, a highly cited criminologist and internationally recognized expert in correctional intervention, deliver the invited address at APLS and then lead a round table discussion with committee members and conference participants.

Student award specific to corrections. The student award has been managed by the Student Committee within their current structure. This correctional award would reinforce student work in corrections. The committee hopes this award will encourage correctional students in making APLS their long-term professional home.

Conference expert review committee. The committee would like to continue to use the corrections expert review committee for the 2012 conference by allowing the ratings of experts on that panel to inform corrections programming. Expert ratings would inform a rank ordering of symposia, papers and posters that the review chairs would submit to the APLS conference chairs.

Conference workshops. The committee would like to see future conferences have a strong emphasis on workshops/CE credits, and that these include correctional-related content. The Corrections Committee strongly supports an APLS strategy of having workshops as a standard conference activity, rather than relying on each year’s committee to arrange.

Per the EC discussion in March, the EC requested that the committee provide the number of conference attendees who listed corrections as their focus (at or before March 2012 EC meeting).

Dissertation Award Committee:

DeMatteo reported that the committee is composed of 15 appointed members, each of whom agree to serve a 3-year term. The following committee members have completed 3 years of service and are rotating off of the committee: Tracy Fass, Maria Hartwig, Jeff Haun, and Kathy Modecki. The committee would like to thank each of these members for their dedicated service over the past 3 years. Evan Harrington completed a 3-year term of service, but asked to be reappointed for another 3 years (approved by Griffin). Four new members will need to be appointed to keep the committee at 15 members. DeMatteo’s tenure as Chair expires in August 2011, and Rachel Kalbeitzer has been appointed as the new Chair (by Griffin). Kalbeitzer’s term as Chair will run from Aug. 2011 to Aug. 2014.

A call for dissertations for the next round of APLS Dissertation Awards will be printed in the Fall edition of the AP-LS Newsletter.

Early Career Psychologists (ECP)

Levett and Guy reported that the committee’s goal has been to help APLS come up with ways to support and increase membership in our Early Career Psychologists (ECPs). The members are Lora Levett, Kevin Douglas, Laura Guy, Lisa Hasel, and Caroline Crotcher. Lisa Hasel is rotating off this August as a member, and Lora Levett is rotating off as committee chair. The new committee members are Charlie Goodsell and Kathleen Kemp, and Laura Guy is starting a three-year rotation as committee chair. To date, the committee has gathered ideas from ECPs at APLS 2008, conducted a survey of the membership, organized workshops and socials for ECPs, created a newsletter column, and created an AP-LS ECP Grant in aid program that initiated last winter.

The committee requested to continue the ECP Grant-In-Aid program ($20,000). Similar to last year and the year before, the grant solicitation will be advertised in our division newsletter, through emails to the psych-law and early career psychologist list-servs, through emails to the division membership and to early career members, and on the website. Similar to last year, applicants will be encouraged to seek matching funds from their university for the grant, and all applications will be reviewed by at least two external reviewers. Applications will be evaluated on overall quality, originality, and potential contribution. Last year, the committee received 13 applications and awarded five applications funds ranging from $3,478.45 to $4,165.80.

At APLS 2011 Dr. Christian Meissner presented the annual AP-LS ECP Workshop. The workshop was titled ‘From the granting agency’s perspective: Grant writing for early career professionals and students in law and social sciences.’ It was very well attended and was co-sponsored with the student section.

For the next AP-LS, the committee is considering a workshop on writing or on presentation skills.

The ECP social at APLS last March was very well attended and was budgeted well (i.e., the food/drinks were consumed).

The committee is hosting a conversation hour/social for Division 41 ECPs (and ECPs who are interested in Division 41) at APA this year.

The ECP committee is currently developing more ideas for how to improve AP-LS’s support for ECPs. The committee plans on putting these ideas into a survey for the membership, and then using that survey
as an opportunity to gather feedback and more ideas from ECPs and other APLS members. Guy will report the data from this survey at the March EC meeting.

Grants-in-Aid

DiCataldo submitted a report indicating that the committee received 18 proposals in Spring 2011 and funded 12 of those proposals for a total of $7295.40. The committee consists of Stephen Ross (incoming chair), Marueen Reardon, and Lisa Hasel. The committee is in the process of recruiting an additional member with a forensic/clinic background. The EC requests that the Grants-in-Aid committee submit a more detailed report for the March meeting. Such report should include information about each grant awarded (e.g., recipient, amount, topic, university).

Interdisciplinary Grants

Spellman reported that in 2010, the Committee received five proposals and made one $5000 award. The winners of the 2010 award were Dr. Gary Patronek, a veterinary epidemiologist and founder of the Hoarding of Animals Research Consortium (HARC) and Dr. Kenneth J. Weiss, a Clinical Associate Professor of Psychiatry and Associate Director, Forensic Psychiatry Fellowship Program at the University of Pennsylvania School Of Medicine: A New Approach to Animal Hoarding. Results of their research will be presented at the 2012 or 2013 meeting.

As decided in the meeting in March, Mulvey and Meissner discussed this grant mechanism and decided that it would be best to examine this mechanism in conjunction with Cutler’s larger strategic planning process. Cutler reported that he and his strategic planning committee will be focus on this issue and other funding issues. Spellman agreed to remain the chair of committee for one additional year with the same committee so that they may provide insights to the planning committee as to the types of proposals that have been submitted in the past and other relevant information.

The Summer Newsletter will contain the following announcement (and the website has been updated accordingly):

The AP-LS Interdisciplinary Research Grants are taking a sabbatical. We will be revising this funding mechanism to be more in line with the needs and interests of our members and the availability of continuing funds. Thus, this year there is no October 15 deadline.

Mentorship Committee

Mitchell submitted a report indicating that the committee consists of the following members: Tracy Fass, Tara Mitchell (out-going Chair), Fadia Narchet, Veronica Stinson, V. Anne Tubb, Chriscelyn Tussey (incoming Chair).

This Committee was established in an effort to reach out to psychologists in the early stages of their careers and to graduate students who plan to enter a career in psychology and law. The committee reported their activities since March of 2009.

The committee is currently composed of 2 experimental legal psychologists, 1 experimental legal psychologist in a criminal justice department (meeting one of our goals to expand to a related-to-psychology field), 1 clinical psychologist-J.D. program director, 1 prison employee, and 1 clinical legal psychologist practitioner. This provides the committee with the most variety in members to date.

The AP-LS Mentorship website has been up and running (http://www.ap-ls.org/about/mentorship.html), as has the FAQ page (http://www.ap-ls.org/about/MentorshipFAQS.html). Anecdotal evidence from year round members and committee members shows that the website is in use, as people have been contacted with questions; however, evaluations from the conference mentoring lunch still show that relatively few people know of the website. Work will continue to increase visibility of the website, as well as ensure accuracy of the mentor list.

A mentor lunch was held at the 2011 conference; mentors were available at tables to discuss their top 5 tips for success in a variety of areas, from being successful undergraduates to gaining a post doc. This format was first used at the 2010 conference and has been highly successful. Unfortunately, due to a lack of advertising and last minute mentor cancellations, the attendance at this session was lower than the committee would like (but still approximately 50). Although the mentor cancellations are uncontrollable, the committee will revamp their efforts to get the word out about the session. Those who attended felt that it was very valuable and should be continued.

For the 2012 conference, the committee would like to hold a similar format, potentially working more closely with the Student Section in planning and advertising. The committee is encouraged by the growing number of undergraduates attending and would like to continue to ensure that we have mentors available for them.

Minority Affairs Committee (MAC)

Hunt submitted a report indicating that the MAC has continued to engage in activities to facilitate its primary goals of developing strategies for increasing the participation of underrepresented groups in the field of psychology and law and promoting related diversity in psychology and law. The committee consists of the following members: Jenn Hunt, Chair; Diane Sivasubramaniam; Sam Sommers; Michelle Hoy-Watkins; and Siji John. Hunt requested that a co-chair be appointed to this committee.

On Thursday, March 2, 2011, MAC held its third annual luncheon for the recipients of the student awards (i.e., Diversity in Psychology and Law Research Award and Diversity Travel Award). The luncheon, which was overseen by Diane Sivasubramaniam, recognized the students and provided them with the opportunity to engage in networking and informal mentoring with prominent scholars and clinicians in their areas of specialization. Feedback from participants indicated that the luncheon was enjoyable and successful at achieving its aims.
MAC funded research mini-grants to two high-quality student proposals, one from Cynthia J. Najdowski of the University of Illinois-Chicago and one from Joseph Hamm and Lindsey Wylie of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Najdowski’s research is examining stereotype threat for African American suspects during police interviews, and Hamm and Wylie’s research focuses on elder abuse. One of the student researchers (Hamm) is a member of an underrepresented group. The next deadline for proposals will be in October.

MAC only received one application for its undergraduate research program, Access Path to Psychology and Law Experience (APPLE). This application (from Shaina Berg of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln) was high in quality and funded. However, it is becoming evident that greater publicity is needed to make the APPLE Program successful. Increasing awareness and participation in the APPLE program is a central goal for the coming year. The committee plans to increase email, website, and postal mail announcements, as well as personal solicitations (e.g., contacting researchers working in or near colleges with substantial numbers of students from underrepresented groups).

The Ambassadors Program, which provides outreach about psychology and law to students at HBCUs and HSIs, was not active during the past year. The committee is considering whether single day visits to college campuses are the most effective way to increase the number of qualified graduate applicants from underrepresented groups. One possibility under consideration is integrating our efforts to increase publicity for the APPLE program (described above) with the Ambassador Program by helping to facilitate APPLE partnerships between students at HBCUs, HSIs, and tribal colleges and researchers in their geographical vicinity. Another possibility is using a webinar strategy to create a video about psychology and law (e.g., interviews with researchers, information about programs and the application process) and then setting up regular “chatroom” sessions where students who have questions or are interested in learning more can talk with researchers.

Professional Development of Women (PDW)

Terese Hall and Jennifer Eno Louden submitted a report indicating that the committee was formed in 2008, growing out of concerns about women’s relatively limited advancement in our field, particularly during the transitions from early to later career. Current committee members are: Julie Buck, Terese Hall, Jennifer Eno Louden, Chris Meissner, Kate Pivovarova (student member), and Matthew Huss.

The committee currently maintains a listserv, moderated by Jennifer Eno Louden. The listserv was launched in July 2009 at the suggestion of participants in the PDW committee’s panel discussion at the annual AP-LS conference. It serves as a forum for the discussion of professional issues in psychology and law—those issues that brought about the formation of the committee. Since its inception, the listserv has gained 61 members, and an average of 4 posts per month. However, the majority of posts have come from PDW committee members. The committee believes that there is strong interest in the listserv and the topics discussed there, as evidenced by positive feedback that the list moderator received from listserv subscribers at the last few APA and AP-LS conferences. Due to the sensitive nature of the issues discussed on the list (e.g., department climate related to maternity leave, satisfaction with life/work balance), the committee thinks that many list subscribers are reluctant to share their experiences in a public forum where posts are linked to individuals via email addresses. To allow AP-LS members to discuss these issues in an anonymous forum, the committee proposed that the format of the listserv be changed to a blog. The blog has been set up in accordance with feedback from EC members: the blog is moderated to ensure that inappropriate comments are removed; no listserv messages will be posted to the blog without the consent of the author; and the blog contains a disclaimer that the views posted therein do not represent the official views of AP-LS or APA. The blog can be accessed at http://psylaw-pdw.blogspot.com/

The committee administered an online survey of AP-LS members to assess issues that include gender-related gaps in pay and promotion, differences in academic and professional climates, and difficulties in balancing work with family. The committee designed three forms of the survey derived in part from the NSF “ADVANCE” initiative: faculty, non-faculty professional, and student. The survey was advertised via emails to the AP-LS membership listserv, the student listserv, and PSYLaw. It was also posted to the AP-LS main website by Kevin O’Neill. The survey garnered 787 respondents, a strong response rate. The first 400 respondents were mailed $5 Starbucks gift cards, which was funded by the AP-LS. The committee believes that these gift cards were instrumental in eliciting the high level of responses it did. The committee believes that the results of this survey will be invaluable to AP-LS, enabling the organization to identify and target barriers to professional advancement. The committee plans to incorporate the results of this survey into a symposium of gender issues and professional development in the field of psychology and law that we will submit as a proposal for the 2012 annual conference. The committee is currently seeking researchers and others to join in the symposium who can speak to issues relevant to the survey. Per the discussion from the March 2011 EC meeting, the committee will also present these survey results directly to the EC at or before the March 2012 EC meeting.

The committee has hosted events at the last three conferences, which have all been well-received. At the 2011 annual conference, the committee hosted guest speaker Dr. Karen Wyche, Research Scientist in the Women’s Health Institute (WHI), Howard University, and senior advisor to the HIV Center of Clinical and Behavioral Studies, New York State Psychiatric Institute and Columbia University. Dr. Wyche gave a talk entitled, “Running to Keep in Place: Can a competent professional have a balanced life?” For the first time, the PDW event was scheduled during regular conference programming, rather than as a preconference talk, but the large ballroom where it was held was not conducive to discussion. Nonetheless, the committee received uniformly positive feedback from attendees.

This year, the committee would like to host an event on leadership. This topic was chosen because (a) many survey respondents noted a high level of interest in this topic;
topic, and (b) this topic is applicable to a large cross-section of AP-LS members (men and women, all career stages). The committee’s goal is to foster leadership abilities among men and women in AP-LS. The committee requested a two-hour time slot during regular conference programming for this invited speaker.

Student Section

Montes reported that the student section has updated the interviews for the Student Section website and all interviews should be posted soon. Some of the interviews are in video format, which should further personalize the interviews with professionals. Also, the Student Section hosted a social hour at APA that was very well attended.

Chair-elect, Lauren Kois, transitions into her position of Chair at the time of the APA meeting. Elections are now being held for the 2011-2012 cabinet with elections ending on August 15th. For the 2011-2012 year, the cabinet has an initiative to expand the reach of the Student Section to not only graduate students but to undergraduate students.

Teaching, Training, and Careers

Berman submitted a report indicating that Mark Costanzo completed his term as chair June 30, 2011. The committee would like to thank Mark for all of his hard work and dedication as TTC chair. Under his leadership the committee was productive and developed a number of new initiatives. Garrett Berman assumed the role of chair July 1, 2011. Gina Vincent joined the committee in August 2010 and met with committee members during the 2011 International Congress on Psychology and Law in Miami. These personnel changes were approved in advance by President Mulvey. The committee is actively trying to recruit one (possibly two) new members from a large research university, a community college, or a law school. The committee is open to recommendations and ideas from the Executive Committee.

