Dear members of the Society for Clinical Neuropsychology,

It is my pleasure to bring you the latest edition of the Newsletter for our Society. In this edition we are excited to provide a brief synopsis of the upcoming programming for the 2016 APA Convention Program. In the section History of Neuropsychology, Dr. William Barr marks the 25th Anniversary of the publication of *Recommendations for Education and Training of Nondoctoral Personnel in Clinical Neuropsychology* by providing a review of documents discussing history of clinical practice and use of psychometrists to assist with neuropsychological assessment. Drs. Surabhi Patwardhan and Michelle Madore have penned a short article on the importance of considering cultural and individual patient variables when interpreting neuropsychological profiles titled “Interpreting Independence.” We are excited to highlight two recent historic decisions that will impact psychologists, neuropsychologists, and all mental health providers: 1) Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2016 Moves Forward in U.S. House of Representatives and 2) Medicare Proposed Merit-Based Incentive Payment System. You can also read about the ongoing accomplishments of our Publications and Communications Committee, Women in Neuropsychology (WIN) Committee, Membership Committee and Early Career Neuropsychologists Committee. We also have several announcements of awards.

Hope to see you at the annual meeting of the APA Annual Meeting in Denver!

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2016 APA Annual Convention Program
August 4 - 7, 2016, Denver Colorado

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Newsletter 40 is the official publication of Division 40.

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Past issues of the Division 40 Newsletter and
Division 40 Executive Committee meeting minutes
are now available online at the Division 40
Website. The URL address is:
http://www.div40.org/.
### THURSDAY—AUGUST 4

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| 8:00am – 10:50am| **Division 40 – Executive Committee Meeting**  
Chair: Jennifer J. Vasterling, PhD | HRDH Centennial Ballroom H                     |
| 9:00am – 10:50am| **Symposium: Parametric Model Measurement—Maximizing Information Obtained from Neuropsychological Test Data (CE)**  
Chair: Gregory G. Brown, PhD; Participants: Michael L. Thomas, PhD and Gregory G. Brown, PhD; Discussant: Kenneth M. Adams, PhD | CC-301                                         |
| 9:00am – 9:50am | **Poster Session**                                                       | CC-Exhibit                                    |
| 10:00am – 10:50am| **Symposium: Creative, Non-computerized Approaches to Restoring Brain Behavior Functions and Social Skills**  
Chair: Darlyne G. Nemeth, PhD, MP; Participants: Fernando Pastrana, PhD and Julia Hussey, BS | CC-705                                         |
| 11:00am – 11:50am| **Invited Address: Clinical Neuropsychology in the Age of Personalized/Precision Medicine**  
Russell M. Bauer, PhD | CC-Mile High Ballroom 3C                      |
| 12:00pm – 12:50pm| **Fellows Address**                                                     | CC-Mile High Ballroom 1C                      |
| 12:00pm – 1:50pm| **Symposium: Cognitive Rehabilitation for Neurodevelopmental Disorders Integrating Interventions and Technology**  
Chair: Jacqueline Kaufman, PhD; Participants: Jacqueline Kaufman, PhD, Leanne Chukoskie, PhD, Reshma Naidoo, PhD and Shawn Powell, PhD | CC-203                                         |
| 1:00pm – 1:50pm | **Invited Address: Big and Loud: Emotion Regulation, Apathy, and Parkinson Disease**  
Dawn Bowers | CC-Mile High Ballroom 3C                      |
| 1:00pm – 1:50pm | **Skill-Building Session: Leadership Skills for Psychologists in Health Settings**  
Co-Chairs: Jennifer J. Vasterling, PhD and Helen L. Coons, PhD; Participant: John C. Linton, PhD | CC-Mile High Ballroom 2A and 3A               |
| 2:00pm – 2:50pm | **Symposium: Analysis of Student Errors on Math Tests—Neuropsychological Applications**  
Co-Chairs: Alan S. Kaufman, PhD and Nadeen L. Kaufman, EdD; Participants: Troy Courville, PhD, Christie Stewart, MA, Rebecca L. O’Brien, MEd and Taylor A. Koriakin, BA; Discussant: George McCloskey, PhD | CC-Mile High Ballroom 3B                      |
| 2:00pm – 3:50pm | **Symposium: Principles of Sound Forensic Mental Health Assessment in Neuropsychological Contexts (CE)**  
Co-Chairs: Cady Block, PhD and Casey LaDuke, MS; Participants: Kirk Heilbrun, PhD, Bernice Marcopulos, PhD and Chrsicelyn Tussey, PsyD | CC-402                                         |
| 3:00pm – 3:50pm | **Symposium: Research and Early Career Award Ceremony**  
Chair: Michael Basso, PhD | CC-707                                         |
| 4:00pm – 5:50pm | **ANST/Early Career Committee Social Hour**                              | HRDH Mineral Hall G                            |

