

Adult Development & Aging News

Volume 33, Number 2
Summer 2005

20 DIVISION

Inside:

- 1 **President's Message**
- 3 **Updates**
- 4-5 **Conference Program**
- 6-7 **Feature Article**
- 7 **Student News**
- 8 **Teaching Tips**
- 9-11 **Candidate Statements**
- 12 **Fellows**

**Remember
to Vote this
Fall**

"10 for 20"

President's Message

It hardly seems possible that the deadline for the summer edition of the Division 20 Newsletter is here already. I have news of events that are coming up in the next few months and later in the year as well.

Convention

Our major upcoming event is the APA Convention in August. Liz Zelinski and Sara Qualls have given us a wonderfully rich menu of sessions that appeal to the diverse interests of the Division. Our program is included, as always, in this summer newsletter. In my last column, I noted many of the sessions we will be having and here will just highlight a few of these—the invited symposium on Nonacademic Careers in Adult Development and Aging organized by our Graduate Student Representatives (Thursday afternoon), the invited symposium on Psychology and Public Policy - Contributions to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging (Friday afternoon), and our Business Meeting, Social Hour, and Social Event- all on Saturday. Our Social Event, in collaboration with Division 12, Section 2, will be at Gordon Biersch.

Thanks to David Powers and Bob Intrieri for finding this convivial location for us!

In addition to these sessions, Division 20 and the APA Office of Continuing Education in Psychology, with the support of Division 12.2, are sponsoring a pre-convention Continuing Education Workshop on Psychological Assessment of Decision-Making Capacity of Older Adults. The workshop is designed to train geropsychologists, neuropsychologists, and generalists in the assessment of civil capacities of older adults in medical/neurological, long-term care, and outpatient settings. Issues to be covered will include financial management, medical decision making, driving, wills, refusing life sustaining treatment, and guardianship. More information about this CE Workshop can be found in Debbie DiGilio's column in this issue and at www.apa.gov/ce. Our Continuing Education Committee (Greg Smith, Chair, Bert Hayslip, Harvey Sterns, Judith Sugar, Peter Lichtenberg,



Leah Light, Division 20 President

Rebecca Allen) has done a superb job of getting this workshop together.

The White House Conference on Aging

(WHCoA) has been rescheduled for December 11-14, 2005, in Washington, DC. The names of the Advisory Committee and of delegates named by governors and congressional representatives have been released (check out the website at www.whcoa.gov for delegates from your state, including some psychologists).

Deborah DiGilio of CONA has told me that the WHCoA Policy Committee staff is synthesizing comments from public

**Bring your newsletter
to the conference!**

Continued on page 2

Adult Development and Aging News is published three times a year by Division 20, Adult Development and Aging, of the American Psychological Association.

*President's Message
continued from page 1*

Adult Development & Aging News is co-edited by Jennifer Margrett, Julie Patrick & JoNell Strough, all at the Department of Psychology, Life-Span Development, West Virginia University. www.as.wvu.edu/psyc

Deadlines for submissions are:
September 1
February 15
June 1

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**Julie.Patrick@
mail.wvu.edu**

Address changes need to be made through the APA office at (800) 374-2721 (e-mail: membership@apa.org). Your Newsletter editors must use the addresses that APA provides.



Note From Co-Editors:

We sincerely thank those who contributed to this issue. We encourage Division members to send us announcements of general interest and short provocative pieces. If you have an idea for a feature article, please contact one of us. Submissions may be sent to any of the three editors via email as a Word or WordPerfect attachment.

input gained from WHCoA related events to aid in formulating resolutions that will go to delegates. These resolutions will mirror six annotated agenda categories:

1. Planning along the Lifespan (e.g., incentives for retirement savings and Social Security);
2. The Workplace of the Future (e.g., opportunities for older workers);
3. Our Community (e.g., services to support aging in place, caregiver support, and senior-friendly community and residential design);
4. Health and Long Term Living (e.g., national long term care policy, healthy lifestyles, access to services, mental health);
5. Civic and Social Engagement; and
6. Marketplace.

Many believe that a policy regarding a national long-term care plan will emerge from the WHCoA. It is important for delegates to think about mental and behavioral health being a part of any proposed plan. APA will be submitting solutions drawing upon the papers presented at the Division 20/CONA symposia at the Convention. Comments submitted electronically or via a letter to the WHCoA from APA aging constituencies and Psychologists in Long Term Care on this issue and others would be useful. Input received is being tabulated, so this is an opportunity to literally have your vote counted on issues of critical importance to all of us!

