President’s Message

I am honored to begin my year as Division 54 president with the opportunity to carry on the good work of all those pioneers who have brought the Society of Pediatric Psychology to this point. I look forward to working with several new members on our Executive Committee: Celia Lescano, our new member at large for diversity; Paul Robins, member at large for student/trainee development; Gerry Koocher, president-elect; David Janicke, newsletter editor; and Heather Lehmkuhl, associate editor of the newsletter and webmaster. We are fortunate to have such a talented and committed group on the Executive Committee.

Budget

We have just returned from an abbreviated midyear Executive Committee meeting in Columbus, Ohio. I would like to highlight four issues from our meeting. First, as you may know APA in general and SPP have experienced a significant decrease in membership and consequently a sharp decrease in revenues. While we will need to address the membership issue aggressively in the coming years, we must also focus on being judicious with SPP resources. For example, Kathy Lemanek hosted an abbreviated midwinter meeting in Columbus, which saved approximately 50 percent on costs for the midyear meeting. With thanks to Dick Abidin for his help, we have renegotiated our journal contract with Oxford Press, which will result in a significant increase in Journal revenues. We are committed to ensuring that SPP resources are used wisely to benefit the members through careful control of costs and seeking sources for new revenues.

SPP National Conference

We have great news about our SPP National Conference. We are committed to ensuring a SPP National Conference every two years because it is so important to our profession and to the students and early-career professionals. Michael Roberts and Ric Steele have agreed to organize the next two national conferences, ensuring a longer-term, financially viable plan to host the conferences in desirable and affordable locations. We are working hard to provide a conference with excellent content, a quality experience, and yet keep it affordable for all. The next SPP National Conference will be held in San Antonio on the River Walk on April 14-16, 2011, so be sure to save the dates!

APC Conference

Amy Baughcum is the APA conference program chair for the 2010 conference in San Diego. She has done a fantastic job of organizing an outstanding program from a record number of proposals this year. Please plan to attend the conference in San Diego on August 12-15. The theme for this year’s keynote speaker is poverty, diversity, and health in children, so be sure to stay tuned for the forthcoming details. We will also have two symposia to address diversity issues that will be of significant interest to SPP members and our colleagues from other APA divisions.

Diversity Initiatives

During my presidential year, I will focus on diversity initiatives and continue the momentum regarding diversity related issues, which are so important in pediatric psychology. The SPP Diversity Committee has been exceptionally active and successful under the leadership of Monica Mitchell. Adding a new member at large to the Executive Committee for diversity is an important step to ensure that diversity remains a focus of the Society. I am confident that Celia Lescano will continue to build on the committee’s work to ensure our increasing success in addressing diversity issues.

I am thankful for the opportunity to serve the Society this year as president. As always, we are interested in increasing the value of Society membership, and we welcome your ideas at any time. I look forward to seeing you all in San Diego!

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The Annual APA Convention

APA and Division 54—San Diego
By Amy E. Baughcum, Ph.D.
Division 54 Program Chair, 2010

The 118th APA convention will be held from August 12-15, 2010, in San Diego, California. San Diego, a coastal city with ample opportunities for exploration, has something for everyone. It is renowned as one of the best tourist destinations in the world—especially for its beautiful weather and picturesque scenery. Don’t forget to visit the San Diego Zoo, Balboa Park, Old Town, and the many area beaches. While you are visiting, you may wish to take advantage of over 6,400 restaurants and 30 museums. Outdoor enthusiasts will be enchanted by the wide variety of water sports, hiking, bird watching, and biking. Let the adventure begin.

Back at the convention…Division 54 had a banner year for the number of program submissions received. The high-quality poster proposals, symposia, and papers all underwent blind review by pediatric psychology professionals. This has allowed us to assemble a fantastic program that will offer innovative and informative presentations geared towards clinicians, researchers, educators, and trainees alike. We are fortunate to host two poster sessions this year to showcase the work of faculty and students. Student poster award winners will be recognized during these sessions.

We are offering three symposia that are not to be missed. First, in conjunction with APA’s focus on “caregiving” at this year’s convention, we are presenting “Parenting Adolescents in Chronic Illness Contexts: Families Resilient and at Risk,” chaired by Jorie Butler with Melissa Alderfer as discussant. Second, for our trainees and fledgling pediatric psychologists, we have Christine Chambers and three other faculty members speaking about their own career development experiences and providing advice in their presentation “Life as Early-career Academic Pediatric Psychologists: Rewards, Challenges, and Surprises.” Third, we are excited to offer a symposium on a current hot topic in our field, “Using Health and Behavior Codes to Help Sustain Clinical Practice in Pediatric Psychology,” presented by Larry Mullins and Ray Phelps, and members of APA’s Interdivisional Health Care Committee.

