



# Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Newsletter Fall 2015

[www.rockymountainpsych.org](http://www.rockymountainpsych.org)

## President's Message

**Michelle Butler**  
**U.S. Air Force Academy**

On behalf of the RMPA Executive Committee, I am pleased to announce that the 86<sup>th</sup> convention of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association will be held April 14-16, 2016 in Denver, Colorado. Conference events will be held at the newly renovated Renaissance Hotel, conveniently located 10 minutes from downtown and 20 minutes from Denver International Airport. An airport and local area shuttle are provided at no cost. It is within walking distance of the Stapleton Shopping/Dining Neighborhood which offers numerous dining options and an open-air shopping area. For those seeking a mountain escape, the beautiful Rocky Mountains, and spring skiing, are only an hour west. More information can be found on our website <http://www.rockymountainpsych.org/>, and in this newsletter assembled by Bob Rycek, RMPA Secretary.



This newsletter also contains information about submissions to the conference, invited speakers, a listing of award winners from the Spring 2015 Annual Meeting, news from Psi Chi, a treasurer's report, and a call for RMPA award nominations.

Regarding our Spring Meeting 2016, we have some exceptional programming for all of our members. William "Doug" Woody is organizing the Portenier-Wertheimer Teaching Conference for Thursday, April 14. He has arranged for Dr. Michael Wertheimer, Professor Emeritus, University of Colorado-Boulder, Past-President of RMPA, and the teaching conference's namesake, to deliver the Teaching Conference Keynote "The Professoriate in the Twenty-first Century." Matthew Genuchi, Regional Psi Chi Vice-President, has invited Dr. Chris Kilmartin, Professor of Psychology at University of Mary Washington, to deliver the Psi Chi Distinguished Speaker address. Dr. Kilmartin's talk is entitled, "Meaningful Coincidences: An Early Career Retrospective." In addition, Psi Chi will continue to offer student-oriented workshops and leadership seminars.

Dr. Mitch Handelsman, Professor of Psychology, University of Colorado-Denver, will deliver the Past President's address on "Expanding Models for Making Ethical Choices: From 'I Can't Help Myself' to 'I Second that Emotion.'"

This year's Presidential Address will be given by myself and Dr. Lauren Scharff (both from the U.S. Air Force Academy). We will be discussing our research on "Pushing Boundaries of Comfort to Develop and Assess Respect for Human Dignity: Anxiety at First, Now Ready for More."

Our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual RMPA Alumni Address speaker will be Dr. Emily Balcetis, Associate Professor of Psychology at New York University who will speak on how video evidence can bias legal decisions

We are pleased to announce that our Invited Diversity Speaker, will be Dr. Bernadette Park from the University of Colorado-Boulder. Her presentation is titled "Essentialist Conceptions of Motherhood: Contributions to gender Disparities in Work and Family Outcomes."

To top off this year's stellar slate of invited speakers, we are excited to host Dr. Thomas Joiner, the Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor in the Department of Psychology at Florida State University as our APA Distinguished Scientist. Dr. Joiner will be delivering a talk entitled "Why People Die by Suicide." Leslie Cramblet Alvarez, Past-President of RMPA, has arranged for Dr. Jesse Purdy to deliver the Gardner Memorial Lecture. He will talk regarding animal communication and cognition.

Worth Publishers has agreed to graciously sponsor Dr. C. Nathan DeWall, Professor of Psychology at the University of Kentucky and co-author of the well-known "Psychology" text with Dr. David Myers. He will be presenting a talk on "Taming the Wild Beast: Self-Control as Our Greatest Human Strength."

Given we are marking RMPA's 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a year-long celebration, we will offer a Past-President's panel. They will be able to provide a rich perspective on the history of RMPA and the history of psychology.

Dr. Ray Bull, Professor of Psychology, University of Derby, UK, is a Special Invited Speaker and will be discussing "Research on Improving the Interviewing of Suspects."

Dr. (COL) Gary A. Packard, Jr., Professor of Psychology, U.S. Air Force Academy, is another Special Invited Speaker. He will be organizing a symposium on "A Healthy Relationship between the Military and the Social Sciences: Virtuous Revelations on Research at the U.S. Air Force Academy." The panel will emphasize research efforts designed to improve the effectiveness, inclusiveness and respectful culture of the Air Force Academy and the Air Force.

Best of luck with your research and academic pursuits until we meet in Denver in April!

Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming

## **Elections**

Two positions are up for election this year; President-Elect and Diversity Chair. All Professional and Faculty Full Members of RMPA are invited to vote in the upcoming elections. An electronic ballot will be sent to all eligible voting members shortly.

### ***Candidate for President-Elect***

#### **Susan E. Becker, Ph.D. Colorado Mesa University**

##### ***Biography***

Susan E. Becker is a professor of psychology at Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction Colorado. She received her Doctoral Degree from the University of Arizona in clinical psychology in 1997. Since then she has worked at Colorado Mesa University, devoting her career to training undergraduates in the introductory skills of clinical and counseling psychology, leadership, and team building. Her work with students has involved both supervising internship experiences in the community, and a long track record of mentoring undergraduate research and fostering professional development of both students and colleagues with presentations at local, regional and national conferences, as well as mentoring students in the publication process. She was named distinguished faculty member in 2005 for her exemplary teaching, scholarship and service. Her research interests center on clinical and counseling training, community program evaluation and most lately suicide intervention training. She has publications in teaching pedagogy and program evaluation and over 50 conference presentations.

She has been involved with RMPA since 1997, bringing many CMU students to RMPA and mentoring student research presentations almost every year. More recently her service with RMPA has included serving one term as Diversity Program Chair from 2007-2010 and more recently served two terms as the Rocky Mountain Psi Chi Regional Vice-President. In that capacity she chaired the Psi Chi programming at RMPA including inviting speakers of national and international caliber. Her service to Psi Chi International includes chairing the Grants, Investment Advisory and Scholarship Committees. She also serves as a reviewer for the Psi Chi Journal of



Undergraduate Research. Susan has also served APA Division 2, the Society for the Teaching of Psychology on their PR committee as well as being involved in RMPA teaching preconference programming. She has been the advisor for the Colorado Mesa University Psi Chi chapter since 2003.

##### **Presidential Statement**

I am honored to be nominated for RMPA president. I have served on a number of committees and boards over the course of my career, and none has been a more positive, productive experience than the times I have served the RMPA board. A Psi Chi colleague once referred to RMPA as a “home grown love fest”, and while I don’t particularly agree with that statement, I do think that RMPA stands out as one of the friendliest professional conference environments, and the board has a norm for conscientiousness, supportiveness and planning a fun and academically high caliber conference. I would hope to continue this tradition of excellence as RMPA president, and promote the professional balance of RMPA to meet the needs of faculty, professional psychologists, graduate and undergraduate students. I would like to see RMPA expand its reach regionally, providing opportunities for colleagues throughout our region to connect and support the work of psychological science. I have devoted my professional career to the mentoring of the next generation of psychologists, and see the opportunity to serve RMPA as president as an extension of that dedication.

### ***Candidate for President-Elect***

#### **Rona J. McCall, Ph.D. Regis University**

##### ***Biography:***

Rona McCall is a Professor of Psychology in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience at Regis University in Denver, Colorado. She earned her bachelor’s degree in Psychology from Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, New York. She received a Fulbright Scholarship to teach English in a German gymnasium (high school) and conduct cross cultural research on people’s attitudes about what factors influence academic success and motivation. Rona completed her doctoral work in Developmental Psychology with a concentration in Cognition at the University of North



Carolina, Chapel Hill, where, she continued to focus on cross cultural comparisons of academic attributions and began asking questions about factors that contribute to a lack of academic success and motivation, such as school drop-out.

## *Candidate for Diversity Chair*

### **Anna Ropp, Ph.D. Metropolitan State University of Denver**

#### **Biography:**

Dr. Anna Ropp received her PhD in social psychology from the University of California Santa Cruz. Her research tends to focus on the experience of people who encounter discrimination and the most effective methods of reducing



prejudice and discrimination. After she obtained her PhD, Dr. Ropp was an assistant professor of psychology and coordinator of the women's and gender studies program at the University of Alaska Southeast. She has also conducted evaluation research for programs that assist individuals with disabilities. Currently, Dr. Ropp is an assistant professor of psychology at Metropolitan State University of

Denver. At MSU, she teaches courses in statistics, research methods, and social psychology. Some of her favorite courses to teach include multicultural and cross-cultural psychology, psychology of group prejudice, and psychology of gender. One of Dr. Ropp's current research projects examines the experience of LGBTQ students in the classroom.

