



# New England Psychological Association Newsletter

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## Expanding NEPA's Outreach Efforts

**Mary Zahm, Ph.D.**  
**Bristol Community College**  
**NEPA President**

I feel privileged to be the president of NEPA during its 45<sup>th</sup> year and look forward to serving the membership. During the past several years, NEPA has made a great deal of progress in developing a successful outreach program. At the Steering Committee meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup> the members discussed strategies for expanding NEPA's outreach efforts. I describe some aspects of our continually evolving outreach program in this column because I plan to devote my efforts to expanding this program during my presidential year.

*NEPA's Web Site.* Advances in technology have enabled us to create a web site that can be accessed at [www.nepa-info.org](http://www.nepa-info.org). On it, we have posted materials of interest to prospective and current members as well as other people who are interested in accessing information about our organization and programs. The documents currently posted on our web site include our mission statement, by-laws, individual and organizational member application forms, *Meeting Planner Guidebook*, current newsletters, calls for nominations for NEPA awards, conference calls and program booklets, names of recent recipients of our awards, job postings for positions at Organizational Member Institutions, and NEPA contact information.

Thanks to the heroic efforts of our Web Page Chair and designer, Kathryn Graff Low, Ph.D. (Bates College), members and other people interested in joining our organization or attending our conference can contact us or gain timely access to information about our programs. We plan to expand our web site services to include features such as an *Expert List* of members who are willing to be contacted for presentations and their areas of expertise. For more information about the web site, Dr. Low can be contacted through the web site contact link.

*NEPA Liaisons.* There are a group of members who have volunteered to act as liaisons between NEPA and their community colleges, colleges, and universities. These liaisons are a very important part of our outreach program because they communicate with other faculty and students in their department about our available

professional and student awards, our conference calls for proposals, and our conference programs. At our annual conferences, networking lunch sessions for faculty interested in becoming a liaison on his or her campus, are scheduled. In recent years, liaisons have brainstormed about ways to expand NEPA's outreach program and web site services to individual and organizational members. I originally became involved in NEPA by answering a call for community college liaisons that was published in the newsletter many years ago. If you would like to be a liaison to NEPA from your institution, contact me at the address below.

*Organizational Members.* Professional institutions, state psychological associations, and university departments are eligible for organizational membership in NEPA. Organizational membership privileges include listing of their names in the annual meeting program booklet and one free individual membership for any member of the department. This person is also designated to vote on behalf of the organization. Organizational members also receive all NEPA mailings, including the NEPA Newsletter, and the opportunity to post local (New England) job openings on the NEPA web site. The Exhibit Table fee is waived for all schools that wish to display graduate school materials at the Annual NEPA Conference. For an organizational member application form, visit our web site or contact Jack Hutson of Association Systems, our management group, at [jhutson@associationsystems.com](mailto:jhutson@associationsystems.com).

*Northeast Conference for Teachers of Psychology (NECTOP).* Beginning in 2003, NEPA has also hosted the annual meeting of the Northeast Conference for Teachers of Psychology (NECTOP). There are approximately 1400 psychologists and students on the NECTOP mailing list, so that this merger is seen as a way of increasing the number of participants at the NEPA annual meeting as well as NEPA membership. Theodore N. Bosack, Ph.D. (Providence College) has chaired the NECTOP Organizing Committee for the past several years.

*NEPA Newsletter.* Our newsletter is a very important part of our outreach program. Not only does it allow us to communicate with members, it also provides members with an opportunity to communicate with each

other by including member news such as awards, recent publications, and professional presentations. This year we are offering members the option of receiving the newsletter electronically by e-mail or in the paper format. Even though many organizations are discontinuing paper newsletters due to escalating printing and mailing costs, we have decided to continue sending a paper copy to those who want to receive one as well as to NEPA Liaisons and department chairs who circulate them to members of their departments. Our newsletter is also posted on our web site as soon as it is sent to press. If you would like to submit news to be published in the NEPA newsletter, please send it to Deborah A. Carroll Ph.D. (Southern Connecticut State University), Editor, at the address listed on the cover of this newsletter.

*Poster Awards.* In order to attract more poster submissions from students, NEPA has established a \$100 Marjy N. Ehmer Undergraduate Poster Award for the best poster with an undergraduate student as the first author and a \$100 award to the best poster with a graduate student as first author. The winners of these awards are announced at the NEPA annual meeting and their names are included on our web site and in our winter newsletter. Division 2 of APA, Teaching of Psychology, has given \$100 awards to the best poster at NECTOP and at NEPA on teaching of psychology by a psychologist.

I would be happy to hear from NEPA members with ideas for expanding our outreach efforts. My email address is [mzahn@bristol.mass.edu](mailto:mzahn@bristol.mass.edu).

**Highlights of the Fall 2004  
44<sup>th</sup> NEPA Annual Meeting  
Mary Zahm, Ph.D.  
Bristol Community College  
NEPA President**

The 44<sup>th</sup> NEPA Annual Meeting was held on October 15-16, 2004 at Rhode Island College in Providence, Rhode Island. The exciting program was enjoyed by all, despite a power surge that interrupted our supply of electricity. This column lists some of the highlights of the two-day program. Visit the NEPA Web site at [www.nepa-info.org](http://www.nepa-info.org) for the complete program.

Program activities began Friday morning with the daylong 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeastern Conference for Teachers of Psychology (NECTOP), which was coordinated by Theodore N. Bosack, Ph.D., (Providence College). Barney Beins, Ph.D. (Ithaca College), President of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology, delivered the *Keynote Address* titled "Psychology as a Liberal Art: Other Disciplines Can Be Interesting, Too."

