



NEP/15

Summer 2018

Educational Psychology

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Edited by Marcus Johnson

Message from the President



I have had a great year serving as your division president. Together, we have been able to accomplish quite a bit. I emphasize the term *we* because without the excellent work of the members of the Presidential Team, Executive Committee (EC), our various committees, and the Program Chairs, none of this would have been possible. Below, I recount some major accomplishments since last August.

Work of the Executive Committee

I am happy to report that the new presidential structure that was implemented this year to reduce presidential workload has been a huge success. The structure created the position of Vice President, who then becomes President-Elect and then President and finally Past-President. Not only has the energy and expertise of the current presidential team been invaluable (kudos to VP Fives, President-Elect Sinatra, and Past President Meyer), but it has made my own workload manageable. According to my time records, I now spend only an average of 9.4 hours per week on presidential business ($SD = 4.7$ hours). So for our more experienced members, please take advantage of the visibility, leadership opportunities, collegial interactions, and travel support provided to EC members by considering a run for the VP position, as well as other EC offices (e.g., Treasurer).

The EC is currently streamlining the division's committee structure. The number of committees has become a bit too large and unwieldy. As a first step toward streamlining, the division's organizational chart will be arranged into the following areas: Awards and Grants, Member Development, and Communication and Outreach.

In addition, the EC has decided to eliminate the Memorial Award Committee, because the benefits to our members is minor, and is proposing that the Finance Committee become a subcommittee of the EC to facilitate communication between the two bodies (this will require a bylaws change).

Regarding division finances, another issue being discussed is how much of any surplus revenues should be saved for future needs or spent on our membership. You are welcome to provide EC members with your thoughts on this issue.

Policy and Practice

Consistent with my presidential theme, "Evidence-Based Change through Policy, Professional Learning, and Participatory Practice," I established two ad hoc committees during my presidential year on, respectively, educational policy and professional learning. My prior presidential columns outlined the purpose and rationale for these two committees. On the advice of the EC, these two committees have now been merged into one committee, the Policy and Practice (P&P) Committee, co-chaired by Sharon Nichols and Nancy Perry. The committee is engaged in several projects, most notably the solicitation and preparation of policy and practice briefs on various issues, such as school climate, social emotional learning, and standardized testing. The briefs will be analytical and research-based, exploring, for example, the pros and cons of various policy options.

There remains an issue of how best to disseminate these briefs to policymakers and practitioners. Frankly, the term "disseminate" is now a dirty word, because, as Avi Kaplan and others have argued, it implies that researchers know best. We do know what the evidence says, but we are not always attuned to all the constraints and affordances that face policymakers and practitioners. Rather,

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we need to partner with practitioners and policymakers for purposes of adapting research practices to local conditions and local understandings of practice. Because we speak of co-learning and co-research, I am also coining the word co-seminate which I will use in lieu of disseminate. I argue that we need to partner with practitioners and professional organizations at both the local and national levels for identifying issues to analyze and research, and in the preparation and co-semination of these briefs.

We will be calling on some of our members to help prepare policy and practice briefs. The P&P Committee completed a survey of member expertise in part for this purpose, and is discussing the best way of maintaining a database of member expertise. The committee is also exploring various ways of mentoring and supporting our members on how to write for practitioners and policymakers, and how to develop research-practice partnerships around the design and adaptation of research-based practices. Podcasts and sessions at the APA conference may be used for this purpose. The committee is also spearheading an effort to publicize some of the work our members are currently doing regarding applying research to practice.

The Webinar Committee, in consultation with the P&P committee, hosted a webinar with Alysia Roehrig on bridging the research-practice gap with professional development and research-practice partnerships ([video](#)). The committee is also planning a policy-related webinar for the fall. In addition, I have curated a series of *Psychology Today* blogs on policy and practice:

- Rich Mayer, [Confessions of a school board member](#),
- Benjamin Brock, [Decision making and the educational policymaker](#),
- Jeffrey Greene, [Bringing educational psychology to school improvement teams](#).

