A Message from the President

Tom Zentall

The 2006 annual APA meeting will be unusual this year because we will be meeting in New Orleans. When Katrina struck last August there was the very real possibility that APA would not be meeting there. In fact, because of the size of the APA meeting (there are only a few North American cities large enough to house the meeting) and the fact that hotels book meeting several years in advance, there was the very real possibility that APA would not be meeting at all this year or at least not without severely reducing the size of the program. After careful consideration and evaluation of the damage to New Orleans and especially to the convention center and hotel accommodations, it was decided to proceed with the meeting as originally planned. I think this was a wise decision, first because the major damage to the city was in the poorer, below sea level, areas of the city and the damage to the convention center and the warehouse district around it in which many of the hotels are located was not nearly as great as originally thought. Second, because, as psychologists, we should be sensitive to the devastation suffered by the people of New Orleans and uphold our commitment to do whatever we can to help that city become functional again. Although many of us in Division 6 think of ourselves as scientists rather than practitioners, APA represents a broad spectrum of members who consider themselves as belonging to a helping profession. It is my feeling that the least we can do is provide moral support as well as some indirect financial support to the rebuilding of this unique city.

(Continued on Page 2)
In an effort to do something more concrete for the city of New Orleans, APA, in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity, is organizing a house building project that will take place on Wednesday August 9, the day before the start of the meeting (see Karen’s piece in this issue of the newsletter). If you are interested in participating in this worthwhile project (a number of us have already volunteered), Karen has indicated how you can sign up.

We also have a terrific program put together by our Program Chair, Mark Blumberg, and coordinated with the Program Chair of Division 3, Marvin Lamb. I hope you can attend. See you all in New Orleans.

An Evening With Bill Cosby

Saturday, August 12, 7:30-9:00 p.m.
Ernest N. Morial Convention Center
La Nouvelle Orleans Ballroom
Tickets Required: $10; Limited Seating
Proceeds to be donated to the New Orleans Public Schools

Tickets for this event may be ordered by filling out the APA special events form and returning it to APA. Tickets are nonrefundable. Tickets will be available for pickup at the APA Special Events Desk in the APA Registration Area in the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center during registration hours. La Nouvelle Orleans Ballroom at the Morial Convention Center will be set with open seating, first-come, first-served.
The February 17-19, 2006 meeting of the APA Council of Representatives was not one your representative looked forward to because it represented a risk point for Division 6 and for APA.

The key issue for Division 6 was the proposal for a new division for Human-Animal Studies. The petition put forth an agenda for study of many legitimate topics. However, the Society for Human-Animal Studies appeared to many to have its roots in PsyETA (Psychologists for the Ethical Treatment of Animals where the petition for the division first appeared) and several of the advocates for the proposed division were persons who had spoken out in their criticism of and opposition to the laboratory animal researchers that are represented in Division 6. It seemed likely to many that the proposed division would come to advocate for a liberationist or animal rights agenda—or at least set a climate supportive of such.

The coalition of divisions to which Division 6 belongs (and pays dues to), the “Coalition for Academic, Scientific, and Applied Psychology”, heard Division 6’s concerns and helped organize an opposing set of presentations. At Council, our concerns were listened to and APA President-elect Sharon Brehm and Past-president Ronald Levant spoke in support of the science community. Levant called upon the “practice community” to respect our concerns and to recall that when the practice community was under threat and in need, the “science community” endorsed and voted in aid of the practice community for a “Public Education Campaign” speaking to the value of psychological services. Leona Aiken (Div 5), Ronald Brown (Chair of BSA), Manny Donchin (Div 3), Kimberly Kirby (Div 28), and others all gave informative, impassioned speeches opposing the proposed division. Council also received thoughtful letters from Presidents of several Divisions: Larry Alferink (Div 25), Alan Budney (Div 28), and our own Thomas Zentall whose carefully crafted letter drew heavily upon the careful research work by Nancy Dess and the previous compilations by Mary Lou Cheal. It was a real team effort. The result was that the proposed division was soundly defeated (after almost being approved last year). We in Division 6 owe all our supporting colleagues on Council— across the full spectrum of psychology—our thanks for protecting Division 6 from this threat to our and our students’ futures!

The nearly 500 page agenda contained some 36 other items. I will comment only on those most important to Division 6.

Council voted on a couple of measures likely to increase minority participation in APA and in all fields of psychology including our own.

A new Division of Trauma Psychology was approved.