#### **Candidate Statement:**

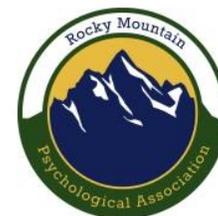
I'm excited to be nominated again to run for the Diversity Council Chair of RMPA. As the current Diversity Council Chair, I have coordinated RMPA's diversity programming for our 2014 and 2015 conventions. In addition, I coordinated the LGBTQ sessions in 2012 and 2013. Over these past few years, I have helped bring speakers such as Dave Myers to talk about the psychology of hearing loss and David Matsumoto to talk about cross-cultural psychology, as well as coordinated talks on topics such as universal design for learning and health issues pertaining to lesbian women. For our 2016 convention, I am excited to announce that I have lined up Bernadette Parks as our Diversity Speaker. If I win this election, I would be delighted to continue coordinating the diversity programming at RMPA's annual conference, and to continue contributing to RMPA. I believe my experience with issues of diversity, multiculturalism, gender issues, LGBTQ issues, and disability issues serve me well

After completing her graduate studies she began her career at Regis University, a Jesuit liberal arts institution. The majority of her research projects at Regis have had some component of academic success or failure. For example, with her students she has explored issues of technology, service learning, religiosity, plagiarism, child care centers and name stereotypes as related to academic success and motivation. Many of these projects have been presented at RMPA or other national conferences. Most recently, she and her students have begun investigating the impact of grit, belongingness, and mentorship on the academic and career success of first generation college students.

Having experienced the importance of mentorship in her own academic career, McCall is committed to modeling this for her students. She was recognized as being an outstanding academic student advisor, has been a co-advisor to the Regis University Psi Chi Chapter for over 17 years, and served on the Psi Chi Regional Steering Committee. McCall served at the Chair of the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience at Regis University from 2006-2012.

#### **Presidential Statement:**

I am honored to be nominated to serve as President of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association. The chance to serve our region and continue the outstanding work of past Presidents is both humbling and exciting. I have always been an advocate of RMPA. My first RMPA presentation was in 2002 with my students. Ever since then I have appreciated the conference's dedication to the exchange of scientific ideas, professional development and student involvement. Over the years, I have presented research with students, been my university's RMPA faculty representative, helped plan, participate, and present in the pre-teaching conference, been a program reviewer, judge for the Psi Chi Student Paper Competition, and most recently, was a member of the Psi Chi Regional Steering Committee. The connection with colleagues from other universities in our region, who are committed to excellence in teaching and research while giving our students a forum to develop professionally each year, has influenced my decision to become even more involved with the RMPA region. Being in a Department of Psychology and Neuroscience my own psychological science perspective has evolved. As RMPA moves forward, I hope to help support the diverse psychological science approaches that are found in our region, as well as encourage professional development and student's academic growth at future conferences.



Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming

# RMPA 2016 CONVENTION INFORMATION

**APRIL 14-16, 2016**

**Renaissance Denver Hotel**

**3801 Quebec Street**

**Denver, Colorado 80207**

**Hotel Direct: 303-399-7500**

**Toll Free Reservations: 1-800-468-3571**

**[www.denverrenaissance.com](http://www.denverrenaissance.com)**

## Convention Managers

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**Regis University**

**3333 Regis Boulevard**

**Denver, Colorado 80221**



## Lodging

Renaissance Denver Hotel. Reservations should be made by calling either calling the hotel reservation number at 1-800-468-3571 by March 13, 2016. Please specify that you are attending the RMPA annual meeting in order to get the special rate. Single/double rooms are \$125 (king or two double beds).

You can also register for the hotel through a dedicated link for RMPA which is listed on the home page of the RMPA website.. Amenities for the convention include free WiFi in the room and free parking at the hotel.



## Transportation

There is free hotel shuttle from Denver International Airport to the Renaissance Denver Hotel. Driving instructions and maps will be included in the Spring 2016 RMPA Newsletter.

## ***DENVER at a glance:***

The Renaissance Denver Hotel, site of the 2016 RMPA annual meeting, is located just off I-70 northeast of downtown, the professional sports stadiums, and the Pepsi Center. The recently renovated hotel has 394 guest rooms that feature great views east into Stapleton and west towards the Rocky Mountains. In-room amenities include high-speed Internet connections, work desks, ironing boards and irons, and complimentary coffee and coffee makers. Hotel features include a fitness center with a whirlpool and indoor swimming pool. Vivace! Ristorante, a full service restaurant, and Elevate Lounge offer food, drink, and a place to relax. The Renaissance offers complimentary van service to and from the Denver International Airport, which is located only 10 minutes away.

### **A Guide to Denver's Local Neighborhoods**

Much of Denver's character comes from its local neighborhoods, and interestingly each neighborhood has its own unique style and culture.

#### **Stapleton**

The Renaissance Denver Hotel is located at the edge of the Stapleton neighborhood. Stapleton is known for its shopping and dining. For example, the Station 26 Brewing Company, which is within walking distance from the Renaissance, is one of Denver's authentic small breweries. Within two miles of the Renaissance Denver lie numerous quaint and highly rated restaurants such as Four Friends Kitchen, Live Basil Pizza, The Bistro at Stapleton, and the Berkshire. If you wish to travel a few miles into Stapleton, you can visit the Wings Over The Rockies Air and Space Museum (<http://wingsmuseum.org>), which is as neat as it sounds, or the Shops of Northfield Stapleton (<http://www.northfieldstapleton.com/>), if you're interested in a unique outdoor shopping experience. The Colorado Rapids Major League Soccer Team also plays their game in Stapleton (<http://www.coloradorapids.com/>). Needless to say, Stapleton has a lot to offer conference goers.

#### **City Park and East Colfax**

From the Renaissance, travel 2 miles south on Quebec St. You will find yourself in the East Colfax neighborhood. If you keep traveling three miles West on Colfax Ave., you will find yourself in the City Park neighborhood. East Colfax is synonymous with intimate music venues such as the Bluebird Theater and Fillmore auditorium. City Park is named after the famous City Park (just north of Colfax) which is not just any park, it is home to the Denver Zoo (<http://www.denverzoo.org/>) and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science (<http://www.dmns.org/>). Furthermore numerous entertainment spots dot the streets of Colfax where these two neighborhoods converge: the Tattered Cover

bookstore, Portland's world famous Voodoo doughnuts opened a second shop in this neighborhood (there are currently only two in the world), and if you are really looking for a unique experience head on over to Denver's 1-up a barcade that is host to numerous vintage pinball machines and classic arcade games (must be 21 to enter).

#### **Capitol Hill, Congress Park, and the Golden Triangle**

If you keep traveling West down Colfax, you will eventually find yourself at the Colorado State Capitol building, the heart of the Capitol Hill and Congress Park neighborhoods. Additionally, you will find that you are close to the majestic Denver Botanical Gardens (<http://www.botanicgardens.org/>) and many other attractions. Travel a little further west and you will find yourself in the Golden triangle which is the home to numerous museums: The Denver Art Museum (<http://denverartmuseum.org/>), The Molly Brown House (<http://www.mollybrown.org/>), Denver Firefighters Museum (<http://www.denverfirefightersmuseum.org/>), the Clyfford Still Museum (<https://clyffordstillmuseum.org/>), and History Colorado (<http://www.historycolorado.org/>).

#### **Downtown and Lower Downtown (LoDo)**

Just north of the golden Triangle you will find Downtown and LoDo. This is a popular spot for most tourists. It is chock full of restaurants, shops, bars, and the like. It is home to the 16<sup>th</sup> street mall (<http://16thstreetmalldenver.com/>), Coors Field, Union Station (<http://unionstationindenver.com/>) and the Denver Mint ([http://www.usmint.gov/mint\\_tours/?action=startreservation](http://www.usmint.gov/mint_tours/?action=startreservation)). If you want to tour the Mint, make sure to make your reservations now, as spots go fast.

#### **River North (RiNo)**

When in Downtown or LoDo, follow the Platte River just a little north, and you will find yourself in RiNo, the city's city's non-traditional art center. You can hardly walk a block without finding an art gallery or art store. Interesting and hip restaurants, like the Source (<http://www.thesourcedenver.com/>), dot its streets. Furthermore, while most museums cost money, RiNo is home to one of the best open air and free street art/graffiti galleries in the world. These walls always receive fresh art weekly from some of the best graffiti artists in the world. These galleries are not on any map, so it is easiest to start your journey by finding the Cold Crush Cafe (<http://coldcrush.net/>).

#### **Five Points**

Just south of RiNo, you will find Five points, affectionately nicknamed the "Harlem of the West" because of a rich musical history where greats like Billie Holiday, Duke Ellington, and Miles Davis played its famous clubs. If you want to learn more about the history of this great neighborhood, take a trip to the Blair Caldwell African American Research Library (<https://history.denverlibrary.org/blair>; which offers a self-guided walking tour of the Welton Street Cultural District) or the Black American West Museum (<http://www.blackamericanwestmuseum.org/>). While in the area, have a bite at the world-famous Welton Street Cafe.