We are all indebted to Debbie for her efforts on behalf of the Office on Aging and CONA (see her column in this newsletter for more information). In recognition of her contributions, she has just been elected to a two-year term as Chair of the National Coalition on Mental Health and Aging. The Coalition has as its goal the provision of opportunities for professional, consumer, and government organizations to work together to improve the availability and quality of mental health preventive and treatment strategies to older Americans through education, research, and increased public awareness. Check out the Coalition website at www.ncmha.org.

Reflection

When I took on the role of President last summer, I had had some prior experience in Division 20 as Student Awards Chair, Secretary, and Member-at-Large. However, the complexities of the job and of APA as an organization were largely unknowns. I want to thank all of the members of the Executive Committee for educating me about the work of the Division in furthering the psychology of adult development and aging and for leading me through the structural and political intricacies of APA - and for their patience with my seemingly endless inquiries into what they

were doing and how everything fit together with program, elections, membership, awards, fellowship, education, and continuing education components.

In particular, I want to thank Bob Knight, Harvey Sterns, Sue Whitbourne, Jane Berry, and George Rebok, all old hands who know precedents and policies and the inside scoop on everything, Michael Marsiske who has given our website a modern look and is always there to forward messages to our list serves, our Education Committee chairs Sean Meegan and Joe Gaugler and their committee members, David Mitchell, Kristi Multhaup, and Rick Scheidt, who keep the webpage updated on textbooks, videos, and films related to aging. Our newsletter editors, Jennifer Margrett, Julie Hicks Patrick, and JoNell Strough, run a tight ship and actually manage to get us to turn in our materials on time - or very nearly so. Neil Charness, President-Elect, is already well ahead of the game and is probably thinking of his first column for the fall 2005 issue. I am grateful to all of you and to the membership of Division 20 for the opportunity to serve.

Join us in

Washington, DC

Aug. 18 to 21, 2005

Updates

Division 47: Exercise and Sport Psychology Presents

The 27th Annual Running Psychologists' APA 5K "Ray's Race and Walk" Saturday, August 20, 2005

The annual race and walk at the 2005 Washington, D.C. Convention of APA will be held at 7 a.m., Saturday morning, August 20, in Anacostia Park along the southern edge of the Anacostia River. Buses will be provided at the major hotels to take participants to and from the race. Maps and additional information will be available at Division Services at the convention. Awards will be given to the overall men's and women's winners and to the top three finishers in each 5-year age group from under 25 to over 75. Awards will also go to the top three male and female finishers who hold membership in Division 47, the top three finishes who are Psi Chi members and Psi Chi National Council members. To honor our convention exhibitors (who provide excellent raffle prizes for us), an award will also be given to the highest finishing male and female exhibitor.

Pre-registration will run until August 12 which means that the entry form and fee must be received by that date. The entry fee for pre-registered runners is \$20.00, which includes a commemorative t-shirt, raffle chances, and post-race refreshments. PAST August 12, DURING THE CONVENTION and DAY-OF-RACE REGISTRATION FEE IS \$25.00. Pre-registration for students is \$10.00 and convention/day-of -race student registration is \$14.00. PLEASE pre-register to help us avoid too many convention and day-of-race registrations. For more information and a registration form, see: <http://www.psyc.unt.edu/apadiv47/running.html> or the Division 47 website at: www.apa47.org. Click on the Running Psychologists link.

CONGRATULATIONS to DR. VITALIANO

Peter Vitaliano, Ph.D. Professor of Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, Psychology, and Health Services University of Washington is the recipient of the **2005 AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT IN RESEARCH FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS/DIVISION 12.**

This Award is presented to outstanding psychologists who work in and contribute to the advancement of research and scholarship in medical school and health care settings.

CONGRATULATIONS to DR. ROOK

Dr. Karen S. Rook has been selected as the recipient of the **2005 Developmental Health Award, sponsored by the Health and Aging Interest Group.** Dr. Rook will receive the award at the APA convention. The Health and Aging Interest Group consists of individuals who are members of Division 38 (Health Psychology) and/or Division 20 and whose scholarly interests bridge those of the two divisions.

This biennial award to recognize individuals for their scholarly contributions to health and aging was established in 1996. Four awards have been given: M. Powell Lawton (1997), Janice Kiecolt-Glaser (1999), Howard Leventhal (2001), and Richard Schulz (2003).