Council approved a new budget for 2006 of slightly more than $100,000,000. Dues support only about 15% of the APA budget. Dues will increase only by the cost of living. [Recall that Division 6 members who are (Continued on Page 4)
also members of another scientific society that is a member of the Federation of Behavioral, Psychological, and Cognitive Sciences—such as the Psychonomic Society as one example—are eligible for a 25% discount on their APA dues. This discount is worth about $60! APA’s budget for 2006 projects a slim budget surplus of one half of one percent. The primary support of APA derives from its publications program, and the largest part of that comes now from electronic resources. And, the publications program and developing and maintaining those electronic resources are also the biggest cost center in APA.

A task force was formed and funded to review the APA Psychopharmacology Curriculum to insure its quality, integrity, and functionality.

A task force was formed and funded to assess how to increase the number of quantitative psychologists because it has been discovered that while the needs for quantitative skills among psychologists continue to increase, the pipeline of students and future teachers in quantitative psychology are decreasing.

Council adopted the product of a Working Group on Prejudice and Discrimination in All Its Forms that spent more than a year reviewing (and citing) the scientific evidence on the cause and consequences of the prejudice and discrimination.

Council reviewed the performance of the CEO, Dr. Norman Anderson formerly of NIH-OBSSR, and found it excellent. I reviewed the rating from members, boards and committees (including the Board of Directors), Council, and the Executive Directors and can confirm that they were uniformly at the top of the scale on all dimensions. He represents us all well, and cares for us all.

APA’s 2006 convention will be held in New Orleans as originally planned. We were assured by a site visit team that there facilities will be ready and will meet all of our needs; the program looks to be full and interesting, and special lower room rates have been negotiated for early registrants. See you there!

Respectfully submitted,

Bruce Overmier
Div 6 Council Representative

**GOING TO THE ANNUAL CONVENTION?**

**JOIN OTHER DIVISION 6 MEMBERS IN HELPING REBUILD NEW ORLEANS!**

On Wednesday, August 9, APA will partner with Habitat for Humanity in a home building project. APA members are invited to spend the day building a house for a local family dislocated by Katrina. No special skills are necessary and APA will provide transportation to and from the building site and lunch. Join current and incoming Division 6 Officers Tom Zentall, Chana Akins, Nancy Dess and Karen Hollis by sending an email to convention@apa.org. Also, please cc this email to Karen Hollis (khollis@mtholyoke.edu) or Nancy Dess (dessnk@oxy.edu) so we can co-ordinate a Division 6 contingent.

*Hope to see you there!*
**Introducing New Division 6 Fellows...**

**Chana K. Akins, Ph.D.**, is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Kentucky. She earned her PhD from the University of Texas in 1994 where she was mentored by Dr. Michael Domjan. Her research has been focused on sexual behavior and the role of learning. She uses an atypical animal model, Japanese quail, because the reproductive and hormonal systems have been well-studied in these birds and because they are more visually-oriented than rodents. Currently, she is expanding upon this work by studying the effects of drugs of abuse on sexual behavior. This timely area of research has important health implications because of the increasingly high occurrence of risky sexual behavior among substance abusers. Her research has been funded by NSF and NIDA. Dr. Akins has over 30 publications in peer-reviewed journals and a recently edited APA book entitled “Laboratory Animals in Research and Teaching.” She serves on her University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and has served on various APA committees including the Committee on Animal Research and Ethics (CARE) and more recently, the Committee on Divisions and APA Relations (CODAPAR). She is the current Secretary-Treasurer of Division 6.