The TTC presented a symposium at the 2011 International Congress on Psychology and Law entitled Different Roads to Travel: Navigating Disparate Paths in Forensic Psychology Training. This symposium focused on training models in education beginning at the baccalaureate level and culminating in postdoctoral training. The symposium was well attended by faculty, mentors and students interested in differential training models for bachelor, master’s, doctoral, and post-doctoral programs. The committee plans to submit a symposium for the 2012 AP-LS conference in San Juan. Some ideas for the symposium include grant writing or teaching. Previous TTC symposia included The Job Search and Hiring Process in Academia, How to Manage an Assistantship, Get a Postdoctoral Forensic Fellowship, and How to Publish in Various Journals.

The committee continues to recruit and publish articles for the “Teaching Techniques” feature in the APLS Newsletter. To date, seven articles have been published and two AP-LS members have been invited to submit articles for the fall and spring volumes. Getting members to submit articles has been challenging. One goal is to compile all of the published articles on Teaching and have members access them through a quick link on the APLS website.

The committee received four outstanding nominations and applications for the 2011 Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring Award. Garrett Berman served as chair of the 2011 Award Committee. Brian Bornstein, M.L.S., Ph.D. was the recipient of the Outstanding Teaching and Mentoring Award presented during the opening session. In 2011, the award was designated to a teacher/mentor from a program/department that is doctoral granting. In 2012, Monica Miller will be chairing the teacher/mentor award committee. In even number years, the award will be distributed to a teacher/mentor from a program/department from a graduate-only or MA-terminus institution. Electronic reminders will go out to AP-LS members during the fall semester. Nomination information and deadlines are posted on the APLS Website.

The second edition of the Graduate School Guide was updated by Matt Huss and posted on the AP-LS website. This second edition updated the information on graduate programs in the first edition (developed by Garrett Berman and Terese Hall) and added eight more graduate programs in psychology and law. Students viewing the Table of Contents can link to each program by clicking on the name of the school. The guide was developed to help students and advisors systematically compare psychology and law programs using the same categories (program facts, admission criteria, opportunities for research or practica, and funding availability). An article about the guide was published the Journal of Forensic Psychology Practice.

Another useful guide on clinical-forensic internships was developed by Alvin Malesky. This Directory of Postdoctoral Internships in Clinical Forensic Psychology was created by Alvin Malesky who surveyed directors of clinical internships with a focus on forensic psychology. This guide is posted on the AP-LS website as well and the committee is discussing ways to update that guide.

Undergraduate Paper Award

Krauss submitted a report indicating that the Undergraduate Paper Award Committee received 13 submissions in 2011. This was the 3rd year in row with over 10 submissions. Before that period, submissions ranged from 2-5 per year. Seven committee members participated in the evaluation of the submissions (Daniel Krauss, Chair; Naomi Goldstein, Judith Platania, Steven Clark, Wendy Heath, Twila Wingrove, Tara Mitchell). Krauss will be stepping down as chair next year and Twila Wingrove has volunteered to rotate into the chair position. Each paper, with identifying information removed, was evaluated on 5 criteria (independence, originality, design and analyses, cooperation, and quality of writing) by at least 2 members of the committee. This year was the first year in which monetary awards were advertised and offered for the winners. Final results of the 2011 winners should be available by mid-August.

For the first time, there was tie for 1st place. Devon Porter from Reed College and advised by Daniel Reisberg was awarded the top prize. Her paper was entitled “The Effect of the Appearance-Change Instruction on Same-Race and Cross-Race Eyewitness Identifications,” and one reviewer highlighted the importance of this paper.
by noting “This author’s work suggests that appearance change instruction can increase accuracy unlike what previous researchers have found. This is important because many police departments use this instruction.” Also receiving top honors was James Lant from University of Ontario Institute of Technology, and his submission entitled “The Impact of Cognitive Load, Race, and Criminal History on Perceptions of Defendant Guilt in Pre-Trial Publicity.” Reviewers commented that the paper offered “… a novel combination of cognitive load and pretrial publicity on (perceptions of) the understudied Canadian First Nations population,” and that “The student’s findings lend themselves to introduce new explanations for pre-existing stereotypes and juror decision-making. I see this as a publishable study.” His paper was advised by Kimberley Chow. The two 1st place award winners will both receive $400. Christina Stanford from Sam Houston State University was awarded 2nd place. Her submission was advised by Jeffrey Anastasi and entitled, “The Effect of Multiple Own-Group Dimensions on Face Recognition: Evidence for an Additive Effect.” The committee again hopes to have the winners present their results as posters at the next AP-LS in Puerto Rico, and will confer with the conference chairs about this issue Overall, this award appears to have gained traction with substantially increased submissions over the past three years.

VIII. Publications

Law and Human Behavior

Cutler reported that from January 1 and May 30, 2011, LHB received 78 new submissions, an increase of 11% over the same period in 2010 (70). With few exceptions, authors received editorial decisions within 45-60 days of submission thanks to the timely work of reviewers, the editorial board, and the editorial team. As of this date, there are 52 manuscripts published in online first, 3 additional manuscripts accepted for publication, 8 manuscripts in revision status, and 24 under review. Journal operations are running smoothly, and the quality of manuscripts accepted for publication is excellent. The EC elected Margaret Bull Kovera as In-coming Editor-in-Chief effective January 1, 2012. AP-LS now has a signed contract with APA to publish LHB effective January 1, 2012. The editorial team is currently working on the transition from Springer to APA.

Griffin thanked Cutler and Kovera for all of their work on the publisher transition.

Newsletter

Groscup recognized the hard work of the Newsletter’s column editors. Their dedication to soliciting and writing high quality articles makes the Newsletter an excellent resource for the members. The newsletter needs new editor(s) for the Expert Opinion column. If interested, please contact Matt Huss (mhuss@creighton.edu). The newsletter is also in need of a co-editor for the Research Briefs Column to supervise the clinically oriented research briefs. The best candidate would have access to a team of graduate students to assist with the briefs. Please contact Maria Hartwig (mhartwig@jjay.cuny.edu) if you are interested or know someone who may be interested. As Presidents change at this meeting, the Presidential Column author will also change. Thank you to Patty Griffin for her thoughtful columns this year under the Presidential Column. We look forward to continuing this column with Brian Cutler as next year’s AP-LS President.

Second, there has been much more news about the excellent work of our committees into the Newsletter this year, thanks to the hard work of the committees and the committee Chairs. There has been much success with recurring columns from committees such as the Mentoring Committee. If a committee has information to report in a substantive column format, the newsletter would welcome the addition to the News on a one-time or on a recurring basis. The newsletter editor also looks forward to announcements about our upcoming annual conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico in the next two issues.

Third, in an effort to make the News more online friendly, all of the regularly appearing columns (such as Presidential Column, LHB Updates, Legal Update, Expert Opinion, Research Briefs, Actual Innocence, Teaching Techniques, etc.) will now appear separately online so that members can easily look through past columns.

Fourth, Groscup’s term as Newsletter Editor ends in August, 2011. Groscup noted that it has been my privilege to serve AP-LS in this position for the last 6 years and thanked AP-LS members and the Executive Committee for the support. Congratulations to Matt Huss on his appointment to serve as the new Editor.

The Newsletter will be published in October 2010, February 2011, and June 2011. The deadlines for submissions for these issues will be September 1, January 1, and May 1, respectively. Please note these deadlines in your schedule if you are planning to submit something to the Newsletter. The Newsletter cannot be published timely on this schedule if submissions are not made on time. Thank you. Please send all of your submissions to mhuss@creighton.edu.

Book Series

Series editor Zapf reported that the editorial board consists of Gail S. Goodman, Thomas Grisso, Craig Haney, Kirk Heilbrun, Margaret Kovera, John Monahan, Marlene Moretti, Edward P. Mulvey, N. Dickon Reppucci, Ronald Roesch, Gary L. Wells, and Larry S. Wrightsman.


Two new contracts have been entered into with authors for this series. Each of these should make a nice addition to the series. Barbara Fidler, Nicholas Bala, & Michael Saini: Children Resisting Contact Post-Separation & Parental Alienation: An Evidence-Based Review; and Monica Miller & Brian Bornstein: Trauma, Stress, and Well-Being in the Legal System. One additional book proposal has been accepted by Oxford but the author is now shopping it around to other publishers to see where she can get the best contract.

Please contact Zapf to discuss book ideas.

Web Editor
O'Neil reported that in an effort to collect more information about AP-LS members a few fields (member status, year of birth, willingness to serve on committees) were added to the Web site’s database. However, the Web site’s databases, Kathy’s membership databases, and email lists remain separate.

In March the EC discussed pros and cons of hosting the AP-LS Web site on APA’s servers, which would be free of charge and the site would also be re-designed free of charge. Five other Divisions (6, 28, 35, 39 and 49) have their web sites on APA: http://www.apa.org/about/division/officers/dialogue/2011/07/launch-websites.aspx. The sites appear to be well designed, but are very similar to each other. However, design is less of an issue than the change in how membership is handled. Please see the minutes from March for more information about this website change.

Cutler and O’Neil will investigate additional information particularly as it relates to the control of content and delay in changes and report back to the EC through email before the meeting in March.

Psychology, Public Policy, and Law

Roesh reported that Psychology, Public Policy, & Law has continued to experience a healthy increase in submissions. As of July 26, there have been 65 submissions, compared to 45 at this time last year. The rejection rate remains at about 75%, but the increase in submissions has allowed an increase in the number of articles published. In 2010, PPP&L published 17 articles and a total of 450 pages, compared to 13 increase in pages published. This year, Roesh expects to publish close to the allotted page budget of 600. Roesh also noted that Online First Publication is now available. The journal’s impact factor is 2.16.

Michael Lamb has been appointed as the incoming editor of Psychology, Public Policy, & Law. Lamb is Professor and Head, Department of Social and Developmental Psychology, Cambridge University. His term will be 2013-2018. Lamb will start accepting manuscripts next year.

Otto motioned to adjourn. Brank seconded. Motion passed.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Eve M. Brank
Division Secretary

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**Council of Representatives Meeting**

**August 3, 2011, 9:00-5:00**

Submitted by Randy Otto & Bill Foote

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Call to Order and Roll Call

Dr. Vasquez called the meeting to order and Dr. Anton took roll.

President’s Report

Dr. Vasquez provided an update of her work and travel during her tenure as APA President. She referenced her task force on immigration, her task force on preventing discrimination and encouraging diversity, her task force on educational disparities, and the task force on telepsychology. This latter group has put out a call for comments and Div 41 members are encouraged to contact Dr. Linda Campbell with thoughts since this could impact forensic practice.

Chief Executive Officer’s Report

Dr. Anderson described progress on APA’s strategic plan, and indicated that they are now focusing on development of strategic initiatives, based on input from APA boards and committees and the executive management group. Activities include 1) assessing and restructuring the APA business model and examining what APA provides to its members for their dues, 2) analyzing the current and future demand for the psychology workforce, 3) development of treatment guidelines for various areas— with a goal of one guideline per year, 4) expanding public education campaign, 5) developing opportunities for graduate and professional development to advance psychology in health—including interdisciplinary training, 6) increasing support for research, training, education, public education, and interventions that reduce health disparities among underserved and marginalized populations, and 7) forging alliances with health care organizations to include psychologists in integrated care.

Dr. Anderson also referenced APA’s efforts to improve the APA governance process, including shoring up the financial future of APA. He went on to discuss a number of new products developed by APA publications including PsycTHERAPY, PsychTESTS, PsycREF, PsycEXTRA, and development of Apple applications. There is now an APA convention agenda application.

Dr. Anderson reported that registration for Washington DC was 11,619 as of August 1. This was OK/good as compared to attendance of recent years…..San Diego: 11,045; Toronto: 8,824; Boston: 10,502.

Consent Agenda

A number of items were reviewed and passed via a consent agenda.

Election of Initial Fellows
A number of psychologists were voted by the Council of Representatives as fellows in various APA divisions, including Barry Rosenfeld and Mario Scalora via Division 41.

Revision of President Elect Nominations

Council voted to revise the nomination process for APA President-Elect.

Procedural Safeguards to Ensure Scientific Merit in Reports, Motions, and Resolutions

Council voted to revise the APA rules to make clear that reports, motion, and resolutions have to include most recent scientific support, and that such claims must be checked/verified.

Diversity Training for APA Governance Members

Council decided that diversity training for 2012 would focus on disability issues.

Increase the Number of Persons on the Committee on Professional Practice and Standards

Council voted to increase the number of persons on this committee from eight to nine, given the council’s significant workload.

Specialty Guidelines for Forensic Psychology

Council voted to approve/accept the SGFP draft—about 142-13-3. These guidelines are now in effect.

Financial Report

The financial report was delivered by APA Treasurer Dr. Bonnie Markham and APA CFO Archie Turner. There should be a substantial budget surplus for 2011 (about $2,000,000) and the 2012 budget will be balanced (the annual budget is about $105,000,000). Dues revenue peaked in 2008 (about $14,000,000) and has fallen each year since. However, publications/licensing revenue has increased each year since 1988, with income from print products decreasing and income from licensing revenues increasing more recently. Real estate holdings (2 buildings) and long term investments are in good shape (long term investments have averaged over 11% annual return since 1988). APA just engaged in a comprehensive review and revision of its financial policies—something that had not been done in over 20 years.

Meeting Adjourned

(Meeting Adjourned)

Council of Representatives Meeting
August 5, 2011, 9:00-12:00

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order.

Awards

Dr. Vasquez recognized Joseph Matarazzo for his financial contributions to the American Psychological Foundation and gave the Raymond Fowler Award to Bonnie Strickland for her career contributions to psychology and APA.

Changes to the Annual Convention Format

Council agreed to a number of changes to the convention, starting in 2014 and lasting for a 3 year period, after which the changes and their effects will be evaluated. This will result in decreased program hours for all for divisions, increased hours devoted to collaborative, cross-cutting programs, and fewer sessions with low attendance. It may also allow APA to consider meeting in cities whose smaller convention centers would otherwise preclude serving as a host city.

Report on the World Health Organization's ICD-11 Classification of Mental and Behavioural Disorders

Drs. Reed (who is APA consultant/appointee to the ICD working group) and Ritchie offered a report on the development of the of the ICD-11 mental and behavioural disorders classification scheme.

Update on APA Disaster Response Network

Council was updated on the functioning of the APA Disaster Response Network, which is 20 years old and is a partnership with the American Red Cross.

Strategic Plan Initiatives and Funding

Council voted to provide funding for ongoing efforts to develop APA's strategic plan.

Dues Exemption Amendment

Council voted to submit to the membership for its consideration APA bylaws and rules amendments directing that Council would decide upon what bases persons would be dues exempt. This is a change from the current bylaws, under which persons are dues-exempt at the age of 65-providing that they have at least 25 years of membership.