Many dedicated teachers of psychology shared their

creativity and lessons learned in a vibrant and informative program of *concurrent interactive presentations, workshops, and demonstrations* that took place throughout the day. These included: "Using WebCT to Teach the General Psychology Course in both Distance Learning and Traditional Classrooms" (Mary Zahm, Ph.D., Bristol Community College); "How to Ruin a Good Lecture Using Technology" (David Daniel, Ph.D., University of Maine at Farmington); "What Happened, Anyway? Teaching Students to Write about Behavior in Statistics" (Dana Dunn, Ph.D., Moravian College); "Using WebCT to Help High School, Community College, and College Students Learn" (John Broida, Ph.D., University of Southern Maine); and "Quiz, Quiz, and Quiz Again" (Vincent Prohaska, Ph.D., Lehman College).

A *Plenary Address* was delivered in the afternoon by Jannell Carroll, Ph.D. (University of Hartford) titled "Sex on Campus: Teaching the Human Sexuality Course." A poster session in the afternoon offered teachers an opportunity to share their research. A \$100 prize, sponsored by the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (APA Division 2), was awarded for the best poster at NECTOP on teaching of psychology by a psychologist (lead author), plus a one-year STP membership for all authors. The winner is named in another column in this newsletter listing NECTOP and NEPA poster prize awardees.

The Friday NECTOP/NEPA Reception and Banquet was followed by a stimulating evening program, which was open to the public. Dr. Richard Weiner, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, welcomed NEPA to Rhode Island College. Mahzarin Banaji, Ph.D. (Harvard University & Radcliffe Institute) delivered the *APA Distinguished Scientist Lecture* on "Mind bugs: The psychology of ordinary prejudice."

Saturday events began with a festive complimentary Psi Chi 75th Anniversary Continental Breakfast for all NEPA and Psi Chi conference attendees. Throughout Saturday morning and afternoon an assortment of invited presentations, symposia, paper presentations, workshops, and poster sessions were concurrently scheduled that offered professionals and students alike diverse opportunities to become educated about the latest research in psychological science and the important clinical applications that research can have in society. Some noteworthy Saturday program highlights are listed below.

The *Science and Society Symposium*, sponsored by the APA Science Directorate, focused on current research concerning the important topics of "Eating, Weight Control, and Exercise." The panelists were: Jessica Whiteley, Ph.D. (Brown University School of Medicine) who discussed "Physical Activity Promotion

via Mediated Communication Channels” and Deborah Tate, Ph.D., (Brown University School of Medicine, whose talk was titled “One Size Does Not Fit All: Web Based Alternatives for Prevention and Treatment of Obesity.” A *Science & Society Series Lecture*, also sponsored by the APA Science Directorate, was delivered by Michael Milburn, Ph.D. (University of Massachusetts Boston) on a timely pre-election topic “The Politics of Denial and the 2004 Presidential Election.



**Mahzarin Banaji, Ph.D. (Harvard University & Radcliffe Institute), left, with Joan Rollins, Ph.D., NEPA Past-president at Rhode Island College.**

The informative *NEPA Presidential Address* by Paul Cunningham, Ph.D. (Rivier College) was titled “Transpersonal Psychology: Bridging Science and Spirit.” The *NEPA Business Meeting* featured an announcement of the winner of the 2005 Distinguished Contribution Award, Dr. Ron Levant, APA President, and the results of the 2004–2005 NEPA elections announced by NEPA Past-President Paul Cunningham (Rivier College). Bryan Auday (Gordon College, MA) announced recipients of the 2004 NEPA Honorary Undergraduate Scholars (HUS) Awards in recognition of their outstanding college accomplishments in research, service to the community, contributions to their psychology departments, and academics. The names of the students honored are in another column in this newsletter.

*Working lunches* during the noontide provided opportunities for networking and informal conversations on a variety of stimulating topics. Two informal discussions focused on issues raised in the morning APA Science and Society programs on “Weight, Eating, and Exercise” by the presenters with Kathryn Graff Low, Ph.D. (Bates College) as discussant and the “Politics of Denial” by the presenter with Elizabeth P. Ossoff, Ph.D. (Saint Anselm College) as discussant.

Other working lunches included “Baby Backlash: Reexamining The Competent Infant” by Lincoln G. Craton, Ph.D. (Stonehill College); a Community College Faculty Networking Lunch with Donna Killian Duffy, Ph.D. (Middlesex Community College) as facilitator; and the NEPA Liaison meeting chaired by Sheila O’Brien Quinn (Salve Regina University).

Historian of Psychology, Dr. Eugene Taylor (Saybrook Graduate School and Harvard Medical School), who is an authority in the writings of William James and the NEPA 2004 *Distinguished Contribution Award* recipient, highlighted the valuable contributions to our discipline of Jamesian psychology in a lecture titled “William James on American Functionalism: ‘The Only Psychology Worthy of the Name.’”



**Paul Cunningham, Ph.D., NEPA Past-President with Dr. Eugene Taylor, NEPA 2004 Distinguished Contribution Award recipient.**

Russell Church, Ph. D. (Brown University), who was the *American Psychological Society (APS) Distinguished William James Lecturer*, delivered an address on “The Beauty of a Good Mathematical Model of Behavior.”



