

APA



NEP 15

NEWSLETTER FOR EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

October 2008 :: Volume 31 :: Number 3

Message from Dr. Ellen Mandinach, President



As Division 15 enters a new year, I would like to recognize a few people who made the past year and 2008 convention memorable for the membership. First and foremost, we all owe Eric Anderman, now the past-president, a debt of gratitude for his tireless work on

behalf of the Division. Eric is a true advocate for the Division's work. In particular, he, in collaboration with the Publications Committee, put in place a contract to ensure quality and longevity of the *Educational Psychologist* for the foreseeable future. Eric also has taken on the publications division of APA who seemingly has not been working on behalf of our Division. One of the most profitable publications for Division is the *Handbook of Educational Psychology*, whose royalties directly benefit our Division. Now APA is working toward a competing publication that potentially will undermine the existing Handbook. Eric has confronted APA and the Executive Committee will continue to work toward a solution that benefits the Division. Second, we should recognize the work of Lyn Corno, former president, who spent the past year making sense out of the Division's by-laws so that the work of the Division will run smoothly in the future. Finally, thanks to Tamera Murdock for her work in putting together an engaging conference program. For the members who have never served as program chair, it is a challenging and often frustrating endeavor that goes without appropriate recognition. It is through the tireless work of devoted individuals like Eric, Lyn, and Tamera, that make possible the effective functioning of the Division so that all members can benefit.

However, at a time where there are many competing organizations that vie for our time, attention, and resources, we all must be committed to making Division 15 viable for the future, not just to the current membership, but also to the new generation of young scholars entering our profession. We all must strive to make the Division more relevant and attractive, through our work, publications, and the convention. The Executive Committee and the Membership Committee are working very hard to seek ways to increase or membership, through possible incentives, particularly for young scholars. One successful effort, the Graduate Student Seminar, has been led by Michelle Buehl and Helenrose Fives. The *Educational Psychologist*, which has been in the very capable hands of Gale Sinatra will transfer editorship in 2010 to Clark Chinn who has a coherent view of how the journal can best serve the membership. Paul Schultz, the 2009 program chair and president-elect, will be striving to put together an engaging program for the Toronto meeting.

But Paul needs the help of the membership in terms of engaging and attractive proposals to make this happen.

My goal for the coming year is to continue to build on the foundation that Lyn and Eric created and work toward strengthening the importance of the Division for the existing and future membership. We are an aging and declining division, like many others at APA. We all have other conferences and organizations that compete for our attention and limited resources. Yet the Division must find ways to increase its relevance to educational psychologists. I will be seeking input from the membership over the coming months on how we can improve our responsiveness to your needs and interests.

~ Ellen

Join the Division 15 Listserv!

Send a message to listserv@lists.apa.org. In the body of the note type the following: subscribe div15 firstname lastname substituting your own first and last names instead of those words. Do not include anything else in the note, and do not put anything in the subject line.



Call for Nominations for Fellow Status in APA Division 15

The Division 15 Fellows Committee is pleased announce that we are soliciting nominations for Fellow status in Division 15. Please send your nominations (or self-nomination) including contact information to me by October 31, 2008 at mayer@psych.ucsb.edu.

The nominee must meet both the minimum standards for Fellowship under the APA Bylaws as well as standards set by Division 15 itself. The minimum standards for Fellowship under the APA Bylaws are: "1) The receipt of a doctoral degree based in part on a psychological dissertation, or from a program primarily psychological in nature; 2) Prior membership as an APA Member for at least one year and a Member of the division through which the nomination is made; 3) Active engagement at the time of nomination in the advancement of psychology in any of its aspects; 4) Five years of acceptable professional experience subsequent to the granting of the doctoral degree; 5) Evidence of unusual and outstanding contribution or performance in the field of psychology; and 6) Nomination by one of the divisions in which member status is held."

Division 15 Standards for Fellow Status are:
"Elections to Fellow status require evidence of unusual and outstanding contributions or performance in the field of psychology. Fellow status requires that a person's work have had a national impact on the field of psychology and beyond a local, state or regional level. A high level of competence or steady and continuing contributions are not sufficient to warrant Fellow status. National impact MUST be demonstrated."