#### **South Broadway/ Antique Row**

Just south of the Golden Triangle, travel south on Broadway a few miles and you will find an interesting mix of antiques and hipster culture in the South Broadway neighborhood. You can browse the best antique shops and thrift stores in all of Denver, sample the best gourmet ice cream the city has to offer at Sweet Action, bowl or play skee-ball at Punch Bowl Social, watch a limited run movie at the Mayan Theater, or experience the finest indie rock, punk, and metal at Denver's own 3 Kings Tavern.

#### **The Great Outdoors**

While technically not a specific neighborhood, Denver is surrounded by mountains and nature. The closest nature attractions are Red Rocks Amphitheater (<http://redrocksonline.com/>), which is not only the best music venue in the world, it is also a Denver city park that you can visit, hike, and climb. Right next to Red Rocks is Matthews/Winters park (<http://jeffco.us/open-space/parks/matthews-winters-park/>), a local haven for trail runners and mountain bikers alike, and Dinosaur Ridge (<http://www.dinoridge.org/>) where one can view real dinosaur tracks, left by real dinosaurs! For those that like experiencing the outdoors in a more leisurely fashion, check out the natural hot springs in Idaho Springs (<http://visitidahospringscolorado.com/>) just 40 minutes west of Denver on I-70.

#### **Getting Around Denver**

Denver is home to vast network of public transportation including buses and light rail trains <http://www.rtd-denver.com/>. Denver is also home to the B-Cycle program where for a small fee you can rent and ride a bicycle <https://denver.bcycle.com/>. Furthermore, like any big city Denver has ample access to taxis, Ubers and Lyfts.

#### **More Information**

If you want to learn more about the variety of Denver's neighborhoods (there are many more than listed in this short guide), check out Denver's Neighborhood guide <http://www.denver.org/about-denver/denver-neighborhoods/>. More information about Denver can be obtained through various websites. It is important to remember that when exploring a city or the great outdoors, it is always important to remain safe: travel with a few friends, carry your cell phone, and always pay attention to your surroundings.

As the "Mile High City", Denver is on the high plains right at the gateway to the spectacular Rocky Mountains. When planning for your trip to the convention, remember that while days may be quite warm, temperatures always cool down in the evening, and weather changes can and do occur frequently. It is also important to drink plenty of water while you visit.

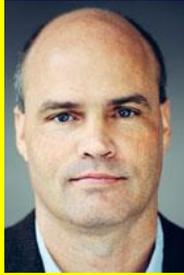
Please see the RMPA 2016 Convention Information section in this newsletter for hotel reservation details.

***See you in Denver!***

## ***RMPA Convention at a glance:***

### **APA Distinguished Scientist**

#### **Why People Die by Suicide**



**Thomas Joiner**

Florida State University

In his new theory of suicidal behavior, Thomas Joiner proposes three factors that mark those most at risk of death: the feeling of being a burden on loved ones; the sense of isolation; and perhaps, chillingly, the learned ability to hurt oneself. He tests the theory against diverse facts taken from clinical anecdotes, history, literature, popular culture, anthropology, epidemiology, genetics, and neurobiology—facts about suicide rates among men and women; white and African-American men; anorexics, athletes, prostitutes, and physicians; members of cults, sports fans, and citizens of nations in crisis.

Thomas Joiner grew up in Georgia, went to college at Princeton, and received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Texas, Austin. He is the Robert O. Lawton Distinguished Professor in the Dept. of Psychology at Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida. Author of over 515 peer-reviewed publications and author/editor of over 17 books, Dr. Joiner was awarded the Guggenheim Fellowship and the Rockefeller Foundation's Bellagio Research Fellowship. He is a consultant to NASA's Human Research Program, and is the Director, with Pete Gutierrez, Ph.D., of the DOD-funded Military Suicide Research Consortium.

### **Psi Chi Keynote Address**

#### **Meaningful Coincidences: An Early Career Retrospective**



**Christopher Kilmartin**

University of Mary Washington

In this talk, Dr. Kilmartin will reflect on his early career experiences, now from the perspective of a late career psychologist. The purpose of the talk will be to provide valuable guidance and ideas for those considering or beginning a career in psychology, based on Dr. Kilmartin's broad range of experiences as an academic and counseling psychologist.

Dr. Christopher Kilmartin is a college professor, author, stand-up comedian, actor, playwright, consultant and professional psychologist. He is a Professor of Psychology at The University of Mary Washington in Fredericksburg, VA. He holds a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Virginia Commonwealth University and is a licensed clinical psychologist who has a great deal of experience consulting with businesses, college students, human services workers, athletic departments, the military, and counselors.

His major scholarly work is *The Masculine Self* (5<sup>th</sup> edition Sloan, 2015, now co-authored by Andrew Smiler), which has also been translated into Korean. He has also co-authored *Men's Violence Against Women: Theory, Research, and Activism*, *Overcoming Masculine Depression: The Pain behind the Mask*: (also translated into Hebrew and Korean; 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 2013), and *Sexual Assault in Context: Teaching College Men about Gender*, a manual based on his consultation experiences.

Drawing on his background as a professional stand-up comedian, Dr. Kilmartin wrote a solo theatre performance on men's issues entitled *Crimes Against Nature*. This work, an integration of his scholarly and performing interests, and performed by the author, has toured to over 150 campuses and other venues for a total of 220 performances. He is currently touring with a lecture/storytelling/multimedia hybrid entitled *Guy Fi: The Fictions that Shape Men's Lives*.

Dr. Kilmartin delivered the Keynote address at the NCAA Violence Prevention Summit in 2011 and has also consulted with the U. S. Department of Education, the U.S. Army and Air Force, and the international group, Democratic Control of the Armed Forces. He served as a consultant for three years with the United States Naval Academy on a revision of sexual assault and harassment prevention curriculum. He was a scriptwriter for an Army training film on the same topic.

Dr. Kilmartin was the Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at the United States Air Force Academy for the academic year 2013-14. In 2007, he was the Fulbright Distinguished Chair in Gender Studies at the University of Klagenfurt, Austria, one of only 39 such honors awarded annually worldwide. He was elected to Fellow Status in the American Psychological Association in 2008 and is a Past President of Division 51 of that organization, the Society for the Psychological Study of Men and Masculinity, which awarded him its Researcher of the Year distinction in 2010. In 2015, the University of Mary Washington granted him its Professional Achievement Award. He has been a featured presenter at the National Psychotherapy with Men Conferences. Dr. Kilmartin is an internationally-recognized expert on gender and violence prevention.

### **RMPA FUTURE CONVENTION SITES**

**2017**

**Salt Lake City, Utah**

**Radisson Hotel Downtown**

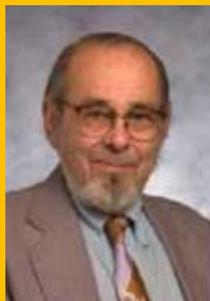
**April 6-8**



RMPA recognizes that you have a variety of choices when arranging accommodations for the RMPA Convention. RMPA has made a major commitment to the conference hotel in order to secure the meeting space necessary to hold the sessions and has negotiated the lowest possible price for its membership. Please select accommodations from the designated convention hotel when planning your trip.

## Teaching Conference Keynote Address

### The Professoriate in the Twenty-First Century



**Michael Wertheimer**  
University of Colorado

Attempts by lower rank higher-education faculty to climb the academic ladder to full professor haven't changed much yet during the twenty-first century from typical practices during the twentieth century, except that the "publish or perish" paradigm has been replaced by "publish AND perish"--unless you can bring in substantial outside research funding. But modern communications technology is making old patterns obsolete. Soon almost all faculty members will no longer lecture, because of MOOCs and SMOCs (massive open online courses and synchronous massive online courses), taught by a few outstanding teachers. The faculty's task will become helping students develop better perspectives on subject matter about which they were ignorant or had naïve misconceptions, not by lecturing at them but in individual tutorials or seminars. Besides learning how to become creative research scholars, aspiring academics must be taught how to teach, which never was a significant part of graduate education before. Such instruction will have to be based on responsible translation of the vast empirical literature on educational psychology, cognitive psychology, and the psychology of learning into practical, realistic evidence-based strategies for teaching effectively, that is, for helping students achieve sophisticated, insightful understanding of subject matter.