**Russell Church, Ph. D. (Brown University), the American Psychological Society (APS) Distinguished William James Lecturer with Duncan White, Ph.D., NEPA Treasurer.**

The *Fellow Plus Forty Recognition* program honored Kurt Fischer, Ph.D. (Harvard University), an early recipient of NEPA's Honorary Undergraduate Fellows Award. Dr. Fischer discussed his well-known psychological research in a video presentation he made especially for this event.

*Paper sessions* on "Social Influences on Behavior, Emotions, and Experiences" (chaired by Jason A. Nier, Ph.D., Connecticut College) and "Influences on Prenatal and Cognitive Development and Memory" (chaired by Theodore N. Bosack, Ph.D., Providence College) were presented throughout the day.

An interactive *Invited APA/NEPA Academic Career Workshop* on career opportunities for prospective psychology undergraduate and graduate students was presented in the afternoon by two professionals, Kathryn Quina, Ph.D. (University of Rhode Island) and Michael D. Spiegler, Ph.D. (Providence College) and a graduate student, Kelly Brooks, M.A. (University of Rhode Island).

*Poster sessions* on "Cognition, Memory, Teaching, Development, Personality, Social, and Physiological" Psychology and "Clinical" Psychology were presented throughout the day. The Society for the Teaching of Psychology (APA, Division 2) awarded a \$100 prize for the best poster at NEPA on the teaching of psychology by a psychologist (lead author), plus a one-year STP membership for all authors. NEPA awarded the Marjy N. Ehmer, Ph.D. Undergraduate Poster Award of \$100 for best undergraduate poster (first author) and \$100 for best graduate student poster (first author). The winners' names are listed in another column in this newsletter.

*Graduate School Information Tables*, staffed by college and university representatives, offered attendees an opportunity to learn more about graduate school programs in the New England area.

Psi Chi's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary program featured workshops and talks on a variety of stimulating topics. A *Psi Chi Graduate School Workshop* "What Graduate Schools Are Looking For And How To Get It" was presented in the morning by Sheila O'Brien Quinn, Ph.D. (Salve Regina University) and chaired by Stephanie Pepper, Ph.D., (Rhode Island College Psi Chi Chapter).

A *Psi Chi Invited Address* was delivered by Miguel Roig, Ph.D. (St. John's University) "On Ethical Writing in Psychology." The session was chaired by Valerie Dirton (University of Massachusetts, Lowell Psi Chi Chapter).

A *Psi Chi Chapter Exchange* was co-chaired by Michelle Bouchard and Jean Allbee (Rhode Island College Psi Chi Chapter), Christina Medrea and Andrea Grenga (St. Anselm College Psi Chi Chapter), and Kaitlin Chandonnet and Katherine Gagliardi (University

of Massachusetts, Lowell Psi Chi Chapter).

A *Psi Chi Working Lunch* titled "What Can Psi Chi Do For You?" was presented by Vincent Prohaska, Psi Chi Eastern Region Vice-President (Lehman College, City University of New York).

A *Psi Chi Careers in Psychology Workshop* was co-presented by Joan Cannon, Ph.D. (University of Massachusetts, Lowell) who addressed the question "What Can You Do with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology?" and Marjy N. Ehmer, Ph.D. (Southern Connecticut State University) who discussed "Careers: South of the Border."

The *Psi Chi Distinguished Speaker*, John Hogan, Ph.D. (St. John's University) focused on "Revisiting Classic Tales in the History of Psychology (The Story Behind the Story)" in his address.

The conference program concluded with a refreshing *Reception* sponsored by NEPA and Psi Chi to recognize Honorary Undergraduate Scholar Award recipients and invited guest speakers in attendance.

NEPA extends its sincere thanks and appreciation to Rhode Island College for sponsoring this Friday and Saturday conference, especially the following individuals: Dr. Richard Weiner, Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences; Dr. Joan H. Rollins, Chair, Department of Psychology and NEPA Local Arrangements Coordinator; Patrick Doyle, President of the Psychological Society and Coordinator of Volunteers; Jean Allbee, President of Rhode Island College's Psi Chi Chapter; and Graduate Assistant John Capman. We also want to thank Jack Hutson of Association Systems, NEPA's management group, for meeting the needs of our guests and membership during those two hectic days.

Another outstanding program is being planned for NECTOP's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference and NEPA's 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting at Southern Connecticut State University (New Haven, CT) on October 14-15, 2005. Please plan to join us!

### **Poster Award Winners**

#### **NEPA Annual Meeting 2005 Poster Session**

**Teresa Lyons, Ph.D., Kathryn Graff Low, Ph.D.,  
John Broida, Ph.D., and Jason Nier, Ph.D.**

The NECTOP meeting on Friday included a variety of poster submissions. The Society for the Teaching of Psychology (Division 2) award for the best poster went to Stacie M. Spencer, Ph.D., of the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences for, "The Psychology term paper: The whole needs all of its parts".

The number of poster submissions to NEPA was up significantly this year, and the entries were of

exceptionally high quality. Last year, poster prizes were instituted in the hopes of attracting higher quality submissions. The strategy appears to have been very successful. The largest number of submissions was in the undergraduate category, with approximately 30 posters presented by undergraduate first authors. There were only a modest number of graduate student submissions, with the remaining entries coming from full time faculty or researchers. Overall, poster submissions were up some 30% from previous years.

