



## The President's Message

**C**onferences, networking, and the internet. The thread that ties these events and activities together comes easily to mind. A multitude of opportunities are available at conferences and through the internet to mentor student members and early-career psychologists to become the future leaders of Pediatric Psychology. I would like to highlight a few challenges with respect to mentorship and to offer some solutions to strengthen it.

### Conferences

The importance of mentoring future leaders and of establishing the link between past, current, and future members became more apparent to me at the Midwest Pediatric Psychology Conference in April. The conference showcased varied presentations from noted Pediatric Psychology leaders and offered student members and early-career psychologists the opportunity to share their research within a welcoming environment. I also observed numerous conversations between members at different levels of training or careers, in both formal and informal settings.

But I suspect some student members and early-career psychologists may have been hesitant to directly ask questions or to join ongoing conversations. The "Lunch with Leaders" may have been so well received because it combined aspects of being an organized informal educational event in a social context.

Moving forward, the SPP Board will implement a new procedure at future conferences to promote opportunities for all members to engage in conversations and to develop formal or informal relationships. This procedure will start with the APA Convention in Toronto this August. SPP student members can send a request on the student listserv for a Student Advisory Board (SAB) member to serve as a student guide during the conference. The SAB member will be available to facilitate introductions and conversations during more informal events, such as social hours and hospitality suite events. Faculty advisors or mentors can also request a mentor guide for their students, if they are not able to attend a particular conference.

These email requests should be sent to Dr. Sharon Berry, SPP Mentorship Project coordinator, at [sharon.berry@childrenshc.org](mailto:sharon.berry@childrenshc.org). Sharon will solicit assistance from a project mentor to be available to your students for introductions and conversations.

Early-career psychologists can also send a request to Sharon if they are interested in having a conference guide. Such a request may be optimal for colleagues who are attending the conference for the first time. A notice will be sent to the member and student member listservs in June announcing this new initiative.

### Internet Opportunities

Due to restrictions on travel funds for many members this year, attending conferences and conventions may not be possible. Members may also have chosen not to attend a conference in

past years due to the location or program content.

As most of you know from the listserv announcement in March, SPP will not sponsor a national conference in 2010. Due to economic uncertainty, a conference site could not be secured to host this conference. Over the next year the SPP Board will develop a plan to re-organize future conferences in terms of, for example, soliciting and securing host sites, as well as diverse and stable sources of financial support.

As an organization, SPP will need to expand its methods of communication to ensure educational and social networking opportunities are available to all members. The listserv and the website are two available methods of communication whose functions can be increased. The potential of web-based technology was highlighted during one of the Midwest Pediatric Psychology Conference's plenary sessions led by Dr. Tonya Palermo. These presentations described the capabilities of web-based technology in expanding assessment tools and interventions for asthma, burn injuries, and chronic pain.

Several students provided valuable suggestions on using the web (e.g., blogs, bulletin boards) to connect with other students throughout the year and not just before conferences. The

*cont'd. on p.2...*



Kathleen Lamanek, Ph.D.  
SPP President

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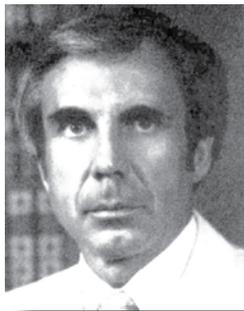
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#### **Newsletter Deadline**

Articles for the next newsletter are due before September 1, 2009. Please send your submission to newsletter editor, Ric G. Steele at [rsteale@ku.edu](mailto:rsteale@ku.edu).

## **SPP Celebrates 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

by Michael C. Roberts, Ph.D. and Donald K. Routh, Ph.D.



*Logan Wright, Ph.D.  
SPP President, 1969-1970*

This year, the Society of Pediatric Psychology celebrates the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of its founding. The Society calls attention to this significant milestone to allow the field to reflect on its history and to imagine what might be its future.

The concept of pediatric psychology dates back to Lightner Witmer, who started the first psychological clinic in the world in 1896 and who worked closely with pediatricians. By 1915, Arnold Gesell had combined a Ph.D. in psychology with an M.D. and specialization in pediatrics. Later, psychologists such as John Anderson (1930) and Jerome

Kagan (1965) and pediatrician Julius B. Richmond (1967) articulated some of the relationships between psychology and pediatric medicine.

The first use of the term “pediatric psychology” in its modern sense is attributed to Logan Wright, who published an article entitled, “The Pediatric Psychologist: A Role Model” in the *American Psychologist* in 1967, based on his work at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. Wright described the need for a) enhancing a group identity via a formal organization and a newsletter, b) specialized training for pediatric psychologists, and c) development of a body of relevant knowledge through applied research.

SPP was formed through a series of initiatives. The president of the APA Division of Clinical Psychology recommended that its Section on Clinical Child Psychology (Section 1) examine whether there was a need for a group to serve psychologists working in pediatric settings. Clinical psychologists Logan Wright and Lee Salk and research psychologist Dorothea Ross were appointed as a

committee on pediatric psychology. They identified over 250 individuals through a survey of medical school pediatrics department chairs, asking for the names of their psychologists.