Resolution for Advocacy of Psychology as a STEM Discipline

Council passed a resolution on advocating psychology as a STEM discipline.

Presidential Citations

Melba Vasquez referenced presidential citations she provided to a number of psychologists for their contributions to psychology, APA, and the public.

Meeting Adjourned

(MEETING ADJOURNED)
Minority Affairs Committee:  
Diversity in Psychology and Law Column  
Call for Applications: 2011-2012 Diversity in Psychology and Law Research Awards  
Sponsored by the Minority Affairs Committee

Description of the Award:

The purpose of the Diversity in Psychology and Law Research Awards is to promote diversity within the American Psychology-Law Society by supporting student research on psycholegal issues related to diversity as well as research by students from underrepresented groups. Projects are eligible for consideration for this award if 1) they investigate topics related to psychology, law, diversity, and/or multiculturalism (i.e., research pertaining to psycholegal issues on race, gender, culture, sexual orientation, etc.) or 2) if the principal investigator is a member of an underrepresented group, including racial and ethnic minorities, first-generation college students, LGBT individuals, and physically disabled students. Consistent with the mission of the Minority Affairs Committee (MAC), these awards are intended to facilitate the research of individuals from groups that are underrepresented in AP-LS, as well as research about issues of potential interest and importance to such groups.

Award Amounts

Three mini-grants in the amount of $1000.00 will be given, with an option to divide the third award into two $500.00 mini-grants.

Eligibility for Awards

Students who are current student members of AP-LS may apply. Both graduate and undergraduate students are eligible, and students from underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply. Underrepresented groups include but are not limited to racial and ethnic minorities, first-generation college students, LGBT individuals, and physically disabled students. The proposed research must primarily be the original work of the student applicant. In their proposal, students should describe any relationship between the proposed project and their advisors’ research, as well as any other funding for the project (student or advisor). Applicants should request funding only for expenses not covered by their own or advisors’ existing funding.

Applications

Applications will be awarded on a competitive basis and selected based on the quality of the proposed research, the impact of the project for promoting diversity and multiculturalism in psychology and law, and the ability for the project to be completed within one year of the project start date. All proposals will be reviewed by members of the Minority Affairs Committee.

Award applications should contain the following:

1. A cover letter on letterhead which provides all contact information and specifies how the project is eligibility for this award.
2. A 5-page minimum and 10-page maximum (double-spaced; not including references) project description. Project descriptions need to contain the following information:
   - **Specific Aims:** A clear, concise statement of the research problem and the relevance of the project to the mission of the award. Applicants should describe the specific objectives to be accomplished during the award period.
   - **Background and Significance:** An overview of relevant empirical literature related to the project. Applicants should discuss the project’s likely impact on the overall field of psychology and law, as well as with respect to understanding and promoting diversity and/or multiculturalism. They also should address how this award will benefit the research, including its potential to generate ongoing future research.
   - **Project Design:** A detailed description of the expected course of the project including detailed information related to methodology (e.g., participants, procedures, measures) and analytic strategy.
   - **Budget:** A detailed project budget with expected dollar amounts for expenses, and justification of those expenses.
   - 3. A curriculum vitae for the applicant
   - 4. A letter of support from the applicant’s research advisor discussing the applicant’s ability to complete the project and his or her willingness to supervise the research. If the applicant’s proposal is related to the advisor’s research, the letter should discuss how the project reflects the student’s original work.

Applicant Responsibilities

Award recipients will need to maintain financial receipts for all project expenses. They also are required to submit a project summary to the MAC Co-Chairs within one month of the project completion date.

Submission Instructions and Deadline

Proposals for this award must be submitted electronically in either Microsoft Word or PDF format to the MAC Co-Chairs, Jenn Hunt (huntjs@buffalostate.edu) and Antoinette Kavanaugh (antoinetteatcjcc@gmail.com). Letters of support should be sent as separate attachments, either by the student or directly by the advisor. The deadline for submitting proposals is November 15, 2011.

Inquiries

Please direct all inquiries about the Diversity in Psychology and Law Research Award and/or specific projects to the MAC Co-Chairs, Jenn Hunt (huntjs@buffalostate.edu) and Antoinette Kavanaugh (a-kavanaugh@law.northwestern.edu).
Minority Affairs Committee Student Award Updates
Jenn Hunt and Antoinette Kavanaugh, MAC Co-Chairs

The Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) is pleased to announce its most recent student award winners.

The Diversity in Psychology and Law Research Award is a competitive mini-grant program that supports student research on issues related to race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, and other forms of diversity in psychology and law. It also supports research on other issues in psychology and law that is being conducted by students from underrepresented groups. In this cycle, three students received awards:

Joseph A. Hamm and Lindsey E. Wylie, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, *Measuring Older Adult Trust in the Courts and Police: Implications for Abuse Reporting*

Cynthia J. Najdowski, University of Illinois at Chicago, *Stereotype Threat in Police Encounters: Are African Americans at Risk of Being Targeted as Suspects?*

The Access Path to Psychology and Law Experience (APPLE) program is designed to increase diversity within the field of psychology and law by helping undergraduate students from underrepresented groups gain research experiences that will help them to become competitive graduate school applicants. In this cycle, one student was accepted into the APPLE program:

Shaina Bergt, University of Nebraska-Lincoln (Mentor: Eve Brank)

These students will be formally recognized at the MAC Student Award Luncheon at the 2012 AP-LS conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

The next deadline for both the Diversity in Psychology and Law Research Awards and the APPLE program is November 15, 2011. More information can be found in the calls for proposals in this issue of the newsletter.

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AP-LS Dissertation Award Program

The American Psychology-Law Society confers Dissertation Awards for scientific research and scholarship relevant to the promotion of the interdisciplinary study of psychology and law. Students who complete dissertations involving basic or applied research in psychology and law, including its application to public policy, are encouraged to apply for these awards. To be eligible for these awards, you must be a member of AP-LS and defend your dissertation in 2011. First-, second-, and third-place awards will be conferred, and the winners will be invited to present their research at the 2012 AP-LS Conference, which is being held March 14-17, 2012, in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

To apply for the Dissertation Awards, please attach the following items in an e-mail to aplsdissertations@gmail.com by December 31, 2011: (1) the dissertation as it was submitted to the student’s university (in Word or pdf); (2) the dissertation with all author, advisor, and school identifying information removed (in Word or pdf); and (3) a letter of support from the dissertation advisor. For more information, please contact Rachel Kalbeitzer (rkalbeitzer@gmail.com), Chair of the Dissertation Awards Committee.
Introduction

by Joel A. Dvoskin, Patty Griffin

At the APA Convention in August, we attended an excellent presentation on the heartbreaking topic of children who are bought and sold within the United States for the purposes of sexual exploitation. This presentation expanded upon the forced prostitution and human trafficking Presidential Plenary symposium at our annual conference in March. Although the presentation at APA on commercial sexual exploitation of children was well attended, it occurred to us that many more forensic psychologists and scholars in psychology and law would greatly benefit from learning about this form of sexual organized crime.

We asked the presenters if they would be willing to share some of this vital information with the members of AP-LS, many of whom work in tough settings and whose clients and evaluatees might include perpetrators and/or victims of these tragic crimes. It is our hope that this information will stimulate AP-LS members to pay more attention to the study and prevention of this form of sexually motivated kidnapping and slavery.

We are grateful and pleased to present this article summarizing this form of organized crime, along with some suggestions regarding the manner in which the field of psychology and law can contribute to its demise.

Introduction and definition of the problem

In recent years, the international trafficking of women and girls for commercial sexual purposes has deservedly received increased attention in the popular press as well as by governmental and law enforcement officials. In contrast, considerably less attention has been paid to the trafficking of youth for sexual purposes within the boundaries of the United States. This lack of attention or systemic commitment to ending the practice persist despite what Estes and Weiner (2001) asserts is the “most hidden form of child abuse in the United States and American today.” This limited awareness about the prevalence of forced prostitution of children and adolescents in the United States has maintained a troubling status quo: youth are routinely arrested and prosecuted under state sexual solicitation statutes and imprisoned. Most disturbingly, prosecution of children occurs while their adult customers and third-party exploiters typically face few if any legal consequences. Due to increased awareness and federal legislation (see TVPA, 2008), international trafficking victims receive protection and resources, including expedited visas, food assistance, shelter, education, and job training. However, American victims, regardless of their age, are typically treated as criminals in the justice system and provided with little or no services upon their release from the system, thereby invariably ensuring their return to their exploiters.

The challenges that face this child population are significant and varied. Such dilemmas begin with the seemingly benign task of deciding the appropriate terminology to use when identifying affected youth. Although lay people and professionals have used the terms prostitution and prostitute for years, other language (e.g., prostituted child) has been proposed. This is not only to shift the onus and agency of the behavior away from the individual child, but also to buttress the growing recognition that involved children are, in fact, victims. From a historical perspective, youth involved in prostitution constitute a population that has been radically misperceived as to their degree of choice and agency concerning their participation in sexual exploitation. Affected girls have been commonly seen as morally corrupt, sexually deviant, or “bad” rather than in need of help (Birkhead, 2011). Thus, legal scholars, along with many supporters in the survivor-led advocacy movement and the child protection community, propose that the most apt terminology is the “commercial sexual exploitation of children” (CSEC), or sexually exploited child for commercial purposes. Unfortunately, at the current time, there remains no consensus about language among the many systems and agencies charged with protecting and responding to child victims (e.g., law enforcement, court officials, survivor-led services, child protection agencies, and the general public). Importantly, how an agency or discipline names and defines an involved child will portend its attitudes and assumptions about commercial sexual exploitation, and may also determine the child’s ultimate treatment as either a criminal or a victim or some hybrid of both. Further, it is our clinical experience that involved youth are keenly aware of how the majority of people perceive the term prostitute and the industry it represents, including the effects of this language and entrenched attitudes on their own self-perception (e.g., self-perceived culpability and self-conceptualization as “damaged goods”). These prevailing attitudes and stigmatization impacts the child’s sense of entitlement to services and help.
Prevalence of the problem: What we know and do not know

Young people are manipulated, forced or coerced into prostitution every day throughout the United States. According to the United States Department of Justice’s Center for Child Exploitation and Obscenity, the average age of entry into the commercial sex industry for is 12-15 years. For boys and transgender youth the age is even younger. ¹ Trafficking of minors within the United States happens in all communities, whether urban, suburban, or rural. Pimps, also known as traffickers or exploiters, seek out vulnerable youth by targeting them in places where they typically spend time: shopping malls, schools, bus stations, all-age nightclubs, and group homes. Of note, imagery in popular culture and music has come to glamorize aspects of pimp culture and some youth perceive the associated lifestyle to offer status, wealth and upward mobility (Sher, 2011). Absent from this popular discourse in which “pimpology” (Gohlson, 2011; Ken & Hunter, 2008) is lauded as a reflection of male prowess and power, however, are the manipulation tactics that exploiters utilize to deliberately target vulnerable youth. Pimps target youth from varied backgrounds and trap/entice teenagers based on their vulnerabilities. This process may resemble “grooming,” a process more widely understood as associated with other forms of childhood sexual abuse. Our clinical observations in juvenile court clinics as well as stories in the popular press indicate that some pimps actively seek survivors of abuse and neglect, especially youth in the care of the state child protection system.

The most oft cited statistic by the Department of Justice, survivor-led agencies, child protection agencies, and some researchers assert that the estimated number of children who are being commercially exploited for sexual purposes at any given time in the U.S. is around 300,000 (Estes & Weiner, 2001). This figure is an estimate only, however, and not derived from epidemiological research. Leading maltreatment researchers have critiqued prevalence estimates and concluded that no scientifically credible estimate of the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in the U.S. currently exists (Stransky & Finkelhor, 2008). This lack of evidence may be due to the inherent difficulties of empirically studying this population (Melrose, 2002) as well as a general understimation of the prevalence and severity of the problem. The authors expressed concern about the possible unintended harm of continuing to reference numbers that could vastly underestimate (or overestimate) the true extent of the problem. Thus, they advocate for developing better research methodologies rather than citing a potentially misleading figure (Stransky & Finkelhor, 2008).

Despite these methodological limitations, several trends suggest an increasing number of girls and youth are being coerced into the commercial sex industry in the U.S. First, there has been a proliferation of online commercial sexual exploitation on advertising websites such as Craigslist and “backpages” as well as social networking sites (see 2010 Report to Congress). Experts in child exploitation from the fields of law enforcement and computer forensics assert that the Internet and social networking sites are the new means by which recruitment and exploitation now occurs. This, too, has contributed to the problem’s relative social invisibility (e.g., from the streets to “online brothels”). Second, there are lesser penalties currently contained in the United States’ and individual states’ criminal codes regarding the consequences for the exploitation girls and women compared to the increasingly more strict penalties for drug offenses. This disparity has served to shift many criminal enterprises away from the selling of drugs for profit to the selling of girls for profit. As one FBI agent poignantly stated, “The sex trade is the new drug trade” (Sher, 2011). Finally, with respect to our own clinical experience and anecdotal observations in the juvenile justice and child protection systems in the city of Boston, the number of girls presenting to the court and child protection officials appears to be on the upswing. This increase suggests that the child exploitation has become more prevalent.

In addition, the sociocultural influences we previously noted regarding the normalization and glamorization of the life of exploiters and those exploited are increasingly mainstream and appear in multi-media outlets (e.g., music and movies that glorify the lifestyle of a pimp, video games such as Grand Theft Auto that allow the player to earn additional points for killing a prostitute and getting their money back, multiple books sold on Amazon.com that promote the pimp lifestyle and provide instructions on how to “turn out” a girl.) The word pimp itself is colloquially used to suggest social status, prestige and upward mobility (e.g., MTV’s now cancelled but formerly popular program, “Pimp My Ride”). Although research on these trends is limited, the American Psychological Association’s Task Force on the Sexualization of Girls (Zurbriggen et al., 2007) details the many ways in which girls are being socialized into viewing themselves as objects to satisfy the sexual needs of others as opposed to their own sexual agency, desire, and self-assertion.

