



Division 15

Educational Psychology

Message from the President



This has been a very successful year for the Division. The Division had a successful series of presentations at the APA conference in Washington, DC including invited addresses from Robert Pianta, Andrew Butler, Lisa Linnenbrink-Garcia and Richard Shavelson. In addition, there were a number of events for graduate students including opportunities to meet award winners, past-presidents and members of the division. Past president, David Bergin, and his co-Chairs, Bobby Hoffman and Michele Gill, organized a great meeting.

Looking to the future, the Division is considering a Division 15 conference that will be separate from the APA conference. An ad hoc committee, chaired by Andrew Butler, will be determining when and where such a conference should take place. It is expected that this conference will be small with only 100 attendees allowing for more opportunities for discussion and mentoring among Division 15 members. You will likely receive emails through the listserv requesting feedback as the committee works.

The Division is also in the process of hiring a social media specialist who will work part-time on an assortment of tasks including press releases, social networking and other activities designed to promote the Division. The Division hopes to hire this person by next year. In the mean time, an ad hoc committee has been established to create Facebook and Twitter accounts for the Division.

The Division was also planning to move to online balloting as an option for the Division elections in 2012. Unfortunately, our bylaws do not allow us to do online balloting unless APA does online balloting. APA hopes to begin online balloting in 2013.

The Division is also seeking to increase the membership of the Division, particularly among young professionals. If you have any suggestions for improving the Division and increasing our membership please contact me at mmcarr@uga.edu.

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Division 15 Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes APA Division 15 Executive Committee

Friday, April 8 - 7:00pm - 9:00pm

Building/Room: Renaissance Washington Hotel, Meeting Room 5

Dinner and Reports (7-8pm)

President Bergin opened the meeting by welcoming the Executive Committee. He noted the Division continues to do well financially. This year the Executive Committee initiated a small conference awards program, chaired by Jenefer Husman. Those on the Executive Committee are not eligible to apply. The Division will support up to \$5000 for a small meeting and is prepared to fund up to 3 proposals. Small Conference Committee Member Ji Hong noted the call was due on Sept. 1. The committee plans to review proposals, rank them and submit them to the Executive Committee for a vote in November. There was some discussion about whether the amount was enough to entice members to organize meetings and apply. Should the Division use the SCRD model and increase the amount offered? Others noted the APA Interdivisional grants programs run \$2000-3000 to support meetings. The Executive Committee plans to discuss the program at the November meeting.

President Bergin noted the accomplishments of the Corwin Classroom Insights series and Handbook of Educational Psychology. Progress continues to be made on the Handbook. The first book in the Classroom Insights series, *A Developmental Approach to Educating Young Children* by Denise Daniels and Patricia Clarkson has been published. There is another book forthcoming and three in contract (under review). The purpose of this series is to write for practitioners; educators review the

proposals and book draft. If you are interested in writing a volume, please contact series editor Deb Meyer.

Finally, the Division has issued a call for a Communications Director to promote the mission and goals of the Division and manage the increasing burdens of maintaining an informative website. Past President Paul Schutz noted that, to date, there has only been 1 inquiry with no applications. President Bergin noted that it is time for the Division to adopt a different approach to recruiting. Council Representative Tim Urdan inquired whether a qualified applicant needs to have a background in educational psychology. He argued the critical part of the job duties involve communications. He suggested that perhaps we are advertising in the wrong place. Council Representative Michael Martinez agreed the Division needs an individual who really understands communication; that a background in psychology or education is desirable but not required. He noted we should be advertising on communications websites or schools of communication.

Terri Thorkildsen requested clarification about where the work is going to be situated. The Executive Committee agreed that the work could be completed wherever the person resides. However, the goal is to have the Communications Director attend conferences (APA, AERA, Retreat). The Executive Committee would like the Communications Director to attend sessions generating accessible communications (newsletters etc.)