The founding members of SPP included 75 full members and 22 affiliate members. SPP began in 1969 as a group affiliated with Section 1. It functioned in this form until 1980, when it became an independent section (Section 5) within the Division of Clinical Psychology. In 2000, SPP became a full division of APA, known as Division 54.

Gail Gardner published the first SPP newsletter, *Pediatric Psychology*, in March, 1969. Diane Willis transformed this newsletter into the *Journal of Pediatric Psychology* in 1976. A newsletter began publication once more in 1982 and has been published continuously since then, with its name changed to **Progress Notes** in 1990. The SPP website began in 2000. We encourage readers interested in further historical facts, pictures, and articles to visit [www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org/~division54/history/](http://www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org/~division54/history/).

### **The President's Message**

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question, “Are we taking full advantage of the capabilities of the SPP website?” became obvious, but so did the question, “What are the merits and pitfalls of communicating via the internet versus face-to-face interactions?”

In the coming months, the SAB will expand the function of the student listserv by facilitating communication among student members about cost sharing at conferences. Members will also see several surveys during the next year seeking input about membership benefits, conferences, and the listserv/website. Please take the time to complete them to aid the SPP Board in making changes to any policies and procedures.

#### **Succession Planning**

An initial attempt to document the SPP lineage was displayed at the Midwest Pediatric Psychology Conference by using a particular software program to link members with their mentors. The foundations of Pediatric Psychology and the strength of our mentorship are evident in the presentations at past and up-coming conferences.

This year's annual convention program is exciting because of the quality and innovation of the submissions. But how do we ensure the past is remembered? How do we use past experiences to guide us in fostering the development of the next generation of psychologists?

Michael Roberts and the History Committee have taken on the task of collecting information from us all to establish the SPP lineage. Additional details about this project will be forthcoming on the listserv. SPP also is committed to providing forums during conferences that emphasize mentoring. The invited APA presentation by Dr. Jessica Daniel is one example of this emphasis, as well as activities held in the hospitality suite.

Finally, I expect student members will take the lead in recommending new ways of using the listserv and the internet overall so members can communicate more consistently, thus strengthening that thread.

I hope to see many of you at APA and do not hesitate to introduce yourself.

## 2009 Division 54 Award Winners

### Martin P. Levin Mentorship Award



Grayson Holmbeck, Ph.D.

The Martin P. Levin Mentorship Award was given to **Grayson Holmbeck, Ph.D.**, ABPP. This award, sponsored by SPP and the Levin Foundation, honors a pediatric psychology faculty member who mentors students in an exemplary way, providing professional advice and guidance through various phases of training including early-career development.

Holmbeck is professor and director of Clinical Training in the Department of Psychology at Loyola University, where he has been since 1988. Holmbeck has a long and distinguished record of excellence in teaching and dedication in mentoring psychology students. He received the Loyola Faculty Scholar and Mentor awards in 2003 and Graduate Faculty Member of the Year in 1999. Throughout his career he has been most active in training and mentoring graduate students.

In addition to classroom teaching, and training in research and clinical skills, Holmbeck's mentorship has also focused on professional and personal development as his graduate students have pursued postdoctoral training and taken faculty positions. His students also noted that he teaches others how to be good mentors.

### Logan Wright Distinguished Research Award



Maureen Black, Ph.D.

The Logan Wright Distinguished Research Award was given to **Maureen M. Black, Ph.D.** This award recognizes excellence and significant contributions in establishing the scientific base of pediatric psychology.

Black is the John A. Scholl, M.D. and Mary Louise, M.D. Professor in the Department of Pediatrics and Division of Growth and Nutrition at the University of Maryland School of Medicine where she has been since 1981. She holds adjunct appointments at the University of Maryland Baltimore County and at John Hopkins University at the Bloomberg School of Public Health.

A prominent researcher in the field of pediatric psychology, she and has made substantial contributions in a number of areas, including failure to thrive, growth and development, risk and abuse, childhood development, AIDS and most recently child and adolescent obesity.

Her research, supported by the NIH since 1983, has had an international impact as evidenced by her appointment as the only psychologist to the Institute of Medicine Committee for the National Academy of Science, her election as co-secretariat of the International Responsive Feeding Consortium, among others.

### Lee Salk Distinguished Service Award



Terry Stancin, Ph.D.

The Lee Salk Distinguished Service Award was given to **Terry Stancin, Ph.D.** This award recognizes service to the field of pediatric psychology, including public or political advocacy or leadership.

Stancin is professor of Pediatrics, Psychiatry, and Psychology at Case Western Reserve University, and head of the Division of Pediatric Psychology at Metro-Health Medical Center where she has been on the faculty since 1987. Her contributions to pediatric psychology are many.

She was one of the founding members of the North Coast Conference of the Society of Pediatric Psychology, one of the only SPP regional conferences still active today. She has served on the *Journal of Pediatric Psychology* editorial board and on numerous task forces and committees across several APA divisions.