Blogs on professional learning by Hilda Borko and Julianne Turner will be forthcoming.

Finally, there are two relevant sessions at this year's APA Convention, an invited presidential panel discussion on policy and practice with David Berliner, Hilda Borko, Sharon Nichols, and Michael Kirst (President of the California State Board of Education). (It is scheduled for Thursday, August 9th, at 1 pm). The division is also participating in an APA collaborative session: Applying Psychological Science to Teaching, Learning, and Well-Being in Schools.

“We need to partner with practitioners and policymakers for purposes of adapting research practices to local conditions and local understandings of practice.”

Publications and Outreach

On the recommendation of the publications committee, the EC has selected Lisa Linnenbrink-Garcia and Jeffrey Greene to be the incoming editors of *Educational Psychologist*, and Paul Schutz and Krista Muis to be the co-editors of the fifth edition of the *Handbook of Educational Psychology*.

Wade George, our Communications Director, continues to do fantastic work managing the division's weekly digest, social media platform, and our job board (which recently passed the 500-post milestone). Wade indicates that he “truly believes the job board is one of the most important contributions we make to the field.”

Working with Jeff Greene, Wade has been producing a series of podcasts on “Emerging Themes in Educational Psychology.” Wade and the *Psychology Today* Blog Committee support our blog series, which averages about 2,500 views per month.

Finally, the International Committee is participating in an interdivisional grant project to develop webinars that showcase how psychologists function

Message from the President, cont'd.

outside the USA. The webinar for educational psychology is planned for July.

Membership

The membership committee, under the leadership of Serena Shim, has been highly productive. It conducted semi-annual email membership drives, personalizing the emails to potential recruits. As George reported, the committee “successfully contacted several dozen ed psych programs (individually) to share information on Division 15’s ‘Free First Year’ campaign, as well as the services we offer and work we’re doing in the field.”

Additionally, “the Membership Committee’s new *One Tip* publication has quickly become a favorite among members, and recently gained its own dedicated page on our website” (linked [here](#)). Published every two months, the *One Tip* series has included columns on publishing (Bernie Weiner), authorship (Sandra Graham), job interviewing (Phil Winne), finding time to write (Anita Woolfolk-Hoy), goal setting (Dale Schunk), and dealing with mixed reviews (Thomas Good).

Other Committees

The fellows committee and EC welcomed a new fellow to the division, Dr. Daniel Berch. The Graduate Student Affairs Committee is planning the Graduate Student Seminar for the upcoming APA convention and received over 20 applications for participation, more than in other years. The Graduate Student Ambassadors Program’s inaugural class helped disseminate membership and award calls within their respective institutions. The Early Career Committee organized a session for the upcoming APA convention, “Broadening the field: The evolution of the educational psychology pipeline in teaching and service.”

Our various awards and grant committees selected awardees (winners to be announced at the division business meeting). The Memorial Award

Committee and EC conferred the Memorial Award on the late Marty Carr, former division president. Division 15 member Tim Curby was elected as chair of the Coalition for Psychology and Education in the Schools; also, Michelle Gill and Ben Heddy now represent the division on the coalition. Many thanks to our other liaisons to APA committees and boards (Peggy Van Meter, Steve Thoma, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, and Bonnie Meyer) and to our representatives on APA Council (Avi Kaplan and Sharon Nichols).

The Upcoming APA Convention

Last but not least, I would like to acknowledge the hard and dedicated work of our program chairs, Peggy Van Meter and Rayne Sperling, in organizing the program for the upcoming APA convention. The pair also is organizing the division socials and is responsible for the logistics and catering for the EC meetings. Their work has been invaluable.