HRDH=Hyatt Regency Denver Hotel; SDDH=Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel; CC=Convention Center
### FRIDAY—AUGUST 5

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| 8:00am – 8:50am | **Symposium: Drug Use Effects on the Developing Teenage Brain---Interruption of a Work in Progress (CE)**  
Chair: Mark McDonough, PhD; Participant: Sarah Asmussen, PhD | CC-402                    |
| 8:00am – 9:50am | **Skill-Building Session: Workshop to Prepare for Specialty---Track Pre-doctoral Internships**  
Co-Chairs: Katie Eichstaedt Osborn, MA and Brad L. Roper, PhD; Participants:  
Samantha DeDios-Stern, MS, Glenn Curtiss, PhD, Woojin Song, PhD, Justin Nash, PhD, John Beauvais, PhD, Brit A. Nielsen, PsyD, Valerie McLaughlin Crabtree, PhD and Eleanor Mackey, PhD | CC-Mile High Ballroom 2A and 3A |
| 9:00am – 9:50am | **Invited Address: Dyslexia: Knowns and Unknowns (CE)**  
Bruce Pennington, PhD | CC-407                    |
| 10:00am – 10:50am | **Symposium: PTSD, Aging, and Neurocognition---Interactions and Clinical Management (CE)**  
Chair: Jennifer J. Vasterling, PhD; Participants: Jennifer A. Moye, PhD, Emily H. Trittschuh, PhD and Joan M. Cook, PhD | CC-103                    |
| 10:00am – 11:50am | **Symposium: Differentiating Screening/Testing from Assessment in Neuropsychology and Mental/Behavioral Health**  
Co-Chairs: Cady Block, PhD and Derek Phillips, PsyD; Participants: Randy Phelps, PhD, Neil H. Piskin, PhD and Jennifer Imig Huffman, PhD | CC-203                    |
| 11:00am – 11:50am | **Invited Address: Executive Dysfunction and Suicide Prevention Among Those With Traumatic Brain Injury (CE)**  
Lisa A. Brenner, PhD | CC-304                    |
| 4:00pm – 4:50pm | **Presidential Address: The Contributions of Neuropsychology to the Well-Being of Military Service Members and Veterans: A Focus on Deployment Health**  
Jennifer J. Vasterling, PhD | SDDH Majestic Ballroom |
| 5:00pm – 5:50pm | **Division 40 Business Meeting**  
Chair: Jennifer J. Vasterling, PhD | SDDH Majestic Ballroom |
| 6:00pm – 7:50pm | **Division 40 Social Hour** | SDDH Majestic Ballroom |

### SATURDAY—AUGUST 6

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| 8:00am – 9:50am | **Paper Session: Hot off the Press---Emerging Research on Traumatic Brain Injury**  
Donald T. Vercellini, MA, Lauren L. Bennett, MA, Erin K. Bailey, PhD and Ravid M. Gur, BA | CC-705                    |
| 8:00am – 9:50am | **Symposium: Cannabis and Cognition---Harvesting Scientific Discoveries Toward Improvements in Treatment**  
Chair: Francesca M. Filbey, PhD; Participants: Francesca M. Filbey, PhD, Janna Cousijn, PhD, Jodi Gilman, PhD and Catherine Stanger, PhD; Discussant: Igor Grant, MD | CC-205                    |
| 9:00am – 9:50am | **Invited Address: Emerging Strategies in Mapping the Preclinical Period of Alzheimer’s Disease (CE)**  
Mark Bondi, PhD | CC-404                    |
| 10:00am – 10:50am | **Symposium: Best Practices When Working with Immigrant and/or Non-English-Speaking Populations**  
Chair: Michelle R. Madore, PhD; Participants: Rachel Becker Herbst, PhD, Alicia del Prado, PhD and Shelley Peery, PhD | CC-Mile High Ballroom 1E |
| 11:00am – 11:50am | **Invited Address: ICD 10: Understanding the Paradigm Shift and Getting Ready for ICD 11 (CE)**  
Antonio E. Puente, PhD | CC-303                    |