New this year we are co-sponsoring a symposium in conjunction with the Committee for Youth and Families and the APA Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest entitled, “Engaging Schools and Communities: Advancing Behavioral, Physical, and Public Health.” This symposium will be chaired by Monica Mitchell.

In addition to these outstanding symposia, we are thrilled to offer five unique paper sessions. First, we will present a two-hour paper session on pediatric psychology research with racially and ethnically diverse populations across clinical, school, and community settings, moderated by John Chaney. Additionally, we are offering paper sessions on “Childhood Cancer Survivorship,” “Psychosocial Issues in Diabetes Management,” “Adolescent Risk Behaviors,” and a general paper session on “Topics of Interest in Pediatric Psychology.”

Division 54 continues to have an outstanding and strong reputation for student involvement. We will continue to host student programming, social events, and informal sessions in the Division 54 hospitality suite. We will also continue to partner with Division 53 through our joint social hour and the “Internships/Postdoctoral Fellowships on Parade” which allows opportunities for trainees and professionals to network during a fun social event.

We hope you will join us for a jam-packed convention in San Diego. This venue promises to be incredible. Look for the schedule of events in the next SPP newsletter.

For more information, visit www.apa.org and select the link for conferences.
John M. Chaney, Ph.D.

John M. Chaney is a professor of Clinical Psychology at Oklahoma State University, where he directs the American Indians Into Psychology program and the Family Therapy Training Clinic. He is also a Clinical Associate Professor at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.

Chaney’s research focuses on child and family adjustment to medical illness. His current research examines individual and family distress influences on transcriptional regulation of genes associated with chronic inflammation in juvenile arthritis. He also integrates diversity issues into investigations of adjustment across a variety of chronic illnesses.

Chaney is a past president of the Society of Indian Psychologists, and served on APA’s Committee on Ethnic Minority Affairs. He has served on several editorial boards, including Journal of Pediatric Psychology, and as associate editor for Cultural Diversity and Ethnic Minority Psychology. Chaney co-edited The Sourcebook of Pediatric Psychology and a JPP special issue on low income and ethnic minority children. He is the recipient of an APA Research Excellence Award (Division 22) and an OSU Regents Research Award. Chaney currently serves on the Division 54 Diversity Committee.

Chaney is a 1991 graduate of the University of Missouri-Columbia. He completed his internship in pediatric psychology at the OUHSC.

Candidate Statement

I am honored to be nominated for president of Division 54. It is with great pride that I have observed our growth through the considerable efforts of those who trained, inspired, and encouraged my own professional development.

I see myself as one who does not fit neatly into one category or group. In addition to my ongoing involvement in pediatric psychology research and training, I maintain a private practice and consult in the school system. Perhaps the greatest value I could bring as Division president is my relevant experience in both pediatric research and practice, and my appreciation for the important contributions of each.

Through my service at the national level, I observed firsthand the value of solid representation in APA governance and effectively advocating for legislative issues. Times such as these require the cooperation and collaboration between vanguard researchers and committed practitioners. I would endeavor to see that Division 54 continues to offer an environment that encourages such strategic exchange.

Finally, as one who has spent nearly two decades educating future pediatric psychologists, I am committed to the Division’s role as ambassador to pre- and post-doctoral training programs. It would be a privilege to serve as Division 54 president.

Tonya M. Palermo, Ph.D.

Tonya M. Palermo, Ph.D., is a pediatric psychologist and associate professor in the departments of Anesthesiology and Psychiatry at Oregon Health and Science University. She heads the Division of Clinical Research in Pain and Regional Anesthesia where her NIH-funded research focuses on psychological treatments for pediatric chronic pain and disability, sleep disturbances, and use of innovative technologies. She also provides care to pediatric patients with chronic pain in the Pediatric Pain Management Center.

Palermo has served Division 54 in different capacities. She recently completed a term as Member at Large for Student/Trainee Development. Currently, she serves as an associate editor of the Journal of Pediatric Psychology and as chair of the SPP Fellows Committee. She is also the chair of the American Pain Society Special Interest Group on Pain in Infants, Children, and Adolescents. Palermo has provided clinical and research mentorship to numerous doctoral students and postdoctoral fellows.