**E. Roy John, PhD, Dr Med HC** received his PhD in Physiological Psychology from the University of Chicago in 1954, for his thesis entitled: Functional Brain Mapping using Radio-isotopes, and then went to UCLA where he remained as a Research Associate in Anatomy and Physiology until 1959. In 1960, Dr. John became Professor of Psychology and the founder and Director of the Center for Brain Research at the University of Rochester, the first PhD program in Brain Research in the US. In 1963, he accepted a position as Professor of Physiology and Psychiatry at New York Medical College. There he established the Brain Research Laboratories in the Department of Psychiatry, which performed human as well as animal studies of brain electrical activity related to cognitive processes, and the Neurometric Evaluation Service, which performed quantitative EEG (QEEG) and event-related potential (ERP) examinations on patients. He received recognition and support as a Career Scientist of the Health Research Council of New York for the periods from 1964-75. His studies of changes in brain activity using chronically implanted electrodes in unrestrained conditioned cats led to his publication in 1968 of “Mechanisms of Memory” (Academic Press), the first comprehensive overview of the neurochemistry, neurophysiology, and psychology of memory. While at NYMC, he collaborated with his friend Dr. Samuel Sutton on research which led to their discovery of P300, which has been widely recognized as the first demonstration that the electrical response of the brain to a physical stimulus is dependent upon the cognitive processing of the incoming information. In 1977, Dr. John became the Director of the Brain Research Laboratories (BRL) and Professor of Psychiatry in the Department of Psychiatry of New York University School of Medicine (NYU). He is also a Research Scientist VII at the Nathan S. Kline Institute for Psychiatric Research of New York State. Gradually, the research focus of BRL shifted from animal to human studies, and expanded to a wide variety of topics. With the discovery that the EEG could be described precisely as a set of mathematical equations, his research team developed a normative database that...
Theresa Jones Ph.D. is an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology and the Neuroscience Institute at the University of Texas in Austin. Jones received her Ph.D. in Behavioral Neuroscience in 1992 with Dr. Timothy Schallert and was a post-doctoral fellow with Dr. William Greenough between 1993-1996. She has also served with the Psychology Department faculty at the University of Washington between 1996-2001. The focus of her research is experience-dependent neural plasticity in adult animals following brain damage. Her research has revealed that the neuronal response to stroke-like damage in adult rats is dependent upon post-injury behavioral changes, including compensatory behaviors that animals develop spontaneously and those induced using motor skill learning as rehabilitative training. This work supports that the “use it or lose it” idea as applied to neuronal connections may be especially applicable to the maintenance and growth of synapses in areas which are connected to the site of an injury. A major goal of her work is to address the efficacy of using behavior as “therapy”, alone and in combination with other treatments, to promote brain changes which are functionally adaptive. This work is well funded by grants from NIMH and NINDS.

Bruce King, Ph.D. was born in Los Angeles and as the son of a career military officer lived throughout the world while growing up, including high school in London, England. He received a B.A. in Psychology from UCLA in 1969 and a Ph.D. in Biopsychology from the University of Chicago in 1978. For the past 28 years he has been a member of the Department of Psychology at the University of New Orleans, where he holds the honorary titles of Research Professor and Seraphia Leyda Teaching Fellow. He has been honored as a Fellow in the Association for Psychological Science and the International Behavioral Neuroscience Society. Dr. King conducts research in brain mechanisms of feeding behavior and body weight regulation and has also authored two textbooks (Human Sexuality Today, 5th edition, Prentice Hall; Statistical Reasoning in Psychology and Education, 4th edition, John Wiley & Sons). His recent publications include:


Randy Nelson, Ph.D. is Distinguished Professor of Social and Behavioral Sciences at The Ohio State University. He is Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience and a member of the Institute for Behavioral Medicine Research at The Ohio State University School of Medicine. He also serves as co-director for the Neuroscience Graduate Studies Program, and has a joint appointment in the Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology. Nelson earned his AB degree in Psychology in 1978 at the University of California at Berkeley. He earned a PhD in Psychology in 1983, as well as a second PhD in Endocrinology in 1984 from the University of California at Berkeley working with Dr. Irving Zucker. Nelson then went on to complete a postdoctoral fellowship in reproductive physiology with Drs. Frank Bronson and Claude Desjardins at the Institute for Reproductive Biology at the University of Texas, Austin from 1984-1986. Nelson served on the faculty at The Johns Hopkins University from 1986 until 2000 where he was Professor of Psychology, Neuroscience, Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. He joined the faculty at OSU in the fall of 2000. He has published over 250 research articles and several books describing studies in seasonality, behavioral endocrinology, biological rhythms, immune function, sex behavior, and aggressive behaviors.