The winner of NEPA's Marjy N. Ehmer Undergraduate Poster Award was Catherine Crosby, B.A. of Bates College (with K.G. Low, Ph.D.), for "Who's tougher? Perceived control, athletic status, and pain reports". Honorable mentions in this category went to Julia Hayden, B.A., Jefferson Singer, Ph.D. and Joan Chrisler, Ph.D., Connecticut College, for "The transmission of birth stories from mother to daughter: Mother-daughter attachment and self-esteem", to Carola Pierlusi and Julie B. Morrison, Ph.D. of Bryant College, for "Are you being served? The effect of physical appearance on helping behavior in a retail setting", and to Homae Kobayashi of Salem State College with Patrice M. Miller, Ed.D. for, "Comparison of the adjustment of international Japanese students and American students in U.S. culture". The Graduate Student Poster Award went to Mina Popliger, B.A., Marjorie Rhodes, B.S., Nancy Heath, Ph.D., and Christina Rinaldi, Ph.D., for "Self-concept structures in children with depressive symptoms: Considering the differential importance of perceived domains of competence". Winner of the NEPA poster awards received \$100. The Teaching of Psychology Award sponsored by Division 2 was won by Pamela Ludemann, Ph.D. and Deborah McMakin of Framingham State College for, "College students' perceptions of academic dishonesty: An examination of personal experiences with cheating". Winner of the TOP Prize received membership to Division 2, and a cash grant to support travel to APA in summer 2005.

Two additional posters were recognized for being superlative faculty-student research collaborations. The first was presented by Byron Zamboanga, Ph.D., Jessica Bean, Alison Pietras and Lizette Pabon, B.A. of Smith College, entitled, "Beer pong today, Kings tomorrow: Alcohol expectancies and drinking games in female student athletes." The second was a poster by Ron Gerrard, Ph.D., Lisa O'Hara, Amanda Bernard, and Gabrielle Caruso of Hobart and William Smith Colleges, entitled, "Psychophysical assessment of body image in college women: The camera really does add ten pounds".

Congratulations to all presenters! Submissions for the 2005 NEPA Annual Meeting poster sessions are due

May 21, 2005. The Call for Papers for the meeting is located on the NEPA website, nepa-info.org.

## **CONGRATULATIONS AND GOOD LUCK WISHES!**

**Marjy N. Ehmer, Ph.D.**

**Southern Connecticut State University**

Catherine Crosby (BA, Bates College, May 2004 and winner [with K.G. Low, Ph. D.] of the Marjy N. Ehmer NEPA Undergraduate Poster Award) is now employed in the Neurology Department at the Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston where she is doing clinical research -- working on three studies looking at genetic factors in Alzheimer's disease. She hopes to pursue a career as a physician's assistant.

Thanks for your nice letter, Catherine!

## **Honorary Undergraduate Scholars (2004)**

**Bryan C. Auday  
Gordon College**

This past year I served as the Chair of the Honorary Undergraduate Scholars Committee. For each year for the past 41 years, the New England Psychological Association has held an awards program to identify the best, the brightest, and most promising psychology students from our colleges and universities. Those who are selected for this prestigious award become one of NEPA's Honorary Undergraduate Scholars. They become members of a select fraternity of previous Scholars, who, in some instances, have gone on to make significant and



**2004 HUS award winners. From left to right: Cassandra Marsello -- Providence College, Bryan Auday, Ph.D. HUS committee chair, Kate Johnson -- Saint Joseph College, Allyson Bregman -- Connecticut College, & Mekayla Castro -- Rhode Island College**

profound contributions to our discipline. Previous awardees have created and shaped new subspecialties within psychology, they have written textbooks, become fulltime researchers, college professors or counselors and therapists. Some have chosen to make their mark on other fields of study or have other careers. Many become exemplary citizens.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize at this time the selection committee that carefully evaluates and deliberates over all of the submission materials. Committee members include Professor John Broida, from the University of Southern Maine; Professor Emerita Marjy Ehmer, Southern Connecticut State University; Professor Nancy White, from Pine Manor College, and myself. Selection criteria include academic achievement, research activities, service or applied activities, the contributions one makes to the psychology department, as well as other qualifications.

The Honorary Undergraduate Scholars and their academic sponsors for 2004 are as follows:

1. **Allyson Blair Bregman**  
College: Connecticut College  
faculty sponsor: Stuart A. Vyse, Ph.D.  
faculty sponsor: Audrey L. Zakriski, Ph.D.
2. Nominee: **Melissa Brown**  
College: Stonehill College  
faculty sponsor: John D. Hurley, Ph.D.  
faculty sponsor: Bonnie Klentz, Ph.D.  
faculty sponsor: Elizabeth Steinhauser, Ph.D.
3. Nominee: **Mekayla Castro**  
College: Rhode Island College  
faculty sponsor: Duncan White, Ph.D.  
faculty sponsor: Thomas E. Malloy, Ph.D.
4. Nominee: **Kate Johnson**  
College: Saint Joseph College  
faculty sponsor: Elizabeth C. Vozzola, Ph.D.  
faculty sponsor: Tonya R. Rondinone, M.A.
5. Nominee: **Cassandra Marsello**  
College: Providence College  
faculty sponsor: Theodore N. Bosack, Ph.D.  
faculty sponsor: Thomas J. Guilmette, Ph.D.
6. Nominee: **Rachael Dianna Reavis**  
College: Connecticut College  
faculty sponsor: Stuart Vyse, Ph.D.  
faculty sponsor: Audrey L. Zakriski, Ph.D.

7. Nominee: **Teresa A. Taddeo**  
College: Rivier College  
faculty sponsor: Paul F. Cunningham, Ph.D.  
faculty sponsor: Kenneth Edward Bell, Ph.D.