Palermo received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Case Western Reserve University. She completed a postdoctoral fellowship at Rainbow Babies & Children’s Hospital. Prior to her appointment at OHSU, Palermo served on the faculty of the Department of Pediatrics at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine. Palermo is a Fellow of Division 54.

Candidate Statement

I am honored to receive a nomination for president of the Society of Pediatric Psychology. I have been a member of SPP for 17 years during which time I have always considered the division to be my professional home.

Over the years, it has been a true pleasure to serve the society in different roles that have allowed me to interact with student members and psychologists at various stages in their careers. Not only have these interactions stimulated new ideas, but they have also allowed me to understand different perspectives and to better realize the contemporary issues facing pediatric psychologists.

I enjoy challenges and particularly am moved to action when it involves people and issues that I care strongly about. In that spirit, I have been motivated to take on service roles for SPP out of my strong desire to positively affect the training, science, and practice of pediatric psychology. At the core of SPP is our strength in the people who make up our membership. Reaching out to the membership and engaging more talented members in service and advocacy efforts can cultivate our society and allow us to reach new heights. It would be a privilege to represent you as president.
**T. David Elkin, Ph.D.**

David Elkin is an associate professor of psychiatry at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, and is the director of the Psychology Residency and Postdoctoral Training Consortium. He received his Ph.D. in 1998 from the University of Memphis, after completing his internship training in pediatric psychology at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He stayed at Oklahoma for a postdoctoral fellowship, focusing on pediatric hematology/oncology. He has been on the faculty at the University of Mississippi Medical Center since 1999.

Elkin has been an active member of the Society of Pediatric Psychology since its inception, and has served as an associate editor of *Progress Notes* and as Division 54’s program committee chair for the 2004 APA Convention.

His research interests have focused on children with cancer and brain tumors, and recently he is working more in the area of sickle cell disease. He is the recipient of NIH and foundation funding, and enjoys serving as vice-chair of the IRB at his medical center.

**Candidate Statement**

I am honored to be nominated again as treasurer for the Society of Pediatric Psychology. SPP has been my home for many years now, and I am excited about the opportunity to give back to the group that has given so much to me.

As treasurer, I have focused on two main issues: internal fiscal responsibility and external funding. We didn’t foresee the economic recession that has plagued us all. Fortunately, the SPP Board made wise decisions over the past two years that have kept us from being significantly affected by the recession. In short, we are growing and are well-positioned to grow even more.

The second issue, external fundraising, may seem like idealistic foolishness, given our current economic times. But we have been able to do some of this already, and I wish to continue to tap outside resources in order to keep SPP strong. I am excited at the opportunity to serve again as SPP’s treasurer.

**Wendy Ward-Begnoche, Ph.D.**

Wendy Ward-Begnoche is an associate professor of Pediatrics with tenure in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences (UAMS) and provides services through Arkansas Children’s Hospital (ACH). Ward-Begnoche received her Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. She completed her pre-doctoral internship at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke’s Medical Center and her postdoctoral fellowship at UAMS, both in pediatric psychology.

She is currently co-director of Pediatric Psychology Training at UAMS/ACH and her postdoctoral fellowship at UAMS, both in pediatric psychology. She serves on several committees in the National Association for Children’s Hospitals Research Institute as well as on the Obesity Society’s Weight Bias Task Force. She currently serves as a mentor in the jointly sponsored Div 54/APPIC Mentoring Project and as a mentor reviewer for the *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*.

**Candidate Statement**

I am privileged to have been nominated for treasurer and hope to be elected to serve SPP members in this role. I have been a member of SPP for 13 years, through its transition from a section of Division 12 to a separate APA Division. Over the years, the unique and vital role of the treasurer has become clear. Without skilled management of funds, the Division will not have the financial foundation to move its initiatives forward.

Fundraising in the current economic climate has become a challenge, and strong leadership is needed to continue generating revenue from outside sources as well as protectively managing the membership dues that are bestowed by each of you. It is critical for members to trust the treasurer to carefully oversee spending.

In addition, if elected I pledge to assist in the development of a strategic plan to ensure the financial stability of our national conference, a critical Division activity that provides an outlet for disseminating the results of our research, an opportunity for networking and mentorship, and a venue for developing and presenting standards of clinical practice for our specialty.