Michael Wertheimer, born in Germany but proud US citizen, completed his PhD at Harvard in 1952 in experimental psychology, and has won teaching numerous awards but doubts that he deserves them. He considers teaching a difficult, presumptuous profession. Now retired from a long, satisfying academic career (briefly at Wesleyan University and then for decades at the University of Colorado), he chaired doctoral programs and an undergraduate honors program in psychology. Author of over two hundred articles in professional journals and author, co-author, editor, or co-editor of over forty books on experimental psychology, cognition, psycholinguistics, the teaching of psychology, and the history of psychology (most recently the fifth edition of his *Brief History of Psychology*), he was president of RMPA, Psi Chi, and four divisions of the American Psychological Association, and was elected to many APA boards and committees including its board of directors. Now 89 years old, he has enjoyed friends, family, foreign languages, mountaineering, writing, skiing, sailing, extensive domestic and foreign travel, gardening, cooking, music, and reading, and is the pater familias of a huge clan: three kids, three kids-in-law, eight grandkids, five grand-kids-in-law, and eleven great-grandchildren, many of whom he sees frequently. He is deeply grateful for an amazingly rewarding long life.



Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming

## RMPA Diversity Address

### Essentialist Conceptions of Motherhood: Contributions to Gender Disparities in Work and Family Outcomes



**Bernadette Park**  
University of Colorado Boulder

The past 60 years have witnessed unprecedented change in the roles and opportunities afforded to women. Still, women continue to experience unequal work and family outcomes relative to men. Work from our lab focuses on social cognitive factors that shape construal processes, particularly around motherhood, that we suggest contribute to these inequities. Women are more strongly associated with motherhood than men are with fatherhood, and while the category *mother* is associated with parenting, *father* is associated with work. Trait attributes seen as characteristic of moms share relatively little overlap with those that characterize professionals, whereas dads and professionals share a great deal in common. Even at an undergraduate level, young women trade-off their parent and professional identities (that is, either one or the other but not both are activated) in a way that young men do not. We argue these effects are driven in part by more essentialist conceptions of mothers than fathers. That is, the category *mother* is imbued with special properties: It is viewed as a deeper, more lasting, and more real category than the category *father*. In trying to "have it all," women experience a psychological conflict in their most basic identities, those involving work and parenting, not true of men. Cultural stereotypes and essentialist perceptions of mothers make it difficult for women to feel they can simultaneously excel at both, and family-unfriendly social policies further validate this message. If as a society we are serious about "closing the wage gap" and increasing representation of women in advanced positions within institutions and the corporate world, fostering policies that enable young parents to successfully manage careers and a family (e.g., paid parental leave, flexible work schedules, on-site high quality and affordable day care) will be needed.

Bernadette Park began her studies in Social Psychology as an undergraduate at the University of Oregon under Prof. Myron Rothbart, and completed her Ph.D. in 1985 at Northwestern University under Prof. Reid Hastie. She is currently the John and Cassie Pyle Term Chair, Professor in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of Colorado Boulder. Her research utilizes a social cognition perspective to examine intergroup dynamics, stereotyping, and prejudice. Included in her research work are studies of *The outgroup homogeneity effect* – that perceivers see groups to which they belong as more heterogeneous and diverse than that same group is viewed by outgroup members; *Racial bias in shoot/don't-shoot decisions* – that in a speeded videogame task armed Black targets are shot more quickly than armed White targets, and unarmed Black targets are erroneously shot with a higher frequency than unarmed White targets; and *Essentialist conceptions of motherhood* – implicit beliefs that tie parenthood more strongly to women than to men and the consequences of that for work and pay inequities for the genders. She has served as both an Associate Editor and Editor-in-Chief of the *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, and as an Associate Editor of *Personality and Social Psychology Review*.

## RMPA Alumni Address

### Blind Justice: Why Watching Video Evidence Biases Legal Decisions



**Emily Balcetis**  
New York University

## Worth Publishing Distinguished Lecture

### Taming the Impulsive Beast: Self-Control as Our Greatest Human Strength



**C. Nathan DeWall**  
University of Kentucky

When asked to consider their personal heroes, many people list inspirational figures who overcame tremendous odds to achieve success. Maybe they are Albert Einstein, Sally Ride, Nelson Mandela, Oprah Winfrey, Martin Luther King, Jr., or the Beatles. We place these people on pedestals because they share a common human strength: self-control. This talk discusses research that links self-control individual, relational and societal well-being. Second, I discuss how self-control relies on a limited energy resource that becomes depleted after prior use. Third, I demonstrate the interplay between self-control and personality, biological and social processes. Throughout the talk, I provide useful teaching activities that challenge undergraduates to reconsider factors that contribute to their academic, personal and relationship success.

C. Nathan DeWall is Professor of Psychology and Director of the Social Psychology Lab at the University of Kentucky. With David Myers, he is co-author of a series of introductory psychology textbooks published by Worth Publishers. He received his Bachelor's Degree from St. Olaf College, a Master's Degree in Social Science from the University of Chicago, and a Master's degree and Ph.D. in Social Psychology from Florida State University. He received the 2011 College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, which recognizes excellence in undergraduate and graduate teaching. In 2011, the Association for Psychological Science identified DeWall as a "Rising Star" for "making significant contributions to the field of psychological science." Nathan conducts research on close relationships, self-control, and aggression. With funding from the National Institutes of Health and the National Science

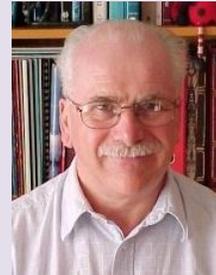
Fall 2015

Rocky Mountain Psychological Association  
[www.rockymountainpsych.org](http://www.rockymountainpsych.org)

Foundation, he has published over 150 scientific articles and chapters. Nathan's research awards include the SAGE Young Scholars award from the Foundation for Personality and Social Psychology, the Young Investigator Award from the International Society for Research on Aggression, and the Early Career Award from the International Society for Self and Identity.

## Special Invited Speaker

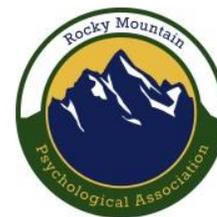
### Research on Improving the Interviewing of Suspects



**Ray Bull**  
University of Derby, UK

Around the world the traditional method that has been used with suspects is to interrogate them using an accusatory style, often from the beginning of the interrogation. Recent research in several countries consistently demonstrates that a noteworthy proportion of guilty suspects have already decided to confess before the interview commences, and thus this traditional approach may be 'seen' to work for them. For other suspects, however, the available research suggests that such an approach may well *not* be effective. Thus, a different approach began to be adopted 20 years ago in England and Wales, which has now been adopted elsewhere (e.g. in Australia, New Zealand, Norway, parts of the USA, among others). Instead of the seeking of confessions (which may provide very little information with which to confirm their validity), this 'new' approach has been designed to encourage suspects to provide as much relevant information as possible, the contents of which can be verified or challenged. Research and developments on how best to elicit such information and when best to disclose to suspects information known to the investigators will be described.

Dr. Ray Bull is currently a Professor of Criminal Investigation, University of Derby, Emeritus Professor of Forensic Psychology, University of Leicester and Visiting Professor of Forensic Psychology, University of Portsmouth. Additionally, he served as Dean of Faculty of Life and Social Sciences, Glasgow Caledonian University. In 2009, he was elected a Fellow by the Board of Directors of the Association of Psychological Sciences for sustained and outstanding distinguished contributions to psychological science. In 2010, he was elected a Fellow of the British Psychological Society for his contributions made to the discipline of psychology. In 2012, he was awarded the first Honorary Life-time Membership of the International Investigative Interviewing Research Group and in 2013, he was elected President of the European Association of Psychology and Law. His countless peer-reviewed publications are a testament to his contributions to the field of forensic psychology.



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## RMPA Past President's Address

### Expanding Models for Making Ethical Choices: From "I Can't Help Myself" to "I Second that Emotion."



**Mitch Handelsman**  
University of Colorado Denver

This talk will reflect on how psychologists have been taught to think ethically over the years, from ultra-rational "ethical reasoning" to a more comprehensive "ethical choice-making" approach that includes emotions and non-rational factors.

Dr. Handelsman is a Professor of Psychology at the University of Colorado, Denver and CU President's Teaching Scholar. Recent honors include: Excellence in Teaching Award, UCD College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 2010; Secondary Appointment, Professor of Psychiatry, UCDHSC School of Medicine, 2005; Award for Excellence in Research, CU-Denver College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 2005. He co-authored the book "Ethical Dilemmas in psychotherapy: Positive approaches to decision making" (2015) and "APA Handbooks in Psychology: APA handbook of ethics in psychology (2012)." He also wrote a chapter entitled, "Preparing to teach: Becoming part of an ethical culture." In R. E. Landrum & M. A. McCarthy (Eds.). Teaching ethically: Challenges and opportunities."