The consequences for victims of sexual exploitation

In our experience, the consequences for girls who are coerced into the world of sexual exploitation are brutal and enduring. In the legal realm, criminalization of girls remains the prevailing legal framework and many believe that this treatment is re-traumatizing and logistically problematic. One of the ongoing tensions within the legal world regarding the sexual exploitation of children is the contradiction between age of consent laws and laws regarding prostitution. Most states place the age of consent to sex at age sixteen. Yet, in these same states, girls as young as eleven, twelve, and thirteen are being prosecuted under the states prostitution laws. Thus, a child who is too young to consent to sex can be prosecuted as a prostitute even while the adults who bought and sold her face minimal if any penalties. Slowly but steadily, new state and federal laws reinforce the need to treat these young people as victims and attempt to defeat the longstanding acceptance of the practice of selling and purchasing young women for sex. For example, at the current time, anti-trafficking legislation has been introduced in the majority of states, and this legislation seeks to increase the penalties against third-party exploiters. Some states have used this legislation to increase penalties against customers as well. In addition, some states have implemented stricter penalties for men who seek services from underage girls. Currently, in many states, a customer or “john” still receives the same penalty for purchasing sex from a woman over the age of 18 or an underage child (Sher, 2011). States are beginning to change these laws, some legislative initiatives going as far as placing the onus on the customer regarding the age of sex worker and not permitting the customer to state that they did not know the age of the woman/child as a defense in court.
In addition to anti-trafficking laws, Safe Harbor Legislation (SHL) has been introduced and/or passed in a much smaller number of states. SHL seeks to decriminalize children engaged in "prostitution" and divert them to child protection services, counseling and treatment program. Currently, approximately five states have passed Safe Harbor Legislation and a few other states have Safe Harbor bills in various stages of being presented to state legislative bodies. Unfortunately, laws are few and remain problematic in some respects. For example, in some states this law only applies to girls under the age fifteen (i.e., New York), even though the age of consent in New York is seventeen and Federal Laws define a child victim of sexual exploitation as under age 18. Additionally, many of these laws (including a new law being considered by the Massachusetts legislature) mandate that the child’s case return to the juvenile justice system if he/she does not cooperate with services. In addition, repeat "offenders" are not protected. Nevertheless, these evolving changes in the laws do reflect a nascent transformation in how the legal system perceives and responds to involved girls.

Even more encouraging is a federal law (the reauthorization of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act) spearheaded by Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney and passed by US Congress in 2009 that strongly equated the commercial sexual exploitation of children with slavery (Sher, 2011). In fact, the law was named after William Wilberforce, the abolitionist who fought to end slavery in the 19th century.

In addition to this complicated range of legal consequences, in our experience, substantial psychological consequences may result from girls’ involvement in commercial sexual exploitation. As girls are initiated into the lifestyle, exploiters may use a variety of techniques to gain control over them and to ensure their long-term commitment to the exploiter and the lifestyle. Girls are isolated from their previous family and friends and inducted into a new “family” (i.e., their exploiter and the other girls and women working for that person) that demands unwavering loyalty and strict adherence to a multitude of rules. Girls may be repeatedly told that no one in the “outside” or “square world” will understand them and will condemn and judge them for the choices they have made. Of course, this indoctrination may have critical implications for girls’ capacities to trust and engage with adults in a position to help (i.e., psychologists). Girls commonly endure severe and frequent violence by exploiters and customers. Pimps may encourage girls to use illegal, intoxicating, and addictive substances, which is another means to control girls’ behavior, foster dependence, and compromise their capacities for self-protection.

When girls attempt to leave their exploiters, they are threatened, beaten, and raped. Girls who have escaped often report stories of girls who have “disappeared” when they have attempted to leave. The girls also face severe medical consequences stemming from repeated violence, malnutrition, sleep deprivation, exposure to STDs, pregnancy, addiction, and infertility. The mental health consequences are enormous, ranging from post-traumatic stress disorder, symptoms of complex traumatic stress, depression, suicidality and self-harm, etc. Paradoxically, girls may often feel better about themselves while involved in sexual exploitation because they may be intermittently praised by their exploiters for earning money and by their customers for appearing attractive. When they leave, they often experience a plummeting in their sense of self as they interact with a world that identifies them first and foremost as a “prostitute,” and fails to either see or help the girl identify her considerable strengths for having exited the world her exploiter created. This, too, poses challenges to mental health systems where youth may reject the identity of a “patient” or “group home kid.” The girls have often missed years of education and/or vocational training and need assistance in ferreting out avenues to accomplish their goals. The girls often face legal consequences either as identified perpetrators or as witnesses against their exploiters. Both of these legal avenues are often retraumatizing for the girls. The girls also face the lack of very concrete needs such as food, obtaining identification (often kept by their exploiter), shelter, medical care, legal assistance, security (if there are concerns regarding the lethality of their exploiter), psychological treatment, substance abuse treatment, social/emotional support and a supportive community, educational opportunities, as well as the more abstract needs of finding ways to build their sense of self and identify internal strengths that provide them with hope. All of these outcomes serve a more insidious purpose as well: the consequences become significant barriers to exiting the lifestyle, seeking help and resisting the understandable pull to return to one’s exploiter.

An important store of knowledge about commercial sexual exploitation is derived from the experiences of women formerly involved in this lifestyle who now mentor involved youth. Survivor-led programming and survivor-clinician collaborations have been at the forefront of raising awareness and promoting advocacy for this underserved child population. These initiatives have garnered needed attention for the problem of commercial sexual exploitation and helped to articulate the needs of affected girls. Survivor-led rehabilitation services (e.g., GEMS in New York City is among the most well known) have also been influential in designing a continuum of services that affected youth require. Such a continuum recognizes that exiting one’s exploiter and the lifestyle is a process, and that girls require services tailored to their particular stage in this process. One important point on this continuum of services is the prevention of girls’ involvement in the first place, and an organization in Massachusetts called the My Life My Choice Project offers one model program. At My Life My Choice, survivors co-lead prevention groups with clinicans that equip girls with ways to identify recruitment tactics commonly used by pimps and ways to identify factors in their own lives that may place them at particular risk. In addition to prevention groups, survivors mentor girls who are involved with and/or struggling to leave an exploiter. One role that survivor mentors may serve is to educate girls about the role of mental health treatment and its utility in their own recovery. Girls involved in commercial sexual exploitation may understandably harbor negative views of formal treatment systems due to past involvement in the child protection system or the courts. A survivor mentor, by virtue of shared experience and a common language – both powerful antidotes to traumatic experience - may also help girls to engage with needed treatment in addition to the mentoring bond.

The influence of survivor-led programming suggests the value of partnerships between survivors and mental health clinicians given the complementary knowl-
edge stores each group may offer the problem. From a psychological perspective, we suggest that the self-esteem, identity, and positive regard that youth may derive from their relationship with their exploiter is quite understandable given the previously unmet attachment needs and maltreatment that likely pervade girls’ early histories (Wilson & Widom, 2010). As such, the relationship between a girl and her exploiter may be conceptualized as form of traumatic bonding (Herman, 1992) and the difficulties associated with exiting the relationship reminiscent of domestic violence. Similar to the awareness associated with domestic violence movement only twenty years ago and that of child sexual abuse a decade prior, we suggest that awareness about commercial sexual exploitation of children as a form of child sexual abuse is experiencing a similar sea change. We believe that psychologists may play a unique and critical role in this paradigm shift.

Relevance to psychology, forensic practice and research

We suggest that the discipline and practice of psychology is highly relevant to the issue of commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC). Psychologists possess unique skills (e.g., research and program evaluation, assessment/testing, expertise with evidence based treatment) that the problem of CSEC urgently needs. In addition to this general contribution, however, forensic psychologists may play a particularly vital role and especially those with child training.

Forensic child psychologists specialize in the evaluation of youth in legal contexts and regularly assess children with psychological needs that straddle different systems (e.g., child protection, juvenile justice, mental health, school). Youth affected by CSEC may interface with the legal system due to a prostitution-related charge, arrest and/or preexisting court involvement. Although data are limited, our clinical experience suggests that many youth affected by commercial sexual exploitation are already involved in the child protection system and/or juvenile justice. Thus, youth vulnerable to or involved in commercial sexual exploitation are often the same population that forensic child psychologists routinely evaluate in the context of juvenile court proceedings. Given this, we strongly encourage forensic evaluators to ask child evaluees about commercial sexual exploitation. Due to the foregoing difficulties around self-disclosure and identification, however, evaluators should consider the possible role of girls’ involvement on observed symptoms and behaviors even in the absence of a disclosure.

As Safe Harbor Legislation and anti-trafficking laws evolve to more closely reflect a model of child maltreatment, we predict that the courts may increasingly request forensic psychologists to provide information about the emotional effects of commercial sexual exploitation on a given child victim, as well as recommendations about what kinds of treatment youth require. Involved youth tend to fear and mistrust professional evaluation and yet they present to court with complex treatment and placement needs that child forensic psychologists are especially qualified to assess.

Although largely untested in the legal arena, financial restitution to youth affected by commercial sexual exploitation may also become more common if Safe Harbor Legislation and anti-trafficking laws proliferate, and some of these laws contain provisions that require restitution. Thus, forensic psychologists may be asked to evaluate emotional damages in the context of cases that involve financial restitution. A related line of jurisprudence involves victims of child pornography who have obtained financial restitution from those charged with the production (Schwartz, 2010) and more recently, possession (Bluestein, 2011) of child pornography. Of course, the production of child pornography may be one aspect of CSEC in some cases and the phenomena share the pernicious effects of repeated victimization by multiple perpetrators.

In addition to the evaluation of child victims, forensic psychologists may also be asked to assess customers (i.e., “johns”) as well as pimps/exploiters regarding risk and recidivism, aid in sentencing, etc. Unfortunately, there are limited data about the psychological characteristics of third party exploiters and men who buy sex, thus forensically informed research on men who buy sex is sorely required. Some factors associated with the demand for buying sex reflect sociocultural factors (e.g., poverty and social oppression, attitudes that normalize violence against women), but individually based factors must also be understood in order to design targeted prevention and treatment programs. For example, there is limited outcome data available of programs commonly ordered for men arrested for soliciting sex (e.g., “John schools”). The format of such programs, including the avoidance of criminal sanctions for participation, contradicts self-report data among men who buy sex which indicated that mandated educational programs are the least effective deterrent an that public exposure and criminal sanctions would be more effective (Farley, Bindel & Golding, 2009).

Conclusions and a call to action for psychologists

Although the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents the United States is a relatively misunderstood topic, its possible increase and seeming penetration into broader segments of the child and adolescent population, and the significant rehabilitation needs of involved youth suggest the urgency of our profession’s timely response. Psychologists possess the requisite skills to contribute to needed research, program development, as well as the clinical sophistication to think critically about treatment design and evaluation. We conclude with three ways in which psychologists can substantively contribute.

1. Targeted research on different components of treatment programs is urgently required. The shortage of specialized rehabilitation programs for affected youth is widely noted (USDOJ, 2010) and yet no empirical research exists to define best clinical practices in this area. Currently, adult survivors of commercial sexual exploitation during childhood have initiated the majority of treatment programs, and there is a great deal of anecdotal evidence that survivors may play a critical role in engaging youth and providing clinical services. However, no aspect of survivor mentoring has been rigorously evaluated, thus its efficacy and/or mechanisms by which it supports youth remain unclear. Given the centrality of attachment trauma on what renders girls vulnerable to entry and difficulty exiting commercial sexual exploitation, we believe that the evaluation of new attachment relationships provided to youth during treatment (e.g., survivor mentoring and psychotherapy) is a critical part of outcome research. Additional unanswered questions include the best location for safe houses and treatment programs (e.g., urban versus settings more removed from areas of known commercial sexual exploitation), the ideal com-
more removed from areas of known commercial sexual exploitation), the ideal com position and format of residences (i.e., group care versus independent living), as well as critical components of programming (e.g., vocational training, case management, group therapy). Although a range of empirically supported interventions exist to treat complex trauma among youth, it remains an empirical question what form of therapy is the most efficacious for this particular population as well as how best to stage these interventions along various points in the exit/rehabilitation process.

2. Although past research has emphasized the etiological role of sexual abuse on later entry into commercial sexual exploitation, recent empirical work has identified mediators of this association; this research suggests important targets for prevention programs. For example, a longitudinally designed prospective study that employed path analysis indicated that only early sexual initiation significantly mediated the relationship between child abuse and later involvement in commercial sexual exploitation (Wilson & Widom, 2010). Accordingly, we suggest the development of prevention programs that target youth exposed to maltreatment with a known early sexual initiation. Early attachment trauma renders youth vulnerable to subsequently disturbed interpersonal relationships (Lyons-Ruth et al., 2006), and such youth are uniquely vulnerable to the promise of attachment that third party exploiters foster, gratify and ultimately leverage against girls. Our clinical observation suggests that it is this attachment that is so compelling and complicated for girls to subsequently leave. Additional research on such mediators may help identify youth most vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation to whom prevention programs may be tailored.

3. We strongly encourage graduate students to undertake research on these topics given the limited empirical literature. In our own presentations on the topic, we have observed a strong interest in CSEC among graduate students and we encourage students to design dissertations in this understudied area. Although many research advisors may not study the topic of CSEC per use, we suggest that students identify mentors who conduct research in the intricately related fields of child maltreatment, juvenile justice and developmental traumatology. Students may play a significant role in generating urgently needed data as in a dissertation that may lay groundwork for later external funding and programmatic research.

REFERENCES


 Trafficking of Victims Protection Act Reauthorization of 2008 § 213(a)(1).


(Footnotes)

1 We emphasize CSEC among girls in this article given our experience with this segment of the population and girls’ increased vulnerability to pimps and other third party exploiters. CSEC among boys and young men, however, is a similarly understudied and underserved group of youth. Currently, we have less experience and understanding about the dynamics impacting males and have chosen, in this article, to focus on females.

2 It should be noted that in some cases of commercial sexual exploitation, parents or other family members are the exploiters/pimps, which suggests the range of circumstances and involved youth.
Research Briefs
Editors: Elizabeth L. Jeglic, Maria Hartwig

The AP-LS newsletter research briefs are written by students in the Forensic Psychology Ph.D. Program at John Jay College: Ginny Chan, Sarah Jordan, Jason Mandelbaum, Blair Mesa, Anthony Perillo, Ashley Spada, and Brian Wallace.


Examined the association between facets of psychopathy as measured by the Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version (PCL:YV) and changes in institutional behaviour and post-treatment violent and general reoffending (mean follow-up 54 months) among 92 male youths who were being treated in an intensive program. Results showed that only the Interpersonal facet of PCL:YV was related to admission behavior problems and improvement in institutional and community behavior.


Examined the reliability and validity of the DHS Screening Form among female offenders. Analyses showed that the instrument demonstrated good internal consistency and test-retest reliability, as well as convergent and discriminant validity. Cutoff scores for depression and hopelessness scales were compared to DSM-IV-based interviews. Results suggested that different norms should be used for female offenders, as they tended to score higher than male offenders on this instrument.


Study examined rates of community-based treatment involvement for recently released inmates with severe mental illness and co-morbid substance disorders. One-third of these inmates received treatment immediately upon release, yet approximately one-quarter of inmates never entered treatment. Individuals with schizophrenia and substance dependence were most likely to enter treatment upon release.