I feel well-prepared for this position having served as treasurer of various organizations previously. I am confident that if elected I would fulfill the role of treasurer with energetic enthusiasm and cooperative collaboration with other board members to bring SPP’s initiatives to life.
**Member at Large — Nat’l/Reg Conferences**

**Ann McGrath Davis, Ph.D.**

Ann McGrath Davis received her undergraduate degree in Psychology and English from the University of Kansas in 1991, and her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Western Michigan University in 1999. She completed her pre-doctoral internship year at Father Flanagan’s Boys Home in Boystown, Neb., and a two-year postdoctoral fellowship at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center.

Davis joined the University of Kansas Medical Center Department of Pediatrics in 2001 and is a clinician, researcher, and teacher in the area of pediatric obesity and pediatric psychology. In 2003 she was given a joint appointment in the Department of Dietetics and Nutrition at KUMC, and in 2006 she received another appointment in the University of Kansas, Department of Applied Behavioral Science. In 2007 she was promoted to associate professor of pediatrics with tenure.

Because of her long-standing interest in pediatric obesity and other chronic health conditions, Davis earned her Master’s in Public Health in 2008. As a faculty member, Davis has both clinical and research interests. Clinically, she serves as a member of the multidisciplinary KUMC Pediatric Feeding Team and as director of the KUMC Pediatric Obesity Program, Healthy Hawks.

Davis is also an NIH-funded researcher, currently working in the area of preventing and treating pediatric overweight in rural Kansas.

**Candidate Statement**

I am extremely honored to receive a nomination for Member at Large for National/Regional Conferences for SPP. I was first introduced to SPP during my fellowship training at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital Medical Center and have found a wonderful group of colleagues and friends through the organization.

Being a psychologist in a medical setting can be an isolating experience, but being an active member of SPP allows one to feel a sense of home with similar colleagues across the country. I believe our conferences are one of our most important member services, not only for the excellent speakers and education, but also for the informal social networking opportunities.

Having just organized a regional SPP conference in Kansas City in 2009 (The Midwest Conference on Pediatric Psychology), I realize what is involved in such conference planning. I am very familiar with the planning of conference budgets, and feel that if our conferences can plan wisely and break even or make money, that we will never again have to cancel our national meeting as we did this year.

In addition to helping our conferences to break even financially, I would also like to see SPP possibly move to having national meetings every year, rather than every other year, and would like to explore this possibility during my tenure as Member at Large for National/Regional Conferences. Thank you for your support.

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**Ric G. Steele, Ph.D.**

Ric G. Steele is an associate professor in the Clinical Child Psychology Program at the University of Kansas, and holds an adjunct position in the Department of Behavioral Pediatrics at the University of Kansas Medical Center. Steele earned a Ph.D. from the University of Georgia, completed his internship training at the University of Tennessee Professional Psychology Internship Consortium, and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

Steele’s program of research is concerned with the promotion of physical and mental health in children, adolescents, and families across a continuum of health risk categories. His grant-funded work examines the effectiveness of a behaviorally based intervention for children and adolescents with obesity, and the efficacy of larger systems-based approaches to addressing weight-related health.

Steele serves on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Pediatric Psychology*, *Journal of Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology*, and *Professional Psychology: Research and Practice*, and is an incoming associate editor for *Health Psychology*. He is a coeditor of the *Handbook of Pediatric Psychology* (4th ed.) and the *Handbook of Evidence-based Therapies for Children and Adolescents*.

Steele served as a co-chair for the 2004 National Conference on Child Health Psychology and the 2009 Midwest Conference on Pediatric Psychology, and regularly serves as a co-chair for the Kansas Conference in Clinical Child and Adolescent Psychology.

**Candidate Statement**

I am honored that my colleagues have nominated me for the position of Member at Large for National/Regional Conferences. Our professional conferences are vital to the development of our field and for the various roles that we fill as pediatric psychologists. They represent an opportunity for clinical skills building, an outlet for our research, and an occasion for networking with other professionals. However, national and regional conferences are difficult to organize and challenging to carry out, particularly in uncertain economic times.

I am seeking the office of Member at Large for National/Regional Conferences because I want to work with future conference planners to make sure that our meetings fulfill the needs of all SPP members. My experience as co-chair for a number of national and regional conferences has given me insight into the specific needs of conference planners, and into how the SPP Board can best facilitate future conferences.