She is the only Ph.D. consultant member of the sub-board of the American Board of Pediatrics and also serves on a sub-board for Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics.

Through her work, Stancin has advanced the field of pediatric psychology and influenced the development of training programs for pediatricians and behavioral pediatricians.

### Routh Early Career Award in Pediatric Psychology



Avani C. Modi, Ph.D.

The Routh Early Career Award was given to **Avani C. Modi, Ph.D.** This award recognizes significant contributions to the field of pediatric psychology in research, clinical training, and/or service during the early career.

Modi is an assistant professor of Pediatrics at the University of Cincinnati and the Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center where she completed her internship and an NIH fellowship.

Modi's current research, funded by an NIH K23 award, focuses on developing novel assessments and behavioral interventions for non-adherence in children with epilepsy. She is also active on grants in several other areas in pediatric psychology, quality of life, and adherence across a number of important populations including sickle cell disease, cystic fibrosis, and obesity. Prior to her K award, she received a pre-doctoral National Research Service Award for her doctoral dissertation and has also received industry funding from Eli Lilly.

Modi has published 24 peer-reviewed articles and six chapters. She has also been active in SPP, serving as program co-chair for the Great Lakes Regional Conference in 2006 and the 2007 and 2008 annual APA meetings.

## Kazak Receives 2009 APF Cummings PSYCHE Prize



Anne E. Kazak, Ph.D.

The American Psychological Foundation named **Anne E. Kazak, Ph.D., ABPP**, director of the Department of Psychology at The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, recipient of the 2009 Cummings PSYCHE Prize.

The APF Board of Trustees selected Kazak, a licensed clinical psychologist, in recognition of her work expanding the role of a psychologist as a primary-care provider working side by side with physicians in a healthcare system. Kazak's research focuses on families coping with serious pediatric illness, such as cancer. Using developmental and social ecological perspectives, this work is directed towards understanding how children, families, and other systems respond over time to the demands of illness and treatment.

The APF and The Nicolas and Dorothy Cummings Foundation co-sponsor the annual \$50,000 award. Kazak plans to use award funds to advance her work in

pediatric healthcare settings and to develop future materials that would be useful for patients, families, and healthcare providers.

"I am appreciative of the American Psychological Foundation for recognizing my work," Kazak said. "There is so much more that needs to be done in order to assure the integration of informed behavioral assessment and treatment in medical care. I look forward to continuing our work incorporating behavioral treatments in medical care."

The APA will present the prize to Kazak at its 2009 annual convention. The Cummings Foundation, the creator of the prize, will also honor Kazak with a ceremony in Philadelphia in October.

### We Need Your Input!

**S**PP is conducting a survey to find out what members value about their membership. The survey is being distributed electronically to your e-mail address. If you have not already done so, we would urge you to complete this survey.

Please contact Dr. Christine Chambers at [christine.chambers@dal.ca](mailto:christine.chambers@dal.ca) with questions. Thank you!

## C. Eugene Walker Education Award in Pediatric Psychology



Meghan Marsac, Ph.D.

Division 54 selected **Meghan Marsac, Ph.D.**, postdoctoral fellow at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, as recipient of the 2009 C. Eugene Walker Education Award in Pediatric Psychology. She received \$750 toward expenses at the Midwest Conference on Pediatric Psychology where she presented her work on traumatic stress.

Marsac completed her graduate training at the University of Toledo and currently works with Nancy Kassam-Adams, Ph.D. and Melissa Alderfer, Ph.D. in Philadelphia.

## Diversity Activities at the Midwest Conference: Plenary Address and Awards

by Monica Mitchell, Ph.D. and Amy Sato, M.S.

**S**PP's Diversity Committee was pleased to sponsor a number of activities at the Midwest Conference on Pediatric Psychology on April 2-4 in Kansas City. Maureen Black, professor of Pediatrics at the University of Maryland School of Medicine, gave the invited plenary address on diversity, where she discussed the importance of culture and ethnicity in enhancing our understanding of growth and health outcomes and larger issues central to pediatric psychology. Black's work with parents, schools, and local community centers to prevent and reduce obesity in middle school girls provided a backdrop for a larger discussion on methods for applying cultural information to a systems level research design. Following the plenary address, the Diversity Committee recognized Black for her trailblazing work in pediatric psychology research and service delivery.

The Diversity Committee also continued its tradition of recognizing outstanding poster presentations addressing diversity issues. This year's \$50 Diversity Poster Award was presented to Crystal Lim of the University of



Crystal Lim (left) and Janelle Hines

Florida for her poster, "Pain and Quality of Life in Children with Sickle Cell Disease." Lindsey Cohen served as Lim's project mentor.

The Midwest Conference Diversity Poster finalists were: Janelle Hines of Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center (Drs. Monica Mitchell and Lori Crosby, project mentors) and Josie Welkom of Georgia State University (Dr. Lindsey Cohen, project mentor).