WELCOME NEW DIVISION 20 MEMBERS! submitted by TJ McCallum

Regular Members:

Stuart A Bloom	Newport Coast CA
Thomas C Brecht	Birmingham AL
Judy A Kaplan	New York NY
Deborah C Neel	Cary NC
Colleen M Parks	Davis, CA
Andrew J Revell	Rockville MD

Student Members:

Joann M Terranova	Great Neck NY
Zeeshan A Butt	Chicago IL
Jennifer Dave	Los Angeles CA
Tammy A Fronzaglia	Erie PA
Johanna R Sood	New York NY
Ashley M Tate	Alameda CA

DIVISION 20 PROGRAM SUMMARY SHEET

Submitted by: Liz Zelinski & Sara Qualls

THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2005

Symposium (S): Intergenerational Caregiving—Research, Practice, and Policy

8/18 Thu: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 206

Poster Session (N): Clinical and Health Issues in Aging

8/18 Thu: 10:00 AM - 10:50 AM Washington Convention Center Halls D & E

Symposium (S): Close Social Relations—Implications for Well-Being and Relationship Functioning

8/18 Thu: 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 151A

Symposium (S): Close Relations Across the Life Span—Special Roles of Friends

8/18 Thu: 12:00 PM - 12:50 PM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 145A

Invited Symposium (S): Alternative Approaches for Multivariate Analysis of Change

8/18 Thu: 1:00 PM - 2:50 PM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 145B

Invited Panel Discussion (N): Nonacademic Careers in Adult Development and Aging

8/18 Thu: 3:00 PM - 3:50 PM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 154A

FRIDAY, AUGUST 19, 2005

Symposium (S): End-of-Life Care—Conceptual, Practical, Ethical, and Policy Considerations

8/19 Fri: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 151B

Executive Committee Meeting (N): [Executive Committee Meeting]

8/19 Fri: 8:00 AM - 9:50 AM Grand Hyatt Washington Hotel Latrobe Room

Poster Session (N): Personality and Social Issues in Aging

8/19 Fri: 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM Washington Convention Center Halls D & E

Invited Symposium (S):

Psychology and Public Policy—Contributions to the 2005 White House Conference on Aging

8/19 Fri: 2:00 PM - 3:50 PM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 150A

Invited Symposium (S): Examining Interrelations Among Cognition, Personality, and Health in Aging

8/19 Fri: 4:00 PM - 5:50 PM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 146B

Division 20 will host 3 poster sessions, 9 symposia, and 3 invited symposia, including one that is associated with the White House Conference on Aging. The other two invited symposia are co-sponsored with Division 5. The student event will be a panel discussion on nonacademic careers in adult development and aging. All of these events will take place at the Washington Convention Center. We would like to thank the 36 reviewers who not only gave so generously of their time to review over 100 submissions, but who got reviews back to us before our deadlines! More details on the Division 20 program are available on the Division website: <http://apadiv20.php.ufl.edu/>. If you have questions, send either of us an email at zelinski@usc.edu or squalls@uccs.edu.

PROGRAM, CONTINUED

SATURDAY, AUGUST 20, 2005

Symposium (S): Positive Development in Adulthood—Clarifications, Age Trends, and Contextual Influences
8/20 Sat: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 103A

Poster Session (N): Memory and Cognition in Older Adults
8/20 Sat: 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM Washington Convention Center Halls D & E

Symposium (S): Family Responses to Mild Cognitive Impairment
8/20 Sat: 1:00 PM - 1:50 PM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 150B

Invited Address (N): Distinguished Research Achievement Award
8/20 Sat: 3:00 PM - 3:50 PM Grand Hyatt Washington Hotel Franklin Sqr & McPherson Sqr

Presidential Address (N): [Light]
8/20 Sat: 4:00 PM - 4:50 PM Grand Hyatt Washington Hotel Franklin Sqr & McPherson Sqr

Business Meeting (N): [Business Meeting]
8/20 Sat: 5:00 PM - 5:50 PM Grand Hyatt Washington Hotel Franklin Sqr & McPherson Sqr

Social Hour (N): [Social Hour]
8/20 Sat: 6:00 PM - 6:50 PM Grand Hyatt Washington Hotel Independence Ballrooms D and E

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21

Symposium (S): Telling Stories—The Social Contexts and Functions of Autobiographical Remembering
8/21 Sun: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 103B

Symposium (S): Geropsychological Approaches to Pain Management in Long-Term Care
8/21 Sun: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 147A

Symposium (S): Innovations in Geropsychology Training—Lessons Learned From GPE Programs
8/21 Sun: 10:00 AM - 11:50 AM Washington Convention Center Meeting Room 152B

The traditional Saturday afternoon program block will be at the Grand Hyatt Washington beginning at 3 pm with the Distinguished Research Achievement Award address by Dave Madden, followed by the Presidential Address by Leah Light, the Business meeting, and Social Hour.