The APA Annual Convention will be in San Francisco on August 9-12; a preview of Division 15’s events and sessions can be found [here](#). There will be an opening division social on Thursday, August 9th, at the Marriott-Marquis Hotel. Saturday’s schedule (August 11th) will have presentations from our award winners (Pintrich, Snow, and Thorndike), the division’s business meeting (at 4 pm), followed by Past-President Bonnie Meyer’s address at 5 pm. This year, the division will be paying for some alcoholic beverages at the APA Convention socials, but you will need to attend the business meeting and Bonnie Meyer’s Presidential Address to receive drink tickets for the second social. I look forward to seeing many of you at these events to celebrate our accomplishments from this past year and our aspirations for the coming one.

- **E. Michael Nussbaum**
APA Division 15
President

Read President E. Michael Nussbaum's Presidential Blog Series

Centered around President E. Michael Nussbaum's Presidential theme—"Evidence-Based Change through Psychology, Policy, Professional Learning, and Participatory Practice"—this special *Psychology Today* series includes authorship from scholars such as Benjamin Brock, Jeffrey A. Greene, and Richard E. Mayer (with more to come). The series has been featured prominently throughout *Psychology Today* and has been read thousands of times by its visitors.

Find a complete archive of posts (and more information on President Nussbaum's theme) [here](#).



APA Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education (CPSE)

Drs. Ben Heddy and Michele Gill serve as Division 15 co-representatives to APA's Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education. As representatives, they bring educational psychology expertise to bear on the current projects of the CPSE, as well as suggest new projects for CPSE to pursue. Drs. Heddy and Gill also serve as liaisons between Division 15 and CPSE, sharing information back and forth to increase the impact of psychological science on schools and education. Learn more [here](#).

Executive Council Minutes & Election Results

Find a link to the full Executive Committee minutes from AERA [here](#).

This Year's Election Results

We're pleased to welcome several new leaders into the Division 15 Executive Committee! These individuals will begin their terms immediately following this year's APA Convention.

Presidential Line

Michele M. Buehl, PhD
George Mason University
(mbuehl@gmu.edu)

Treasurer Line

Gwen C. Marchand, PhD
University of Nevada, Las Vegas
(Gwen.Marchand@unlv.edu)

Members-at-Large (2)

Meghan E. Ecker-Lyster, PhD
The University of Kansas
(meecker@ku.edu)

Timothy C. Urdan, PhD
Santa Clara University
(turdan@scu.edu)

2018 APA Convention Highlights & Featured Sessions

Division 15 has developed a robust scientific program for the 2018 APA Convention in San Francisco (August 9-12). Find more information—including Division 15's full Program Suite—[here](#). Featured sessions this year include:

Thursday, August 9

Division 15 Social Hour
5:00 PM - 6:50 PM
San Francisco Marriott Marquis Hotel Yerba Buena
Salons 1 and 2

Friday, August 10

Collaborative: Applying Psychological Science to
Teaching, Learning, and Well-Being in Schools
4:00 PM - 5:50 PM
Moscone Center, North Building, Rooms 20 & 21



Saturday, August 9

Awardee Addresses—Pintrich, Snow, and Thorndike
Awards
10:00 AM - 11:50 AM
Moscone Center Room 2001

Business Meeting
4:00 PM - 4:50 PM
Moscone Center Room 314

Presidential Address by Bonnie J.F. Meyer
5:00 PM - 5:50 PM
Moscone Center Room 314
Free drink tickets to Division 15's Social Hour
provided following Dr. Meyer's remarks!

Division 15 Social Hour!
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
The Chieftan
198 Fifth Street - San Francisco, CA 94103

We offer our sincerest thanks to Program Co-Chairs Peggy Van Meter and Rayne Sperling for all of their hard work in compiling these sessions. We'd also like to thank our program reviewers, as well as all who submitted their work for consideration. We look forward to seeing you in San Francisco!

Help Division 15 Share the Event!

Division 15 requests your assistance in sharing and archiving the convention for those unable to attend. Specifically, we'd love to receive any photos you take while at the event (posing with colleagues, sessions you attended, etc.). These photos may be sent to Wade George (wade.george@apadiv15.org) during or after the convention.