### **Call for Nominations for NEPA Honorary Undergraduate Scholar Awards for Fall 2005**

**NOMINATION PROCEDURE:** Any faculty member in psychology or a related field may nominate a student. Five sets (copies) of each of the following must be postmarked by May 21, 2005. Late or incomplete nominations will not be reviewed.

- A personal statement by the nominee that addresses the selection criteria. The statement should describe the nominee's accomplishments, present interests in psychology, and future goals.
- Individual letters of nomination from two (2) sponsoring faculty members that address the nominee's qualifications and performance with respect to the selection criteria.
- A resume of the nominee's career and educational experiences.
- An official transcript. (One original, others photocopies.)
- A stamped postcard addressed to the nominee to be used for notification on receipt of materials.
- Other supporting documents may also be submitted—for example, letters from field work or research supervisors, copies of papers presented at conferences.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:** Nominees are evaluated primarily on the basis of their achievements in and contributions to psychology as undergraduate students. These include the following:

- (1) Research activity (15 pts.) – independent study or contributions to faculty-directed research;
- (2) Service or applied activity (15 pts.) – human service activity or other psychology-related experiences in campus or community settings;
- (3) Academic achievement (15 pts.) – academic performance in psychology and the overall undergraduate academic record;
- (4) Contributions to the Psychology Department (10 pts.) – for example, leadership in Psi Chi or Psychology Club, assistance to other students;
- (5) Other qualifications (15 pts.) – such as evidence of achievement in the context of unusual circumstances, contributions to student life or to the community, which are not directly related to psychology;
- (6) Quality of personal statement (5 pts.);

(7) Evidence of interest and goals in psychology (15 pts.).

Send materials — postmarked by May 21, 2005 — to:  
Dr. Bryan C. Auday  
Gordon College  
Department of Psychology  
255 Grapevine Road  
Wenham, MA 01984

Inquiries may be addressed to Dr. Bryan C. Auday at 978-867-4824, or via e-mail at [auday@gordon.edu](mailto:auday@gordon.edu).

Honorary Undergraduate Scholar awards will be presented at NEPA's annual meeting at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Connecticut, during October 14-15, 2005. The awards program is designed to recognize individuals with outstanding undergraduate records in psychology and to encourage promising students to pursue careers in the discipline. We offer separate award categories for students attending 2-year and 4-year institutions. **ELIGIBILITY:** All current undergraduate psychology students including members of the class of 2005 (those whose graduation date will be May or June, 2005).

### **My “Nightmare at NEPA 2004” Experience**

**Marjy N. Ehmer, Ph.D.**

**Southern Connecticut State University  
NEPA Historian**

It was a glorious drive from Connecticut to Rhode Island: peak foliage – trees spectacularly adorned by Mother Nature in brilliant red, orange, yellow, and emerald green – *until* the gray overcast of light rain began and the unpleasant stop-and-start of rush hour traffic and converging and snarled exit ramps appeared as the approach to Providence came nearer and nearer . . . Then, the search, in twilight dusk, for the college campus – never an easy one on good, clear days – until (after several wrong turns en route), a large sign reading Rhode Island College . . . Finally !

And then, after numerous one-way explorations of several parking lots, an empty space (yes!) within a stone's throw of the Student Center and, lo-and-behold: hundreds of people – adults (parents, teachers, and coaches) and teams of screaming and bouncing girls in colorful cheerleading apparel – were gathered in the square between what later turned out to be the gymnasium and the Center where NEPA was registering attendees, displaying posters on hastily assembled tables, making room changes and generally trying to manage in wake of a major power outage at the college.

For two days, it was less than wonderful. Bearable, but hardly as one expected: dinner on an upstairs

balcony in soda-fountain type booths; searching for a colleague's car in several parking lots after all the outside lighting suddenly went off (imagine trying to find a car – left hours before in one of three, enormous areas – all **without** any illumination and an accompanying steady, chilling rainfall!); the next day, a Presidential Address given in a pitch-black auditorium where a small lectern light was all Paul Cunningham (and also, later that day when John Hogan gave the Psi Chi Distinguished Address) had to guide him through his well-prepared talk; any number of rooms – including the annual Business Meeting and Honorary Undergraduate Scholars awards presentations – changed to others where windows gave some natural light; time-consuming, creative and wonderful Power-Point presentations – as well as overhead and slide projections – rendered *useless*; windowless toilets without any lighting (where, pray tell, was the toilet bowl, the washstand, and the toilet paper in this lightless void?); and other equally disruptive, disturbing events throughout the 2004 NEPA conference made for a “memorable” – but hardly typical -annual meeting.

Yes, the cheerleaders were judged despite the lightless gym (how, when, by whom, etc., not known by this NEPA attendee); the Saturday afternoon talk to Psi Chi was given without visual graphics; the Fortieth Year Fellow video made by Kurt Fischer *was shown* in a room with windows and working display equipment; and the writer returned home safely and without incident. But, NEPA 2004 has left a legacy and memories that, one hopes, will remain events not-to-be repeated again. After all, one nightmare in 40+ years is more than enough!

### **Despite the Power Surge at our 2004 Annual Meeting,**

**the NEPA Spirit was Wonderful**

**Mary Zahm, Ph.D.**

**Bristol Community College  
NEPA President**

I agree with Dr. Marji Ehmer that the power surge that curtailed some of our electrical supply at our 2004 Annual Meeting was unfortunate. However, I would like to point out that there was much to be grateful for as well.