HRDH=Hyatt Regency Denver Hotel; SDDH=Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel; CC=Convention Center
### SATURDAY—AUGUST 6 (continued)

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| 12:00pm – 12:50pm | Conversation Hour: *Leadership in Psychology—Empowering Women to Become Fellows and Editors*  
Chair: Andreana Benitez, PhD | CC-702   |
| 12:00pm – 12:50pm | Conversation Hour: *Bridging the Gap from Student to Early Career—Mentorship in Clinical Neuropsychology*  
Chair: Callie B. Dunn, PhD; Participants: Cady Block, PhD, Katie Osborn, MA and Derek Phillips, PsyD | CC-705   |
| 1:00pm – 1:50pm   | Invited Address: *Technologies and Neuropsychological Rehabilitation: New Opportunities and New Hurdles*  
Maria Schultheis, PhD | CC-507   |

### SUNDAY—AUGUST 7

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| 8:00am – 9:50am | Symposium: *Traumatic Brain Injury as a Chronic Health Condition (CE)*  
Chair: Philip J. Uy, PhD, MA; Participants: Mark T. Barisa, PhD, Amy J. Jak, PhD, Laura Dreer, PhD and Craig W. Cypher, PsyD | CC-304   |
| 9:00am – 9:50am | Poster Session                                                           | CC-Exhibit Hall ABC |
| 10:00am – 10:50am | Invited Address: *How Heart Health Impacts Brain Health in Hispanics: The Role of Treatment-Related Control in Minority Health Disparities*  
Melissa Lamar, PhD | CC-506   |
| 10:00am – 10:50am | Symposium: *Translating Knowledge into Action and Action Into Outcomes---Models of Service-Learning Training*  
Chair: Kimberly A. Gorgens, PhD; Participants: Lavita Nadkarni, PhD, Kimberly A. Gorgens, PhD and Neil Gowensmith, PhD; Discussant: Lynett Henderson Metzger, PsyD, JD | CC-108 and 110 |
| 10:00am – 11:50am | Skill-Building Session: *Money for You and Your Research---An Interactive Mentoring Workshop*  
Co-Chairs: Sara Weisenbach, PhD and Vonetta Dotson, PhD; Participants: Neil H. Pilskin, PhD and Neil Charness, PhD | CC-Mile High Ballrooms 2A and 3A |
| 11:00am – 11:50am | Paper Session: *Cutting-Edge Research Topics in Clinical Neuropsychology*  
Brian P. Yochim, PhD, Jimmy Choi, PsyD, Anthony Sigmund, MA and Franklin C. Brown, PhD | CC-505   |
| 12:00pm – 1:50pm | Symposium: *Cognition, Memory, and Behavior of Sibling Groups with FASD—Nature and Nurture (CE)*  
Chair: Giena L. Andrews, PhD, MS; Participants: David Neal, BA, Sue Han, MA, Jennifer Seiders, BA and Christabel Leonce, BA; Discussant: Giena L. Andrews, PhD, MS | CC-103   |

SRDH=Hyatt Regency Denver Hotel; SDDH=Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel; CC=Convention Center

Unlimited CE credits are available for one flat fee.