## Special Invited Speaker

### "A Healthy Relationship between the Military and the Social Sciences: Virtuous Revelations on Research at the U.S. Air Force Academy"



**Gary A. Packard, Jr.**  
United States Air Force Academy

A recent Chronicle of Higher Education On-Line article titled, "Damning Revelations Prompt Social Science to Rethink its Ties to the Military" presented the dark side of the relationship between the social sciences and the U.S. military. In this symposium, diverse faculty members from the U.S. Air Force Academy and other institutions will share how their research brings light to important social science issues in the military in ways that improve the effectiveness of our force while supporting service members and families in

meaningful ways. The panel will emphasize both the diversity of the research topics in our research portfolio as well as how our research is improving the effectiveness, inclusiveness, and respectful culture of the Air Force Academy and the Air Force. Topics include: military families (Karin DeAngelis), sexual assault prevention (David McCone), socio-cultural implications of remotely-piloted aircraft/drones (Wil Scott), human factors (Chris McClernon), concussion/traumatic brain injury (Chris D'Lauro), and masculinity/violence prevention and personal experience as a former Distinguished Visiting Professor in our department (Chris Kilmartin).

Dr. (COL) Gary A. Packard, Jr., Professor of Psychology, U.S. Air Force Academy, is another Special Invited Speaker. He will be organizing a symposium on "A Healthy Relationship between the Military and the Social Sciences: Virtuous Revelations on Research at the U.S. Air Force Academy." The panel will emphasize research efforts designed to improve the effectiveness, inclusiveness and respectful culture of the Air Force Academy and the Air Force.

(COL) Gary A. Packard Jr. (BS, USAF Academy; MAS, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University; MA, Michigan State University; PhD, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill) is permanent professor and head of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership (DFBL) at the United States Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado. He leads a diverse faculty of almost 40 psychologists, sociologists, and industrial/organizational and human-factors engineers. Gary Packard served at the Pentagon as the Air Force writer on the Secretary of Defense's Comprehensive Review Working Group in 2010 studying the Repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell. He deployed in 2011 as the Director of Staff, 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, Southwest Asia in support of Operations ENDURING FREEDOM, NEW DAWN, and COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE – HORN OF AFRICA. Prior to joining the faculty at the Academy, Gary Packard was commander of the 32d Flying Training Squadron at Vance AFB, Enid, Oklahoma. He has over 3,900 flying hours in T-37, T-38, T-1A, TG-7A, and KC-10 aircraft.

## Gardner Memorial Lecture

### From Cuttlefish To Weddell Seals: What Can Communication Tell Us About Animal Cognition and Vice-Versa?



**Jesse Purdy**  
Southwestern University

Most introductory textbooks in animal behavior are organized by separating the various behavioral systems into chapters like behavioral genetics, foraging, learning and memory, and so on. As a result, students tend to compartmentalize behavior and fail to appreciate that at any given point in time, an animal's behavior reflects the sum total of many behavioral systems that are operating simultaneously. If one accepts the premise that behavioral systems interact to produce behavior, it should be possible to learn about one behavioral system while focusing on another. In essence taking the time to speculate on the nature of the interactions among behavioral systems should

lead to novel experiments that significantly enhance our understanding of the root causes of behavior.

To exemplify how one might develop programmatic research within this mindset I will present a subset of my work with cuttlefish, a coleoid cephalopod whose brain is the largest in relation to its body size among all invertebrates, and my research with Weddell seals, an animal whose brain keeps its owner alive year around in what is considered the most hostile environment on this planet, the fast-ice surrounding Antarctica. Considering work with cuttlefish I will explore what we can learn about their communication system by investigating their cognitive ability. Next, I will consider how my research on communication in Weddell seals can inform attempts to assess its cognitive ability.

Dr. Jesse E. Purdy received his B. S. in psychology in 1974, his M. S. in general – experimental psychology in 1976 and his PhD in 1978 from Colorado State University. He graduated with an emphasis in experimental psychology with specialization in animal learning and animal behavior. He is professor of psychology and animal behavior and he has held the Brown Distinguished Research Professorship in the Department of Psychology at Southwestern University, and the John H. Duncan Chair from 2004-2009 one of six Brown Chairs during which he coordinated the XXX Brown Symposium in 2008 on Jakob von Uexkull, 's ideas on the Umwelt. He is currently Professor Emeritus at Southwestern University where he has been since 1978.

## 2016 Wertheimer-Portenier Teaching Conference

The 2016 Wertheimer-Portenier Teaching Conference will begin at noon on Thursday, April 14, 2016 with *Teaching Take-Out*, a session of short, interactive classroom demonstrations in several different areas of psychology. We are honored to have Professor Emeritus Michael Wertheimer join us to give the teaching keynote address at the teaching conference that bears his name. He will discuss "The Professoriate in the Twenty-First Century" with particular emphasis on the changing roles of faculty in the light of new technologies.

Several symposia and workshops on teaching topics have been proposed including (a) Teaching the Intersections of Psychology and Related Fields, (b) Early Career Work-Life Balance, (c) Application of Assessment Data in the Classroom, (d) Advising Students in Research Across Multiple Campuses, (e) Working with Student Veterans, (f) Developing Innovative Online Classes, and (g) refinement of the RMPA Faculty Mentor Program, which was launched at RMPA 2015.

There will also be several sessions aimed at students including (a) Making the Most of Your RMPA Experience, (b) Getting Into Your Graduate Program, and (c) Applied Careers in Psychology.

The Teaching Conference will close with a reception and a poster session at which the best poster will be selected for the RMPA Teaching Poster Award.

## Presidential Lecture

### Pushing Boundaries of Comfort to Develop and Assess Respect for Human Dignity: Anxiety at First, Now Ready for More



**Michelle A. Butler & Lauren Scharff**  
U.S. Air Force Academy

Since 2008, we have been exploring how to develop and assess respect for human dignity (RFHD) in several upper-level psychology courses. This responsibility outcome is often desired, but poses challenges for assessment. Our efforts focused on the impact of face-to-face interactions via high-impact field trips between undergraduate students and individuals with disabilities (e.g. individuals who attend a school for the deaf and the blind, or a rehabilitation hospital for those recovering from brain/spinal cord injuries). We developed our assessments, which focus on specific student beliefs about acceptable behaviors or attitudes. They allowed us to capture changing boundaries of comfort for interacting with targeted others and tap into cognitive, emotional and behavioral components of RFHD. We will discuss how to implement and assess these high-impact experiences in your classroom so your students can also develop greater respect for individuals who seem different.

Michelle A. Butler is a past-Treasurer and current President of RMPA. She has been on faculty in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at the U.S. Air Force Academy since 1999. She is an experimental psychologist with an emphasis in behavioral neuroscience, and has been conducting inclusion research since 2008. Her research focuses on resilience, employability, inclusion/respect in individuals who are deaf or blind or who have a brain/spinal cord injury. She is currently serving on the Board of Trustees of the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind.

Lauren Scharff is a Past-President of the Southwestern Psychological Association (SWPA), was a Distinguished Visiting Professor in the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Leadership at the U.S. Air Force Academy, and has been the inaugural Director of the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning Program at the U.S. Air Force Academy since 2009. Prior to this, she was a Professor of Psychology at Stephen F. Austin University, Texas with a specialty in Sensation & Perception and Human Factors. She is a co-creator of the *Improve with Metacognition* website and co-leader of an international collaborative writing group on the topic of the Scholarship of the Student Learning Process.



The Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Newsletter is published twice a year, Fall and Spring, and posted on the RMPA website [www.rockymountainpsych.org](http://www.rockymountainpsych.org). Please direct any inquiries to the Editor, Robert Rycek, RMPA Secretary, at [rycekr@unk.edu](mailto:rycekr@unk.edu)



## RMPA Call-for-Papers



The Call-for-Papers for the 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association which will be held at the Renaissance Denver Hotel, Denver, Colorado, April 14-16, 2016 has been issued. The Call is posted on the RMPA website ([www.rockymountainpsych.org](http://www.rockymountainpsych.org)). Submission deadline is February 1, 2016. Advanced registration for the convention is available through March 13, 2016. See the website for details including submission requirements and process.

### RMPA Treasurer's Report

10/13/15

Conference Income (Boise)	\$29,965.00
Conference Expenses	\$37,008.71
Loss:	(\$ 7,043.71)
Current Amount in Checking Account	\$13,480.62
Current Amount in Savings Account	\$31,058.40
Total:	\$44,539.02
Number of Members	96
Number of Affiliates	381
Number of Lifetime Members attending Conference	9

We keep a significant savings fund in order to protect the organization from being unable to handle extreme costs of a conference where the conference expenses significantly exceed conference income.

## TID BITS

A limited number of RMPA 2016 Posters are available to Psychology Departments for display. Contact Bob Rycek, RMPA Secretary, at [rycekr@unk.edu](mailto:rycekr@unk.edu).

If you are not planning to attend this year's convention, be sure to renew your membership to continue receiving the benefits of membership.

## Teaching Take-Out

### Call-for-Proposals

This is a formal invitation to participate in the 2016 RMPA Convention Teaching Take-Out session on teaching demonstrations. We invite teachers of psychology from high schools, community colleges, and universities to bring their favorite teaching demonstrations to share with other teachers of psychology.