**Division 54  
Hospitality Suite  
Programming**

**Intercontinental  
Toronto Centre Hotel**

**Thursday August 6, 2009  
4–5 p.m.**

**Student Advisory Board Meeting  
Host: Kristen Robinson**

Student Advisory Board members will meet to discuss future directions for the SPP Student Board. All SPP Student members are welcome to join in the discussion.

**Friday August 7, 2009  
11 a.m.–12 p.m.**

**Round Table Discussion  
Cultural Competence in Diverse Clinical Setting**

**Co-Hosts: Division 54 Diversity Committee and the Student Advisory Board**

Join members of the Division 54 Diversity Committee as they discuss methods for gaining experience with diverse clinical populations as well as situations in which a lack of cultural competence created tension in clinical settings.

**1–2 p.m.**

**Discussion Panel**

**Getting Published in Graduate School: How, When, Where?**

**Hosts: SPP Student Advisory Board**

Join members of the JPP editorial board, early career psychologists, and graduate students as they discuss the ins and outs of preparing for and submitting manuscripts for publication.

**Saturday August 8, 2009  
5–7 p.m.**

**Division 54 Social Hour**

**Host: D54 President Kathy Lemanek**

Join us in the hospitality suite for an informal opportunity to meet, socialize, and network with Division 54 members.

**APA and Division 54 in Toronto**

Avani C. Modi, Ph.D.  
Division 54 Program Chair

The 117<sup>th</sup> APA convention will be held from August 6–9, 2009 in Toronto, one of the largest, most diverse, and environmentally friendly cities in Canada. SPP has an exciting program of symposia, workshops, paper presentations, and poster presentations for this year's convention.

This year there will be special programming coordinated by APA President James Bray, Ph.D., called a "Convention Within A Convention" (CWC). Designed for researchers and practitioners alike, the CWC occurs on Friday afternoon, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning. CWC sessions that will appeal to Division 54 members are: "Translating Research into Practice in Child and Family Psychology" and a session presented by Drs. Anne Kazak and Lamia Barakat on applications of research to the field of pediatrics. Both of these sessions offer CE credits for psychologists. Also of note, Dr. Jessica Henderson Daniel will speak about mentoring and being mentored—a topic that is sure to interest students and faculty alike. Check the Division 53/54 schedule of events for specific times and locations.

There are several additional outstanding aspects of this year's program. We will have five symposia covering issues related to pediatric pain, research methodology, adherence, interventions for pediatric obesity, and parental involvement, all presented by leading experts in the field. Continuing education (CE) credit will be offered for four of the symposia. We also have a workshop focused on the evidence-based treatment of insomnia for children with and without special needs. Each of these symposia/workshops is sure to provide a wealth of information as well as opportunities for discussion. This year, we have one paper presentation on Sunday, focused on intentional and unintentional injuries in childhood and adolescence—a topic of growing interest to pediatric psychologists. Also, we encourage you to attend the presidential address and awards ceremony on Saturday. Last, but certainly not least, we have a great poster session planned for Friday morning that will highlight diverse research areas in the field of pediatric psychology.

Similar to last year, Divisions 37, 53, and Division 54 will collaborate for the annual Social Hour and Internships/Fellowships on Parade. Please note that it will be held on Thursday at 5:00 p.m. This is an excellent opportunity for students to network and gather information on internships and postdoctoral fellowships in child clinical and pediatric psychology. In addition, our Hospitality Suite will offer several informal discussions and presentations that should interest both students and professionals. This forum gives individuals the opportunity to discuss pertinent pediatric psychology issues in a relaxed setting. Refreshments will be available to attendees.

This convention promises to provide a variety of stimulating presentations, interaction with colleagues across the country, and opportunities to enjoy the diverse city of Toronto, including sports, museums, nightlife, and shopping. See you all in Toronto this August!



The Program Committee would like to thank the following individuals who served as reviewers for proposals submitted to Division 54:

Chanelle Bishop, Ph.D.	Korey Hood, Ph.D.	Matthew Myrvik, Ph.D.
Richard Boles, Ph.D.	Christopher Houck, Ph.D.	Ahna Pai, Ph.D.
John Chaney, Ph.D.	Lisa Ingerski, Ph.D.	Anna Maria Patino Fernandez, Ph.D.
Lori Crosby, Psy.D.	David Janicke, Ph.D.	Susana Patton, Ph.D.
Dawn Dore-Stites, Ph.D.	Celia Lescano, Ph.D.	Alexandra Quittner, Ph.D.
Meredith Dreyer, Ph.D.	Laura Mackner, Ph.D.	Lisa Schwartz, Ph.D.
Kimberly Driscoll, Ph.D.	Kristen Marciel, Ph.D.	Amanda Thompson, Ph.D.
Michele Herzer, Ph.D.	Ann McGrath Davis, Ph.D.	Kathy Vannatta, Ph.D.
Kevin Hommel, Ph.D.	Lisa Meltzer, Ph.D.	Dawn Witherspoon, Ph.D.