We were fortunate that the banquet food was fully cooked when the power went out and that we could enjoy a delicious meal with light from an emergency generator, despite the snack bar setting. The courteous Rhode Island College staff quickly carried the food from the first floor dining room to the third floor and arranged our buffet. There was power in the main bathrooms in

Gaige Hall where most of the events were held. If the food wasn't cooked or the main bathrooms were without power, we would probably have had to cancel the meeting.

When we needed to change some room locations, the Rhode Island College student volunteers were very helpful. They checked the room setups and posted signs as locations were changed. Many conference attendees offered to help us with the required rearrangements. Some people let us borrow flashlights that proved to be very useful to the speakers. When the emergency generator failed and the Power Point projector went out during Dr. Paul Cunningham's Presidential Address, everyone remained seated in the darkened auditorium and listened attentively as he talked while reading his slides using a flashlight. No one complained. Someone even told me that she found it relaxing not to have to read the slides.

For the afternoon sessions, the Rhode Island College AV person we hired unplugged a nearby soda machine that was working and ran an extension cord from that plug to the AV equipment so that the distinguished speakers could show their slides and Power Point presentations. All of the speakers and attendees were very understanding and gracious. Yes, the auditorium was dark and the air was a bit stuffy, but the talks were very interesting.

On behalf of NEPA, I would like to express our gratitude to everyone who attended our 2004 annual meeting for being so cooperative and considerate in a less than ideal situation.

**Fall 2004 Election Results**  
**Paul F. Cunningham, Ph.D.**  
**Rivier College**  
**NEPA Past-President**

Results of the 2004 New England Psychological Association elections were announced at the annual meeting at Rhode Island College in Providence, Rhode Island on October 16, 2004. NEPA's new President-elect is Shelia O'Brien Quinn, Ph.D. of Salve Regina University. In addition, Joan Bombace, Ph.D. of Quinnipiac University was re-elected to the Steering Committee for a three-year term. New Committee member, Peter Frost, Ph.D. (Southern New Hampshire University) was also elected for a three-year term.

We are grateful to the Election Committee, headed by Joan Rollins, Ph.D. (Rhode Island College) and Jack Hutson (Association Systems) for counting and reporting on votes, and to Anne O'Dwyer, Ph.D. (Simon's Rock), NEPA secretary, for soliciting nominations.



**Mary Zahm, Ph.D. President with new President-elect Shelia O'Brien Quinn, Ph.D. and past President Paul F. Cunningham, Ph.D.**

Two Steering Committee members retired at the completion of their terms, including Past-President, Joan Rollins, Ph.D. of Rhode Island College, and Marlene Oscar Berman, Ph.D. of Boston University. Joan was instrumental in organizing the conference at Rhode Island College this Fall 2004; and Marlene was responsible for working lunches related to the annual meeting for a number of years. We are grateful for their time, effort, and leadership over the last several years.

**Secretary's Report of**  
**NEPA Steering Committee Meetings**  
**October and December, 2004**  
**Anne O'Dwyer, Ph.D.**  
**Simon's Rock College of Bard**  
**Secretary**

The NEPA Steering Committee met on October 15, 2004 at Rhode Island College in Providence, Rhode Island. Paul Cunningham, NEPA President, opened the meeting, welcoming all to the site of the 44th NEPA Annual Meeting. The Secretary's report was reviewed and accepted, and NEPA Treasurer, Duncan White, informed the committee that NEPA is still in good financial condition.

Joan Rollins then announced the 2004 election results: Sheila O'Brien Quinn (Salve Regina University) has been elected to President Elect, Joan Bombace (Quinnipiac University) was re-elected to the Steering Committee, and Peter Frost (Southern New Hampshire University) was elected to the Steering Committee.

The committee spent some time discussing the problems in the recent election, and decided to propose various revisions to the by-laws that would allow the committee to act more efficiently to respond to errors in the future, and to address issues raised by this year's election procedure. It was agreed to take these proposals to the Business Meeting at the NEPA Conference the

next day for a vote by the NEPA members in attendance (due to a lack of a quorum at the Business Meeting, the vote did not occur). These proposals will be mailed out to members as a supplemental ballot in January.

Paul Cunningham and members of the Steering Committee then acknowledged Debby Carroll's excellent work as NEPA's Newsletter Editor this past year. Jack Huston, the Association Coordinator, reported that approximately 50% of members indicated that they would like an electronic version of the NEPA Newsletter. Members interested in getting the Newsletter via email should contact Jack Hutson at [jhutson@associationsystems.com](mailto:jhutson@associationsystems.com). The committee also agreed to move the deadline for the Summer Newsletter submissions to an earlier date. The new deadline will be May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Debby Carroll reported that all is going well regarding plans for NEPA's 2005 Annual Meeting at Southern Connecticut State University; Paul Cunningham announced that Southern New Hampshire University will host the NEPA conference in 2006.

President Elect, Mary Zahm, informed the committee that APA had contacted her about a new program, called "Psych 21" and all agreed that NEPA would look into this program.

The NEPA Steering Committee met again on December 4, 2004 at Bristol Community College in Fall River, MA. Mary Zahm, NEPA President, opened the meeting by thanking the many Steering Committee members who helped make the NEPA 2004 Annual Meeting such a success, despite the electrical difficulties. She also thanked Theodore Bosack for another exciting program at NECTOP this year. New Steering Committee member, Peter Frost, from Southern New Hampshire University, was welcomed.

The Secretary's report was reviewed and accepted. NEPA Treasurer, Duncan White, informed the committee that he continues to pursue reinstating NEPA's status as a non-profit organization. The committee also requested Jack Hutson, of Association Systems, Association Coordinator, to facilitate NEPA's transition to a more automated accounting system. Thanks to Duncan for all his efforts to make sure NEPA remains financially sound.