Member at Large Sandra Graham also noted there could be confusion about what it means to "submit a proposal." She argued the call is too ambiguous. Requesting a full proposal as part of the applications may be a deterrent. She suggested the Division be clearer about what \$50,000 in compensation entails. Is that simply salary or does that include travel? After receiving feedback, President Bergin noted the proposal needs to be re-crafted and advertised in different arenas. He agreed to write a revised version.

Treasurer Sharon Nichols provided a report on the financial status of the Division. She noted the Division is in good standing with approximately 460K in checking, and 442k in savings/investment fund. She noted funds have been stable with small increases even with the increased spending that we are doing. In addition to orienting herself to the financial trends, a milestone of her first year was discovering an unclaimed \$1000 student award from Taylor & Francis that they are contractually obligated to provide the Division. This year the decision was made to use the funds to augment the stipend for students attending the Doctoral Seminar. However, the Division is going to announce how best to use those funds in the future. Graduate Seminar co-Chair Mei-Lin Chang recommended that the Executive Committee consider a student travel grant. She noted that international graduate students often find it difficult to cover the cost of their travel with the stipend.

Secretary Heather Davis provided a report on the electronic voting that occurred between May-August. The Division 15 Executive Committee:

- Unanimously approved the minutes from the April meeting of the Executive Committee.

- Unanimously approved changes to the Policies and Procedures Manual regarding the Memorial Award.
- Unanimously approved changes to the Policies and Procedures Manual to allow for electronic posting of meeting minutes on the Division 15 website.
- Approved two award winners for the Dissertation Research Awards (10 approve, 1 abstain).
- Unanimously approved five award winners for the Early Career Research Awards.
- Unanimously approved the budget for the meeting of the Division 15 Social Hour at APA.
- Unanimously approved the budget for the meeting of the Early Career Lunch at APA.
- Unanimously approved the budget for the meeting of the Executive Committee at APA.

Program Chairs Michele Gill and Bobby Hoffman provided a brief report on the program. They noted sessions have been well attended. Stephen Tonks and Mei-Lin Chang also provided a brief report on the status of the Doctoral Seminar. They noted 19 applicants were accepted to the seminar. Members participated as speakers (n=10) or mentors (n=17). They acquired textbooks and copies of the *Handbook of Educational Psychology*, Ed. 2 for participants. They also noted that some students apply from a wider variety of fields including school psych and developmental psych. Former co-Chairs Paul Schutz and Helenrose Fives noted that they did not always accept participants from outside of Educational Psychology

because they often weren't interested in D15. Helenrose noted they even added a question to the application: How does your work connect to Division 15? Stephen and Mei-Lin noted this question was still a part of the application and acceptance process.

This year's participants will be encouraged to submit a poster for presentation at the 2012 conference. The goal is to have a mechanism for recruiting and retaining student participation in the division. Former co-Chair Heather Davis recommended having students who had been in the seminar send a copy of their proposal to the Mei-Lin and Michael Yough after submission into the APA system. A list of proposal titles, numbers, and names could be then forwarded to the program Chairs.

Membership Chair Meg Hennessey provided a report documenting an aging membership. Despite efforts to recruit junior and mid-career members, the percentages have stayed stable. Council Representative Martinez noted the problem of 'shrinking' membership is widespread for APA. Currently there are 67,000 members of APA who are in Divisions. Fifteen years ago, there were 20,000 more.

Dissertation Awards Chair Martin Jones inquired about the need to retain copies of old materials from applicants / winners. Is there historical value in archiving these documents or should they be destroyed? After discussion, it was concluded that there was not historical value in retaining applications (even for winners) given that the dissertation is accessible in dissertation abstracts.