Plan to join the Social Event— a dinner at Gordon Biersch, a microbrewery, co-hosted with Division 12, Section 2. This event was arranged by David Powers and Bob Intrieri, and we thank them for all their legwork.

CONA will host its third annual Conversation Hour on Thursday, August 18 from 4:00 pm - 5:50 pm. The topic for this year's Conversation Hour will be The Science of Successful Aging: The road best traveled, focusing on the Roadmap to Aging.

Feature Article: The APA Office on Aging - The Youngest Office at APA is Growing Up

In 1997, during Norman Abeles' APA Presidency, the Committee on Aging (CONA) became a standing governance committee. The following year, the APA Office on Aging was established to support CONA's efforts and serve as a focal point for aging issues within APA. The Office's mission is to promote the application of psychological knowledge to issues affecting the health and well being of older adults. It offers consultation to APA entities on aging issues; develops and disseminates information on these issues to psychologists, professional groups, policymakers and the public; and, establishes linkages with other health and aging organizations to work cooperatively to identify and address the mental and behavioral health needs of older adults.

I came to APA in early 2001, and since that time, I have had the privilege of working with the members of CONA, the APA geropsychology community, and my APA colleagues in public policy, education, science, practice, and law on a number of exciting projects. In this column, I describe two of our current activities and the resources available from the Office on Aging.

The American Bar Association (ABA)/APA Assessment of Capacity in Older Adults Project was initially conceptualized in 2002 when David Powers, the then recently appointed APA Liaison to the ABA Commission on Law and Aging (COLA) and Nancy Coleman, Director of COLA began discussions regarding issues of mutual concern to psychology and law. It was felt that the area of older adult capacity assessment was a good one for collaboration as lawyers are increasingly confronted with this issue, and psychologists have a scientific body of knowledge in this area that can assist lawyers in their dealings with elder clients.

At a June 2003 meeting of attorneys, psychologists and judges, key issues related to capacity assessment of older adults were identified from the legal, psychological and judicial perspectives and a set of recommendations and action steps were developed. Later that year, the ABA/APA Assessment of Capacity in Older Adults Project Working Group was established. APA representatives are Barry Edelstein, Gregory Hinrichsen, Daniel Marson, Jennifer Moye, Leonard Poon, and David Powers. ABA members are Charles Sabatino, JD, Director, and Erica Wood, JD, Associate Director of COLA.

It was determined that the first collaborative endeavor would be to provide guidance for lawyers in understanding, assessing, and responding to older clients with diminished capacity. Over the next 15 months, the Working Group completed its first product, *Assessment of Older Adults with Diminished Capacity: A Handbook for Lawyers*, edited by Jennifer Moye and published in April 2005. The handbook reviews legal standards and clinical models of capacity, signs of diminished capacity, potential mitigating factors, lawyer assessment of capacity, techniques to enhance client capacity, referrals for clinical consultation and assessment, understanding and using the capacity assessment report, and a brief guide to psychological instruments. Project members are spreading the word about the availability of the handbook and, in conjunction with the ABA, have begun presenting and incorporating its contents into continuing legal education programming.

Members of the Working Group have also begun efforts targeting the two other audiences identified in our action plan - psychologists and judges. In response to the significant interest in psychological assessment of decision making capacity expressed during the APA 2004 Convention and after the *Monitor on Psychology* article on this topic, an all-day APA pre-convention CE workshop (#3) will be held on Wednesday, August 17. The workshop, *Psychological Assessment of Decision-Making Capacity of Older Adults*, is being sponsored by Division 20 and Division 12-Section II. It is being chaired by Charles Sabatino, Daniel Marson and Barry Edelstein. Co-chairs are Karleen Ball, Martin Zehr and P. Andrew Clifford. Jennifer Moye is the moderator. More information is at: <http://www.apa.org/ce/>.