Debby Carroll, NEPA Newsletter Coordinator, kept the committee updated on her progress with the Newsletter. She announced that, since the NEPA website, [www.nepa-info.org](http://www.nepa-info.org), has been such a success, in the future the newsletter will only announce the calls, and will refer readers to the website for the actual calls and nomination information.

The Steering Committee reviewed the plans already well under way for the NECTOP/NEPA 2005 meeting on October 14-15, 2005 at Southern Connecticut State

University in New Haven, CT. Mary Zahm thanked members of the Steering Committee who volunteered to chair the various conference committees.

*Posters* — Teresa Lyons (Salem State College)

*Papers* — Kimberly Smirles (Emmanuel College)

*Symposia* — Donnah Canavan (Boston College)

*Liaisons* — Mary Zahm (Bristol Community College)

*Distinguished Contribution Award* — Joan Bombace (Quinnipiac University)

*Psi Chi* — Marjy Ehmer (Southern Connecticut State University)

*Exhibits* — Mary Zahm (Bristol Community College) with Jack Hutson (Association Systems, Inc.)

*Honorary Undergraduate Scholar Awards* — Bryan Auday (Gordon College)

*Workshops* — Michael Spiegler (Providence College)

*Working Lunches* — Kathy Low (Bates College)

*Graduate Programs Coordinator* — Jason Nier (Connecticut College)

*Publicity Coordinator* — Mary Zahm (Bristol Community College)

*Web Page* — Kathy Low (Bates College)

*NECTOP* — Theodore Bosack (Providence College)

*APA Continuing Education Workshops* — Mary Zahm (Bristol Community College)

*APA Academic Career Workshop* — Mary Zahm (Bristol Community College)

NEPA members or other parties interested in any of these programs for the NEPA conference should contact the committee chair directly or via Jack Huston at [jhutson@associationsystems.com](mailto:jhutson@associationsystems.com).

### **Call for Nominations for NEPA**

#### **Distinguished Contribution Award for 2006**

**Joan Bombace, Ph.D.**

**Quinnipiac University**

**Chair, DCA Committee**

The New England Psychological Association's Distinguished Contribution Award (DCA) for 2006 will be presented to a psychologist with current or prior association with New England who has distinguished her/himself in one or more of the following ways:

- has advanced the science of psychology;
- has used psychology to advance individual and/or community well-being through service;
- is conducting a program of research or service which is currently making major strides in furthering new knowledge in psychology;
- has engaged in teaching and mentoring in a manner reflecting commitment and innovation well beyond the norm.

In contrast to the past, there is no longer a need to contact a nominee in advance to confirm his or her willingness to be considered for this award or to solicit a vita from him or her.

Nominations for 2006 should include:

- a letter of nomination addressing the nominee's contributions to psychology in the New England area;
- a brief statement of her/his association with New England;
- (optional) letters of support for the nominee from other colleagues.

The deadline for receipt of nomination materials is May 21, 2005.

These materials should be sent to:

Joan Bombace, Ph.D.

120 Mitchell Drive  
New Haven, CT 06511

e-mail either Joan Bombace at  
bombace@quinnipiac.edu or Duncan White at

Dwhite@ric.edu for more information about DCA nominations.

All nominees will be considered by the DCA Committee. The candidate selected will be contacted by Joan Bombace, the chair of the Distinguished Contribution Award Committee, to confirm that he or she is willing to accept this award and to commit to giving the Distinguished Contribution Lecture in October, 2006 at the NEPA conference (at Southern New Hampshire University).

The recipient will be announced at NEPA's annual business meeting at Southern CT State University, New Haven, CT on October 14, 2005. Subsequently, the awardee will deliver the Distinguished Contribution Award Lecture at the annual meeting in October of 2006 at Southern New Hampshire University, Manchester, NH. The award will be augmented with a modest honorarium and substantial financial support for NEPA Conference attendance.

**NEPA's 2005 Conference, Call for Proposals, or  
NEPA membership, contact**

Jack Hutson of Association Systems

**e-mail:** [jhutson@associationsystems.com](mailto:jhutson@associationsystems.com)

**or check the NEPA website**

[www.nepa-info.org](http://www.nepa-info.org)

**Highlights of the Fall, 2005  
45th NEPA Annual Meeting  
Mary Zahm, Ph.D.  
Bristol Community College  
NEPA President**

The 45th Annual Meeting of the New England Psychological Association (NEPA) and the 11th Northeast Conference for Teachers of Psychology (NECTOP) will be held on October 14-15, 2005 at Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, Connecticut. Exciting programs are being planned for NECTOP and NEPA. The highlights of the NECTOP program are in another column in this newsletter.

The Friday evening NECTOP/NEPA Reception and Banquet will be highlighted by the presentation of a nationally known distinguished lecturer on psychology that follows the dinner. Throughout Saturday morning and afternoon an assortment of invited presentations, symposia, paper presentations, workshops, and poster sessions will be concurrently scheduled that offer professionals and students alike diverse opportunities to become educated about the latest research in psychological science and the important clinical applications that research can have in society. Some noteworthy program highlights are listed below.