If you are not sure whether a potential nominee is already a Fellow of Division 15, we will check your nominee against the complete list of Division 15 Fellows. If warranted, we will contact your nominee to solicit more information. The Division 15 Fellows Committee consists of Steve Benton, Ellen Mandinach, Rich Mayer (Chair), and Harry O'Neil.

Thanks,
Rich Mayer
Chair, Division 15 Fellows Committee
email: mayer@psych.ucsb.edu

Call for Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award Applicants

Division 15 (Educational Psychology) of the American Psychological Association invites members, affiliates, or student members to apply for the 2009 Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award. The recipient of this award receives a plaque of recognition, a \$500 stipend, an invitation to present the dissertation at the 2010 APA annual meeting in San Diego, and up to \$1000 of travel and registration expenses for attendance at that meeting. Applicants must meet the following eligibility requirements to be considered for the award:

1. An applicant must be a member, affiliate, or student member of Division 15, APA. Applicants who are not members or affiliates may apply for membership when submitting materials for the dissertation award. All materials must be submitted electronically.
2. Students must have had their dissertations approved by their doctoral committees prior to application. Applicants must be from an accredited college or university.
3. Departments/programs may endorse no more than three students per year for the award.
4. The dissertation must be in an area of educational psychology research.
5. The dissertation must have been completed within the past three calendar years.



This year's submissions must have completed their dissertations between January 1, 2006 and December 31, 2008.

Deadline for Application Materials:
December 31, 2008.

For application materials, guidelines, and evaluation criteria, please contact
Michele Gregoire Gill at
mgill@mail.ucf.edu.

MINUTES
APA Division 15 Executive Committee
August 15, 2008
Boston

Executive Committee members present: Eric Anderman (president), Ellen Mandinach (president-elect), Lyn Corno (past president), Chris Wolters (treasurer), Barbara Hofer (secretary), Jenefer Husman (member-at-large), Johnmarshall Reeve (member-at-large), Nancy Perry (member-at-large), Michael Martinez (APA Council representative)

Also present: Tamera Murdock (program chair, 2008), Rayne Sperling (Historian), Patrick Kyllonen (chair, Publications committee), Michelle Buehl (co-chair, Graduate Affairs committee), Helenrose Fives (co-chair, Graduate Affairs committee), Michele Gregoire Gill (chair, Dissertation Awards Committee), Gale Sinatra (editor of *Educational Psychologist*), Maeghan Hennessey (co-chair, Membership Committee), Paul Schutz (president-elect), Helen Patrick (member-at-large-elect)

President Anderman opened the meeting by announcing the recently elected members who will begin service on the board following the conference: Paul Schutz as president-elect, Heather Davis as secretary, Helen Patrick as member-at-large, and Michael Martinez to serve on the APA Council of Representatives (following two years of service, as he was previously appointed to fill a vacancy).

Anderman reported on negotiations for the recent contract for *Educational Psychologist* with Taylor and Francis, and thanked Patrick Kyllonen, chair of the Publications Committee for his assistance in negotiating the contract, a complicated and time-consuming procedure. In other matters related to publications, he noted that the Classroom in the Schools series has not made as much progress as was expected and there will be a solicitation for an additional co-editor.

Anderman thanked the Executive Committee for serving as reviewers for the 16 applications for the new Early Career Research Award. The ranking process used by the committee produced three winners. The other applicants will receive feedback on their proposals, which Anderman will summarize from the reviews. Anderman reported that he has been serving on the Task Force on Reducing Violence against Teachers in the Schools, in response to a request from the Board of Educational Affairs. The board discussed the importance of continuing to participate in policy-level task forces and committees of APA, through BEA, the Science Directorate, etc.

Treasurer Chris Wolters reported that the division is in great financial shape, with roughly \$200,000 in checking and \$400,000 in savings. There are several sources of income, but the primary source is *Educational Psychologist*. Wolters has been working on developing budgets for various expenses at the conference, e.g., the graduate seminar, the reception, etc. He noted that the board agreed to allocate assets to two accounts, savings and checking, with two years of expenses maintained in checking. Currently the division savings are in a Vanguard Treasury account, and he questioned whether the board might want to consider diversifying savings. There are no particular restrictions on this, and APA is not in a position to give financial advice. Wolters suggested that the board should decide goals and make a decision about where the assets are held. He noted that the income is largely royalties, from *Educational Psychologist* and several books, e.g., the Century of Contributions book, the Psychology in the Classroom series, and the two editions of the *Handbook of Educational Psychology*. Revenue goes primarily to awards and grants, the division reception held at the conference, and travel – e.g., for the annual executive committee retreat, and APA meetings where divisional representation is needed (leadership conference for new presidents, BEA, etc.).