To address judicial needs, a companion document with the working title, *Determining Capacity of Older Adults in Guardianship Proceedings: A Benchbook for Judges*, is being developed by a subgroup of the ABA-APA Working Group (Jennifer Moye and Dan Marson representing APA and Charles Sabatino and Erica Wood, of the ABA). The document will provide guidance to judges and courtroom personnel who regularly decide issues of legal capacity in guardianship matters. Key concepts and steps in judicial determinations of capacity and resources for such determinations, including clinical and community reports, alternatives to guardianship, limited guardianships and strategies for court oversight will be included. It seems to me that this is, hopefully, a collaboration without end. The need is clear and the potential opportunities for education – ranging from primary health care providers to older adults and their families – are endless. *Continued on page 7*

By Deborah DiGilio, APA Aging Issues Officer

The second project I would like to note is CONA's newest venture, The Roadmap to Aging. Headed up by CONA chair-elect, Toni Antonucci, its objective is to translate the wealth of research literature into practical steps to assist young, middle-aged and older adults in planning for and addressing the challenges that often arise as people age. The first product will be a web-based brochure for psychologists that will build upon the interest generated during past APA President Diane Halpern's Retired Psychologists Initiative. Recommendations for steps individuals should take to plan for aging related to eight areas (economic/financial, environmental, health, legal, psychological, social, spiritual and work/retirement) are currently being collected. At the annual CONA Conversation Hour, to be held during the APA Convention on August 18th beginning at 4:00 pm, broad input will be solicited on ways to encourage psychologists of all ages to think about future planning and what information is necessary to enable them to do so realistically and effectively. Another meeting will be held in September to review all information obtained and integrate it into a brochure for psychologists.

In closing, I would like to say that I have had the good fortune to communicate regularly with Leah and past Division 20 Presidents in recent years, and would very much like to keep interested Division 20 members abreast of current and upcoming activities. One way to do this is via the APA Aging Issues e-Newsletter that is distributed three times yearly. The Office on Aging website www.apa.org/pi/aging is another good source of information. Most of our publications (including the soon to be uploaded lawyer handbook) can be printed from here.

If you wish to be put on the newsletter distribution list, receive the lawyer handbook or other publications, attend the CONA Conversation Hour, or receive the Aging Issues at Convention Guide, please send an e-mail to the APA Office on Aging Administrative Assistant, Milly Pal at mpal@apa.org. Also, please feel free to contact me at any time with your comments or concerns. I can be reached at 202-336-6135 or ddigilio@apa.org. And yes, I believe that CONA and the Office on Aging are creeping up the growth chart!

Student News

Submitted by **Christie Chung and Meredith M. Patterson**

We hope you are enjoying the warmer weather and are looking forward to the APA convention in August! We just wanted to provide you with the details of the graduate symposium and social events at the APA convention this August.

At the APA convention this year, we have organized a graduate symposium entitled "Non-academic Careers in Adult Development and Aging", as well as a social event for you to participate in. We have invited two experts in the field of psychology and aging to speak at our graduate symposium. The first speaker, Dr. Roger Morrell, is the founder of GeroTech – a company that works on connecting older adults with modern technology. Our second speaker, Dr. Thomas H. Crook III, is the founder of Psychologix – a research organization that focuses on developing new technologies to assess psychological abilities and on developing drugs to improve psychological performance.

The graduate student social event, which is planned to take place on Friday, August 19, 2005, at 8 p.m. is open to all students in Division 20 and their friends and families! Stay tuned for more details on the location of the event. As a graduate student member of Division 20, you are also welcome to attend another social event organized by Division 20 on Saturday, August 20, 2005 at a discounted rate. These events are great opportunities to meet and mingle with other students, faculty, and researchers that share similar research interests in aging and adult development. We hope to meet you all then!

**TEACHING TIPS: Examining Stereotypes of Aging in an
Undergraduate Life-span Development Course**
Celinda Reese, Ph.D. Department of Psychology Oklahoma State University

A few years ago I found myself in an unexpected situation. The students in my life-span developmental psychology class seemed to be uninterested in the information I was presenting about late adulthood. I found this surprising because I spend most of the semester looking forward to finishing the sections devoted to earlier points in the life span so that I can teach what I love most—adulthood and aging. Even more troubling was the fact that after they had read the text and listened to lectures on cognitive and socioemotional development in adulthood they still missed many exam questions about older adults. Furthermore, when they missed questions, the answers they chose were in line with stereotypes of aging rather than scientific fact. What follows is a brief description of a series of exercises I developed to both engage students and get them to question the beliefs they hold about what older adults and life in late adulthood are like. I have used the exercise in my undergraduate life span course, but it could easily be adapted for a research methods or a graduate developmental course.

Early in the semester I ask students to write down one thing they believe about older adults. As an in-class exercise, we talk about what they have written. Their answers usually range from beliefs that older adults are wise to beliefs that older adults are bad drivers. Even in large classes a lot of conversation is generated. After this discussion, I introduce an assignment that involves identifying the origins of their particular belief and determining whether or not the scientific evidence supports such an idea.