Working Session (8pm-9pm):

Historian Revathy Kumar noted there are currently no policies /

procedures regarding the task of the historian. She is currently following a model set by Jenefer Husman to interview prominent members of the Division. To date, these interviews have been in close proximity – however some interviews may require travel. Some members of the Executive Committee expressed concern about the cost of travel and the extent to which face-to-face interviews were necessary. They recommended the use of Skype, phone, podcasts, or interview at conferences. Revathy noted that she would pursue these options, but not all interviewees may be open to those formats. Members also expressed concern about the rate for transcription. Secretary Heather Davis noted the Executive Committee could review a proposal for travel, transcription, and funds to support a student to work on the project. Turnaround could be relatively quick because a proposal could be reviewed electronically. The proposal would simply need to include 1) a rationale for why travel is necessary and 2) a specific budget amount. President David Bergin inquired as to whether the Historian needed to vet interview selections to the Executive Committee. Secretary Davis noted this was not a requirement in the Policies & Procedures and that one of the advantages of the Historian position might be the opportunity to select members to interview.

LynleyAnderman, liaison to Committee on Women in Psychology, reported on the value of sending a Division 15 member to attend meetings of this committee at APA. She noted the mission of the committee is to monitor documents coming out of APA governance for potential sexism / implications for women. It is different from the APA Leadership Training for Women. Lynley noted that it is relevant to keep the

liaison position. However, it was her perception that work could be done electronically and that it was not a good use of Division 15 money to send a liaison unless there were specific issues raised relevant to the Division.

The Executive Committee addressed policies concerning academic honesty. During the 2011 submission process, a dispute arose between two researchers over whether APA's guidelines for academic honesty had been violated. Because the paper was in dispute, it was removed from the program until the dispute was resolved. The Division was urged to consider policies and procedures regarding this issue. Lynley Anderman noted that APA has clear, detailed guidelines regarding these issues and that the Division needs to adhere to these policies. Program Chair Michele Gill noted that the Division manual for Program Chairs would be updated to state that in cases of disputed authorship, the Division will notify both authors, follow APA guidelines, and confer with APA counsel.

Past President Paul Schutz led a discussion of increasing the compensation for *Classroom Insights* series editor. He noted Deb Meyer's involvement and service was above and beyond what was expected of the series editor. Since her involvement went above and beyond, do we need to modify the compensation? Past President, Schutz noted that this is a timely discussion because the Division needs to identify a second series editor. Currently the royalty to the Division is 15%. From that 15%, 50% goes to the author(s) of the volume, 30% goes to the Division, and 20% goes to the series editor. The publications committee discussed what form additional compensation should take: increase royalty, bonuses for critical

accomplishments, a stipend to support a student to work on the project, or additional funds for travel. Paul noted that Ellen Mandinach agreed to follow up with Deb Meyer and draft a proposal for the Executive Committee to review at the November meeting.

Secretary Davis noted the Executive Committee needed to reconcile wording across the Policies & Procedures manual and the committee list. Currently, some of the documents call for the Executive Committee to vote to endorse several Chairs of Awards Committees. The Executive Committee discussed the extent to which this step was necessary and then unanimously voted to change the P&P manual to eliminate the requirement that the Executive Committee approve the Chair for the Pintrich Dissertation Award.

Outgoing Secretary Davis also brought up her concerns about the growing demands on the Secretary position as a function of developing and maintaining the website. Because the Division does not have a specific position associated with oversight of the website, many of the tasks fall to the Secretary – even though they are not explicit tasks outlined in the Policies and Procedures Manual. She made several recommendations:

- In the short term, while awaiting the hire of the communications director, appoint an Ad Hoc Technology Liaison from within the Division to work with webmaster Keith Ransom, new Secretary Helenrose Fives, and Historian Revathy Kumar on finalizing the second version of the website to include:
 - New Membership Page (allow members to complete a form & choose what data to provide)
 - Folders for secure file storage for Committees

The member appointed should have some experience / comfort with web design, enough to promptly, and relatively independently, answer Keith's questions. A set of clear procedures should be outlined regarding the Secretary's duties pertaining to the website.

According to the policies and procedures manual, the Secretary is now responsible for forwarding minutes to be posted on the website. Wording should be added regarding updating committee lists.

- Add the Web Administrator Keith Ransom to the Division 15 listserv. Right now announcements needing to be posted to the website need to be forwarded to him by the Secretary.