Tamara Murdock, 2008 Program Chair, provided a written and oral report. She expressed concern about the overall quality of submissions, noting that this concern had been expressed by the previous program chair. She discussed the need to find ways to encourage people to submit good symposia for next year and to work with APA to create working sessions around topics important to educational psychologists. One change made in the program this year was to eliminate a prepared discussion for the one-hour paper sessions; instead the discussants were asked to identify a couple questions and stimulate discussion with the audience. There was a general sense of agreement among the board that this had been effective, with more time for actual discussion in these short sessions and less preparation needed on the part of the discussant; formal discussant roles seem more effective and productive as part of symposia.

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Michelle Buehl and Helenrose Fives, co-chairs of the Graduate Affairs Committee, reported that they had 11 participants in the current session, all at dissertation phase (and mostly at the proposal stage), and that it had been a strong group. The seminar provided multiple opportunities for professional mentoring, including mentoring circles with one faculty member for each pair of students, and a mentoring dinner to replace the former breakfast session. In addition to attending the sessions that were scheduled for the seminar, participants were expected to attend the main award talks and the invited speakers. Buehl and Fives have now organized the seminar with minimal overlap with Division 15 sessions and have also streamlined the application process. They noted that they have only one year left in their position and recommend that new chairs be appointed, perhaps with staggered terms, with one person starting next year so there would be overlap and training. President-elect Ellen Mandinach agreed to appoint new chairs, and Buehl and Rose agreed to recommend people for this role.

Patrick Kyllonen, chair of the Publications Committee, reported that the committee had reviewed applications for the new editor of *Educational Psychologist* and that the procedure developed by the executive committee had been followed and had been very helpful. The five committee members had thoroughly discussed candidate materials in light of the criteria that had been articulated by the board and had used the Hare system for selection, as had been specified. Although all candidates were extremely strong, the committee was pleased with the candidate chosen and would make a recommendation to the board in closed session at the end of the meeting.

Gale Sinatra, editor of *Educational Psychologist*, summarized the written report submitted for the meeting packet and also a report recently received from Taylor and Francis. The process is going extremely well and they have moved to electronic copy-editing and production. They also did a direct mail flyer. Gale will follow up on the commitment by T & F to digitize all back issues, which was promised in the contract at no cost to the division. Sinatra noted that the new contract also includes supporting an annual editorial board lunch meeting at conferences. She noted that there are sometimes extra pages available and she typically consults with the editor about whether there is division material that could be inserted. Martinez suggested that an invitation to join Division 15 would be a good use of the space. Maeghan Hennessey, co-chair of the Membership Committee, agreed to prepare this for the next issue, drawing information from the membership brochure, and to submit it to Sinatra (by Monday) for inclusion in the next issue.

In additional matters related to publications, the board discussed the written report submitted by Lisa Bendixen, editor of the division newsletter, and the problems she reported with the division web site, an ongoing concern. The board also discussed the need to add an additional co-editor for the Psychology in the Classroom series. An ad will be posted in the newsletter and the listserv and *Educational Psychologist*; the Publications Committee will vet those applications, which will be approved by the Executive Committee.

Historian Rayne Sterling reported that there has been increased

interest recently in archival information, with multiple requests for old newsletters and divisional addresses. She has also been involved in some membership activities that are not part of the formal role of historian, but took this on when the membership brochure was posted to the web site. She has received documents from Anderman and has conducted an interview with Lyn Corno as past president, which will serve as the basis for a newsletter article. Former historian Jenefer Husman has given her a disk of scanned materials from 2006 and Sperling has also received documents from president Anderman. In addition, she has received all the necessary documents from APA via electronic means, so there will be no need to expend division resources for a trip to APA headquarters, as had been budgeted.

Michele Gill, chair of the Dissertation Awards Committee, reported that she received 28 applications for dissertation research awards. The program was heavily advertised: only a short abstract was necessary. Two winners were selected, to be announced at the business meeting. Next year the Pintrich award will be given again. Gill requested a co-chair for the coming year, as she will be on leave when applications are received.