In terms of trying to identify the origin of their beliefs, I ask students to bring to class an example of something they have read or seen that represents their stated belief. Items typically range from magazine advertisements targeted at older adults to greeting cards that carry ageist messages. Students have also brought video clips of characters on television or in the movies. For example, one student brought in a clip from the Simpsons that prominently featured the character of Grandpa. Depending on the size of the class, I either have the students share their items with the entire class or with a small group of class members. This part of the exercise provides the class with a very convincing demonstration that stereotypes of older adults are pervasive in Western society.

After a brief discussion about the difficulty of counteracting stereotypes, I explain that the next part of the assignment is to conduct a limited literature review of the recent scientific evidence related to their belief. For example, if a student's belief was that older adults are wise, they are asked to find and read five articles about age differences (or, similarities in this case) in wisdom. This part of the exercise is a good way to introduce students to the databases that are available to support scientific research. It also provides an opportunity to discuss what a peer-reviewed article is and to discuss the difference between primary and secondary sources.

Next, students are asked to write a paper describing the research findings of the articles they read. At the conclusion of the paper, I ask students to discuss how the scientific evidence either fits or does not fit with their previously held belief. This part of the exercise provides students with the opportunity to integrate research findings on a narrow, well-defined topic. It is also a nice way to introduce the basics of APA format, such as what a cover and reference page should look like and how references should be cited.

Finally, I ask students to share their findings either with the class or with a small group. This part of the exercise allows students to hear the scientific evidence related to a wide variety of topics in the field of adult development and aging.

I've found that students are engaged by this series of activities. They clearly enjoy some parts (finding examples of stereotypes) more than others (writing the paper), but they learn from each step of the assignment. By the end of this one series of exercises, students have identified stereotypes of older adults, learned about the challenge of overcoming stereotypes, conducted a literature review of scientific evidence, and thought critically about one of their beliefs concerning older adults. One unintentional benefit of the exercise is that it helps me stay informed of the latest research findings presented in journals that I do not have the opportunity to read on a regular basis.

APA PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES: *Statements on Aging*

A note from Leah Light: Each year, candidates for the Presidency of APA publish statements about their background, interests, and views on the APA website. The information available at this website deals with APA governance, presidential platform, and selected issues dealing with professional and scientific matters. Because the statements are designed for a wide audience, they do not necessarily tell us about candidates' interest in and involvement with issues specific to adult development and aging. Hence, following recent tradition, all candidates for the 2007 Presidency were invited to respond to three questions about matters important to Division 20:

1. Briefly describe your interests and any previous involvement in Division 20. Our members would be interested in knowing if you are a member or fellow of the Division and if you have been active in any way in Division 20. Are you involved in other professional organizations devoted to the psychology of adult development and aging?
2. Briefly describe any professional or scholarly interest you have in issues related to the psychology of aging. Naturally, we are interested in a wide range of professional activities, including practice, consulting, supervising, research, and teaching.
3. Is aging part of your platform or agenda for your presidential year? If so, please describe briefly.

Three of the five candidates responded to our questions and their answers are included here in random order. Two candidates chose to respond to each question individually and one prepared a response that incorporated all three. The format of each candidate's response is preserved as sent to us. The posted statements of all five candidates (Sharon S. Brehm, Katherine C. Nordal, J. Bruce Overmier, Stephen A. Ragusea, and Thomas J. Vaughn) may be found using links given at <http://www.apa.org/monitor/may05/candidates.html> which is the on-line version of the May 5, 2005 issue of the Monitor on Psychology.

Information about APA Presidential candidates has historically appeared in our Fall newsletter—in closer proximity to the mailing of the ballot. In 2004, however, Division 20 members voted overwhelmingly to allow the Executive Committee to endorse one or more candidates at its summer meeting. Thus, the statements of candidates are given here to encourage all Division 20 members to consider the responses of the candidates as well as their Monitor statements and to email me (Leah.Light@pitzer.edu) or other members of the Executive Committee with their views, using APA Presidential Candidates in the subject line.

Reminders to vote in the Presidential election will come your way in the Fall. It is not too early, though, to think through your voting strategies. The Hare system of voting permits ranking of candidates, rather than selection of a single one, and the information provided here may help you in assigning ranks should you choose to vote for more than one candidate. In the past, ranks other than the top one have been crucial in the outcome of Presidential elections. However you decide, please do vote in the forthcoming election for APA President.