Kristy A. Nielson, Ph.D., is Associate Professor and Assistant Chair of Psychology at Marquette University and Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry and Director of the Foley Center for Aging at the Medical College of Wisconsin. She is a cognitive neuroscientist specializing in studies of cognitive change associated with aging and dementia and cognitive and memory enhancement toward “successful aging.” Specifically, she studies the neural and genetic foundations predictive of age-related cognitive changes and dementia, as well as how memories are created and how they can be manipulated to be better preserved after formation for more effective memory performance throughout life. She helped to lead memory modulation research from animal models into human studies, work that she continues today. She is also included amongst the pioneers of the study of aging using functional-MRI (fMRI), demonstrating and evaluating the role of “recruitment,” the additional brain activation commonly produced by elders that purportedly assists them in performing various cognitive tasks. Currently Dr. Nielson is expanding upon this work by studying the ability of fMRI to predict the development of Alzheimer’s disease in normal, asymptomatic elders and middle-aged adults based upon family history and genetic risk factors. Her work has been funded by various agencies, including the National Institute on Aging. Dr. Nielson obtained her doctorate in Biological and Cognitive Psychology from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale studying with mentor Robert Jensen, for which she received the university’s Outstanding Dissertation Award. She also worked for several years as a postdoctoral scientist working in cognitive and basic neuroscience with Carl W. Cotman at the Institute for Brain Aging and Dementia at the University of California, Irvine.
In 1986, Dr. John was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Medicine, Honoris Causa, from the Medical School of the University of Pecs, Hungary. In the course of these studies, Dr. John has obtained more than 20 patents on electrophysiological analysis methods and instruments, all assigned to New York University. Through collaboration with biomedical engineering firms, Dr. John has worked to incorporate technological advances in EEG and ERP signal analysis into instruments available for clinical practice. These have included devices targeted at standard QEEG and ERP evaluations for Neuropsychiatric patients, monitoring instruments for use by anesthesiologists to assess the level of consciousness of the patient, and instruments to protect the brain against inadvertent damage during neurosurgical or cardiovascular surgical procedures. Currently, these methods are being implemented in a family of handheld brain assessment devices for use in emergency vehicles, Emergency Rooms, Intensive Care Units, intraoperative monitoring of cardiovascular or neurological surgery. These handheld analyzers are also being developed to aid general practitioners to assess traumatic brain injury on the sports field, to evaluate children at risk for ADHD, to evaluate the possible occurrence of a cerebrovascular accident and to assess elderly patients for objective correlates of cognitive impairment. The methods he has developed have contributed to enhance the clinical utility of electrophysiology. He has extensively published (over 200 articles in peer reviewed journals, books and book chapters, and five books) in the field of cognitive neuroscience, cognitive impairment and brain dysfunction, including both basic science and various groups of neurological and psychiatric patients, as well as a variety of other clinical applications of electrophysiology. Most recently, Dr. John has published a neurophysiological Theory Of Consciousness (Progress in Brain Research, 150: 143-172, 2005), and together with Dr. Leslie Prichep, one of the first physiological theories of general anesthesia, in the last 100 years (Anesthesiology, 102:447-471, 2005).

Announcements

Do You Teach Undergraduate Neuroscience?

Call for Submissions:
Journal of Undergraduate Neuroscience Education (JUNE)

JUNE is an electronic journal that publishes peer-reviewed reports of innovations in any area of undergraduate neuroscience education related to the mission of advancing undergraduate neuroscience on topics such as novel pedagogy and original laboratory exercises. All articles should be written for an audience of college faculty and include references to relevant literature, supplies, and/or supplemental materials such as animations, websites, etc. Figures and qualitative or quantitative assessment of pedagogical outcomes are also encouraged wherever appropriate. JUNE also invites submissions as letters to the editor and reviews of textbook, curricular, equipment, or media.

JUNE is a publication of Faculty for Undergraduate Neuroscience (FUN) and is free to read and download. Visit JUNE today at [www.funjournal.org/default.asp] or follow the links from the FUN website, [funfaculty.org].

Inquiries regarding submissions should be directed to Barbara Lom, JUNE Editor-In-Chief at any stage in the writing process.
balom@davidson.edu; 704-894-2338 (phone); 704-894-2512 (fax), Box 7118, Davidson College, Davidson NC, 28035-7118.
Announcements

**Award for Distinguished Service to Psychological Science**

The APA Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA) is soliciting nominations for the Award for Distinguished Service to Psychological Science. This Award recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to psychological science through their commitment to a culture of service. Award recipients will receive an honorarium of $1,000. The deadline for nominations is May 15, 2006.

Nominees will have demonstrated their service to the discipline by aiding in association governance; serving on boards, committees and various psychological associations; editing journals; reviewing grant proposals; mentoring students and colleagues; advocating for psychological science’s best interests with state and federal lawmakers; and promoting the value of psychological science in the public eye. Nominees may be involved in one service area, many of the areas, or all of the service areas noted above. An individual’s service to the discipline and not a person’s scholarly achievements are the focus of this award.

Additional information and instructions on submitting applications can be found on the APA Science Directorate website: http://www.apa.org/science/serv_award.html.

**Departmental Award for Culture of Service in the Psychological Sciences**

The APA Board of Scientific Affairs (BSA) is soliciting nominations for the Departmental Award for Culture of Service in the Psychological Sciences. This Award recognizes departments that demonstrate a commitment to service in the psychological sciences. Departments selected for this award will show a pattern of support for service from faculty at all levels, including a demonstration that service to the discipline is rewarded in faculty tenure and promotion. Successful Departments will also demonstrate that service to the profession is an integral part of training and mentoring. Each Department selected will receive an award of $5,000 to be used for departmental activities. The deadline for nominations is May 15, 2006.