Council Representative Tim Urdan reported on upcoming changes to APA's program. Specifically, APA plans to cut 20% of the program, and up to 35% of Division programming. They perceive there are currently too many sessions with too much overlap in time or subject. They perceive that conflicts in programming cause lower attendance. Past President Schutz noted this is a clinician-driven decision; most attendees are not members of a specific division. Unfortunately,

Division 15's experience has been that members do not come to the conference unless they are presenting or serving in a leadership role in the Division. President-Elect Marty Carr noted that she would work with program Chairs to select symposia in light of fewer open sessions to work with. Given these changes, several members inquired whether it is time to move towards holding a Separate Conference for Division 15. President Elect Carr expressed interested in appointing an Ad Hoc committee. Tim agreed to research other Divisions that host separate conferences.

Council Representative Urdan also noted that APA plans a \$40 reduction in dues across the board, with an increase in the age of exemption from 65-69 yrs. Lastly, APA perceives the Divisions are not being proactive in recruiting Fellows. We need to be more proactive and encourage people to nominate others (seek nominations) for fellows status via a call on the listserv, website and newsletter advertising the deadline. A recommendation was also made to send a direct call to current Fellows of the Division to make nominations.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heather Davis



Members of the Division 15 Executive Committee

2012 APA Annual Meeting CALL FOR PROPOSALS

We invite you to submit proposals for the 120th Annual American Psychological Association conference held in sunny Orlando, Florida from August 2 to August 5, 2012. Educational Psychology (Division 15) is seeking proposals on the following theme: *The impact of educational psychology on education: What do we have to say about improving teaching and learning?* Proposals may be discipline-specific or global in nature. Proposals are due on December 1, 2011 and must follow the guidelines listed on the APA website <http://www.apa.org/news/events/2012/apa-convention.aspx>.

Drs. Gita Taasoobshirazi and Meca Williams-Johnson are serving as program co-Chairs for Division 15. For questions on regarding proposal submission, please contact the co-Chairs directly at the following:

Dr. Gita Taasoobshirazi
Kennesaw State University
Kennesaw GA 30144
Gita.tshirazi@gmail.com

Dr. Meca Williams-Johnson
Georgia Southern University
P.O. BOX 8144
Statesboro GA 30460
mecawilliams@georgiasouthern.edu

Richard E. Snow Award for Early Career Contributions

Division 15 (Educational Psychology) of the American Psychological Association seeks nominations for the 2011 Richard E. Snow Award for Early Career Contributions. This award is made to someone who:

- (a) has completed their doctoral work within the past ten years (i.e., between the dates of January 1, 2002 and January 31, 2012),
- (b) has made significant research contributions to the field of educational psychology, and
- (c) is a member of APA Division 15 at the time of consideration.

Nominations are due by January 14, 2012.

If you wish to make a nomination for this award, email electronic copies of

1. a nomination letter describing the contributions of the nominee to the field of educational psychology,
2. the individual's vitae,
3. one representative reprint of the individual's research to:

David F. Lohman, Chair
Richard E. Snow Award Committee
david-lohman@uiowa.edu

Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award

Call For Applications

The Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award recognizes excellence in doctoral dissertation research that has been completed within the past two years.

Eligibility

The applicant must be a member, affiliate, or student member of Division 15 and must have completed a dissertation in an area of educational psychology research at an accredited college or university within the past two calendar years. *This year's applicants must have completed their dissertation between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2011.* Applicants who are still graduate students must have had their final dissertation approved by their doctoral committee prior to application. Departments/programs may endorse no more than three students per year for the award.

Award Description

One Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award will be given each year. The award includes a \$500 cash stipend, a plaque of recognition, an invitation to present the dissertation at the following APA annual meeting, and up to \$1000 for the recipient's travel and registration expenses for the APA conference.

Award Timeline

The Dissertation Award Committee will examine all eligible applications. The award decision will be made in spring of each year and applicants will be notified of the award decision by early summer. Due to conference programming deadlines, the award will be granted at the following year's APA Convention (i.e., approximately 18 months later). The 2012 Dissertation Award will be given at the APA Convention in Honolulu, HI, July, 31-August, 4, 2013.