Editors' Note: We regret that only 3 of the 5 candidates were able to submit a statement in time for our press dead line.

Bruce J. Overmier

Interests and involvement in Division 20 and aging: I am not a member of Division 20, but I am a member of division 7 "Applied Gerontology" of the International Association of Applied Psychology. I have been associated with the "aging training grant" at the University of Minnesota for more than ten years. Two of my students obtained their PhDs with emphasis in gerontological psychology and work in that area today.

Professional or scholarly interest you have in issues related to the psychology of aging: In my recent research, I have in fact been researching methods that can facilitate working memory in clients with Korsakoff's Syndrome and alcohol dementia, both more severe with aging. I also have researched perception, attention, and memory in clients with Alzheimer's Disease. In fact, I have several publications in this area.

Is aging part of your platform or agenda for your presidential year? The fastest growing population in need of better psychological services is senior citizens. Yet our knowledge in this area is limited with substantially more research needed in the domain, and the number of training programs with emphasis on aging even more limited. This does merit APA's continued attention in its Public Policy Office, and as a senior myself, I certainly endorse this.

Katherine C. Nordal

While I am not a member of Division 20, I have had an active interest in older adults through out my 29 years of practice. Earlier in my professional career, I was a strong advocate and active visitor on Capitol Hill in support of psychologists' inclusion as providers under Medicare. Since passage of that legislation, I have been a Medicare provider and treat elderly clients in my practice. Primary care physicians frequently refer their aging clients for treatment of mood related disorders and evaluation of suspected cognitive decline. I have also worked with many families/caretakers as they have wrestled with the difficult decisions they have to make about care of their parents. I have provided consultation to nursing home staff and have served in an evaluative capacity for inpatient geropsychiatric units. On a more personal note, I have been a Hospice volunteer and Meals-on-Wheels volunteer in my community. I have also been a regular visitor of the aging/shut-in members of my Episcopal church.

I was an APA Congressional Science Fellow during the 1990-91 academic year and served as senior staff in a House office and on the House Select Committee on Hunger. I was responsible for handling the issues related to older adults and worked with the offices of my Senator, Thad Cochran, on the reauthorization of the Older American's Act. I also handled issues related to food and nutrition programs for older adults.

While on the APA Board of Directors (2001-03), I was liaison to the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest, and worked to advance the agendas of all of the committees under its purview, including the Committee on Aging. As liaison from the APA Board of Directors to APA's Interdivisional Task Force on the Practice of Clinical Geropsychology, I was actively involved in the development of that group's final document which became the "Guidelines for Psychological Practice with Older Adults". I then worked with that group and actively advocated with the APA Council of Representatives for the successful passage of those guidelines.

I have also been very concerned about the potential for disenfranchisement of the aging through our legal system. In our state, historically two physicians (specialty does not matter), or a physician and psychologist, can sign an affidavit to declare an individual incompetent to manage their affairs, without a whole lot of data to support their decision. I designed a training workshop for judges regarding the appropriate psychological evaluation of competency issues in the elderly and have presented that workshop through the University of Mississippi's Continuing Judicial Education program.

My presidential initiatives will focus on public policy and advocacy for the underserved. While I do not currently have any specific targeted goals in regard to aging issues, I will be working with the APA Public Policy Office as we craft initiatives, and, certainly, aging issues may be among those. I am very interested in advocacy for additional Graduate Professional Education funding, and those training grants do target programs for work with the underserved, including older adults, especially in rural communities.

I appreciate all of the great work your division does on behalf of our aging citizens! I would value any ideas about doable policy initiatives around aging issues from your members as I begin to put together my advocacy and policy initiatives for my presidential year. Please feel free to contact me through my website at www.Dr.Nordal.com

Cognitive Aging Conference

The 2006 Cognitive Aging Conference webpages are up and running. On the webpage you will find hotel reservation forms, registration forms (that you must mail with check or credit card information), the abstract submission procedure, and other information about the conference. The deadline for submitting abstracts is November 18, 2005. The conference will be held in Atlanta on April 20-23, 2006. For more information, contact: anderson.smith@cos.gatech.edu or visit the Cognitive Aging Conference webpage <http://www.cos.gatech.edu/cac>

Sharon S. Brehm

Interests and involvement in Division 20 and aging: I am not a member of Division 20 nor have I been active in the division or any other professional organization explicitly focused on the psychology of adult development and aging. However, like so many other people, I have a deep personal interest in the psychology of adult development and aging. That interest stems from my own experience of getting older, the widespread concern about how our country (and others with a similar demographic pattern) will adjust to the presence of a very large cohort of elderly “baby boomers,” and the anguish of having my mother suffer from the ravages of Alzheimer’s disease. It is quite clear that the contributions of members of Division 20 in research, practice, education, and public policy are among the most important ones of our time.