Arrest records were examined for 183 mentally ill persons either receiving or not receiving mandated Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT). Those who received AOT saw a substantial decrease in arrest risk following AOT implementation. Soon after receiving AOT, odds of rearrest were half that of those who did not receive AOT.


Quarterly state, county, and local health and criminal records of inmates with severe mental illness were examined. Those who were involuntarily hospitalized were significantly more likely to have a follow-up arrest, with risk being particularly elevated in the quarter immediately following involuntary hospitalization. The authors argue that involuntary hospitalization should serve as a potential warning for imminent criminal activity and/or arrest.


Examined the effect of risk factors and program participation on recidivism rates among 448 individuals arrested for pros-
stitution and who were attending a diversion program. Results indicated that prior arrest for prostitution, addiction to drugs and/or alcohol, and childhood physical abuse were found to be related to prostitution rearrest. Importantly, a significant relationship between program completion and recidivism was found, such that those who completed were less likely to be rearrested for a prostitution related offense.


Examined 278 male adult inmates’ attitudes toward treatment, mental health treatment utilization and treatment effects. Regression analyses indicated that inmate attitudes toward treatment were predictive of the number of mental health treatment session received. Positive help-seeking attitudes were associated with decreased negative institutional behavior while amount of mental health treatment received was associated with increased negative institutional behavior.


Found that felony offenders demonstrated various levels of shame and guilt, as measured by the Test of Self-Conscious Affect – Socially Deviant Version (TOSCA-SD). Results from 550 jail inmates (379 male) indicated that guilt-proneness was a protective factor in regard to crime severity, involvement in the criminal justice system, and known factors that predict recidivism. Proneness to shame served no inhibitory function. Results generalized across race and gender.


A large sample of male prisoners (N = 2,487) were administered the General Criminal Thinking subscale of the Psychological Inventory of Criminal Thinking Styles. Results revealed that general criminal thinking partially mediated the relationship between inmate mental illness and violent behavior. The study aims to provide insight into the role of mental illness in prison violence.

DELICENCY/ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOR


Authors investigated whether the age-of-onset (childhood vs. adolescence) or behavioral (physical aggression vs. non-aggressive rule violating) approach better explains differences in antisocial behavior using a sample of twins assessed every 3-4 years. Results indicated that age-of-onset was predictive of adult antisocial behavior; however, the relationship was diminished when aggression and rule-breaking were factored in, suggesting that the behavioral subtype approach may better predict antisocial behavior than the age-of-onset approach.


Examined three models explaining the relationship between fathers’ antisocial behavior and children’s behavior problems among 261 children from low-income families. Harsh discipline was found to intensify the relationship between fathers’ antisocial behavior and children’s behavior problems. Authors suggest that programs use caution when seeking to increase father involvement.


Investigated whether participation in a school-based violence prevention program would serve as a protective factor against violent delinquent behavior among 1,722 maltreated adolescents two years after the grade 9 intervention. Results suggested being male, child maltreatment, violence in grade 9, and low perceived sense of safety increased delinquent behavior at follow-up. Importantly, youth with more extensive maltreatment histories at schools without the intervention were more likely to engage in delinquency than those in the intervention schools.


Investigated the cognitive and emotional processes by which abusive parenting leads to violent delinquency in a sample of 112 incarcerated adolescents. Results indicated juveniles who converted shame to the blaming of others had more exposure to abusive parenting and showed more delinquent behavior. Those who had high levels of expressed shame and low blaming of others showed less violent delinquency. Authors suggest abusive parenting affects delinquency both directly and indirectly.


Investigated the presence of psychopathy subtypes in a sample of 116 juvenile offenders with high scores on the Psychopathy Checklist: Youth Version (PCL:YV). Results suggested a two-group model (low-anxious primary and high-anxious secondary) with expected differences across theoretically relevant constructs – abuse history, hostility and psychiatric symptoms. The secondary variants displayed more institutional violence, greater psychosocial immaturity and greater instability in institutional violence over a 2-year period.
Examined the effects of Project Support (a parenting intervention) on psychopathy in children between the ages of four and nine who were demonstrating conduct problems. The results indicated children in the Project Support group demonstrated greater reductions in psychopathic features than children in the comparison condition (existing services), and the effects of the intervention were mediated by improvements in mothers’ parenting.


Self-report psychopathy scores were compared to informant-based reports in a community sample. Individuals were moderately more likely to rate themselves as lower on psychopathic traits than were informant reporters. Overall, there was strong agreement between self-reports and informant-based reports on all three psychopathy indices. The authors contend in low-stakes contexts, individuals may be considered reliable sources in self-reporting psychopathy.


The authors assessed the constructs of psychopathy and sexual sadism using hospital records of 100 male sex offenders (half of which are sadistic) who were treated at a high-security German forensic facility. Results suggested that psychopathy and sadism were separate latent variables, and they developed a path in which the affective deficits and behavioural disinhibition of psychopathy led to sexually sadistic actions.


Investigated the relationship between psychopathic symptoms and alerting, orienting, and executive functioning among a community sample of adolescents using measurements of reaction time and event-related potential. Results indicated scores on the Antisocial Process Screening Device were negatively correlated with ERP measures of alerting, but no relationship to orienting or executive functioning. The results suggest deficits in attention among adolescents with psychopathic traits.


Examined a sample of 217 male and 114 female juveniles charged with an arson-related charge over a 5-year period. Female juvenile arsonists reported a significant crisis within their family in the past year more often than males. Girl arsonists more often reported a history of childhood abuse, higher scores on a suicide ideation scale and were more likely to set fire at school. Boy arsonists were more likely to have greater mental health problems, report gang involvement, a history of prior delinquency and prior arson, and were found to set fires at their residence compared to girl arsonists.


Investigated the effect of religiosity and social deterrence on delinquent behavior by administering a survey to 484 college students at a large public university that had banned alcohol on campus. Results indicated that religiosity predicted conformity to the alcohol ban. Specifically, religiosity was shown to increase threats of shame and embarrassment and reduce the likelihood of violating the alcohol policy.
forensic and 75 nonforensic psychiatrists. Results indicated psychiatrists with forensic expertise were more likely than nonforensic psychiatrists to view the dual-role conflict as negatively affecting disability evaluations and that performing evaluations on their own patients impacts the therapeutic relationship.


Validated the use of the Test of Malingered Incompetence (TOMI) among a sample of 82 forensic inpatients using the TOMM Trial 2 Score, TOMM Retention Trial score, and a clinical treatment team decision as external criteria. Results indicated the Legal Knowledge scale of the TOMI exhibited high sensitivity, specificity, and negative predictive power. The General Knowledge scale demonstrated poor sensitivity, high specificity, and high negative predictive power.


Participants for this study were 240 firesetters (90% male) from age 4 to 17 and their primary caretakers. Using cluster analysis, a classification system was developed with three groups based on the presence of individual and environmental risk factors, such as fire interest and curiosity. Between 42.9% to 80.0% of the juveniles had prior mental health contact.


Examined criminal records data for 201 male sexual offenders (mean follow-up of 5.9 years) and a sample of 541 male sexual offenders (mean follow-up of 4.1 years). General and specific recidivism rates were similar for both samples. Prior offense history predicted new violent offending. Approximately 12.5% of the sample were in contact with children or used internet for child pornography and violated conditional release.


Investigated whether higher rates of parole denial among inmates with mental illness (MI) are related to criminal risk factors within this population. Parole decisions on 219 inmates with MI and 184 inmates without MI were compared using the central eight risk factors for recidivism. Results suggested that MI had no significant effect on release decisions, suggesting that parole boards may be employing discretion in making release decisions.

Peterson, J., Skeem, J., & Manchak, S. (2011). If you want to know, consider asking: How likely is it that patients will hurt themselves in the future? Psychological Assessment, 23, 626-634. doi: 10.1037/a0022971

Assessed utility of patients’ self-perceptions of risk in predicting self-harm in the community after discharge (8
weeks and 16 weeks follow-up) among 147 psychiatric inpatients with dual diagnoses. Results indicated that self-perceived risk had additional predictive utility beyond measures of depression. The authors suggested that inpatients are able to accurately perceive own risk and collaborate in their risk management process.


Investigated the factor structure of the Levenson Self-Report Psychopathy Scale (LSRP) with 573 incarcerated male inmates, 202 male college students and 200 female college students. Confirmatory factor analyses showed that a three-factor model was the best-fitting model across all participants. Convergent and discriminant validity were also analysed and results were conceptually promising and also supported a revised 19-item total.


Examined a recently developed instrument aimed to measure motivation for change with a forensic sample of 132 incarcerated male offenders. Subscales were modestly correlated with one another while providing independent data. Scores on the instrument correlated with offender participation in treatment and treatment variables. Results are overall encouraging regarding utility of the SOS-SR in a forensic context.


Followed 800 male felons up to three years post-release. Those who were not reconvicted for a violent re-offense were most likely to report having a strong social support system. Emotional support was a much stronger predictor of non-recidivism than was financial support (e.g., employment, housing).


178 male inmates were administered the Psychological Inventory of Criminal Thinking Styles (PICTS) and Level of Service Inventory – Revised: Screening Version (LSI-R:SV) before release from prison and at follow-up ranging from 1-53 months. Results indicated that age, prior charges and the PICTS GCT and R scales predicted general recidivism while prior charges and PICTS R scales predicted serious recidivism. The effect found for PICTS was however modest and future investigation is warranted.


Investigated criminal justice involvement among Danish individuals who had committed suicide. Results indicated over one third of male suicide cases had a criminal justice history, and that overall risk for suicide was higher among women. Suicide risk was especially high among individuals who had recent or frequent criminal justice contact before suicide, those charged with violent offenses, and those whose charges were conditionally withdrawn. Authors suggest the need for more extensive suicide prevention strategies and mental health services for those involved with the criminal justice system, including those found not guilty.


The study provides preliminary data for a newly developed psychopathy measure based within the Five Factor Model. Data from an undergraduate sample reveal correlations with other established psychopathy measures. Correlations with antisociality, aggression, and substance use were also observed.
when the suspect was guilty vs. innocent. Statement-evidence inconsistency was increased further when suspects were asked questions directly addressing potential crime-relevant information.

Leal, S., Vrij, A., Mann, S. A. & Fisher, R. P. (2011). Detecting concealed information about person recognition. Applied Cognitive Psychology, 25, 372–376. doi: 10.1002/acp.1701. Examined the ability to assess interviewees’ truthfulness when they attempt to conceal their knowledge about another person. Participants were shown three photos, one of whom was known by the participants. Observer ratings revealed that liars appeared to be thinking hardest when discussing the female they know, whereas truth tellers appeared to be thinking the hardest when discussing the unknown females. Truth tellers’ and liars’ responses differed substantially and those different responses are valuable cues to detect deceit.

In two studies, undergraduate students reported truthfully or deceptively about events, sketched the layout of the location and then answered spatial questions about objects in the rooms. Results showed liars less consistent than truth-tellers. In Exp. 1, up to 80% of truth-tellers and 70% of liars could be correctly classified. In Exp. 2, up to 100% of truth-tellers and 77% of liars could be correctly classified.

Examined whether inconsistent evidence is discredited due to its inconsistency with a prior belief or because it conflicts with the goal to reach closure. Police trainees (N=107) were presented with a homicide case and judged the reliability of incriminating or exonerating evidence while entertaining a ‘guilty’ or ‘innocent’ hypothesis. Asymmetrical skepticism was observed in the guilty but not in the innocent condition, partially supporting a goal-consistency explanation.

Investigated the features of truthful and fabricated narratives of trauma and their consistency over 6-months. Participants described both a genuine and fabricated traumatic experience three times over 6 months. Truthful trauma narratives contained more details, contextual information, and emotional details, and were rated as more ‘plausible’. The details of truthful narratives also were more factually consistent.

In three studies, participant-suspects (total N = 195) in two mock crime paradigms were informed that investigators possessed evidence (which they did not). This evidence bluff induced innocent suspects to falsely confess; innocents saw the evidence as a promise of future exoneration.

The concealed information test (CIT) is a polygraph test that assesses cognition of critical information. Data from 65 card tests conducted during real-life police polygraph interrogations were examined. Baseline heart rate was higher than that observed in the laboratory, confirming that the situation was stress inducing. As in the laboratory, the concealed cards elicited greater heart rate deceleration compared to the control cards.

Participant-travelers (N = 60) at an airport were asked to either lie or tell the truth regarding their travel plans during a brief interview. Liars’ responses were coded as less plausible, included more contradictions, and fewer corrections, but level of detail did not vary with veracity.

LEGAL DECISION-MAKING/JURY RESEARCH

Connolly, D. A. & Gordon, H. M. (2011). He-said–she-said: Contrast effects in credibility assessments and possible threats to fundamental prin-
ciples of criminal law. Legal and Criminological Psychology, 16, 227-241. doi:10.1348/135532510X498185
Undergraduates (N = 637) read a vignette describing a sexual assault or a motor vehicle accident. The age of Karen, the complainant in the SA case and bystander witness in the MVA case, was manipulated. The vignette was a summary of the police investigation and the trial. Trial information included either no information concerning how Karen testified, Karen’s testimony described positively, or described negatively. When Karen was judged to be less credible the accused was rated as more credible and less likely to be guilty. When Karen was seen as more credible, the accused was viewed as more likely to be guilty.Bottom of Form

Used a written survey to examine the experience, training, knowledge, decision-making and satisfaction regarding the civil commitment process among probate judges. The group was diverse in terms of their education and experience. Only 20.5% reported mental health training prior to becoming a probate judge, and 75% reported needing more mental health training. Further, they demonstrated poor performance on a question assessing their knowledge of civil commitment criteria, and they indicated that they rely heavily on psychiatrists’ testimony.

Developed a model for “correct” verdicts, and found that the ability of mock jurors \( (N=1,165) \) was predictive of juror accuracy.

**SEX OFFENDERS**


Examined registrant records of 445,127 sex offenders as part of a larger study aimed at describing demographic information, current status, and offense characteristics of offenders on the registry. Preliminary analysis revealed that while the group was very heterogeneous, the majority of the sample included white males with a mean age of 44.8, and many were deported, deceased, or institutionalized rather than living in the community. Questions about how best to manage offenders in the community were raised.


Adolescent sexual offenders \( (N=351) \) were followed over an eight year period. Early antisocial behavior was associated with earlier onset of sexual offending and more variety in offense types. Many of the adolescent sex offenders reported childhood. Those who desisted from criminal behavior displayed fewer cognitive, familial, academic, and social deficits in childhood than those who continued offending.