Maeghan Hennessey, co-chair of the Membership Committee, gave an overview of the detailed report provided in the meeting packet regarding a profile of current members and where they are located. The goal of the committee is to have all institutions that prepare educational psychologists represented in Division 15. She discussed complications in who APA reports as members, as the list from APA includes those who haven't paid dues for two years but haven't formally resigned. Also, the only addresses available for members are where journals are to be sent, so sometimes the institutional affiliations are not available. Currently the division has 962 members, a decline from recent years. The committee is planning to contact institutions with ed psych programs who do not have representation in Division 15 and also to contact former members. Efforts to build membership this past year included having the division co-sponsor a reception at AERA with the SIG motivation group; Anderman discussed benefits of APA Division 15 membership and distributed a brochure. This year the plan is to find another group with overlapping interests (e.g., self-regulation) for similar co-sponsorship of a reception and opportunities to promote the division. President-elect Mandinach reported that she had learned about strategies that Division 5 has been using for building graduate student membership and would share those with the membership committee.

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Michael Martinez reported on recent business from the APA Council of Representatives, noting that they had met on Wednesday preceding the conference and would meet again on Sunday, so their business was not yet concluded. The proposal on ethnic minority representation on the Council was passed by the Council but defeated by the membership. APA reported to the Council that the new \$7 million web site will go online soon. Also, membership fees will increase slightly, and the cost of convention registration will also rise. Overall, APA membership is declining slightly, and the organization has hired a consulting firm to develop a strategic plan. APA has recently accepted a mission statement and is now working on a vision statement, and Martinez is part of that group.

There was no report, either written or oral, from Alan Wigfield, the representative to the Board of Scientific Affairs. Anderman noted that Wigfield reports he has been too busy and wants to step down, and that a new person is needed for this role. The board discussed the importance of having a person in this position who will take an active interest. President-elect Mandinach will follow up on this and make the appointment.

Michele Gill reported on attending the recent Board of Educational Affairs meeting as a substitute, and noted that there is a need for consistent representation on this committee, given that educational psychologists have an important role to play in this committee in regard to policy. The board discussed the need to identify liaisons from the Division for various ad hoc groups and task forces that the BEA develops, and the need for a searchable data base that can be used to identify member expertise. The Membership Committee was asked to help address this concern.

Tamara Murdock reported as the liaison to the Coalition for Psychology in the Schools, an APA group whose mission is to make sure that psychological knowledge is used effectively in application to education. The Coalition recently conducted a survey to learn about teachers' self-reported needs for psychological knowledge. One project is classroom assessment, and Murdock is working with the group on that topic. The Coalition wants to pilot 4-5 modules for teachers on topics such as assessment and would like to develop a comprehensive web site. Many of the members of the Coalition are deans of schools of education and it would

be useful for the division to think about how Division 15 can best be represented there.

The board received a written report from Judith Torney-Purta in regard to her role as liaison to the APA Committee on International Relations in Psychology (CIRP).

Under old business, Anderman reported that the Division will create and host a 2009 conference on the teaching of educational psychology. He will be employing a graduate student to help with preparations, with funding that has already been approved by the board. There was discussion of whether to make this a separate conference, as in 1996, or to hold it as a one-day pre-conference in conjunction with APA, and the board unanimously decided on a pre-conference at APA.

The board discussed the need to have an annual budget approved for the division, with both projected revenue and expenditures. The board unanimously approved a motion to charge the treasurer with the task of developing a budget annually for approval by the board that would be presented at the spring meeting each year.

Nancy Perry, Member-at-large, reported on the work of an ad hoc committee to improve the web site. They are developing a request for proposals for a web designer. However, given the new web site that APA has developed, this site could be used by divisions to create their own pages and would eliminate the need for redundant efforts and expenses in this regard. Paul Schutz, incoming President-elect, reported that this was discussed at the new president's meeting, and he will find out what needs to happen and when it will be ready. The board agreed that the current web site is not very inviting. Perry asked whether it would be wise in the interim to edit the home page and direct viewers more quickly to content at the Penn State historian site, and the board concurred. Anderman noted that it would be helpful to get institutions with ed psych programs to link to the Division site on their department web sites.