If you plan on tweeting, please also be sure to tag [@apadivision15](#) and use hashtag [#APA2018](#) to extend your reach. We'll be looking for strong content to reshare for our followers!

Message from President-Elect Gale M. Sinatra



Dr. Gale M. Sinatra is the Stephen H. Crocker Chair of Education and Psychology at the Rossier School of Education at the University of Southern California. She received her B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Dr. Sinatra spent 10 years on the faculty of University of Utah and 10 years as a professor of Educational Psychology at University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

She heads the Motivated Change Research Lab at USC, the mission of which is understanding the cognitive, motivational, and emotional processes that lead to attitude change, conceptual change, and successful STEM learning. Sinatra's model of conceptual change learning (see Sinatra, 2005) describes how motivational factors contribute to the

likelihood that individuals will change their thinking about a scientific topic.

Along with her colleague Barbara Hofer of Middlebury College, VT, she is working on her next book on the psychology of public understanding of science to be published by Oxford University Press in 2020.

I am profoundly honored to serve as the next president of Division 15. To follow in the footsteps of so many scholars who have served in this role is truly humbling. I care as deeply about the sustainability of our discipline as I do about the sustainability of our environment. As such, my presidential theme is, *"Educational Psychology for a Sustainable and Promising Future."*

This theme serves as a call for action to sustain and grow our discipline and its impact into the future through two objectives:

Active Stewardship of the Discipline. Our work begins with our members. Building on the work of our recent past presidents, this theme calls for active commitment to stewardship of the discipline of educational psychology by our current members. This also means broadening and diversifying our membership. Educational Psychology must become

a beacon for those who wish to support learning in all contexts and for all learners.

Increasing our Impact on Social and Ecological Environments. We must work to increase our efforts to impact policy and practice. Educational psychologists must leverage our research on learning, motivation, epistemic cognition, critical thinking, and reasoning to promote a sustainable future both socially and ecologically. The work of Division 15 members is uniquely positioned to contribute to understanding challenges in public trust in expertise, research, and science. As an organization we can and must advance public understanding of societal and environmental challenges towards creating a more just and sustainable future.

- **Gale M. Sinatra**
APA Division 15
President-Elect

2018 APA & Division 15 Award Winners

Committee selections have been made for this year's awards slate as follows:

E. L. Thorndike Career Achievement Award

Joanna Williams

Richard E. Snow Award for Early Contributions

Erika Patall

Memorial Award

Marty Carr

Paul R. Pintrich Outstanding Dissertation Award

Amanda Baker

Epistemic Profiles, Dissonance Negotiation, and Perspective Transformation in Postsecondary Service-Learning

Early Career Research Grant Recipients (2)

Virginia Tze, University of Manitoba

An Examination of Immigrant Parents'

involvement in Foster First Generation

Immigrant Students' Social-Emotional Skills

D. Jake Follmer, Salisbury University

Differences in adult readers' processing of expository texts: Examining the roles of prior knowledge, strategy use, and text cohesion using eye movement analysis

We congratulate these scholars for their outstanding work. Thorndike, Snow, and Pintrich award recipients will have an opportunity to present their research next year at the 2019 APA Convention!

APA "Citizen Psychologist" Award

Michele Gill, PhD



(video)

Share Your Division 15 Affiliation

If you've benefited from Division 15's diverse offering (including journal access, news, award eligibility, and more), please consider recommending affiliation to a colleague, student, or mentor! If every current Division 15 member brought one individual into the fold, membership would soar to its highest point in the history of our organization—and, the larger we are, the more we can impact the field.

Note that new enrollees' first year is free, and that APA Central affiliation is not required for Division 15 membership! Those interested may learn more (and apply for membership) [here](#).



Connect With Division 15!

Division 15 offers a wealth of ways to stay connected! In order to get the most from your membership, we strongly encourage you to connect via any of the following channels you routinely use:

[The Weekly Digest](#)

[LISTSERV](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Google+](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[YouTube](#)