For more information, visit: [http://www.apa.org/convention/ce/sessions/index.aspx](http://www.apa.org/convention/ce/sessions/index.aspx)

For information about SCN co-listed sessions, please visit: [http://www.apa.org/convention/program-search.aspx](http://www.apa.org/convention/program-search.aspx)

To register for the 2016 APA Convention, visit the following website: [http://www.apa.org/convention/index.aspx](http://www.apa.org/convention/index.aspx)
FROM THE SCN ARCHIVES: One of this column’s aims is to highlight many of the division’s activities since its inception in 1980 and provide an historical context for our current membership. Over the years, the division has published a number of guidelines and recommendations for the practice of clinical neuropsychology. The purpose of these guidelines was to facilitate an adherence to standards for professionals in the field with the ultimate goal of ensuring the quality of services provided to consumers.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the publication of Recommendations for Education and Training of Nondoctoral Personnel in Clinical Neuropsychology\(^1\). These recommendations were prepared by what was, at that time, the division’s Task Force on Education, Accreditation, and Credentialing. Robert Bornstein was the task force chair and worked with Roberta White and James Hom in preparing the document. It was a follow-up to guidelines published two years earlier\(^2\), which had outlined the role of nondoctoral personnel in clinical neuropsychological assessment. The 1991 publication was prepared with the goal of specifying requisite training and educational qualifications specifically for individuals fulfilling the role of a psychometrist.

The result was a concise, four-page set of recommendations that specifies the bachelor’s degree as the minimum qualification for psychometrists with a preference for individuals with a major in psychology. In terms of training, the document outlines the scope of instruction, providing an outline of content areas including the goals of assessment, administration and scoring of tests, ethics, professional relationships, and how to deal with situations arising the context of assessment sessions. The document makes it clear that the psychometrist operates only under the supervision of a qualified licensed psychologist, with a limited role of administering and scoring tests that are selected, interpreted, and communicated by the supervising psychologist.

Based on results from the most recent practice survey\(^3\), more than half (54.9%) of the practitioners in the field currently employ assistants to collect test data from their patients with the majority (78.4%) of them using non-trainee technicians or psychometrists for this purpose. Publication of the 1989 and 1991 documents provided a major advance to the field by defining and establishing the role of psychometrists in neuropsychological practice and standards for their training. While the use of psychometrists appears to be well accepted in the field of neuropsychology, there has been some controversy about their use in certain jurisdictions, including Oregon, Alabama, and New York. Neuropsychologists who worked successfully in those states to maintain the use of psychometrists in their practices are indebted to the division and its prior leadership for the availability of guidelines and recommendations that were used effectively, with other materials, in asserting high standards of practice with psychometrists continuing to assist in neuropsychological assessment.


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Subjective patient variables are an integral part of neuropsychological case conceptualization, as evidenced by differing test performances between individuals from different cultural or racial groups (e.g., Kempler, Teng, Dick, Taussig & Davis, 1997; Ross, Lichtenberg, & Christensen, 1995; Rosselli & Ardila, 2003). Cultural factors, such as familiarity with testing language, interpretation of gestures, and level of acculturation, constitute some of the important patient variables (Fortuny, Garolera, Romo, et al., 2005; Manly, Byrd, Touradji, & Stern, 2004). Cultural factors set up the backdrop for the entire process of neuropsychological evaluation, typically construed as consisting of clinical interview, cognitive testing, and feedback.

Context provided by culture is relevant for accurate assessment of cognitive, emotional, as well as functional status. During clinical interview with the patient and/or informant(s), it is important for the clinician to be sensitive to the patient’s and/or informants’ culturally driven understanding of medically relevant constructs. One such concept is functional status, particularly, degree of independence in the instrumental activities of daily living (IADLs). IADLs consist of such routine activities as driving, managing finances, managing medications, cooking, and performing household chores. Among older adults, independence in IADLs is commonly used to assess presence of cognitive impairment, with increased need for supervision/assistance in IADLs suggesting cognitive deficits. However, among patients who identify themselves with collectivistic cultures, decreased independence in IADLs may be inadvertently masked by cultural factors. In collectivistic cultures, it is not uncommon to expect younger generations to provide help to their elderly. In fact, helping may be construed as a sign of respect to the elderly. In addition, in many cultures, housing may be multigenerational. Family members might be present in the household, and hence available, to provide assistance/supervision with IADLs. Assistance provided may be only partial, such as helping a grandmother correctly note a doctor’s appointment in her calendar, or total, such as driving a parent to a doctor’s appointment. Particularly when partial and usually early on in the process of cognitive decline when effects of unavailability of such assistance are less obvious, assistance provided by family members may get minimized or forgotten leading to a patient- or even collateral-report that the patient is completely independent in all IADLs.