How and When to Apply

A completed application should contain the following components. All application and submission materials can be found on the APA Div.15 website. Please note the file format requirements for each component.

1. An **application cover sheet**. Download the application cover sheet from the Div.15 web site: Please name this file according to the following convention:
yourlastname_coversheet.doc.
2. An **extended abstract** that is typed, 2000-word maximum, double-spaced in APA style. Include a word count at the end of the abstract. With their abstract, applicants may include **up to two additional pages** for tables and/or figures, and one additional page for a list of references. Please name this file according to the following convention:
yourlastname_abstract.doc. This document should be submitted as a Microsoft Word file (.doc or .docx file extension).

3. A **narrative autobiography** (250-word maximum) describing salient research experiences, publications and/or presentations, past collaborative efforts, and career plans. (Do not submit your curriculum vitae.) Include a word count at the end of the autobiography. Please name this file according to the following convention: **yourlastname_autobiography.doc**. This document should be submitted as a Microsoft Word file (.doc or .docx file extension).
4. A **letter of nomination** (two-page maximum) from the faculty member associated with the completion of the dissertation. The letter must be signed by the faculty member. This letter should be scanned and included in your email. Please name this file according to the following convention: **yourlastname_facultynomination.pdf**. Microsoft Word (.doc or .docx) format is also acceptable.
5. **Proof of current member or affiliate status** in Division 15. Please name this file according to the following convention: **lastname_membership**.(File format may vary.)

Electronically submit the above components in one email with four separate e-mail attachments to the committee Chair, Martin Jones (M.Jones@memphis.edu). Submissions must be received no later than 5 p.m. EST on **Friday, December 31, 2011**. Incomplete applications will not be considered for the award.

Evaluation Criteria

All application materials submitted for consideration for the Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award will be evaluated by the Award Committee. Dissertation abstracts will be judged by the Award Committee on a scale from 1 (poor) to 7 (outstanding) along the following dimensions:

1. **Significance.** The theoretical or practical significance to the field should be evident.
2. **Quality of Writing.** The abstract should be organized and clear.
3. **Quality of Research.** The abstract should reflect high quality research.
4. **Interpretation.** The conclusions drawn are valid and well grounded.

The Award Committee will then provide a comprehensive rating of each award applicant's overall application packet.

Job Postings

Assistant Professor - Adult & Higher Education

Oregon State University, College of Education is seeking a full time, 9-month, tenure-track Assistant Professor position. To review posting and apply, go to <http://oregonstate.edu/jobs>. Apply to posting # 0007875. For full consideration, applications should be received by December 15, 2011. OSU is an AA/EOE.

Assistant Professor of Educational Psychology

The Virginia Commonwealth University School of Education is seeking a dynamic individual to teach and mentor doctoral students in educational psychology. Position requirements and application details are available at <http://www.pubinfo.vcu.edu/facjobs/searchunit.asp?Item=Education>

Post-Doctoral Fellow in Mathematics Education

The postdoctoral fellow will study the efficacy, in urban school settings, of a seventh-grade curriculum unit on ratio and proportion problem solving. This position is supported by a grant from the Institute for Education Sciences (IES).

Application review will begin on November 7, 2011, and will continue until the position is filled. Prospective applicants should submit application materials electronically to Matthew Tallon, matthew_tallon@gse.harvard.edu, including a letter of interest, a curriculum vita, no more than two publications (or manuscripts in progress), and three letters of reference. Inquires about the position can be directed to Dr. Jon Star, jon_star@harvard.edu.

... A note from the Editors

The Editor of NEP / 15, the newsletter of APA Division 15, is Kelly Rodgers, Asst. Professor, City University of New York and the Assistant Editor is Amber Boggess, University of Oklahoma. If you have suggestions for us or would like to include content, please do not hesitate to contact Kelly at krodgers@bmcc.cuny.edu.