Of particular importance will be building on the current Board’s work on the development of resources and models that organizers can use to plan future meetings. As member at large I look forward to the opportunity to work with the Division to ensure that our national and regional conferences thrive in the coming decade.

I appreciate your support, and I look forward to working with you as your member at large.
SPP provides a variety of perks to student members.

**Reduced Conference Registration Fees**
As students, we work hard to balance the benefits of conference attendance (exposure to new research, experience in presenting our own research, and networking) with financial realities. SPP student members receive a significant cost reduction for conference registrations. This is especially helpful as the registration fees provide access to all general programming events, social hours, and daytime meals throughout the conference. The 2011 National Conference in Child Health Psychology will be held in San Antonio, Texas, on April 14-16.

**The Division Listserv**
The Division 54 listerv is a platform for the discussion of clinical and research issues, suggestion of resources, and much more. With access to this forum, students can benefit from the dissemination of this information, learn about who is active in working with different populations, and find creative ways to communicate with pediatric psychologists at all stages of their career.

**The Students-Only Listserv**
As students, all of us have had questions at some point, but may not be sure how to go about asking for other students’ perspectives. The student listserv provides a place for students to ask questions of their peers—anything from suggestions of graduate or internship sites to organizing hotel sharing at conferences. This is a great way to access peer support and facilitate connections with your future colleagues.

**Travel Awards and Research Funding**
SPP sets aside funding specifically to recognize students’ research accomplishments, both through travel awards to present research at APA and the National Conference on Child Health Psychology, as well as through research grants in the areas of general pediatric psychology, injury prevention, and diversity. Visit the SPP website under Awards & Grants for more information.

**Publisher’s Discount**
Books are expensive and this perk helps that a little. SPP student members receive a 20 percent discount on all Guilford Press and Oxford University Press publications. These publishers distribute a variety of books related to pediatric psychology, including topics such as chronic illness, behavior problems, child development, working with families, and evidence-based therapies.

**Mentorship Programs**
Having assistance in navigating the opportunities and requirements of graduate school can be an invaluable resource. Student members can be paired with a practicing pediatric psychologist based on the student’s specific areas of interest (e.g. research, clinical, administrative). There are also opportunities to gain experience in the editorial review process through the JPP mentorship program. This program connects students with mentors to review JPP manuscripts. Visit the Mentorship Program on the SPP website for more information.

**Voice in the Affairs of the Organization**
SPP student members are presented with a variety of leadership roles in order to get involved in important tasks that shape the society. Student members are eligible to apply for a position on the Student Advisory Board or for the Student Representative position on the SPP Board. These roles involve direct collaboration with the Board of Directors and serving as liaisons to bring the concerns and opinions of the broader student membership to attention. Student members can also be involved in the Network of Campus Representatives, disseminating information on campuses to other graduate and undergraduate students.

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**Student Spotlight Award**

**C. Meghan McMurtry** is in her final year at Dalhousie University completing her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology under the co-supervision of Christine Chambers and Patrick McGrath. She is currently completing her internship in Pediatric Psychology at Brown University.

McMurtry has an impressive record of awards and publications, and her commitment to pediatric psychology is evident by her work. She has been involved in a variety of research on pediatric pain with a focus on the behavior of parents while their children are in pain and the evidence-based management of needle pain.

McMurtry’s dissertation provided a detailed examination of adult reassurance during pediatric medical procedures. A trainee of the Pain in Child Health Strategic Training Initiative, McMurtry’s research has been supported by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research and the Nova Scotia Health Research Foundation.

McMurtry’s long-term career goals include bridging her interest in health policy and health services with her experience in pediatric psychology.

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**Call for Student Spotlight Nominations**

SPP’s Student Advisory Board is accepting nominations for outstanding students in pediatric psychology. Three students will be selected each year based on their commitment and interest in pediatric psychology and their contributions to the field. Undergraduate students will be considered for this call. Selected students will be featured in the Student Spotlight section of Progress Notes as well as on the Division 54 website. This is a wonderful opportunity to honor a student and provide the student with exposure to Division.

Nomination forms can be found online at [www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org/students](http://www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org/students) or by request. Please send the nomination form, a letter of recommendation, and the nominee’s CV to Katie Salamon at ksalamon@uwm.edu.