It is, therefore, important for the clinician to conduct an in-depth assessment of the patient’s “true” level of independence in IADLs. At the level of a primary care physician, a careful evaluation of functional status may shed light on a possible underlying cognitive decline, thus resulting in subsequent referrals to neurology/neuropsychology services. Similarly, a neuropsychologist trying to gain a detailed understanding of the patient’s actual degree of independence in IADLs may be able to arrive at a sharper diagnostic conclusion concerning presence of cognitive decline in the patient.

References


**HISTORIC DECISIONS**

By Laura Renteria, PhD, ABPP  
Federal Advocacy Coordinator, SCN

From: Doug Walter, J.D., Associate Executive Director for Government Relations, American Psychological Association Practice Organization

**Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2016 Moves Forward in U.S. House of Representatives**

On July 6th, the U.S. House of Representatives voted 422-2 to approve an amended version of H.R. 2646, the Helping Families in Mental Health Crisis Act of 2016. Introduced by Representatives Tim Murphy (R-PA) and Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), this bipartisan legislation would reform federal mental health policies and programs to increase patients’ access to effective and evidence-based care, particularly for those with serious mental illness (SMI).

**Medicare Proposed Merit-Based Incentive Payment System**

On April 27, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) released a proposed rule on a new Medicare payment model: the Merit-Based Incentive Payment System (MIPS). Created under the Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act (MACRA), the 2015 law that repealed the Sustainable Growth Rate cut, MIPS is designed to change the current payment structure in Medicare so that the focus is on value rather than volume as the program continues to move away from a traditional fee-for-service (FFS) model. Last year the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services announced a goal of tying 30 percent of FFS Medicare payments to value by the end of 2016, rising to 50 percent of payments by the end of 2018.

MIPS is a new program that combines key facets of three current programs in Medicare: the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS), the Value-Based Payment Modifier (VM), which compares quality of care to cost, and the Electronic Health Record (EHR) incentives, often referred to as “meaningful use.” Psychologists have been eligible to participate in PQRS since its inception in 2007 but are not subject to the VM or meaningful use.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**

To learn more about how the APA Practice Organization has been advocating for changes in Medicare reimbursement see:


A discussion of MACRA, highlighting the creation of MIPS and APMs as new payment models (http://www.apapracticecentral.org/advocacy/medical/medicare-sgr-formula.aspx).
SCN PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Brian Yochim, PhD, ABPP, Committee Chair

The Publications and Communications Committee oversees the Society for Clinical Neuropsychology (SCN) newsletter, website, NeuroBlasts, social media, brochures, listserv, and neuropsychology informational pamphlets. Juliette Galindo continues to develop and manage our website, https://www.scn40.org/. Answering questions posed by visitors to the website has become an important responsibility, and Juliette completes this in consultation with the committee when necessary. We are working on developing a members-only section of the website, including exclusive resources for members. Goals for our committee in the upcoming year for the website include identifying and approving appropriate content for the member’s only pages, and then to assign our members user accounts to access the content.

Dr. Erica Kalkut, our Communications Liaison, puts together monthly Neuroblasts which are sent out over the listserv. Dr. Kalkut always welcomes new content to add to the NeuroBlasts.

Our committee has also continued to collaborate with the SCN Engagement Task Force (ETF) in the development of our website, NeuroBlasts, and other media outlets.

Dr. Maya Yutsis manages the Newsletter and we are grateful to everyone who has submitted articles to include. We continue to publish two newsletters per year.

Dr. David Kaufman, social media editor, continues to post news and events on social media, including Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn. If you have any ideas for new ways to use social media to promote SCN or the field more broadly, please let us know. SCN continues to be the largest neuropsychological group on Facebook, with over 6,200 followers. If you are on Facebook, be sure to “like” the SCN and you will receive SCN updates in your feed. Doing so will also spread the word about clinical neuropsychology to all your acquaintances.

If you have information you would like to share with the broader SCN membership, please send an email to societyclinicalneuropsychology@gmail.com and the message will go to all members of our committee. We will then distribute the information to the appropriate outlets.

Respectfully,
Brian Yochim, PhD, ABPP
National Jewish Health
Denver, Colorado

AWARDS

The SCN Scientific Advisory Committee would like to congratulate the recipients of this year’s SCN Early Career Pilot Awards, who will each receive $15,000 in support of their research proposals.