Examined locations where sex offenders met their victims, actuarial risk scores, and recidivism rates of 1557 adult male sex offenders released from a New Jersey state prison between 1996 and 2007. Results indicated that the majority of offenders met their victims in private residential, as opposed to public locations. However, those who recidivated were more likely to have met their victim in a public location, suggesting the importance of considering places where sex offenders may go, in addition to where they live, in informing public policy.


Reoffending behaviors were studied in a sample of sex offenders who had been referred for civil commitment and released. Criminal versatility was common, both before and after civil commitment. Compared to criminally versatile offenders, those who specialized in sex crimes were more likely to continue to specialize following release. Child molesters and those with mixed-age victims were more likely than rapists and incest offenders to commit specialized sexual reoffenses.


A survey assessing factors affecting treatment amenability was completed by 158 treatment providers who work with juvenile sex. Some of the factors clinicians rated as indicators of poor sex offender-specific treatment amenability included unwillingness to alter deviant sexual interest/attitudes and unsupportive parenting. Indicators of good amenability included motivation for change, belief in the efficacy of treatment, strong social support, and positive attachments.


Two sets of comparisons were performed using a community sample of 155 self-identified pedophiles and hebephiles. Men who had engaged in child pornography or child sexual abuse were compared to those who had not offended over the same time period. The pornography group was compared to the sexual abuse group and to those who had committed both types of crimes. Results showed more similarities than differences between groups.

Olver, M. E., & Wong, S. (2011). *Predictors of sex offender treatment dropout: Psychopathy, sex offender risk, and responsivity impli-
Four methods were compared to assess and diagnose pedophilia among 130 child sexual abusers: phallometric testing, DSM-IV-TR diagnostic criteria, expert clinical ratings, and RRASOR scores. Results indicated that the methods are inconsistent in diagnosing pedophilia, which leads to decreased accuracy in risk assessment. The RRASOR and DSM-IV-TR methods were correlated with expert ratings, but unrelated to each other. Expert ratings and RRASOR scores predicted sexual recidivism.

**RISK ASSESSMENT/COMMUNICATION**


Researchers searched archival data to obtain 71,122 completed LSI-R assessments on male and female offenders in Australia in order to assess the factor structure of the instrument. Factor analyses revealed a five-factor solution for men and a four-factor solution for women. Factor 1 contains static historical items, Factor 2 relates to employment, Factor 3 assesses procriminal attitudes, and Factor 4 contains items about offenders’ mental health. For men, a fifth factor, called Protective Companions, was found.


Parolees (*N* = 179) were assessed with the LSI-R upon admission to various community-based corrections programs in New Jersey, and again at approximately six months after admission. Researchers found that mean composite and subcomponent LSI-R scores declined significantly between Time 1 and Time 2. These findings suggest that many of the parolees in this sample may have benefited from individualized case management plans that addressed dynamic risk factors for crime, or criminogenic needs.

**WITNESS ISSUES**


Examined the effectiveness of using cognitive interview (CI) when participants were instructed to lie or tell the truth. The study employed 18 interviewers with 240 gender-matched college students as interviewees in two separate experiments. Results showed that CI had a better overall efficiency but the significant efficacy is in details regarding actions and objects. No significant gender effect was found.

Carlucci, M. E., Kieckhaefer, J. M., Schwartz, S. L., Villalba, D. K. & Wright, D. B. (2011). *The south beach study: Bystanders’ memories are more malleable*. *Applied Cognitive Psychology, 25*, 562–566. doi: 10.1002/acp.1720. Compared memory conformity effects of people who interacted with a confederate, and of bystanders to that interaction. A confederate approached a group of people and had a brief interaction. Then, a researcher administered a target-absent lineup to each person in the group. Memory conformity was observed. Bystanders were twice as likely to conform as those who interacted with the confederate.


Compared the efficacy of two modified versions of cognitive interview (CI) and the original PEACE version (PCI) with 60 undergraduates and 2 interviewers. No differences were found across the conditions for type of information recalled but the two modified CIs elicited fewer confabulations, had higher accuracy in person and object information items and shorter in duration.

Evans, J. R. & Fisher, R. P. (2011). *Eyewitness memory: Balancing the accuracy, precision and quantity of information through metacognitive monitoring and control*. *Applied Cognitive Psychology, 25*, 501–508. doi: 10.1002/acp.1722. Tested two mechanisms of metacognitive control: exercising a report option (witholding uncertain responses) and adjusting response precision (providing imprecise, but likely accurate, responses). Participants observed a mock crime and were interviewed after 10 minutes or one week. Interviews questions had one of three formats (free narrative, cued recall, yes/no), allowing participants to exert more or less control. Participants’ reports showed tradeoffs between accuracy, quantity and precision of information.


Mock eyewitnesses (total *N* = 306) who viewed a lineup under cautionary instructions adopted a more conservative decision criteria (resulting in more lineup rejections) under sequential presentation than simultaneous; when they were informed the suspect was present in the lineup, presentation procedure did not influence decision criteria.

Hope, L., Gabbert, F. & Fisher, R.P. (2011). *From laboratory to the street: Capturing witness memory using the Self-Administered Interview*. *Legal and Criminological Psychology, 16*, 211-226. The Self-Administered Interview (SAI) is a tool designed to elicit a comprehensive initial account from witnesses at the scene of an incident or
shortly thereafter to inoculate against the loss of information associated with delayed interview. The current review traces the development of the SAI from a series of laboratory studies through field trials and integrates findings with theoretical accounts of human memory.


Examined perceptions of honesty and cognitive ability in the context of a child sexual abuse case (CSA) and when no context is provided. Analyses revealed several context effects, with attention, trust, reliability and honesty each producing higher ratings, and therefore better perceived memories, in the CSA condition than the no context condition. Ratings of honesty and cognitive abilities were not linear with age but increased with age and leveled out or started decreasing after 8 years-of-age.


Examined whether two different false memory paradigms (Deese-Roediger-McDermott; DRM vs. suggestion) produced similar results in children ages 5 to 12 in two experiments. Results suggest reverse age effects were present with a developmental increase in DRM false memory rates and developmental decline in accepting suggestive information. Also, a discrepancy appears to exist between semantically-related false memories (i.e. DRM) and suggestion-based false memories.

Paiva, M., Berman, G. L., Cutler, B. L., Platania, J. & Weipert, R. (2011). Influence of confidence inflation and explanations for changes in confidence on evaluations of eyewitness identification accuracy. Legal and Criminological Psychology, 16, 266-276. Examined perceptions of immediate and inflated confidence and the impact of the explanations given for inflated confidence. Students viewed a videotaped eyewitness identification and interview in which the eyewitness gave a high or moderate level of confidence or inflated her confidence and gave a confidence epiphany, memory contamination, or no explanation for the inflation. The memory contamination and confidence epiphany explanations led to lower ratings of identification accuracy, supporting the immediate confidence recommendation but in some ways contradicting previous research.


White German and Turkish participants living in Germany performed an old/new recognition. The presence or absence of external features (hair, face contour) and retention interval (immediate v. 3 weeks) were manipulated. Own-ethnicity effects were found. The 3-week retention interval reduced accuracy for in-group faces but not for out-group faces, while the removal of outer features was more harmful to out-group faces than to in-group faces.

Steblay, N. K., Dietrich, H. L., Ryan, S. L., Raczynski, J. L., & James, K. A. (2011). Sequential lineup laps and eyewitness accuracy. Law and Human Behavior, 35, 262-274. doi:10.1007/s10979-010-9236-2 Mock eyewitnesses in two studies (total N = 502) made more errors than correct decisions when viewing a sequential lineup for a second time. When given the option, mock participants who chose a second viewing made more errors than those who chose not to re-view the lineup. These effects were only found with stranger suspects.

Valentine, T. & Maras, K. (2011). The effect of cross-examination on the accuracy of adult eyewitness testimony. Applied Cognitive Psychology, 25, 554–561. doi: 10.1002/acp.1768. Investigated the effect of cross-examination on accuracy of eyewitness testimony. Student witnesses (N = 22) watched a staged theft, in pairs or individually. Paired witnesses discussed the video with their co-witnesses, unaware that they saw different versions. These participants demonstrated memory conformity and recalled less accurately. After a month, all participants were cross-examined by a trainee barrister. Witnesses in both conditions made many changes to their previous reports. The results demonstrate negative effects of cross-examination on the accuracy of eyewitness testimony.


OTHER


Over sixty cases referred for divorce mediation were randomly assigned to either a control condition (N = 31), or an enhanced IPV screening condition (n=30). In both conditions, divorce mediators used standard methods to screen for IPV. In the enhanced condition, couples were also assessed with a brief, behaviorally specific screening questionnaire. Results showed that mediators did not label about half the cases that reported IPV on the questionnaire as violent.


The author investigated factors related to perception of violent victimization risk and fear of violent crime among 300 individuals between age 16 and 24 who were either homeless or living in a shelter. The results indicated that several factors, including female gender, younger age, previous victimization, peers’ victimization, depression, and external locus of control, were associated with increased perception of
violent victimization risk and fear of violent crime.


Examined gender, group membership, emotional reactions to domestic violence, attitudes and endorsement of restorative or retributive justice practices among 103 students. Results showed strong preferences for restorative justice with more women supporting this practice. In-group member differences and intra-group violence were both perceived as more severe relative to their corresponding counterparts. Emotional reactions predicted responses – hatred predicting stronger support of retributive ideals and sympathy for victim predicting stronger support for restoration.


CCTV operators (N = 12) and inexperienced observers (N = 12) were shown 24 scenes in which half led to an antisocial act. An eye-tracker was used to identify the visual cues attended while participants predicted whether each scene led to criminal behavior. Results showed that looking at the face/head of lone individuals and the bodies of individuals engaged in social interactions led to more accurate predictions of impending criminal action. Qualitative data revealed that accurate observers attended to the spatial configuration of individuals within the scene.


Undergraduates (N = 172) read a hypothetical date rape scenario and completed the Rape Myth Acceptance Scale, the Just World Scale, the Sexual Attitudes Scale, and a Judgment Questionnaire constructed for the study. Results showed rape myth acceptance mediated the relationship between gender and judgments of responsibility for the accused and the accuser. Men were more likely to endorse rape myths and, consequently, assign less responsibility to the accused and more responsibility to the accuser than women.


Describes three experiments in which individuals encountered ingroup or outgroup members who treat them respectfully or disrespectfully. Results support a multiple value model, showing that value judgments of intragroup and intergroup standing and self-interest have positive direct effects on fairness, and the effect of respect is mediated by these value judgments. The findings suggest that procedural fairness research will benefit by recognizing its multiply-determined and contextually-dependent nature.


Japanese participants (total N = 1800) offered opinions on a new mixed tribunal (3 judge, 6 juror) system implemented for serious crimes. Results showed that citizens with greater legal knowledge had more favorable opinions towards the new system.


Investigators reviewed data from cases of upheld insanity defenses involving violence over a 16-year period (N = 272). Although slightly less than half of defendants exhibited first-episode psychosis, a slight majority of homicide cases involved first-episode defendants. Compared to defendants with prior mental health histories, insanity defendants with evidence of first-episode psychosis were more likely to use a firearm during commission of the offense.


Burglar-participants (N = 40), when shown photographs of occupied and unoccupied houses, predicted occupancy better than chance. Car presence was both the cue most used by burglars in their occupancy decisions as well as the most valid available cue to occupancy.


Investigated gendered norms associated with the fear of crime among 100 British men and women through a survey. Participants were asked to be either honest or to fake good in responding. Results showed that men asked to fake good reported less fear than women who responded honestly while women asked to fake good reported more fear than those who responded honestly.
Job Searches

Syracuse University College of Law invites applicants for one or more tenure-track positions beginning fall 2012. Our curricular needs are open, but special consideration will be given to applicants with teaching and scholarly interests in first year courses, including torts, civil procedure, and constitutional law I, and in core upper-division courses, including constitutional law II, evidence and criminal procedure. The College of Law is particularly interested in applicants with an interest in interdisciplinary scholarship and who will bring diversity to the faculty.

Candidates should have an excellent academic record with at least a J.D. degree. Preferred post-J.D. experience and credentials include advanced degree, judicial clerkship, relevant legal practice, or similar experience. A demonstrated commitment to excellent classroom teaching and scholarship are required. Candidates will be expected to teach a first year course or a core upper-division course.

Syracuse University College of Law also invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position in its Office of Clinical Legal Education. The College of Law seeks applicants to direct the Criminal Defense Law Clinic, the oldest of its clinics. Candidates with criminal law experience and a commitment to and record of legal scholarship are strongly encouraged to apply. The College of Law is particularly interested in candidates with prior clinical teaching (or similar) experience and who will bring diversity to the faculty. The successful candidate is encouraged to also teach non-clinic courses, particularly criminal procedure.

The faculty who teach in our in-house clinics are full members of the tenured and tenure-track faculty. They have academic year appointments with generous support for writing and research, including a pre-tenure leave.

The Criminal Defense Clinic is a one semester clinic with a student-faculty ratio of ten to one. Currently, it provides representation to clients charged with misdemeanors and violations in Syracuse City Court, with an emphasis on addressing collateral civil matters. The successful candidate will be encouraged to shape the future direction of the Clinic consistent with community needs.

The Office of Clinical Legal Education is a vibrant law firm composed of seven different in-house clinics and a large externship program. Syracuse University offers numerous opportunities for interdisciplinary work and the Clinic has ongoing collaborations with a number of schools and programs within the University.

Interested applicants should send their resume and names of three references, including academic references in a position to assess the candidate’s potential as a legal academic, to Professor Margaret M. Harding, Chair, Faculty Appointments Committee, Syracuse University College of Law, Syracuse, New York 13244-1030; e-mail: mharding@law.syr.edu. Syracuse University is committed to diversity and is an equal opportunity employer. Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled; however, priority consideration will be given to applications received prior to October 1, 2011.

Call for Proposals for the APLS Book Series

The APLS book series is published by Oxford University Press. The series publishes scholarly work that advances the field of psychology and law by contributing to its theoretical and empirical knowledge base. The latest three books in the series are: Using social science to reduce violent offending by Joel Dvoskin, Jennifer Skeem, Ray Novaco, and Kevin Douglas; The ethics of total confinement: A critique of madness, citizenship, and social justice by Bruce Arrigo; and Juveniles at risk: A plea for preventive justice by Chris Slobogin and Mark Fondacaro. Both of these books are currently available and have been well received by the academic and legal communities. They are both worth checking out.

Forthcoming are books include: International human rights and mental disability law: When the silenced are heard by Michael Perlin; Trauma, stress, and well-being in the legal system by Monica Miller and Brian Bornstein; Children resisting contact post-separation and parental alienation: An evidence-based review by Barbara Fidler, Nicholas Bala, and Michael Saini; and Changing law’s mind: How neuroscience can help us punish criminals more fairly and effectively by Deborah Denno.