This year we seek to include a wide range of teaching demonstrations across several subtopics in psychology. We invite demonstrations of active learning opportunities, discussions, debates, collaborative learning, or problem-based learning for small classes, large lecture classes, and online/distance learning classes. Technology will be available to present online activities and demonstrations.

Each presenter should be ready to walk through his or her demonstration with participants and to distribute materials that will enable session attendees to take the demonstration back to their own classrooms. We ask contributors to include in their abstract the number of minutes their talk and demonstration will require, and we hope to have as many short demonstrations as possible in our allotted hour of presentation time. We hope this format will continue to facilitate questions and the exchange of ideas. Presentation times could range from 5 to 12 minutes.

Please submit materials on the RMPA website ([www.rockymountainpsych.org](http://www.rockymountainpsych.org)). For your topic, please choose "teaching demonstration." Describe your demonstration, the ideas it is intended to convey, the classes in which it would be most applicable, and the amount of time you need for your presentation.

We hope to have a wide variety of demonstrations that participants and attendees can take into their own classrooms, and we hope to have fun in the process. Please invite your colleagues and students to submit materials as well. Please contact Doug Woody ([william.woody@unco.edu](mailto:william.woody@unco.edu)) with any questions. Thank you very much, and we look forward to seeing you in Denver at RMPA 2016.



# Psi Chi News

Rocky Mountain Region

### Regional Psi Chi Award Winners

Congratulations to the Regional Student Research Award winners for 2015:

Lauren M. Moore, Jennifer M. Weaver, & Cynthia Campbell, Boise State University.

Carly J. Schwickert & Jessica McManus, Carroll College.

Alyssa M. Sferrazza, Chazlyn A. Miller, & Monica C. Skewes, Montana State University.

Drema Roseberry, Michaella Menghini, Kayllie Prater, & Krista Forrest, University of Nebraska at Kearney.

Corey A. Engle, Steven J. Terry, Anastasia M. Bacca, & Kelsie J. Howell, Metropolitan State University of Denver

Steven J. Terry, Corey A. Engle, & Aaron S. Richmond, Metropolitan State University of Denver

### Psi Chi Student Regional Travel Grants

Psi Chi Student Regional Travel Grants: Due March 1, 2016

[https://www.psichi.org/?page=regtravel\\_info#Vh6iVhNVhBc](https://www.psichi.org/?page=regtravel_info#Vh6iVhNVhBc)

### Psi Chi Steering Committee Members for 2015/2016

Matthew Genuchi, Boise State University, Regional VP

[matthewgenuchi@boisestate.edu](mailto:matthewgenuchi@boisestate.edu)

Krista Bridgmon, Ph.D., Colorado State University Pueblo

[krista.bridgmon@csupueblo.edu](mailto:krista.bridgmon@csupueblo.edu)

Elizabeth List, Psy.D., Northwest Nazarene University

[elist@nnu.edu](mailto:elist@nnu.edu)

Bardha Vrapı, Boise State University, Student Member

[barbhavrapi@u.boisestate.edu](mailto:barbhavrapi@u.boisestate.edu)

Please feel free to contact your steering committee with comments and suggestions for regional Psi Chi programming at RMPA!

**Check out the Rocky Mountain Region Psi Chi page on Facebook!**

**Here is the Facebook link:**

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/149411341813850/>

## Steve Barney of the Southern Utah University receives the 2015 RMPA Distinguished Service

The 2015 Rocky Mountain Psychological Association Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. Steve Barney at the April Business Meeting in Boise, Idaho. Dr. Barney is Professor of Psychology at Southern Utah University and a Licensed Clinical Psychology. He received an Associate's degree in Nursing and a Bachelor's degree in Integrated Studies from Weber State University. His MA and Ph.D. degrees in clinical psychology are from the University of Wyoming. Steve has been



attending the annual RMPA conference since 1999 and more importantly, has sponsored student presentations since the year 2000. He is an enthusiastic promoter of undergraduate research and service learning as well as study abroad programs. He has co-authored numerous scholarly works with undergraduate students. He has served RMPA on the program committee, contributed to the Wertheimer-Portenier Teaching Conference, worked with the Psi Chi Rocky Mountain Regional Advisory Board, and served as President of RMPA. On his home campus, he has received numerous teaching awards and has served as department chair and President of the Southern Utah University Faculty Senate. For his many contributions to RMPA over the years the Association was pleased to present him with the 2015 Distinguished Service Award.

### RMPA Teaching Poster Award

The 2015 RMPA Teaching Poster Award went to:

Christina Patterson & Melanie Domenech-Rodriguez (Utah State University) Undergraduate Student Change in Colorblind Racial Attitudes: Impact of a Multicultural Psychology Course.

### Attention High School Teachers

With the help of a grant from the American Psychological Association, RMPA is able to offer free registration for both the Wertheimer-Portenier Teaching Conference as well as the full RMPA Conference to the first 6 High School Teachers of Psychology that register for the conference. To take advantage of this offer, contact Dr. Cheryl Sanders at [sandersc@msudenver.edu](mailto:sandersc@msudenver.edu).

## RMPA Mentor Award Call for Nominations

RMPA is seeking nominations for the 2016 Mentor Award. The award will be presented at the 2016 RMPA convention. According to legend, Mentor is the name of the person to whom Odysseus entrusted the care of his son, Telemachus, when Odysseus set out on those famous wanderings of his that we now call an "odyssey." Mentor was Odysseus' wise and trusted counselor as well as tutor to Telemachus. Mentoring is a structured and trusting relation that brings younger professionals or students in contact with experienced faculty members or other professional psychologists who offer guidance, support, and encouragement aimed at developing the knowledge, professional skills, competencies, and character of the younger person. RMPA recognizes that the mentoring relationship is vital in the development of psychology graduates and students at all levels and has established a Mentor Award to recognize outstanding mentors. The Mentor Award Committee is comprised of the RMPA President, Past-President and the President-Elect. Recommendations of the awards committee are ratified by the RMPA Executive Committee. A nominee who does not win the award will automatically have his or her materials considered for a second year.

### Criteria for the Award

Please nominate a RMPA member who has demonstrated exceptional mentoring through some or all of the following activities:

- Involving large numbers of students in the annual RMPA meeting.
- Shepherding the early career development of various members of the RMPA
- Supervising and encouraging the scholarly activities of various members of the RMPA
- Contributing to the professional development of members of the RMPA

### To Nominate a Candidate for the Award

All that is required for a nomination is

- a brief nomination letter summarizing the person's mentoring by addressing the criteria above.

Self-nominations are acceptable.

### Send nominations via e-mail to:

Leslie Cramblet Alvarez, Ph.D.  
Psychology Department  
Adams State University  
[lcramblet@adams.edu](mailto:lcramblet@adams.edu)

**Deadline for Nominations: February 1, 2016**

### Previous Mentor Award Recipients

2011 – Paul Bell, Colorado State University  
2012– Steve Barney, Southern Utah University  
2013 – Roxanne Sullivan, Bellevue University  
2014 – Lynn White, Southern Utah University  
2015 – Patrick Sherry, University of Denver

## Patrick Sherry of the University of Denver receives the 2015 RMPA Mentor Award.

This year's RMPA Mentor award received several independent nomination letters from students.

One student comments that this nominee, "offers unconditional support, sincere encouragement, and continuous exposure to well established professionals in the field of Psychology." Another student wrote that this



individual, "has been a catalyst in my professional development, a guiding light through my successes, and a safe harbor during times of uncertainty." Another student commented that our award winner "has played an invaluable and intricate role in my development as a psychologist; I single-handedly associate a great deal of my successes to the mentoring relationship" this person "has provided over the years."

Our Mentor Award winner earned a Ph.D. from the University of Iowa, served as the Director of Training at the University of Denver, and is currently the Executive Director for the National Center for Intermodal Transportation. His name can be found abundantly through the RMPA program as a faculty sponsor for compelling research work with students. Through the years, he has amassed over 194 publications and presentations, many with graduate and undergraduate co-authors. He embodies the collegial spirit of RMPA.

## RMPA Early Career Award Call for Nominations

RMPA is soliciting nominations for the 2016 *Early Career Award*. The award will be presented at the 2016 RMPA convention to recognize a member of RMPA who is early in his or her career and has already made significant contributions to the Association and to psychology. The awards committee consists of the past-president, the current president, and the president-elect. Recommendations of the awards committee are ratified by the RMPA Executive Committee. A nominee who does not win the award will automatically have his or her materials considered for a second year.

### Criteria for the Award

Candidates for the award must:

- have a doctorate in psychology, or a related field,
- have been granted a degree five to ten years prior to their nomination,
- have been visibly active in RMPA for no less than 5 years, and, ideally, should have mentored students who have participated in RMPA, and
- show promise of achieving national visibility.