Congratulations to Drs. Nguyen and Fani on their awards!

Dr. Tanya Nguyen, a postdoctoral fellow at UC San Diego working with Dr. Lisa Eyler, will conduct a study titled Inflammatory Correlates of Cognitive and Neural Heterogeneity in Schizophrenia;

Dr. Negar Fani, an Assistant Professor at Emory University working with Dr. Tricia Zawacki King, will conduct a study titled The Neural Mechanisms of Physiologically Augmented Mindfulness Meditation.

Elizabeth W. Twamley, PhD
Professor of Psychiatry
University of California, San Diego
Consistent with SCN’s mission to include more students, we are now going to have two Student Representatives, each serving two-year alternating terms. We will recruit our second student next year.

The WINners Box
Amanda Gooding, Ph.D. and Andreana Benitez, Ph.D.
WIN Subcommittee Member and Chair

The Division 40 WIN subcommittee is pleased to honor Robin Hilsabeck, Ph.D., in this issue of the “WINners Box.” Dr. Hilsabeck completed her graduate training in clinical psychology at Louisiana State University. After finishing her clinical internship at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, she completed a postdoctoral fellowship in clinical neuropsychology at the University of California, San Diego. She is board certified by the American Board of Clinical Neuropsychology (ABCN) and has been a member of the clinical faculty in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Texas Health Science Center (UTHSC) in San Antonio, TX since 2006.

As a mid-career neuropsychologist, Dr. Hilsabeck has made impressive scholarly contributions, which include co-authoring over 90 published abstracts and conference publications, 47 peer-reviewed publications, four book chapters, and two books. Additionally, she is an Associate Editor for The Clinical Neuropsychologist (TCN) and has served on four editorial boards, including TCN, Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology, Neuropsychology Review, and The Journal of Psychopathology & Behavioral Assessment.

Throughout her career, Dr. Hilsabeck has dedicated herself to leadership and service to the field of neuropsychology. In addition to her many impressive roles, she has served on the Division 40 WIN Steering Committee, was a member of the UTHSC Women’s Faculty Association, and was the 2012 President of the National Academy of Neuropsychology (NAN). She has also demonstrated impressive dedication to teaching and mentorship of trainees and junior colleagues by serving as a past Vice President for American Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN), Co-founder and current Co-Committee Chair for BRAIN, and as a clinical and research supervisor for graduate students, interns, and postdoctoral fellows.

In addition to her clinical, academic, and leadership activities, Dr. Hilsabeck also works as a Senior Clinical Scientist for INC Research. She provides scientific oversight and clinical guidance on clinical research trials in neurology, psychiatry, and analgesia to help ensure the scientific integrity and quality of data. She also assists with protocol development, selection of clinical trials subjects, assessment of scale accuracy and reliability, and outcomes data analysis, as well as provides training and consultation for global clinical research trials.

It is with great pleasure that the WIN committee recognizes Dr. Hilsabeck’s numerous accomplishments, and we look forward to her future achievements.

If you would like to highlight your work or that of a colleague, please make your submission to Andreana Benitez, Ph.D., WIN Subcommittee Chair, at benitez@musc.edu
ANNOUNCEMENTS

We would also like to advertise the mentoring workshop at the APA Convention:

8/07 Sunday 10:00 AM - 11:50 AM
Convention Center Mile High Ballrooms 2A and 3A
Money for You and Your Research: An Interactive Mentoring Workshop
Co-Chairs: Sara Weisenbach, PhD and Vonetta Dotson, PhD

Participants
Neil Charness, PhD, Grant Funding 101: Funding Your Research As an Early Stage Investigators

MESSAGE FROM MEMBERSHIP

Dear Members,

Thank you for your continued support of SCN. We continue to maintain our status as the largest division in the American Psychological Association, with 4,566 members at the end of the 2015 membership year.