The editor is interested in proposals for new books. Inquiries and proposals from potential authors should be sent to Dr. Patricia Zapf, Series Editor (E-mail: pzapf@jjay.cuny.edu or phone: 212-866-0608).

AP-LS members receive a 25% discount on any book in the series. The series books are available for purchase online from Oxford University Press online at: http://www.us.oup.com/us/collections/apls/?view=usa
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<td><a href="mailto:jblument@law.syr.edu">jblument@law.syr.edu</a></td>
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<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Eve Brank</td>
<td><a href="mailto:ebrank2@unl.edu">ebrank2@unl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
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<td>Jennifer Groscup</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jennifer.groscup@scrippscollege.edu">jennifer.groscup@scrippscollege.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member-at-Large</td>
<td>Chris Meissner</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cmeissner@utep.edu">cmeissner@utep.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member-at-Large</td>
<td>Lora Levett</td>
<td><a href="mailto:llevett@ufl.edu">llevett@ufl.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APA Council Rep</td>
<td>Randy Otto</td>
<td><a href="mailto:otto@fmhi.usf.edu">otto@fmhi.usf.edu</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APA Council Rep</td>
<td>William Foote</td>
<td><a href="mailto:formpsych@aol.com">formpsych@aol.com</a>(ends Dec 2011)</td>
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<td>Margaret Kovera</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mkovera@jjay.cuny.edu">mkovera@jjay.cuny.edu</a></td>
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<td>kgalin/geocareinc.com</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:achristy@fmhi.usf.edu">achristy@fmhi.usf.edu</a></td>
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<td>Rachel Kalbeitzer</td>
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<td>Margaret Kovera</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mkovera@jjay.cuny.edu">mkovera@jjay.cuny.edu</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:huntjs@buffalostate.edu">huntjs@buffalostate.edu</a></td>
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<td>Patty Griffin</td>
<td><a href="mailto:pgriffin@navpoint.com">pgriffin@navpoint.com</a></td>
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<td>Professional Development of Women</td>
<td>Terese Hall</td>
<td><a href="mailto:terese.hall@sbcglobal.net">terese.hall@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<td><a href="mailto:glwells@iastate.edu">glwells@iastate.edu</a></td>
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<td>Kathy Pezdek</td>
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<td>Michelle Galietta</td>
<td><a href="mailto:galietta13@aol.com">galietta13@aol.com</a></td>
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<td>Laura Guy</td>
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<td>Jennifer Eno Louden</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jlenolouden@utep.edu">jlenolouden@utep.edu</a></td>
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<td>Jennifer Woolard</td>
<td><a href="mailto:jennifer.woolard@gmail.com">jennifer.woolard@gmail.com</a></td>
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<td><strong>2012 APA Conference Co-chairs</strong></td>
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<td>Christina M. Finello</td>
<td><a href="mailto:CFinello@pmhcc.org">CFinello@pmhcc.org</a></td>
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<td>Charlie Goodsell</td>
<td><a href="mailto:cgoodsell@canisius.edu">cgoodsell@canisius.edu</a></td>
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Call for Applications: 
2011 Access Path to Psychology and Law Experience (APPLE) Program
Sponsored by the Minority Affairs Committee

Do you know a promising student from an underrepresented group who is interested in psychology and law, but not currently involved in research? Recruit him or her into AP-LS’s new APPLE program!

Description of the APPLE Program:

The purpose of the Access Path to Psychology and Law Experience (APPLE) program is to increase diversity within psychology and law by increasing the pipeline of competitive graduate school applicants from groups that currently are underrepresented in the field, including racial and ethnic minorities, first-generation college students, LGBT individuals, and physically disabled students. APPLE is designed to encourage faculty members to recruit students from underrepresented groups into their research labs. It provides financial support for the students to obtain meaningful research experience and attend the AP-LS conference as well as other opportunities for mentoring and development. It is the intention of the Minority Affairs Committee (MAC) that many of the students in the APPLE program will apply for graduate training related to psychology and law and ultimately become professionals in the field.

Program Eligibility

Faculty are encouraged to identify promising undergraduate students from underrepresented groups who are interested in psychology and law and have the potential to become competitive graduate applicants. Underrepresented groups include but are not limited to racial and ethnic minorities, first-generation college students, LGBT individuals, and physically disabled students. Because the APPLE program is intended to expand the pipeline of qualified students from underrepresented groups, students should not be working with the faculty member in the proposed capacity prior to initiating the application process. Student in the APPLE program must be primarily supervised by a faculty member, not graduate students or other lab members.

Program Requirements

Students in the APPLE program are required to:

- Work on research for approximately 10 hours per week for the duration of their research experience
- Participate in GRE classes and/or other development opportunities
- Attend an AP-LS conference
- Submit a proposal to present their research at an AP-LS conference or in the Division 41 program of an APA conference
- Submit a summary of their research experience to the MAC Chair within one month of its completion
- Correspond with a secondary mentor from the MAC
- Participate in the ongoing assessment of the APPLE program

Faculty mentors in the APPLE program are required to:

- Closely supervise their students to ensure that they have a meaningful research experience that will make them more competitive for graduate school
- Help identify and facilitate opportunities for their students to participate in GRE classes and/or other development programs offered on their campuses (e.g., through the McNair program)
- Assist their students in making a conference presentation about their research
- Participate in the ongoing assessment of the APPLE program

Award Amounts

The APPLE program will award up to $3000 per student, depending on the length of the research experience. Recipients will be given a stipend of $1200 per semester or $800 per quarter or summer for up to one year. In addition, they will receive $100 for research expenses and up to $500 to attend the AP-LS conference. Five awards of $3000 (i.e., for year-long experiences) or a larger number of smaller awards (i.e., for part-year experiences) will be given.

Applications

Applications will be awarded on a competitive basis and selected based on the quality of the proposed research and mentoring experience as well as the potential for the student to become a successful graduate applicant. All proposals will be reviewed by members of the Minority Affairs Committee (MAC).

Award applications should contain the following:

1. A cover letter which provides contact information for both the student and the mentor.
2. A 3-5 page statement written by the student that addresses the following issues:
The student’s interest in the field of psychology and law, either in general or with respect to a particular issue in the field.

The student’s anticipated educational and career goals.

An assessment of the student’s current qualifications and experiences for achieving those goals. All students should provide their current overall and psychology-specific GPAs. In addition, they should discuss coursework, research experiences, volunteer experiences, internships, and other experiences that would help them to be admitted to and succeed in graduate school. Students also may discuss any personal characteristics or life experiences that are relevant to this issue.

Description of the proposed research experience. Students should discuss the research activities they will engage in with their mentors. Please describe the topic of the proposed research, providing as much detail about specific hypotheses and methods as currently known. In addition, please discuss the specific research tasks in which the student will engage. It is not necessary for students to complete an independent project, but they need to obtain meaningful experience that will help them be competitive for graduate school.

3. A letter of support from the faculty member discussing the applicant’s potential for graduate work, interest in psychology and law, and ability to complete the proposed research experience. In addition, the faculty member should discuss his or her anticipated strategy for mentoring the student (e.g., amount of contact, training methods, plans for monitoring progress).

Submission Instructions and Deadline
Proposals for this award must be submitted electronically in either Microsoft Word or PDF format to the MAC Co-Chairs, Jenn Hunt (huntjs@buffalostate.edu) and Antoinette Kavanaugh (antoinetteatccjcc@gmail.com). The deadline for submitting proposals for this funding cycle is November 15, 2011.

Inquiries
Please direct all inquiries about the APPLE program and/or specific proposals to the MAC Co-Chairs, Jenn Hunt (huntjs@buffalostate.edu) and Antoinette Kavanaugh (antoinetteatccjcc@gmail.com).

Using Social Science to Reduce Violent Offending

Joel A. Dvoskin, Jennifer L. Skeem,

Raymond W. Novaco and Kevin S. Douglas

Over the past three decades, the American criminal justice system has become unapologetically punitive. High rates of incarceration and frequent use of long-term segregation have become commonplace, with little attention to evidence about whether such practices make the public safer—and as the editors of this groundbreaking volume attest, they do not.

Bringing together experts in the fields of social science, forensic psychology and criminal justice, Using Social Science to Reduce Violent Offending addresses what truly works in reducing violent offending. Promoting an approach to correctional policy grounded in an evidence-based and nuanced understanding of human behavior, leading authorities from the United States, Canada, and Great Britain offer specific and practical strategies for improving the criminal and juvenile justice systems. Beginning by covering the history and scope of violent crime and incarceration in the U.S., this pioneering volume offers clear and practical recommendations for implementing research-based principles of behavioral change to reduce violent re-offending. These principles are applied to particular contexts (jails/prisons vs. probation/parole) and offender groups (juvenile offenders, sexual offenders, and offenders with mental illnesses). The authors argue for a more scientifically informed justice system, one where offenders—through correctional approaches such as community-based treatments and cognitive behavioral interventions—can be expected to learn the skills they will need to succeed in avoiding crime upon release. The authors also highlight methods for overcoming system inertia in order to implement these recommendations. Drawing on the science of human behavior to inform correctional practice, this book is an invaluable resource for policymakers, practitioners, mental health and criminal justice professionals, and anyone interested in the science behind the policies surrounding criminal punishment.

Joel A. Dvoskin, Ph.D., ABPP is Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Arizona, Tucson and Past President of the American Psychology-Law Society.

Jennifer L. Skeem, Ph.D. is Professor of Psychology and Social Behavior, University of California, Irvine.

Raymond W. Novaco, Ph.D. is Professor of Psychology and Social Behavior, University of California, Irvine.

Kevin S. Douglas, Ph.D., LL.B. is Associate Professor of Psychology, Simon Fraser University.

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August 2011 352 pp.
9780195384642 Hardcover
$75.00/$60.00
Position Announcement
ABF Doctoral Fellowship Program in Law and Social Science, 2012 – 2013

Purpose

The American Bar Foundation is committed to developing the next generation of scholars in the field of law and social science. The purpose of the fellowships is to encourage original and significant research on law, the legal profession, and legal institutions.

Eligibility

For the Doctoral/Post-Doctoral Fellowships, applications are invited from outstanding students who are candidates for Ph.D. degrees in the social sciences. Applicants must have completed all doctoral requirements except the dissertation by September 1, 2012. Applicants who will have completed the dissertation prior to September 1, 2012 are also welcome to apply. Doctoral and proposed research must be in the general area of sociolegal studies or in social scientific approaches to law, the legal profession, or legal institutions. The research must address significant issues in the field and show promise of a major contribution to social scientific understanding of law and legal process. Minority students are especially encouraged to apply.

Awards

Fellows receive a stipend of $27,000 for 12 months. Fellows also may request up to $1,500 to reimburse expenses associated with research, travel to meet with advisors, or travel to conferences at which papers are presented. Relocation expenses up to $2,500 may be reimbursed on application.

Tenure

Fellowships are awarded for 12 months, beginning, September 1, 2012.

Conditions

Fellowships are held in residence at the American Bar Foundation. Appointments to fellowships are full time. Fellows are expected to participate fully in the academic life of the ABF so that they may develop close collegial ties with other scholars in residence.

Application Process

Applications must include: (1) a dissertation abstract or proposal with an outline of the substance and methods of the research; (2) two letters of reference, one of which must be from a supervisor of the dissertation; and (3) a curriculum vitae. In addition, at the applicant’s option, a short sample of written work may be submitted. Applications for this fellowship must be received no later than December 15, 2011.

Please apply online by clicking on the Fellowships tab at www.americanbarfoundation.org.

Direct all application questions or concerns to Kathryn Harris, Administrative Associate for Academic Affairs and Research Administration, (312)988-6515 or kharris@abfn.org.
Position Announcement
Law and Social Science Dissertation Fellowship &
Mentoring Program, 2012-2013

Purpose

The Law and Society Association, in collaboration with the American Bar Foundation and the National Science Foundation, seeks applications for the Law and Social Science Dissertation Fellowship and Mentoring Program (LSS Fellowship).

Awards

Fellowships are held in residence at the American Bar Foundation in Chicago, IL, where Fellows are expected to participate in the intellectual life of the ABF, including participation in a weekly seminar series. LSS Fellows will receive a stipend of $27,000 per year beginning fall 2012. Fellows will attend LSA annual meetings in both years of the fellowship and the Graduate Student Workshop in the first year of the fellowship. Fellows will receive up to $1,500 for research and travel expenses each year. Relocation expenses up to $2,500 may be reimbursed one time.

Eligibility

Third-, fourth-, and fifth-year graduate students who specialize in the field of law and social science and whose research interests include law and inequality are invited to apply. Fellowship applicants should be students in a Ph.D. program in a social science department or an interdisciplinary program. Humanities students pursuing empirically-based social science dissertations are welcome to apply. Only U.S. citizens and permanent residents are eligible to apply.

Application Materials Required

Applicants should submit:
1. a 1-2 page letter of application;
2. a 2-3 page description of a research project or interest that relates to law and inequality (broadly defined) with a statement of how the applicant became interested in the research topic;
3. a resume or curriculum vitae;
4. a writing sample (a paper written for a graduate-level course or dissertation prospectus); and
5. three letters of recommendation from faculty members (including one from the faculty member who will serve as the departmental liaison – typically the applicant’s advisor). If you are also applying for the American Bar Foundation Doctoral Fellowship, please indicate so in your cover letter.

Applications for this fellowship must be received no later than December 1, 2011.

Please apply online by clicking on the Fellowships tab at www.americanbarfoundation.org. Direct all application questions or concerns to Kathryn Harris, Administrative Associate for Academic Affairs and Research Administration, (312)988-6515 or kharris@abfn.org.

For more information regarding the fellowship, see www.lawandsociety.org or contact Mary McClintock at LSA, mcclintock@lawandsociety.org or Laura Beth Nielsen at the ABF, lnielsen@abfn.org.
Faculty of Social Science and Humanities - Professor - UOIT 11-123

Competition Number: UOIT 11-123

Faculty or Department: Social Science and Humanities

Position Title: Assistant/Associate/Full Professor

Appointment Type: Continuing

Posting Date: September 30, 2011

Closing Date: December 15, 2011

We invite you to consider joining the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), a research-intensive institution with a globally trained faculty and innovative teaching.

The Faculty of Social Science and Humanities is accepting applications for two tenure-track positions at the rank of Assistant/Associate/Full Professor in the field of Forensic Psychology. The starting date for the position is July 1, 2011. Candidates must have a Ph.D. in Psychology and have an active research agenda or the promise of an active research agenda in any area relevant to Forensic Psychology.