# 2009 APA Division 53/54 Con

Thursday, August 6, 2009		
	Division 53	Division 54
9–10 am	*Symposium: <b>Best Practices in Clinical Applications of Autism Research</b> Chair: Molly Losh Meeting Rms 201 E and F	
10–11 am		
11 am–12 pm	*Symposium: <b>Best Practices in Treating Youth with Bipolar Disorder</b> Chair: Mary Fristad Reception Hall 104C	Poster Session: <b>Externalizing Behavior Problems in Children and Families</b> Exhibit Halls D and E
12–1 pm		
1–2 pm		Poster Session: <b>Internalizing Problems in Children and Adolescents</b>
2–4 pm	*Symposium: <b>Best Practices in the Treatment of Disruptive Behavior Disorders</b> Meeting Rm 717A	*Symposium: <b>Innovative Measurement and Treatment of Adherence in Pediatric Chronic Conditions</b> Chair: Alexandra L. Quinttner Meeting Rm 205D
5–7 pm	Social Hour: <b>Internships on Parade—Child and Family Internships</b> Fairmont Royal York Hotel Territories Room	

Friday, August 7, 2009		
	Division 53	Division 54
8–9 am	*Invited Symposium: <b>Demonstration of Mapping and Traversing the Science–Practice Gap</b> Chair: Alyssa M. Marder Meeting Rm 206F	Committee Meeting: <b>JPP Editorial Board</b> Chair: Dennis Drotar Intercontinental Toronto Centre Hotel Simcoe Room
9–10 am	*Address: <b>Distinguished Contribution to Child Clinical Psychology Award</b> William E. Pelham Title: <i>Overmedicating America's Children: Recent Trends and Studies in ADHD</i> Meeting Rm 716A	
10–11 am		Poster Session Exhibit Halls D and E
2–3 pm	*Invited Address: <b>CWC/Child–Family</b> Mark D. Rapport Title: <i>Working Memory Deficits in ADHD: The Functional Relationship between Central Executive Processes and Hyperactivity</i> Meeting Rm 716B	*Symposium: <b>Best Practices—Assessment and Treatment of Child Anxiety and OCD</b> Co-chairs: John Piacentini and Anne Marie Albano Meeting Rm 713B
3–4 pm	*Invited Address: <b>CWC/Child–Family</b> Rosemary Tannock Title: <i>Working Memory and ADHD: Neuroscience, Clinical, and Educational Perspectives</i> Meeting Rm 716B	Workshop: <b>Evidence-Based Treatment of Insomnia in Typically Developing Children and Children with Special Needs</b> Chair: Penny Corkum Meeting Room 703
4–5 pm	*Presidential Address: <b>Mary Fristad</b> Title: <i>Childhood Bipolar Disorder: Separating Fact from Fiction</i> Meeting Rm 717B	<b>Executive Committee Meeting</b> Intercontinental Toronto Centre Hotel Simcoe Room
5–6 pm	Business Meeting Meeting Room 717B	
6–7 pm		

# vention Programming in Toronto

Saturday, August 8, 2009		
	Division 53	Division 54
8–10 am	*Symposium: <b>Adaptation, Innovation, and Competence in Evidence-Based Treatments with Minority Youth</b> Chair: Anna S. Lau Meeting Rm 709	Symposium: <b>Enhancing the Quality of Published Research in Pediatric Psychology</b> Chair: Dennis Drotar Meeting Rm 711
10–11 am	*Symposium: <b>Best Practices—Child and Adolescent Depression, Treatment-Resistant Depression, and Suicidal Behavior</b> Chair: Cheryl King Meeting Rms 201 E and F	*Symposium: <b>Treatment of Pediatric Obesity in Diverse Settings—Toward More Ecologically Relevant Interventions</b> Co-chairs: Ric Steele and Elissa Jelalian Meeting Rm 705
12–1 pm	*Symposium: <b>Best Practices for Treating ADHD—From Toddlers to Teens</b> Chair: Steven W. Evans Reception Hall 104D	Invited Address: <b>Conference within a Conference: Translating Psychological Research into Practice in Pediatrics</b> Presenters: Anne Kazak and Lamia Barakat Meeting Rm 713B
1–2 pm		Invited Address: <b>Mentoring and Being Mentored: Cultural Generational, and Gender Implications</b> Presenter: Jessica Daniel Meeting Rm 205B
2–3 pm		
3–4 pm		<b>Presidential Address/ Logan Wright Research Award</b> Chair: Kathleen Lemanek Meeting Rm 203D
4–5 pm		<b>Business Meeting/ Awards Ceremony</b> Chair: Kathleen Lemanek Meeting Rm 203D

Sunday, August 9, 2009		
	Division 53	Division 54
8–9 am		
9–10 am	*Symposium: <b>Measurement of Youth Stress and Trauma—Methodological and Practical Implications</b> Co-chairs: Yo Jackson and Lauren C. Drerup Meeting Rm 206C	*Symposium: <b>Understanding Optimal Parental Involvement for Children with Chronic Illnesses</b> Co-chairs: Branlyn Werba and Cynthia Berg Meeting Rm 715B
10–11 am		Paper Session: <b>Intentional and Unintentional Injuries in Childhood and Adolescence</b> Meeting Rm 715B
11 am –12 pm	Poster Session: <b>Treatment Outcome Research with Children and Families</b> Exhibit Halls D and E	

## KEY

Division 53 Substantive Programming	
Division 53 Non-substantive Programming	

Division 54 Substantive Programming	
Division 54 Non-substantive Programming	

Cosponsored by Divisions 37, 53, and 54 Non-Substantive Programming	
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All sessions take place in the Metro Toronto Convention Centre unless otherwise indicated.