Congratulations: You may recall that earlier this year we offered a drawing for a chance to win one of five free 2017 memberships for individuals who joined or renewed their memberships in the Society for Clinical Neuropsychology by January 15, 2016. We would like to offer our congratulations to the following winners who were selected at random by staff in the APA Division Services Office:

Alissa Butts
Theresa Campbell
Gerald Elovitz
Anthony Ruocco
Charlie Ward

Thank you to all who joined or renewed your memberships and help to support SCN. Keep an eye open for an announcement regarding our next raffle drawing to win a free 2018 membership in SCN!

Great news: We are thrilled to report that we will be maintaining our current membership fees for the 2017 membership year. Our membership rates are very reasonable at $34 per year ($5 for Student and International Affiliates and $20 for those who are in their first two years post-degree). We are proud to have been able to maintain this fee structure for our members since 2006 through careful fiscal management.

Convention: We hope you can join us at the upcoming APA Convention in Denver, Colorado (August 4-7, 2016) and enjoy the exciting program we have planned. Don’t forget to pick up your SCN ribbon to attach to your Convention badge at all SCN programs as well as the Division Services booth – we would love to be able to identify our members in the crowds!

Reminder: Many thanks to those of you who have renewed your membership in SCN for 2016. I would like to invite those of you who have not yet done so to please renew your membership in SCN today. Also, you can renew your SCN membership for 2017 at Convention or any time thereafter.
**Benefits of membership** include:
Opportunity to keep abreast of the latest clinical practice and training issues, professional standards in neuropsychology and trends in scientific research. Professional networking; mentoring; opportunities for research presentations and committee involvements for graduate students, fellows, and early career psychologists; various division awards recognizing early career achievements and scholarly research, and scholarships for graduate students in neuropsychology. Four listserves that are open to all interested members.

A student organization - the Association of Neuropsychology Students in Training (ANST) - with an interactive website that provides networking for students and numerous student resources, with opportunities to learn about science, practice, and professional issues.

Newsletter that is published electronically twice yearly, in the Winter/Spring and Summer/Fall.

Rich program of scientific, educational, and social activities at the annual APA meeting.

**Reminders:** APA membership is not a requirement to join SCN.
Individuals who are in their first two years post-degree are eligible for reduced membership fees of **$20 per year**. Eligible individuals are invited to complete our paper application (download at [http://div40.org/membership.html](http://div40.org/membership.html)) as these reduced membership fees cannot be processed electronically.

- If you are an APA Member, Associate, or Fellow, you can **renew your membership in both APA and SCN/Division 40 online at** [http://www.apa.org/membership/renew.aspx](http://www.apa.org/membership/renew.aspx)
- If you are a Student Affiliate, International Affiliate, or do not have membership in APA, you can **renew your membership in SCN/Division 40 online at** [http://memforms.apa.org/apa/cli/divapp/](http://memforms.apa.org/apa/cli/divapp/)
- New members can complete our membership application online at [http://memforms.apa.org/apa/cli/divapp/](http://memforms.apa.org/apa/cli/divapp/)
- A hardcopy of our membership application may be found online at: [http://www.div40.org/membership.html](http://www.div40.org/membership.html)

Many thanks for your continued support of SCN. Please don’t hesitate to contact me with any questions at Tanya.diver@childrens.harvard.edu.

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**EARLY CAREER NEUROPSYCHOLOGIST COMMITTEE (ECNPC)**

*Cady K Block, PhD*

*Baylor College of Medicine*

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**Chair’s Corner**

Hello all, and greetings from the ECNPC Chair! As you may already know, the Early Career Neuropsychologist Committee (ECNPC) is the organization for neuropsychologists who are within 10 years following completion of the doctorate. Our group was revamped within the past year and I’m proud to report positive growth! Unfamiliar with the ECNPC? Check out below for more information!

How do you join? There is actually no separate membership application for the ECNPC. By joining our parent organization, The Society for Clinical Neuropsychology (SCN), you automatically become a member of our group! You do not have to be a member of APA first to be able to join our organization, although we highly recommend it due to the many benefits conferred by membership in APA and its national ECP Committee.
Are there virtual resources for the ECNPC? Yes! Our ECP-only listserv is mainly informational, but we absolutely welcome questions and any discussion. APA also has an early career listserv, and you can find out how to join here: http://www.apa.org/careers/early-career/get-connected/ecpn.aspx. Check out these ECNPC resources:

Website: https://www.scn40.org/start-your-journey-here.html  
Listerv: https://www.scn40.org/how-to-join-the-ecnpc.html  
Twitter: https://twitter.com/div40ecnpc  
Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/groups/ecnpc  
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/groups/7018494

I’ve heard you host virtual happy hours, where can I find the ones I’ve missed? We do indeed host virtual happy hours to address the concerns and interests of our membership, with the hope that they complement our conference programming and other social events. We have many exciting events planned for the future! But here’s what you missed so far:

SCN/SAC Early Career Pilot Award Program: http://bit.ly/1oSmKmp

Who do I contact for other questions? We are very happy to provide more information and personalized assistance. Please don't hesitate to ask us any questions at our email: ecnpc.scn@gmail.com.

Transitions: Advice about the EPPP

“Early Career Transitions” is a new feature by the Early Career Neuropsychologist Committee of SCN. In this serial contribution, we will cover a variety of topics related to the changes in your personal and professional life as you move from being a trainee to postdoctoral fellow, and then again to your career and beyond. We hope you enjoy this new feature. Please don’t hesitate to send questions or suggest topics to use by emailing ECNPC.SCN@gmail.com.

When did you take the EPPP?

JC: I studied in the fall and took my EPPP in December of my second year of postdoc.

RM: I took the EPPP during my third year of graduate school as one component of my program’s comprehensive examination.

Were there any benefits to taking it at that specific time?

JC: I live in Arizona, and here you are licensed as soon as you pass your EPPP and pay a fee so the timing was ideal for me when I passed and started to apply for jobs and interview at INS in February. I believe this made me more appealing as an applicant, although I’ve known many successful people who wait. I had actually planned to take the EPPP earlier (in the last half of my first year of postdoc), but I ended up being on the most demanding rotation during that time. I struggled with “feeling behind,” and was overwhelmed with my clinical and research demands. I felt so much better when I just accepted that it would have to wait. So part of my advice to others is to prepare/take the exam when the circumstances seem best for you both financially and time-wise, know your limitations, and plan ahead.

RM: I was very used to studying all the time so this felt like just one more test, rather than an anxiety-provoking professional exam. Also, it the material is still fresh and you are taking electives that are not your specialty area but will be on the exam (i.e. social or I/O). I was able to have a group of peers to study with. This helped me to feel prepared for the test on the day of the exam. Taking it at the master’s

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**ECNPC by the Numbers**

- Total Members: 549
- Listserv Subscribers: 363
- Facebook Group Members: 181
- Twitter Followers: 200
- LinkedIn Members: 53
level is less expensive. Another benefit was that it gave me more time during my fellowship to focus on finalizing licensure and job searches earlier, rather than worry about the process and timing of the exam.

What study materials did you use?

**JC:** My intern non-neuropsychology colleagues provided great free resources as well as advice about study materials since most of them had already taken the EPPP. I supplemented these materials with the online only AATBS quiz/test package.

**RM:** I used the Academic Review study materials and made an outline for myself to complete 1 to 3 sections per week (depending on length). I also used audio materials and practice exams.

What was your study strategy?

**JC:** I studied the material over a couple of months at night and completed quizzes and a few tests on the weekends. Then in the last two weeks, I really focused on just taking full length tests as similar to the test situation as possible, and then taking time to review all the questions that were incorrect and ones that I guessed. Frankly, I probably over-prepared, but that's what I needed to boost my confidence. So on a similar note, know your study style, know what does/does not help you learn and what does/does not help you feel confident and prepared. Half of the battle for most people is keeping overwhelming anxiety at bay, and feeling OK when you come across questions where you do not even recognize the concepts.

**RM:** In addition to printed review materials, I listened to the audio materials every chance I had, and then took a timed practice exam each week. Timing the exam is very important so you know how to pace yourself during the actual test. This totaled about 2 months of studying if done continuously and I feel this should be considered the maximum study time; honestly, one month or less is probably sufficient.

Any final advice you want to offer our members?

**JC:** Good luck in your preparation and most importantly remember your needs and the importance of self-care as part of the process!

**RM:** Just remember this is what you have been studying and training for, and you didn’t get a doctorate without hard work. No matter what you do to prepare, you are ready!

**Guest Contributors:**

[Image with photos of two women]