Dr. Juliet Schor of Boston College will deliver a thought-provoking lecture on the "Commercialization of Childhood". Dr. Ron Levant, APA President, has been awarded NEPA's Distinguished Contribution Award for 2005 and will give a lecture on "The New Psychology of Boys and Men". Dr. Richard Hackman of Harvard University has been chosen to be the American Psychological Association (APA) Distinguished Scientist lecturer at the 2005 (NEPA) meeting as part of a lecturer program for Regional Psychological Associations sponsored by the APA. The title of his lecture is "What Makes for a Great Ensemble?" A symposium on "Children and Poverty" is also being planned. Dr. Bernice Lott, Professor Emeritus of the University of Rhode Island, has agreed to be one of the participants. The American Psychological Society (APS) has also agreed to sponsor a William James Distinguished Lecturer again this year. APS will extend an invitation to a speaker whose name will be included in the NEPA 2005 Conference Program.

Dr. Bryan Auday (Gordon College, MA) will announce recipients of the 2005 NEPA Honorary Undergraduate Scholars Awards in recognition of their outstanding college accomplishments in research, service to the community, contributions to their psychology departments, and academics. The NEPA Business Meeting will also feature an announcement of

the winner of the 2006 Distinguished Contribution Award by Dr. Joan Bombace (Quinnipiac University) and the results of the 2005–2006 NEPA elections. Working lunches will also be presented on a variety of stimulating topics. More details about the NECTOP and NEPA programs will be included in our summer newsletter.

The date for the submission of proposals for NEPA symposia, papers, posters, working lunch sessions, and workshops is May 21, 2005. The submission form will be mailed out soon. They are available on our website: <http://nepa-info.org> or from Jack Hutson by Email at [jhutson@associationsystems.com](mailto:jhutson@associationsystems.com).

Please plan to participate in our 2005 annual meeting!

### **NECTOP Planning Underway**

**Theodore Bosack, Ph.D.**

**Providence College**

**Chair, NECTOP Committee**

Planning for NECTOP 2005 has begun. Since participants seemed to like the format of NECTOP 2004, we have decided to follow that pattern again, offering two plenary sessions and two sets of

concurrent sessions. In addition, the Committee has agreed to add a session of Participant Idea Exchanges (PIE) at which table leaders will lead discussions on topics of interest to psychology teachers. PIE topics and discussion leaders will be selected from proposals in response to a Call that will be widely distributed. Of course, the Call will also solicit posters on the teaching of psychology, all of which will be eligible for consideration for a prize from the Society for the Teaching of Psychology.

Some speakers and workshop leaders have already been scheduled. Robert Sternberg of Yale University will give the afternoon plenary address, and arrangements are nearly complete for the second plenary session speaker. Chris Hakala of Western New England College will follow up his recent Excellence in Teaching article for the Psychology Teacher Listserv with a workshop on development of scoring rubrics for essay exam questions. Sheila Quinn of Salve Regina University is preparing a workshop on using case studies in teaching psychology courses.

When the program is complete, we will announce it through email and distribution of registration materials.

### **Description of the Site of the**

### **2005 NEPA Annual Meeting**

**Deborah A. Carroll, Ph.D.**

**Southern Connecticut State University**

**On-Site Conference Coordinator**

Southern Connecticut State University, part of the Connecticut State University System, is located in the historic Westville section of New Haven, CT. Founded in 1893, SCSU's 168-acre main campus is in the midst of a \$230 million reconstruction program. SCSU, with an enrollment of over 12,000 students, plays a major role in the educational, economic, and cultural life of the Greater New Haven community. SCSU is continually modifying its curriculum to meet the changing needs of its students and currently offers 115 undergraduate and graduate degree programs.

The Greater New Haven area, located on Long Island Sound is home, to not only SCSU, but also Yale University, the New Haven Symphony Orchestra, the Peabody Museum, local theaters, museums, restaurants, parks, and shopping centers. Log onto [www.southernct.edu](http://www.southernct.edu) for more information about SCSU or [www.newhavenct.areaguides.net](http://www.newhavenct.areaguides.net) to plan your Fall Weekend in New Haven Connecticut!

### **Future NEPA Meetings**

**October 14-15, 2005**

**Southern Connecticut State University**

**New Haven, CT.**

**2006 – Southern New Hampshire University**

**Manchester, NH.**

### **NEPA Members News**

**Mary Zahm, Ph.D.** (Bristol Community College) conducted a Participant Idea Exchange Session titled "Incorporating a service-learning option into traditional and distance learning psychology courses" at the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology in St. Petersburg Beach, Florida in January 2005.

ATTENTION NEPA MEMBERS

Send news of your recent grants, awards, publications, presentations, and accomplishments to us so we can include them in the NEPA Newsletter. Send news items to Deborah A. Carroll, Ph.D., NEPA Newsletter Editor, via e-mail at [carrolld1@southernct.edu](mailto:carrolld1@southernct.edu) or by mail at the address below. News sent by May 15, 2005 will be included in the Summer 2005 newsletter.

*Plan to Participate in the  
45th Annual Meeting  
of the  
New England Psychological Association*

*October 14-15, 2005  
at  
Southern Connecticut State University  
New Haven, CT 06615*

*Please join us in New Haven to share the excitement of Psychology!*

**NEPA NEWSLETTER ADVERTISING POLICY**

We accept advertising of psychologically related events in our Newsletter. *Materials submitted must conform to the APA Ethical Code for Psychologists.* The charges are: 1/4 page = \$75; 1/2 page = \$125; full page = \$200. Materials should be submitted in camera ready form. Please include payment in your submission, with checks made out to NEPA. Copy and payment should be submitted to Deborah A. Carroll, Ph.D. at the address listed on the cover of this newsletter.

Deborah A. Carroll Ph.D., Editor,  
NEPA Newsletter

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