The Division 54 Hospitality Suite is located in the Intercontinental Toronto Centre Hotel. For complete schedule, see page 5.

\* indicates that APA-sponsored CE credits are offered.

## Finding Pediatric Psychology Experience as an Undergrad

by Cathleen Odar and Jenna Clarke

in collaboration with their advisor, Laura Neighbors, Ph.D., ABPP

**A**lthough gaining experience in the field of pediatric psychology may seem like a daunting task as a student, there are actually many opportunities for undergraduate students to become involved.

### Connect with Mentors

One way to begin building your career as a budding psychologist is to develop connections with professors, professionals, and researchers in the field. These mentors can offer invaluable advice, along with helping students find research and practicum experiences. Students can also become involved with leaders through SPP's Mentoring Program. For more details, visit SPP at [www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org](http://www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org).

### Become Involved in Research

Getting involved in pediatric psychological research can also help students develop connections, identify areas of personal interest, gain the experience necessary for success in a graduate program, and become knowledgeable in the field. One way to become involved in research is to join a lab at your university. Although all research experience is important for professional development, working in a lab can afford many additional benefits. Working in a research area of personal interest provides the opportunity to learn about research concerns that may be specific to that particular population, and can help the student become more aware of research findings within that particular field.

### Attend a Conference

Another way to become aware of current trends in the field is to attend a pediatric psychology research conference. Attending a conference provides the opportunity to “rub elbows” with leaders in the field and to learn about the newest research findings. Perhaps the most important advice for students looking to become involved is to be confident, goal-driven, and not afraid to take the risks and put in the hard work that is necessary to achieve success.

### Gain Experience—Volunteer

If you are interested in clinical work, it is important to show that you have experience with children. A great way to gain experience is by volunteering. There are many opportunities for undergraduate volunteers in a variety

of settings. Becoming a mentor for a child from an underprivileged school allows you to work one-on-one with a child who may need help with school work, career goal advice, or just tips on life from a positive role model. Ask local public schools if they have a mentor program or go through a volunteer organization.

Other venues that provide valuable experience with children are hospitals. Many hospitals have inpatient psychiatric units. Positions on these units can be obtained through internships. There is also a fairly new professional field, Child Life services, which consists of therapeutic play and education, as well as grief counseling for families. To learn more about this emerging specialty area, visit [www.childlife.org](http://www.childlife.org) or contact your local hospital.

Support groups also provide opportunities to learn more about issues faced by families, and can provide much needed clinical experience. Being a support group leader shows that you can be trusted in a leadership position, work well with a small group of individuals, and provide a safe, caring environ-



Cathleen Odar  
University of Dayton



Jenna Clarke  
University of Cincinnati

ment in which group members can share their feelings and problems.

There are many ways to help children as an undergraduate student, including volunteer opportunities, internships, and sometimes paid work experiences. Volunteer experiences can be found at [www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org) and by simply investigating the needs in your community. Along with gaining valuable experience with children that will boost your resume and assist you in getting into graduate school, volunteering can also change, perhaps even save, the lives of children in need.

## Student Spotlight

**C**ortney Wolfe-Christensen is a doctoral candidate in Clinical Psychology at Oklahoma State University. She is currently completing her pre-doctoral internship in Pediatric Psychology at the Children's Hospital of Michigan. Her research has generally focused on adjustment to chronic illness, and more specifically, adjustment to the diagnosis and treatment of pediatric cancer.

Wolfe-Christensen has been integral in helping write several grant proposals, including co-writing and receiving a grant to conduct a follow-up study examining neuropsychological predictors in long-term functioning of pediatric cancer survivors.

Wolfe-Christensen is currently focusing her research on PET imaging and neuropsychological functioning in children with epilepsy. Her future goals include investigating the long-term neuropsychological sequelae of pediatric illnesses. Next year, she plans to complete a research-based postdoctoral fellowship investigating PET imaging in children with brain tumors at the Children's Hospital of Michigan.



Cortney Wolfe-Christensen, M.S.

## Attending Conferences: The Student's Perspective

by Kristen Robinson, M.S., and Christina Sally, M.A.



Kristen Robinson, M.S.  
SPP Student Representative

**A**ttending professional conferences is an important, exciting, and an educational part of being a student. Professional meetings are a great way to learn more about emerging research, network with others in the field, and gain valuable experience presenting our own research. For some, however, attending conferences can also be a source of anxiety. Here the Student Advisory Board answers some common questions.