The board has discussed providing funding for grants for small conferences and workshops; a subcommittee of Martinez, Mandinach, and Perry will be working on the details. They will present a report in November for discussion at the retreat.

Chris Wolters reported that at the business meeting he will present the results of the division-funded research he conducted on doctoral programs in educational psychology.

Anderman reported that the research awards process had been conducted for the first time this year and that the criteria and process need refinement before next year's competition is publicized. Mandinach will create an ad hoc committee to address this and then create a standing committee to handle the process annually.

New business items included a proposal from the incoming APA president for a "convention within the convention," which will have a practitioner track and a science track. Divisions were asked to give up part of their allotted sessions to-

Next APA Convention Site

2009

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

August 6-9 (Thursday - Sunday)

ward this endeavor. It seemed unclear how the division would benefit; the consensus of the board was not to participate.

This will be the third year that the board will hold a fall retreat. Plans are moving along and will continue to develop over email.

The board discussed the need to increase the funding for the major awards given by the division, as the size of the awards have remained constant for some time and no travel funds have been provided, although the expectation is that each award winner will give a talk at the APA conference. The board unanimously approved increasing the amount of the Snow and Thorndike awards from \$500 to \$1000. Unanimous approval was also given to a proposal to allocate up to an additional \$1000 for travel expenses for each of the three award winners (Snow, Pintrich, and Thorndike) to support conference expenses for the award talks. These increases are effective immediately.

The board discussed a proposal that had been submitted in advance of the meeting for a Wittrock award for theoretical contributions, to be given when merited. The proposal suggests that the committee be chaired by the immediate past president, with 3 additional Fellows on the committee. The board agreed that the proposal requires further discussion, including allocation of funds, formation of the committee, general frequency of the award, etc. Further discussion was tabled until November.

The remainder of the meeting was held in closed session to discuss the recommendation of the Publication Committee for the new editor for *Educational Psychologist* for a five-year term starting January 2009.

~Respectfully submitted, Barbara Hofer, Secretary

American Psychological Association :: Division 15 :: Educational Psychology

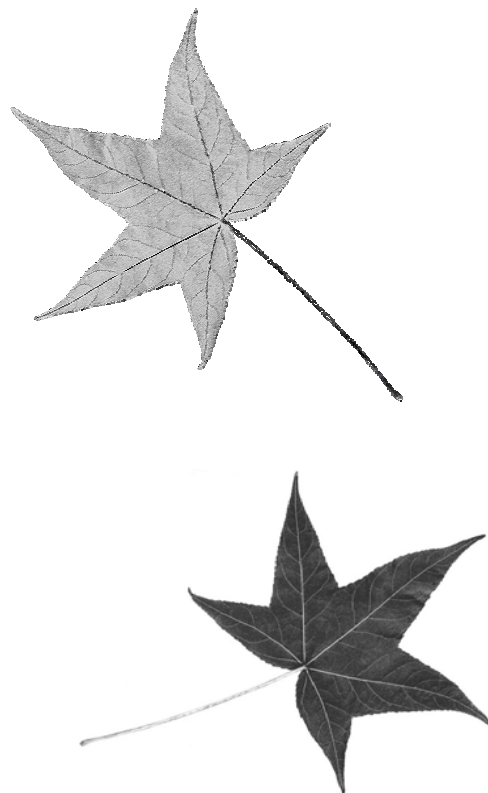


Encourage Your Colleagues and Students to Join Division 15 of APA

Membership benefits include:

- ♦ Free subscription to *Educational Psychologist*
- ♦ Free subscription to NEP 15
- ♦ Discounts on some Division 15 sponsored publications
- ♦ Collegueship with a worldwide network of educational psychologists

See back cover for more information



NEP 15

NEWSLETTER FOR EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGISTS
DIVISION 15 / AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
750 FIRST STREET N.E., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002-4242

Application for 1-Year Membership in APA Division 15: Educational Psychology

Name: _____

Institution: _____

Mailing address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Phone number () _____

↑ APA Dues-Paid Member \$9.00
(APA ID# _____)

↑ Non-APA Member \$25.00
(affiliate of the Division only)

↑ Student Member \$10.00
(include proof of student status)

Send completed application and membership fee to
(Make checks payable to *DIVISION 15-APA*):

Mr. Keith Cooke
American Psychological Association
Division of Member Services
750 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242

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