Professional or scholarly interest you have in issues related to the psychology of aging: Although I was trained as a clinical psychologist, much of my work has focused on social psychology and the psychology of intimate relationships has been one of my major interests (Brehm, Miller, Perlman, & Campbell (2002), *Intimate Relationships 3e*, New York: McGraw-Hill). As it turns out, you cannot study nor teach relationships adequately without emphasizing psychological development. There are, for example, age differences in love, loneliness, friendships, and social support – just to name a few. In the relationships text, we focus on both child and adult development, and in some areas, we are able to cover developmental processes from early childhood to old age. In my undergraduate course on intimate relationships, the developmental framework is easily and quickly adopted by my students. Not surprisingly, they are particularly interested in adult development as they try to anticipate what lies ahead for them after they graduate from college.

Is aging part of your platform or agenda for your presidential year? As we all know, the United States is not meeting the needs of its population for healthcare. The current “non-system” is broken, and increasingly politicians and business leaders are admitting it (see, for example, the NYT article, 5/29/05, “Health leaders seek consensus over uninsured”). This, of course, is just the beginning. As the population ages, the pressure on Medicare will be unsustainable. And the clock is ticking: In just 6 years, the first boomer cohort turns 65. After that, the deluge!

Engaging in a major transformation of healthcare is a gargantuan task, and perhaps our country will just keep muddling along. But because the problems will be so dire and affect everyone, from the impoverished who cannot get care to the billionaire whose company’s prices keep rising to cover healthcare benefits for employees, there is the possibility that a real effort will be made.

However this unfolds, APA must be at the tables where the most important conversations take place. This will require some work. I noticed, for example, that APA was not included in the meetings described in the NYT article. The AMA was. Let me say this plainly: All APA presidents for at least the next decade must make psychology’s inclusion in healthcare reform their first priority. If we are left out, we are unlikely to get back in.

Two major points need to be advanced on psychology’s behalf:

1. Psychological treatment is cost-effective in responding to mental and physical illness and in developing prevention and early-intervention programs that can reduce the rate of illness.
2. Psychological treatment as well as prevention and early intervention programs must be based on scientific evidence that is interpreted and integrated within a clearly articulated lifespan perspective. Such a perspective, as indicated in my priorities (www.brehm4apa.com), will be useful to both psychologists and other healthcare professionals.

I recognize that there are many other vital topics that are of great interest to Division 20 members, but healthcare reform will surely be one of the most challenging and contentious issues in our lifetimes. I hope that the Division 20 membership will be actively involved in developing this lifespan perspective on psychological healthcare and will make use of it to assist our country (and perhaps other countries as well) to develop sound policies and utilize best practices.

Nominations Sought for APA Fellows

Please help to identify potential fellows of Division 20—nominate yourself or others who meet the following criteria:

For new Fellows:

1. Possession of a doctoral degree based in part upon a psychological dissertation conferred by a graduate school of recognized standing;
2. Membership in Division 20 for at least two years;
3. Achievement of a minimum of five years of acceptable professional experience subsequent to the granting of the doctoral degree;
4. Evidence of unusual or outstanding contribution or performance in the field of psychology;
5. Record of distinguished and scholarly contribution to the field of adult development and aging, ordinarily in the form of published papers or books documenting the work in empirical research, the development of theory or method, or other scholarly pursuits; and
6. Presentation of endorsements from at least three fellows of APA (the majority of whom must be fellows of Division 20) written within the past year.

The nominee submits a self-written statement about the professional accomplishments that warrant Fellow status, a completed copy of the Uniform Fellow Application, and a CV with publications marked R for refereed as appropriate.

For Division 20 members who are already APA Fellows:

1. Membership in Division 20 for at least two years, and
2. Professional work related to the psychology of adult development and aging.

Current Fellows of other divisions who wish to become Fellows of Division 20 submit the Uniform Fellow Application, their APA membership number, and a CV.

The next review process will take place in spring, 2006; completed application packages will be due Jan. 6, 2006. Submit nominations to and request forms or more information from: Sara J. Czaja, Division 20 Fellowship Chair, Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, University of Miami School of Medicine, 1695 N.W. 9th Avenue, Miami, Florida 33136. Phone: 305-355-9068, Fax: 305-355-9076, Email: sczaja@med.miami.edu.

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