### How do you know what sessions to attend?

If you have time before the conference, look over the program—most are posted online—and figure out which sessions seem interesting. Run your list by your mentor or more senior graduate students. They may be able to provide useful information about sessions you may not have considered.

### What about overlapping sessions?

This is often an issue for large conferences like APA. One option is to see whether speakers have posters being presented on similar material at another time during the conference. Although you won't get as much information from the poster, you can ask more questions. You can also divide and conquer—split from others in your program and swap notes afterward.

### What's the best way to network?

This may be the most intimidating part, but there are ways to make it easier. Pay attention to newsletters and emails sent prior to a conference. They often contain information about social hours, round table discussions, and other activities that offer an opportunity to meet and discuss topics with a smaller group of professionals. Social hours provide an informal opportunity to meeting others in your field. Poster sessions provide an opportunity to strike up a casual conversation with someone about their work.

Also, take advantage of division-wide programs for linking students with mentors and plan to connect with your mentor at the conference. For more information, visit [www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org/~division54/mentorship/](http://www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org/~division54/mentorship/).

Division 54 is launching a new initiative for early-career and student attendees at conferences. This program will arrange contacts for attendees prior to the conference, and help those traveling solo find anything from a hotel roommate to someone to accompany you to social events. E-mail Kristen Robinson at [spp.studentrep@gmail.com](mailto:spp.studentrep@gmail.com) for more information.

### What should I expect when presenting a poster for the first time?

Everyone is nervous about their first presentation. Talk to your mentor or other students ask them for advice. Try to attend another poster session before your own so that you can see how they usually work. But the best way to calm your nerves is to prepare yourself. Consider organizing a mini presentation for your lab to give yourself the opportunity to practice speaking and answering questions. Have a handout version of your poster available to distribute to interested individuals.

### Any last bits of advice?

Don't limit yourself. Try something new by attending a session on a topic not in your primary area of interest; these sessions can inspire breadth and a new way of thinking about your research. And remember to relax and have fun. Attending conferences should be both educational and enjoyable.



Christina Sally, M.A.  
SAB Member

## Midwest Conference on Ped Psych 2009 Student Poster Award Winners

### Jessica Joseph

University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee  
Poster: "Health-related Quality of Life in Adolescents with Neurofibromatosis-1: A Pattern of Similarity with Other Serious Chronic Illnesses"

### Michelle Greene

Rush University Medical Center  
Poster: "Socio-demographic Risk Factors in Youth with Type 1 Diabetes: An Investigation of Protective and Vulnerability Factors"

### Heather Babyar

Kent State University  
Poster: "Informant Discrepancy in Cystic Fibrosis: Comparison between Child, Parent, and Physician Report"

## 2009 Student Travel Award Winners

### Christina Sally

The Ohio State University  
Advisor: Kathryn Vannatta, Ph.D.

### Lauren Daniel

Drexel University  
Advisor: Lamia Barakat, Ph.D.

### Heather Christiansen

Nova Southeastern University  
Advisor: Brenda Bursch, Ph.D.

### Cortney Wolfe-Christensen

Oklahoma State University  
Advisor: Larry Mullins, Ph.D.

A special thank you to the excellent reviewers for their time and effort in reviewing many high-quality proposals:

Angela Adger-Antonikowski	Mariella Lane
Jeanne Antisdell	Margo Adams Larsen
Ron Blount	Lewis Lipsitt
Robyn Claar	Jill MacLaren
Dan Clay	Avani Modi
Anna Egan	Lisa Schwartz
Jami Gross	Laura Simons
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Kristin Kullgren	

### APA-Accredited Postdoctoral Fellowship

The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center currently seeks applications for an APA-accredited postdoctoral fellowship in Pediatric Psychology. The program emphasizes the training and development of psychologists who can assume leadership roles in clinical service delivery, research, and teaching.

The fellow will provide direct clinical services for children, adolescents, and their families, and also provide consultation in outpatient primary care clinics in General Pediatrics and Adolescent Medicine. The fellow will receive training and supervision in responding to problematic situations with children, adolescents, and their families on inpatient medical units.

There are numerous opportunities for research collaboration as well as independent projects. Grant writing opportunities are available and fellows are strongly encouraged to participate. Funding to attend conferences is available.

Training takes place primarily at the Children's Hospital at the University of Oklahoma Medical Center. The Pediatric Psychology program has been a part of the OUHSC since the late 1960s and is well integrated into the functioning of Children's Hospital.

For more information, visit <http://devbehavpeds.ouhsc.edu/ccan.asp>. Applicants should email their CV to Stephen R. Gillaspay, Ph.D., at [stephen-gillaspay@ouhsc.edu](mailto:stephen-gillaspay@ouhsc.edu).

### Seeking Student Spotlight Nominations

SPP's Student Advisory Board is accepting nominations for outstanding undergraduate students in pediatric psychology. One student will be selected based upon his/her interest in pediatric psychology and contributions to the field. Only undergraduate students will be considered for this round of nominations.