### To Nominate a Candidate for the Award

All that is required for a nomination is

- a current curriculum vitae, and
- two letters of recommendation that speak to the criteria listed above.

Self-nominations are acceptable.

### Send nominations via e-mail to:

Leslie Cramblet Alvarez, Ph.D.

Psychology Department

Adams State University

[lcramblet@adams.edu](mailto:lcramblet@adams.edu)

**Deadline for Nominations: February 1, 2016**

### RMPA Trivia:



What National Park once hosted the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association meeting?

### Previous Early Career Award Recipients

2003 – William Douglas Woody, University of Northern Colorado  
2004 – Britton Mace, Southern Utah University  
2005 – Michelle Butler, US Air Force Academy  
2006 – Carla Reyes, University of Utah  
2007 – Krista Forrest, University of Nebraska at Kearney  
2008 – Cheryl Sanders, Metropolitan State College of Denver  
2009 – Jeff Elison, Southern Utah University  
2010 – Aaron Richmond, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
2011 – Layton Curl, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
2012 – No award given  
2013 – Grant Corser, Southern Utah University  
2014 – Bethany Fleck, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
2015 – Chad Mortensen, Metropolitan State University of Denver

## Chad Mortensen of Metropolitan State University of Denver receives the 2015 RMPA Early Career Award

This year's Early Career Award Winner is deserving in every way. He earned his Ph.D. in 2010 and has already made major contributions to RMPA and to the field. He is a dedicated teacher. A quote from his nomination letter *"During academic year (AY) 2013-2014 he received unweighted mean scores from 5.27 to 6.00/6.0 on the question of "Faculty Contribution to the Course". The median response in the majority of his classes is a 6.00 on the same scale. His written student evaluations speak to his dedication, skill, and enthusiasm in the classroom."*



He is also a distinguished researcher. Since earning his Ph.D., he has published journal articles in *Evolutionary Psychology*, the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, and the *Journal of Experimental Psychology*.

Our award winner is also dedicated to service. He has repeatedly chaired the department's Psychology Student Awards Committee. He has co-chaired both a Search Committee and our Psychology Research Club. One of his most notable outside service activities is that of a Conference Manager for the Rocky Mountain Psychological Association (RMPA) Annual Meeting in 2013.

## Regis University's Psychology and Neuroscience Programs

Regis University is proud to stand among the 28 Jesuit colleges and universities in the United States, which share the Jesuit vision of a values-centered education that shapes intelligent decision-making and strengthens commitment to community service. The University was founded in 1877 by a group of exiled Italian Jesuits living in New Mexico, Colorado's Regis University is the only Jesuit Catholic university in the Rocky Mountain West. Inspired by St. Ignatius Loyola, the mission of Regis University is to educate men and women of all ages to make a positive impact in a rapidly-changing global society. At Regis we our students to seek truth, live purposeful lives, and continually examine and attempt to answer the question: "How ought we to live?" Students benefit from small student-to-teacher ratios and personal attention from dedicated, award-winning faculty at all five of our colleges. By working with faculty who have real-world experience and stay current on the latest trends in industry, as well as taking advantage of learning labs and internships, students understand how their knowledge can be applied to real world situations.

### *Undergraduate Study in Psychology and Neuroscience: Regis College*

The Department of Psychology and Neuroscience in Regis College was first established as the Department of Psychology in 1965. However, until 1972 the department only offered a minor in Psychology. In the early years the department decided to offer a B.S. degree for students who wanted "an empirical approach to the study of behavior" and a B.A. for students who "wanted a more humanistic approach to the study of behavior". In the late 1980s the Department transitioned to offering only a B.S. in Psychology. In the mid-1990s the department developed an interdisciplinary Program of Neuroscience, housed within the Psychology Department, which offered both a major and minor in Neuroscience. In the early 2000s the department became the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, offering majors, minors, and honors in Psychology or Neuroscience, as well as a double major in the two fields. Today the Department has 8 full-time tenure and tenure track faculty crossing both disciplines, in addition to many adjunct faculty, who bring their professional experience and teaching talents to our majors. The Psychology major is a broad-based program of study that gives students a chance to explore multiple areas of psychology in both empirical and clinical fields. The Neuroscience major remains interdisciplinary with biology and chemistry, and it, too, offers students the opportunity to explore empirical neuroscience and clinically based neuropsychology. Psychology and Neuroscience student graduate having taken classes in both content areas. In line with the mission of Regis, our students have multiple opportunities to conduct independent research, participate in a faculty's research labs, have an internship, and explore community service and experiential educational opportunities.

### *Master of Arts in Psychology-focus Applied Psychology: College of Professional Studies*

The Master of Arts program within CPS offers a specialization focus in Applied Psychology. Students in this program work one-on-one with faculty to develop a degree plan specific to their academic needs and interests, which is built on a core of foundational psychology coursework. Examples of specializations have included but are not

limited to Health Psychology, Sports Psychology, Creativity and Psychology, Criminal Psychology, Religion and Psychology, and Communication and Psychology. The CPS Applied Psychology specialization is designed to strengthen students' knowledge of psychology and human behavior, and to apply their learning directly to their current or future careers in the field.

### *Graduate Study in Psychology: Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professions*

The Division of Counseling and Family Therapy (DCFT) in the Rueckert-Hartman College for Health Professions offers two Master Degrees, the Master of Arts in Counseling (CACREP accredited) and the Master of Art in Marriage and Family therapy (COAMFTE accredited). The Master of Arts in Counseling degree provides students with the academic preparation for licensure as an Licensed Professional Counselor (LPC). The Master of Arts in Marriage and Family Therapy degree provides students with the academic preparation for licensure as an Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (LMFT). DCFT provides students with the opportunity to gain specialties in key areas of behavioral health work that target specific needs within our communities. Post-graduate certificates include; addictions counseling level I (preparation for CACII), addictions counseling level II (Preparation for CACIII/LAC), counseling children and adolescents (preparation for Registered Play Therapist; RPT), and counseling military families.

## RMPA Student Awards and Student Diversity Awards

RMPA selects up to 5 student presentations to receive either the RMPA Student Award or the RMPA Student Diversity Award. For each of these student awards, all presentation authors must be either an undergraduate or graduate student. Students must indicate that they are interested in being considered for the RMPA Student Awards when they are completing their conference submission.

Based on the information provided in the conference submission, student award finalists will be selected. These finalists must give their oral presentation during the special convention sessions set aside for RMPA award finalists in order to be considered for the award. These sessions are usually on Saturday afternoon during the convention, and during these sessions, students will be evaluated on their oral presentation by several qualified judges.

Based on the judges' evaluations, up to 5 student presentations will be selected to win RMPA's Student Award or Student Diversity Award. Up to 2 of the awards each year can be diversity awards, and diversity awards are given to presentations with topics related to diversity, broadly defined.

Award winners will be announced during the Business Meeting and President's Reception, which is Saturday evening. Each of the presentations that win a student award will be gifted with \$200.

# STUDENT AWARDS AT RMPA 2015

## **RMPA Student Paper Awards went to:**

Sensory Processing Specificity in Autism, JANNESKA KITCHIN, University of Denver

Relationship between Dyadic Cooperation and Compliance with Parent-Child Relationship, REMINGTON FARLEY, Boise State University

What Gives Rise to a Sense of Novelty? An Exploration of Novelty within Recognition Memory, SHELLY R. STALEY, Colorado State University

The Relationship between Self-Control and Social Conformity, JENNIFER L. DELANGE, ANASTASIA M. BACCA, BRANDON GALE, & IAN A MAXWELL, Metropolitan State University of Denver

Working Alliance, Race/Ethnicity, and Psychological Distress, CLARE JINZHAO ZHAO, YING SHAN DORIS ZHANG, TALIA WOLKEN, PARKER RHOMBERG, KELLY LAVIN, & CHRISTOPHER IHLE, University of Denver

## **RMPA Diversity Student Paper Award went to:**

Stress and Loneliness: In a Taiwanese Context, TALIA WOLKEN, PARKER RHOMBERG, KELLY LAVIN, YING SHAN DORIS ZHANG, CLARE JINZHAO ZHAO, & CHRISTOPHER IHLE, University of Denver.

## **The CUR-RMPA Undergraduate Research Award went to:**

Self-Concept Clarity: The Effects of Multiculturalism, MARGARITA MADERA & CHRISTINA FLORES, Texas A&M University - Kingsville

## **The Bell-Loomis Environmental Psychology Paper Award went to:**

Stuart Clements, Alex Vittum-Jones, Larissa Reyonlds, Jennifer Anderson, & Michelle Ewen (Southern Utah University), Baseline Soundscape Conditions at Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument.

Stuart Clements, Kaitlin Potter, Britton Mace (Southern Utah University) & Steven Elias (New Mexico State University), Retention in the Eye of the Student: The Role of a Beautiful Campus.