The Faculty of Social Science & Humanities recently started a bachelors degree program in Forensic Psychology to complement its bachelors degree programs in Criminology, Legal Studies, Public Policy, and Community Development and its masters degree program in Criminology. The Forensic Psychology faculty members have state-of-the-art research labs, are externally funded, are strong in research, teaching, university and professional service, and supervise undergraduate and graduate students.

Review of applications will begin on January 2, 2012 and will continue until the position is filled. Only those who have or will have a completed Ph.D. by July 1, 2012 are eligible to apply. Please send electronically a formal letter of application, a curriculum vitae, a statement of teaching interests/experience, an outline of your present and future research agendas, and three letters of recommendation to careers@uoit.ca. Please indicate the competition number in the subject line of your email.

The University Of Ontario Institute Of Technology is strongly committed to diversity within its community, and welcomes applications from qualified visible minority group members, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, members of sexual minority groups, and others who may contribute to further the diversification of ideas. UOIT also offers the opportunity to teach, conduct research and live near one of the most diverse cities in the world, Toronto. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.
We invite you to consider joining the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UOIT), a research-intensive institution with a globally trained faculty and innovative teaching.

The Faculty of Social Science and Humanities is accepting applications for a Complementary Faculty position in Forensic Psychology. The term is for one year, beginning January 1, 2012 and ending December 31, 2012. The candidate will teach six Psychology and/or Forensic Psychology courses during the calendar year. Potential courses include Introduction to Psychology, Abnormal Psychology, Brain and Behaviour, Cognitive Psychology, Developmental Psychology, Social Psychology, Research Methods, and Psychology and Law.

The Faculty of Social Science & Humanities recently started a bachelors degree program in Forensic Psychology to complement its bachelors degree programs in Criminology, Legal Studies, Public Policy, and Community Development and its masters degree program in Criminology. The Forensic Psychology faculty members have state-of-the-art research labs, are externally funded, are strong in research, teaching, university and professional service, and supervise undergraduate and graduate students.

Review of applications will begin on November 2, 2011 and will continue until the position is filled. Only those who have or will have a completed Ph.D. by January 1, 2012 are eligible to apply. Please send electronically a formal letter of application, a curriculum vitae, a statement of teaching interests/experience, an outline of your present and future research agendas, and the names of four referees to careers@uoit.ca. Please indicate the competition number in the subject line of your email.

The University Of Ontario Institute Of Technology is strongly committed to diversity within its community, and welcomes applications from qualified visible minority group members, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, members of sexual minority groups, and others who may contribute to further the diversification of ideas. UOIT also offers the opportunity to teach, conduct research and live near one of the most diverse cities in the world, Toronto. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority.
The SPSP Social Psychology and Law pre-conference, hosted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, will take place in San Diego, CA on January 26th, 2012.

SPSP Social Psychology and Law Pre-Conference

Pre-conference will include:
* Three symposiums include eyewitness testimony (and other special evidence), juries and litigation, and discrimination.

  - **Featured Speakers**: David Dunning, Chris Meissner, Steve Clark, Neil Vidmar, Jennifer Robbenolt, Gene Borgida, Rich Wiener, and Sarah Gervais

* A poster session featuring the latest research at the intersection of Social Psychology and the Law.

* Breakfast and lunch included with pre-conference registration.

Pre-conference registration opens October 1st, 2011
Poster submissions accepted on a rolling basis October 1st, 2011 through December 1st, 2011.

Sponsored by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and Springer Publishing
For more information visit: https://sites.google.com/site/socialpsychologyandlaw/
Call for Submissions to the 2012 APLS Annual Meeting

The 2012 AP-LS Annual Meeting will be held from March 14 to 17, 2012, at the Caribe Hilton hotel in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

We invite proposals for symposia, papers, and posters addressing topics in all areas of psychology and law. We especially welcome proposals that are empirically based and those that involve new and emerging topics within psychology and law. Proposals will be evaluated through a blind review process focused on the following three criteria:

1. The intellectual merit of the proposal,
2. The innovative nature of the proposal, and
3. The proposal’s integration of multiple aspects of the field of psychology and law.

A symposium proposal is appropriate for a coordinated group of presentations that will focus on one topic. Symposium proposals must include a minimum of three presentations and a discussant. The discussant must be independent of the lab or research projects that are presented in the symposium. Each participant and the topics to be discussed should be outlined in the proposal. The participation of each presenter should be secured before submitting the proposal. (Each symposium session at the conference will be allotted up to 80 minutes.)

Paper proposals are appropriate for presentations that will focus on an individual research topic or piece of legal scholarship. After acceptance/rejection of proposals has been determined, the conference co-chairs will group paper presentations into sessions consisting of 3-5 presentations. (Each paper session at the conference will be allotted up to 60 minutes. The amount of time allowed for each individual presentation will be determined by the total number of presentations involved).

Poster presentations will be made at one of two poster sessions held Friday and Saturday evenings. Presentations will be made in a written format on display boards (size TBA).

There will be a limit of TWO first-author presentation submissions (either individual papers or papers within a symposium) for each submitter. There is no limit on the number of poster submissions or appearances as a discussant or session chair.

Please be aware of the Society’s ongoing effort to increase the rigor of the review process and the quality of the presentations at the conference. As a result, we are likely to accept fewer paper and symposium presentations and to accept more poster presentations. Please be sure to indicate during submission if you would like your paper or symposium papers to be considered for inclusion as posters if they are not accepted as proposed. The deadline for submissions will be September 23rd, 2011. All proposals should be submitted electronically via the conference website created for APLS by All Academic (link to be posted soon).

Please check the APLS conference webpage (http://www.ap-ls.org/conferences/) for regular updates regarding the submission process, including information about when the website will be open for submissions.

Paper and poster proposals should consist of an abstract that is no longer than 100 words and a summary that is no longer than 1000 words. Symposium proposals should consist of a 100-word abstract and 1000-word summary for each paper, plus an additional 200-word abstract for the symposium. Empirical research submissions that do not include data are discouraged.

If you have any questions or comments regarding the call for papers, or about the conference, please feel free to contact one of the conference co-chairs using the conference email address:

aplsconference2012@gmail.com

Jennifer Woolard
Karen Galin
Diane Sivasubramaniam
Cornell University introduces the 6-Year Dual PhD/JD Program in Developmental Psychology and Law

Beginning in the Fall semester of 2012, this rigorous program of study will produce the next generation of scholars who work on the interface between law, psychology and human development. The joint degree will prepare psychology students with legal training necessary for research and teaching in this field, and will provide law students with the research and training skills that are essential to practice and teach scientifically-based law.

Admission

To participate in the dual degree program, students must initially apply to and be accepted by both the Graduate Field of Human Development and the Law School. It will not be possible to commence studies in one school and then apply to the other at a later date. Admission to one program does not guarantee admission to the other. Note that applications to the PhD/JD program in Developmental Psychology/Law will be reviewed continuously; however, it is strongly recommended that prospective students apply as early as possible to both schools. To facilitate review of applications, students who intend to apply for dual degree studies should contact Prof. Brainerd (cb299@cornell.edu) in advance for further instructions.

Final Application Deadlines

Graduate School: January 1st
Law School: February 1st

Program Information

http://www.human.cornell.edu/hd/dual-phd-jd

Contacts

Professor Charles Brainerd
Director, PhD Concentration in Law, Psychology, and Human Development
B43 MVR Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853
Phone: 607.254.1163
Email: cb299@cornell.edu

Law School Admissions Office
226 Myron Taylor Hall, Ithaca, NY 14853
Phone: 607.255.5141
Email: lawadmit@lawschool.cornell.edu

Cornell Announces new Dual PhD/JD in Developmental Psych and Law

AP-LS Student Section survey and updates

Students,

As the Student Section and Membership Committee wish to learn more about who AP-LS Student members are, their interests, and how we can recruit and retain members, we ask that you please participate in a brief survey. You should expect that it will only take one minute of your time, and that the information we gather from it will guide us in making our organization better fit to meet students' needs. If you wish, you may take the survey here: https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/5J9NCB5.

Please note that submissions for the 2012 AP-LS Conference are due September 23. Also remember that student members may volunteer for submission reviewer positions through the All Academic portal.

We would like to inform our student members of a new connection between our Student Section and the American Bar Association's Behavioral and Neuroscience Law Committee (BNLC). The BNLC is very similar to Division 41, as it consists of academics, practicing clinicians and attorneys, and others who are interested in topics from jury selection to corrections issues. More information regarding the BNLC, such as how to join and sign up for the research update listserv, may be found at http://tinyurl.com/ABA-BNLC. We encourage you to take advantage of this educational and networking opportunity!

Lastly, if you would like to represent your school as an AP-LS Campus Representative, please contact Tallie Armstrong at APLSCampusRep@gmail.com to apply. Suggestions or inquiries regarding the Student Section should be directed to APLSSStudents@gmail.com.

Have a great week!

AP-LS Student Section Officers

APLSSStudents@gmail.com
Notes From The Student Chair

Dear Fellow Students,

We hope that this Fall finds you well and that you are settling in nicely to the swing of the semester. In addition to gearing up for another school term, the Student Section Executive Officers are eager to begin launching plans for the upcoming year. Last year’s Officers met several goals, including integrating and updating our website as a means of informing students of new psych-law programs, internships, and the like, as well as increasing the number and reach of Campus Representatives. We plan to continue these initiatives, and have also added significant goals to our agenda.

*Membership*

Membership data illustrates that student are not joining AP-LS in great numbers and are not transitioning from student to Early Career Professional (ECP) Division status as they have in previous years. In order for our community to be as strong in numbers and supportive as ever, we, along with the AP-LS Executive Committee, will be focusing on student recruitment and retention throughout the next year. Our tactics, among others, include appealing to undergraduates and law students. You can help us by encouraging your classmates to join AP-LS, becoming a Campus Representative, and participating in membership surveys, which will be distributed to the listserv in coming months. If your school does not have an AP-LS Campus Representative and you are interested in becoming involved, please inquire at aplsstudents@gmail.com.

*Academic and Professional Development*

Additional goals entail advancing student academic and professional development, and these aims are thoroughly supported by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee members, truly champions of students, have granted the student travel award fund an additional $10,000 to offset the attendance costs of the 2012 AP-LS Conference in San Juan for student presenter award recipients. Further, Dr. Margaret Bull Kovera, incoming editor of Law and Human Behavior, will be reinstating the journal’s Student Editor positions, which will provide students with a top-notch opportunity for refining critical thinking and writing skills. We will keep you updated of this exciting opportunity as news develops.

As always, please contact us at aplsstudents@gmail.com if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions on how we can improve your Student Section. We hope to hear from you!

Best,
Lauren Kois
Chair, Student Section

Alana Cook
Chair-Elect, Student Section
Conference and Workshop Planner

American Academy of Forensic Psychology
Contemporary Issues in Forensic Psychology
October 12-16, 2011
Doubletree Paradise Valley Resort
Scottsdale, AZ

For further information see www.aafpworkshops.com

American Society of Criminology
November 16 - 19, 2011
Washington Hilton
Washington, DC
Submission deadline: passed
Theme: Crime and Social Institutions

For further information see www.asc41.com

2012 American Psychology-Law Society Annual Meeting
March 14 - 17, 2012
San Juan, Puerto Rico
Submission deadline: 9/23/11
Mark it on your calanders!!

For further information see www.ap-ls.org or page 40

International Association of Forensic Mental Health
Annual Meeting
April 22 - 24, 2012
Eden Roc Renaissance Hotel
Miami, FL
Submission deadline: TBA

For further information see www.iafmhs.org/iafmhs.asp

European Association for Psychology & Law
Annual Meeting
June 28-31, 2012
Nicosia, Cyprus
Submission deadline: TBA

For further information see www.eapl.eu

Association for Psychological Science
Annual Convention
May 24 - 27, 2012
Sheraton Chicago Hotel
Chicago, IL
Submission deadline: TBA

For further information see www.psychologicalscience.org

American Psychological Association Annual Meeting
August 2 - 5, 2012
Orlando, FL
Submission deadline: TBA

For further information see www.apa.org/conf.html

Law and Society Association
International Annual Meeting
June 5 - 8, 2012
Hilton Hawaiian Village
Honolulu, HI
Submission deadline: TBA

For further information see www.lawandsociety.org

International Society for Justice Research
Sept 8 - 13, 2012
Rishon LeZion, Israel
Submission deadline: TBA

For further information see www.isijr.jimdo.com/conferences

2012 American Psychology-Law Society Annual Meeting
March 14 - 17, 2012
San Juan, Puerto Rico
Submission deadline: 9/23/11
Mark it on your calanders!!

For further information see www.ap-ls.org or page 40

Mark it on your calanders!!

For further information see www.ap-ls.org or page 40
Grant Writing Planner

National Science Foundation
Law and Social Sciences Division
Submission deadlines:
January 15th and August 15th, yearly
For further information see
www.nsf.gov

American Psychological
Association
FJ McGuigan Young Investigator Prize
Awards of $25,000 for early career
psychophysiological research
Submission deadline:
March 1, 2012
For further information see
www.apa.org/science/mcguigan.html

Society for the Psychological
Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)
Clara Mayo Grants
Pre-dissertation research on sexism,
racism, or prejudice
Maximum award: $1000
Submission deadlines:
May 2nd, 2012
For further information see
www.spssi.org

American Psychological
Association
Early Career Awards 2012
Various awards compiled by the
APA are available for ECPs
Submission deadline:
Various
For further information see
www.apa.org/science/early career/funding.html

Society for the Psychological
Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)
Grants-in-Aid
Maximum awards:
Graduate Student: $1000
PhD Members: $2000
Submission deadlines:
October 20, 2011
For further information see
www.spssi.org

American Psychology-Law
Society Grants-in-Aid
Maximum award: $750
Submission deadlines:
January 31st and September 30th,
yearly
For further information see
pages 42

American Psychological
Association
Student Awards
Various awards compiled by the
APAGS are available for students
For further information see
www.apa.org/apags/members/schawards.html

National Institute of
Mental Health
Various
Submission deadline: Various
For information on NIMH funding for
research on mental health see
www.nimh.gov

American Psychological
Association
FJ McGuigan Young Investigator Prize
Awards of $25,000 for early career
psychophysiological research
Submission deadline:
March 1, 2012
For further information see
www.apa.org/science/mcguigan.html

American Psychological
Association
Early Career Awards 2012
Various awards compiled by the
APA are available for ECPs
Submission deadline:
Various
For further information see
www.apa.org/science/early career/funding.html

American Psychological
Association
Society Grants-in-Aid
Maximum award: $750
Submission deadlines:
January 31st and September 30th,
yearly
For further information see
pages 42