Submission deadline is **April 15, 2010**.
2009 SPP Student Grant and Award Winners

**Marion and Donald Routh Student Research Grant**

Winner: **Melanie Noel**, Dalhousie University
“Children’s Memory for Pain: An Experimental Investigation of the Role of Anxiety on Children’s Subsequent Recall and Pain Processing”

Honorable Mention: **Lauren Daniel**, Drexel University
“The Effects of Corticosteroids on Sleep and Quality of Life in Children with Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia”

**Lizette Peterson-Homer Injury Prevention Grant**

Winner: **Keri Brown Kirschman**, University of Dayton
“Preschoolers and Their Sibling Supervisors: What Happens When Mom’s Not Around?”

Special Honoree: **Amy Damashek**, Western Michigan Univ.
“Feasibility of Examining Unintentional Child Injuries and Caregiver Supervision in At-Risk Families: A Pilot Study”

**Student Research Award**

Winner: **Meghan McMurtry**, Dalhousie University
“When ‘Don’t Worry’ Communicates Fear: Children’s Perceptions of Parental Reassurance and Distraction During a Painful Medical Procedure”

Honorable Mention: **Lindsay Uman**, Dalhousie University
“Assessing the Quality of Randomized Controlled Trials Examining Psychological Interventions for Pediatric Procedural Pain”

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**Call for Student Leaders**

The SPP Student Advisory Board (SAB) is accepting applications for student representative and five SAB member positions. SAB members hold two-year terms, beginning Jan. 1, 2011 with transition to the position beginning Aug. 2010.

Applicants must be Division 54 student members and enrolled in an APA-accredited graduate program in professional psychology with specific interests in pediatric psychology. Applicants must not be eligible for graduation from their program until after their term is complete in Dec. 2012.

To apply, e-mail the following to SPP Student Representative Kristen Robinson at SPP.StudentRep@gmail.com: 1) CV, 2) contact information—e-mail, phone, address, 3) letter of recommendation from your primary mentor, 4) a short statement indicating your interest in serving as the student representative or preference as to how you would serve on the Student Advisory Board (i.e., Membership Committee, Student Spotlight/Website Committee, Programming Committee), including highlights of how you would contribute.

Deadline is April 15, 2010.

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A special thank you to the reviewers who worked diligently to review many high quality applications—

- Ed Christophersen
- Jack Finney
- Beth Garland
- Rachel Greenley
- Michael Harris
- Jeanne Hoffman
- Chris Houck
- Rebecca Kamery
- Bryan Karazsia
- Avani Modi
- Anna Wilson
Journal of Pediatric Psychology Highlights

We are pleased to report that the time to first editorial decision is 34 days, despite a record number of submissions. The average lag time between final acceptance of a manuscript to publication in Advance Access is 4.9 weeks. The lag between acceptance and publication in the paper copy of the journal is around nine months. Over the past year, we have focused on developing editorials for guidance to reviewers and authors. This will continue in the coming year with editorials on clinical significance, integrating research and practice, ethical issues, and guidance for publishing multiple articles from the same study.

Special issues in 2009 included: e-health in Pediatric Psychology, edited by Tonya Palermo and Lee Ritterband, and the Psychological Aspects of Genomics and Child Health, by Ken Tercyak. Special sections on prevention, diversity, health care disparities, methodology, posttraumatic stress, single subject studies, and RCTs were organized by our associate editors. In addition, topical groupings of articles including measurement and assessment of quality of life in chronic conditions, research in type 1 diabetes, pediatric pain interventions in pediatric chronic illness, and adjustment to pediatric cancer were published.

The JPP mentoring program continues to work very well with more than 100 mentors and mentees currently participating and most continuing for multiple years. A detailed description of the program and experiences of participants is in process and will be used to improve the program.

During the coming year, we will continue to emphasize special issues and sections organized by guest editors and our associate editor team. The first JPP issue in 2010 included a section on quality improvement edited by Lori Stark. Other issues in process (not all of which will be out in 2010) include health consequences of maltreatment (Jennie Noll and Chad Shenk), health care transitions of adolescents and young adults with pediatric chronic conditions (Ahna Pai and Lisa Schwartz), family assessment in pediatric psychology (Lamia Barakat and Melissa Alderfer) and rural health in pediatric populations (David Janicke and Ann McGrath Davis).

Let me know your ideas for special issues, commentaries, editorials, or other suggestions that will facilitate the impact and utility of JPP. Thank you for submitting to JPP. Special thanks to reviewers, the editorial board, and reviewer panel members for your outstanding work!