# PSYCH BOWL 2015



Four teams participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Psych Bowl Competition at RMPA: Weber State University successfully defended their title against teams from the Southern Utah University, Colorado Mesa University and the University of Nebraska at Kearney. In a close battle, Weber State University was victorious and took home the trophy for the second consecutive year. They will try to defend their title next year in Denver.



**The Winning Team from Weber State University**

## **Presentation Sharing Through the Open Science Framework**

RMPA was thrilled to host Dr. Brian Nosek, co-founder of the Center for Open Science (COS), at our Boise convention. Attendees learned about the then-breaking findings of the *Reproducibility Project: Psychology* in addition to the COS's trailblazing work related to transparency and collaboration in psychological research.

The COS manages the free Open Science Framework (OSF) which allows researchers to manage, save, and share their work. Many regional and national conferences have begun participating in the OSF's poster/presentation sharing service. RMPA joined this effort for the first time back in April. See here <https://osf.io/view/rmpa2015> for the presentations shared on this site, including Dr. Nosek's, "[Improving Openness and Reproducibility of Scientific Research](#)". Fourteen presentations from the 2015 conference are available for review and download.

Next year, we hope to expand participation in this unique research sharing opportunity. If you will be presenting in 2016, we invite you to upload your work prior to (or just after) the conference. This helps us to not only reduce our carbon footprint but also participate in ongoing efforts for transparency, collaboration, and archiving of work.

To participate, look for links and instructions in our spring newsletter!



# 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

This entire year RMPA will be celebrating our 85<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. You are invited to contribute to this celebration in one or more of the following ways:

- 1. A history of psychology at colleges and universities in the Rocky Mountain region.**  
Your institution is invited to create a poster or other visual presentation that provides highlights of the history of psychology at your institution. This could be a student project for students enrolled in a History of Psychology course or a Psi Chi chapter project. These posters will be displayed throughout the conference.
- 2. A slide show of the history of psychology in the region will be shown at the Business meeting.**  
These pictures of events, places, buildings, and professors associated with the development of psychology in the region will be shown at the opening kickoff and again at the business meeting. Colleges and universities are invited to submit pictures of historical significance to Rick Miller, RMPA historian at [Richard.Miller@tamuk.edu](mailto:Richard.Miller@tamuk.edu).
- 3. Where are the now?**  
A series of photos/bios of graduate student presenters at past RMPA conferences and where they are now to be displayed throughout the conference.
- 4. Do you remember when?**  
A breakfast with past and present members of the RMPA Executive Committee to talk about events, challenges and weird stuff that happened during their tenure on the EC.
- 5. RMPA Follies**  
A somewhat humorous review of RMPA's non-historical events by Mitch Handelsman & Rick Miller.
- 6. Writings of Past-Presidents.**  
A display of books and poster with quotes from the works of past-Presidents.
- 7. RMPA in Review.**  
A poster listing some of the highlights in the history of the organization. To be displayed throughout the conference along with the campus posters.



## RMPA's Network of Institutional Representatives

RMPA local institutional representatives serve as liaisons between RMPA and their Department. Local representatives receive information about association activities and the annual conference. Local representatives are invited to moderate sessions, propose program events, publicize the conference at their institution, and encourage their colleagues and students to attend.

If your institution does not have a local rep, and if you would like to volunteer to serve in that role, please contact Rick Miller, RMPA's Local Representatives Coordinator at [Richard.Miller@tamuk.edu](mailto:Richard.Miller@tamuk.edu).

Those institutions currently represented are listed below and on our website at: <http://www.rockymountainpsych.org/>

### Local Representatives

<b>Arizona</b>	Northern Arizona University	Nora Dunbar
<b>California</b>	Point Loma Nazarene University	Kim W. Schaeffer
<b>Colorado</b>	Adams State College	Robert M. Demski
	Colorado College	Emily Chan
	Colorado Mesa University	Susan Becker
	Colorado State University	Deana Davalos
	Colorado State University – Pueblo	Karen Yescavage & Krista Bridgmon
	Denver University	Ruth Chao
	Front Range Community College	Laura Manuel
	Metropolitan State College – Denver	Aaron Richmond
	Naropa University	Susan Burggraf & Kathleen Gregory
	Regis University	Rona McCall
	United States Air Force Academy	Michelle Butler
	University of Colorado – Boulder	Diane Martichuski
	University of Colorado-Colorado Springs	Lori James
	University of Colorado-Denver	Joan Bihun
	University of Northern Colorado	Nancy Karlin & Doug Woody
	Western State Colorado University	Susan Coykendall
<b>Idaho</b>	Boise State University	Charles Honts
	BYU – Idaho	Brady Wiggins
	Northwest Nazarene University	Elizabeth List
	University of Idaho	Steve Meier
<b>Kansas</b>	Fort Hays State University	Janett Naylor
<b>Montana</b>	Montana State University	Michael Babcock
	University of Montana	Allen D. Szalda-Petree
	University of Montana – Western	Mark Krank
<b>Missouri</b>	Washington University	Mark McDaniel
<b>New Jersey</b>	Centenary College	Jeremy Houska
<b>New Mexico</b>	New Mexico State University	Steven Elias
	San Juan College	Ron Salazar
	University of New Mexico	Elizabeth Browning
	Western New Mexico University	Jennifer Coleman
<b>Nebraska</b>	Bellevue University	Roxanne Sullivan
	Chadron State College	Mary Jo Carnot
	University of Nebraska at Kearney	Bill Wozniak
<b>Nevada</b>	University of Nevada – Reno	Judith Sugar
	University of Nevada – Las Vegas	N. Clayton Silver
<b>North Carolina</b>	Western Carolina University	Winford Gordon
<b>South Dakota</b>	Black Hills State University	Nathan Deichert
<b>Texas</b>	Texas A&M-Kingsville	Rick Miller
	University of Texas-Pan American	Peter Kranz
<b>Utah</b>	Dixie State College	Kristine J. Olsen
	Snow College	Nick Marsing
	Southern Utah University	Steve Barney
	University of Utah	David Strayer
	Utah State University	David Stein
	Utah State University - Eastern	Heath Earl
	Utah Valley University	David Yells
	Weber State University	Theresa Kay
<b>Washington</b>	Eastern Washington University	Mahlon Dalley
	Central Washington University	Danielle Polage
	Pacific Lutheran University	Michelle Ceynar
<b>Wyoming</b>	Casper College	Shawn Powell
<b>CANADA</b>		
<b>British Columbia</b>	North Island College	John Marton

## 2015-16 RMPA Executive Committee

### President

Michelle Butler  
U.S. Air Force Academy  
[michellebutler200@gmail.com](mailto:michellebutler200@gmail.com)



### President-Elect

Eric Landrum  
Boise State University  
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### Past President

Leslie Cramblet Alvarez  
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[lcramblet@adams.edu](mailto:lcramblet@adams.edu)



### Secretary

Robert Rycek  
University of Nebraska at Kearney  
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### Treasurer

Courtney Rocheleau  
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### Historian/Archivist

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### Convention Coordinator

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### Teaching Conference Coordinator

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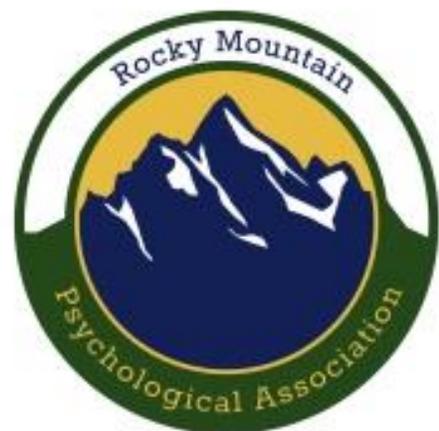


**Rocky Mountain Psychological Association**  
86<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention of the  
Rocky Mountain Psychological Association  
April 14-16, 2016  
Renaissance Denver Hotel  
Denver, Colorado

# RMPA 2016 DENVER

<b>DEADLINES</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>
Submissions January 15, 2016	Renaissance Denver Hotel 3801 Quebec Street Denver, Colorado
Convention Registration March 11, 2016	Phone: 303-399-7500
Hotel Reservations March 13, 2016	Reservations: 1-800-468-3571
<small>(After March 11, late fees will be added. Copy on-site registrations will be accepted after March 11, 2016.)</small>	<small>(World-wide reservation number, need to specify Renaissance Hotel and RMPA)</small>
<small>(Guaranteed convention rate applies until March 13, subject to availability.)</small>	<a href="http://www.denverrenaissance.com">www.denverrenaissance.com</a>

[www.rockymountainpsych.org](http://www.rockymountainpsych.org)



*Arizona Colorado Idaho Montana Nevada New Mexico Utah Wyoming*