The selected student will be featured in the Student Spotlight section of **Progress Notes**. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor an undergraduate student and provide the student with exposure to Division 54.

An undergraduate nomination form can be downloaded from the SPP website or may be requested. Please send the nomination form, a letter of recommendation, and the nominee's CV to Chrissy Salley at [salley.8@osu.edu](mailto:salley.8@osu.edu) or to Katie Simon at [simon@uwm.edu](mailto:simon@uwm.edu).

Submission deadline is **July 15, 2009**.

### Post-Doctoral Fellowship in Clinical Child Psychology

The Department of Pediatrics at the University of South Florida seeks applications for a postdoctoral fellowship in clinical child psychology beginning July 1, 2009.

The fellow will participate primarily in clinical treatment research related to cognitive behavioral therapy for children, adolescents, and adult with OCD. There will also be opportunities to participate in treatment cases for other clinical presentations in youth and adults.

The fellow will gain experience in research, manuscript writing, clinical practice, and clinical supervision. Psychometric and statistical skills are necessary. The fellow will also have training opportunities within pediatric/clinical child psychology.

The fellowship requires a Ph.D./Psy.D. in Clinical, Counseling, or School Psychology from an APA-approved program, with an APA internship in Clinical Psychology (child specialization is desired but not necessary).

Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Applicants should send a vita and letter of interest and arrange to have three letters of recommendation sent to Eric Storch, Ph.D., at [estorch@hwealth.usf.edu](mailto:estorch@hwealth.usf.edu).

### Pediatric Psychology Fellow

The Pediatric Psychology Post-doctoral Fellowship Program at Madigan Army Medical Center, Tacoma, Washington, has one training position available to begin October 1, 2009.

The Postdoctoral Fellowship in Pediatric Psychology at Madigan Army Medical Center is an intensive, two-year training program in the Department of Psychology with an emphasis in child development and behavioral medicine. The program's primary goal is to provide advanced training in pediatric psychology.

Major areas of focus are normal child development, developmental pediatrics, developmental disabilities, emotional and behavioral adjustment to medical illness, pain management, interdisciplinary team evaluations and treatment, and pediatric consultation. Position requires a Ph.D. or Psy.D. in clinical or counseling psychology from a regionally accredited institution and a pre-doctoral internship. Pay and benefits are competitive.

Please email inquiries to [patti.johnson@amedd.army.mil](mailto:patti.johnson@amedd.army.mil).

### Newsletter/Webmaster Applications Needed

The Society of Pediatric Psychology invites applications for Newsletter Editor/Webmaster for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2010. Newsletter editor duties include planning content, soliciting copy, working with design/layout experts, coordinating printing and mailing, and managing the **Progress Notes** budget for three issues annually.

Webmaster duties include overall organization and design of the website; creation, maintenance, and updating of web pages; and maintaining electronic archives of the newsletter. The position requires experience in web design and/or the institutional support of an information technology department.

Estimated time required for the activities of the joint position ranges from one to four hours per week. The position receives an annual stipend of \$1,000. Funds are also available to support design and software costs for maintaining the website.

The Editor/Webmaster is a non-voting member of the SPP Board of Directors and participates in Board meetings and board conference calls. Division 54 covers travel expenses for the SPP Midwinter Meeting (when convened).

To apply, please submit: 1) a current CV, 2) a letter outlining interest and experience, 3) available resources for tech support, and 4) contact information for three references by **July 15, 2009**, to Kathy Lemanek at [kathleen.lemanek@nationwidechildrens.org](mailto:kathleen.lemanek@nationwidechildrens.org). (Please direct inquiries about the position to Dan Clay at [dcl0005@auburn.edu](mailto:dcl0005@auburn.edu) or the outgoing newsletter editor Ric Steele at [rsteale@ku.edu](mailto:rsteale@ku.edu).)



# Society of Pediatric Psychology

## Division 54, American Psychological Association

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**Encourage a colleague to join!**

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## Progress Notes

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**Society  
of Pediatric  
Psychology**

### Vision Statement

*P*ediatric psychology is an integrated field of science and practice in which the principles of psychology are applied within the context of pediatric health.

The field aims to promote the health and development of children, adolescents, and their families through use of evidence-based methods.

Founded in 1969, the field has broad interdisciplinary theoretical underpinnings and draws from clinical, developmental, social, cognitive, behavioral, counseling, community and school psychology.

Areas of expertise within the field include, but are not limited to: psychosocial, developmental and contextual factors contributing to the etiology, course and outcome of pediatric medical conditions; assessment and treatment of behavioral and emotional concomitants of illness, injury, and developmental disorders; prevention of illness and injury; promotion of health and health-related behaviors; education, training and mentoring of psychologists and providers of medical care; improvement of health care delivery systems and advocacy for public policy that serves the needs of children, adolescents, and their families.

Approved, August 10, 2006

## Society of Pediatric Psychology 2009 Executive Committee

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