Introducing New Member at Large

Celia Lescano, Ph.D., the new Member at Large for Diversity, is a staff psychologist at Bradley Hospital/Hasbro Children’s Research Center and an assistant professor at Brown University.

Lescano’s current research focuses on adolescent risk behaviors, specifically sexual risk behaviors that predispose adolescents to HIV infection. She is involved in several major projects funded by National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH). In her independent research, she is developing a culturally relevant HIV prevention intervention for Latino families.

Lescano is also a clinical and research supervisor in the Brown Psychology Consortium. She has been a member of the Diversity Committee since its inception in 2006.

In her role as member at large, Lescano plans to work with the committee to highlight the importance of diversity as it pertains to mentorship, research, service, and student achievements.

To learn more about the Diversity Committee and its initiatives, please visit the diversity link on the SPP website.
The Marion and Donald Routh Student Research Grant

SPP has established an annual research scholar grant program for student members. Research proposals should address areas consistent with the field of pediatric psychology and must be research conducted under the supervision of a faculty advisor, including work leading to a master’s or doctoral degree or independent study. Funding is available up to $1,000. Deadline: Oct 1, 2010.

SPP Student Research Award Competition

SPP encourages and rewards quality research on issues related to pediatric psychology and health care of children. All research must have been completed while the candidate was a student. The student must be the primary (first) author. Only empirical studies will be considered. An award of $500 is available. Deadline: Oct 1, 2010.

Lizette Peterson-Homer Injury Prevention Grant Award

This grant, open to students and faculty, provides support for research related to the prevention of injuries in children and adolescents. Funding is available up to $1,500. Deadline: Oct 1, 2010.

Student Poster Awards

Student poster awards are available for SPP student members who are first author of a poster to be presented during the D54 poster session at the APA Convention. Deadline: July 15, 2010.

Send all award applications electronically to:

Paul Robins, Ph.D.
E-mail: robbinsp@email.chop.edu

For more info, visit www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org.

SPP Diversity Research Grant

To highlight the importance of diversity in pediatric psychology research and clinical care, SPP has established a $1,000 research grant. Funds are available to SPP members to conduct pediatric psychology research featuring diversity-related variables, such as race/ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, language differences, socioeconomic status and/or religiosity. Other aspects of diversity may also be considered.

Applicants may be graduate students, fellows, or early-career faculty (i.e., within three years of appointment). Submit applications as Word attachment by May 15, 2010 to John M. Chaney, Ph.D., at john.chaney@okstate.edu. Recipients will be notified by July 1, 2010.

For complete information visit www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org/awards_grants/grants

First Annual Diane Willis Award for Outstanding Article in the Journal of Pediatric Psychology

SPP awarded the first Diane Willis Award, created to honor Diane J. Willis, who served the Society of Pediatric Psychology as founding editor of the Journal of Pediatric Psychology, editor of the SPP newsletter, and SPP president.

The criteria for selection are quite high. Articles must: 1) have the potential to significantly contribute to scholarship in the science and practice of pediatric psychology as evidenced by having a positive impact on the field/topic area by influencing or guiding future research, or having implications for policy, practice, training, and professional developments; 2) have potential for long-lasting utility and value to the field; 3) demonstrate particular innovation and excellence in approaching the topic for usefulness in application, development of theory, and appropriateness or advancement of methodology and design; and 4) provide an exemplar for others to model.

2009 Diane Willis Award Winner

The 2009 Diane Willis Award Selection Committee unanimously chose the following article by Helgeson and colleagues as Outstanding Article for 2009:


2009 Honorable Mention Articles


A Special Thank You to the Selection Committee

Members of the 2009 Diane Willis Award Selection Committee included: Lori Stark (chair, as past president), Maureen Black, Barbara Morrongiello, and Grayson Holmbeck.
Opportunities and Announcements

SAVE THE DATE!
National Conference on Child Health Psychology
April 14-16, 2011
San Antonio, Texas

We are excited to announce that the next SPP National Conference on Child Health Psychology will be held in San Antonio on the River Walk on April 14-16, 2011. Check the SPP website over the coming months for more details about the program and submission deadlines.

Notes from the Midwinter Executive Committee Meeting

The SPP Executive Committee held its annual Midwinter Meeting January 22-23, 2010, in Columbus. Board members presented on their respective areas of activity.