Service to the discipline includes such activities as departmental release time for serving on boards and committees of psychological associations; editing journals; serving on a review panel; or chairing an IRB. Other culture of service activities that a department would encourage include mentoring students and colleagues; advocating for psychological science’s best interests with state and federal lawmakers; and promoting the value of psychological science in the public eye. The focus of this award is a department’s faculty service to the discipline and not their scholarly achievements.

Both Undergraduate and Graduate Departments of Psychology are eligible. Self-nominations are encouraged.

Additional information and instructions on submitting applications can be found on the APA Science Directorate website: http://www.apa.org/science/dept_award.html.
Announcements

Willing to serve on CARE???

“The Board of Scientific Affairs’ Committee on Animal Research and Ethics (CARE) is charged with safeguarding the ethical use of nonhumans in research and teaching in psychology. The Committee’s efforts are aimed at enhancing public understanding of the value of behavioral research with such animals, and enhancing the public’s support for behavioral research with animals other than humans.” (From the APA website, http://www.apa.org/science/resethicsCARE.html)

CARE meets in Washington DC twice a year, in the spring and fall. Every year, new members join CARE. The process involves current CARE members submitting nominations to the Board of Scientific Affairs to replace members rotating off the Committee. Interested in serving on CARE? If so, please let the current chair know! Email Nancy K. Dess, PhD, dessnk@oxy.edu.

Have the Coolest Lab on the Block -- Wear the CARE T-Shirt!!!

APA’s Committee on Animal Research and Ethics has designed a fun t-shirt advertising the scope of psychological research. The front logo and back design are shown below. Order a t-shirt for yourself and your colleagues, friends, students, and family now! T-shirts (50/50 poly/cotton) in light blue with navy printing are available at cost (this isn’t fund raising!) for $14.83 (includes shipping) and come in unisex sizes M, L, and XL. Please mail your order to Nancy K. Dess, Dept. of Psychology, Occidental College, 1600 Campus Rd, LA CA 90041, or, to use PayPal, email your order to dessnk@oxy.edu and you will be invoiced. Allow three weeks for delivery.
CALL FOR SYMPOSIA, PAPERS AND POSTERS, AND GENERAL INFORMATION

2006 ISCP MEETING

The 13th Biennial Meeting of the International Society for Comparative Psychology will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand, August 31 to September 3, 2006. All sessions will take place at the Copthorne Central Hotel (where accommodation will also be available).

Online forms for registration and accommodation reservations are available – Visit http://www.psyc.canterbury.ac.nz/conference/index_home.htm for program updates and abstract formatting.

You are invited to submit proposals for symposia, and abstracts (200-250 words maximum) for oral (20 min including questions and answers) and poster presentations.

Relevant research areas include the following:

* the evolution and development of behavior in all animal species
* the use of the comparative method for understanding behavioral processes
* history of comparative psychology
* learning, memory, motivation, emotion in all species
* neurobiology of behavior
* brain, evolution and behavior
* field studies of animal behavior
* applied animal behavior
* animal welfare
* animal models of behavior

Please e-mail all proposals and abstracts to the Chair of the Program Committee, Professor Rob Hughes, Department of Psychology, University of Canterbury, rob.hughes@canterbury.ac.nz Submission deadline: June 30, 2006

Registration and accommodation:

The registration fee is $NZ220 (approximately $US143 at time of publication). For bona fide full-time students (identified as such by an accompanying letter from their advisor/supervisor), this fee will be reduced to $NZ115 (approximately $US75).

All fees (including accommodation deposits) can be paid by credit card (VISA and MasterCard only)

On the Saturday evening there will be a social event comprising an authentic Maori cultural experience, with a traditional powhiri (greeting) and a cultural performance/show. This will be followed by a guided tour of the Willowbank Wildlife Reserve with the opportunity to view the rare native kiwi bird, and then a dinner at the Reserve Restaurant with the emphasis on New Zealand cuisine. The total cost (including transport from the city) will be $NZ83 per person (approximately $US54).

Superior accommodation is available at the Copthorne Central Hotel (where the meeting will also be held), situated in the heart of the city beside Victoria Square and the Avon river at a cost of $NZ152 (approximately $US98) per room per night. This can be booked when registering for the meeting.