SPP President Daniel Clay lead discussion on critical issues facing our Society (see President’s Message on p. 1). Other highlights from the meeting included reports from members at large Celia Lescano (Diversity), Paul Robins (Student/Trainee Development), and Gerard Banez (National/Regional Conferences). Of particular concern were a) issues regarding retention and recruitment of new members, especially students, b) planning for the national conference in 2011 and 2013, c) amending the bylaws to include four members-at-large (Diversity, Student/Trainee Development, Membership, and National/Regional Conferences), d) diversity initiatives, and e) the SPP budget.

Treasurer David Elkin reported on the Division’s financial status. Although dues from APA and SPP membership are down, the overall financial status of the Division remains strong. APA program chair, Amy Baughcum, reported on the Division’s exciting program plans for the APA conference this August in San Diego.

Board members were urged to encourage membership to vote in the upcoming SPP elections, and to visit the new SPP website.

Complete minutes will be available at www.societyofpediatricpsychology.org.

Guilford Press Offers Promotional Discount

Guilford Press extends a special 20 percent discount to all SPP members for all Guilford Press products. The discount is valid for all SPP members (including student affiliates) for any and all Guilford Press online, phone, fax, or mail orders. The link to the SPP’s page on Guilford’s website is www.guilford.com/spp.html.

The promotional code is SPP. For online, fax, or mail orders, print SPP in the Promotional Code box, or mention the promotional code to the representative who handles your phone orders to receive the discount.

Four Postdoctoral Fellows — University of Oklahoma

The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center is currently accepting applications for four APA-accredited postdoctoral fellows, two in Pediatric Psychology, one in Child Abuse and Neglect, and one in Parent-Child Interaction Therapy.

Fellows receive innovative training in service delivery and engage in active research programs. Fellows are required to spend at least 51 percent of their time in clinical activities, and can spend the remaining time in research activities if so desired.

Each fellow must submit at least one manuscript to a peer-reviewed journal each year. Fellows typically join ongoing faculty projects, but opportunities for independent research exist as well. Grant writing opportunities are available and strongly encouraged. Seminars and didactics are required and funding opportunities to attend conferences are available.

Positions will be filled as applications are received. All are one-year positions, with the option of a second year, and begin August 31, 2010. Competitive salary, benefits included.

For more information, contact Dr. Melanie Nelson at Melanie-nelson@ouhsc.edu.

Two Faculty Positions — Case Western Reserve Univ.

The Division of Pediatric Psychology at MetroHealth Medical Center/Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine seeks two pediatric or clinical child psychologists at the assistant professor rank.

Division faculty provide clinical care within a pediatric setting, supervision of pediatric and clinical psychology graduate trainees, education of medical students and residents regarding psychosocial issues, and participate in research and scholarly activities.

It is expected that the faculty member will provide clinical services addressing the full range of child and adolescent behavioral health issues to an ethnically and socioeconomically diverse population. Faculty are expected to develop an area of scholarly focus and expertise, particularly primary care, autism (including ADOS training), or the ability to provide services in Spanish. Opportunities exist to participate in research. Please email vitae and a letter outlining clinical and academic interests to Terry Stancin at tstancin@metrohealth.org.

Psychologist — Gillette Children’s Hospital

Gillette Children’s Specialty Healthcare in St. Paul, Minn., has an immediate opening for a licensed psychologist at our Lifetime Clinic for adolescents and adults.

Clinical responsibilities include providing a full range of psychological testing, psychotherapy focused on maximizing potential, and adjustment to disability, and consultation to other Gillette staff. Work involves collaboration with an interdisciplinary team. In addition to clinical work, staff also participate in program development, quality improvement, and staff education to meet the needs of Gillette and to ensure excellence in psychology service delivery.

For more information, visit www.gillettechildrens.org.
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Society of Pediatric Psychology
Division 54, American Psychological Association

Dues Category (check one box)
$45  □ APA Member  □ APA Affiliate*
$45  □ Psychologist, not member of APA
$45  □ Physician
$45  □ Allied professional at or below doctoral level
$30  □ Fully retired
$20  □ Actively enrolled psychology student (undergraduate, graduate, or post-doctoral training)

Faculty signature ____________________________

*If you are a student affiliate of APA, you are eligible to join SPP at the student rate.

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Routh Award Endowment Fund: Named in honor of its primary benefactor, this permanent fund provides grants and awards consistent with the purposes of the society. Voluntary contribution

Total U.S. Funds (Checks made payable to Society of Pediatric Psychology)

Encourage a colleague to join!
Pediatric 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