

# spa exchange

Volume 10, Number 4

Winter 2000

## Message from President Sandra W. Russ

It is with great enthusiasm that I begin my term as President of SPA. The Society is in a very strong position, thanks to the leadership of its' previous presidents and board members and to the activities and investment of the membership. Bruce Smith has been a strong President who began a number of initiatives that have increased the visibility of SPA, both within APA and within the mental health community. I hope to continue these initiatives and the political advocacy of the organization. At our Board Retreat this past September, we decided to look into hiring an individual to coordinate our political advocacy efforts on a part-time basis. Exactly how to proceed is still under discussion. We will report on this and other initiatives at the Mid-Winter Meeting in Albuquerque.

Steve Finn has put together an outstanding program for the Mid-Winter Meeting. One of the events will be a Town Meeting where we can have a dialogue about current

activities of SPA and your ideas about future projects and directions. In the past, we have tried to get feedback from the membership with surveys, but having the opportunity for in-depth discussion about a number of issues should be invaluable. Please try to come to this event and to the Mid-Winter meeting itself which will have stimulating paper sessions and addresses, good receptions and lots of time for socializing.

SPA has been very important to me personally in my professional development. The friendships and professional collaborations that have developed have greatly influenced my work and my personal growth. As a result of my own experience, I urge students and professionals early in their careers to attend the Mid-Winter meeting and interact with people. E-mail and reading journals is important but doesn't replace face-to-face contact.

This is a time for change in SPA as well. Manuela Schulze Holp, our Operations Manager, gave birth to a baby girl on January 18<sup>th</sup> and will not be continuing in the position. Her leaving is a real loss to the Society because she has done such an excellent job of organizing the Central Office, developing procedures, attending to all the details, and most importantly, really caring about the Society. She leaves a real legacy and SPA will always be indebted to her. She is also helping



Sandra W. Russ

during this transition period, for which we are grateful. We are still interviewing applicants for the position, and hopefully, by the time you read this, our new Operations Manager will be in place.

Another change will occur in January, 2002 when Bill Kinder steps down as editor of Journal of Personality Assessment. Bill will be completing an eight year term as editor. He has done a stellar job and continued the reputation of the Journal as the premier journal in the field of assessment. We are beginning the process for a search for a new editor. Look for an announcement requesting nominations in the February issue of JPA.

Personality assessment faces many challenges right now. SPA has many talented members with good ideas about how to meet the challenges, future clinical and research directions, and projects that will make a difference. It's because of this talent that we've grown as a Society and we can do much for the field. Let's continue this discussion in Albuquerque. ▲

### In this issue...

President's Message.....	1
Notes from Amsterdam.....	2
SPA Expands to Belgrade.....	3
Assessment at the Millenium and Beyond .....	4
Assessment after the Millenium: Predictions .....	6
The Teacher's Block.....	7
Assessing Adolescents .....	8
Dissertation Grant Winners.....	10
Call for Nominations.....	11
Personal Column.....	13

## Notes from Amsterdam: The 1999 International Rorschach Congress

Irving B. Weiner, Ph.D.

The XVI International Congress of Rorschach and Projective Methods, held last July 19-24 in Amsterdam, provided a wonderful opportunity to exchange ideas and information with colleagues from around the world and to enjoy the cultural and culinary attractions of a great city. The Congress was planned and directed under the auspices of the International Rorschach Society by Leo Cohen and Corine de Ruitied, who chaired respectively the Organizing Committee and the Scientific Program Committee. Thanks to their fine work and the efforts of their many committee members, Congress participants were treated to symposia, papers, and posters presented by psychologist from 30 different countries and to social events that culminated in a rollicking dinner cruise on the Amsterdam waterways. I have been attending these IRS meetings since the 1968 Congress in London and I have always come away from them feeling enormously enriched by both the camaraderie and intellectual stimulation they offer.

The scientific program in Amsterdam included some outstanding contributions by SPA members. Especially noteworthy, in my opinion, were a keynote address by Greg Meyer on "Rorschach Assessment: Recognizing Limitations and Building on Strengths;" an invited address by Sid Blatt on "The Rorschach for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: The Assessment of Object Representation;" and a series of symposia coordinated by Phil Erdberg and Tom Shaffer that presented nonpatient Comprehensive System

data collected in 12 different countries: Argentina, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Peru, Portugal, Spain, and Tunisia. This remarkable international collaboration in establishing normative guidelines bears witness to great strides that are being made around the world toward appreciating fully the universal applicability of the Rorschach Inkblot Method and from refining our skills in utilizing this instrument effectively in evaluating the personality characteristics and adaptive capacities of people from diverse backgrounds.

The International Rorschach Society has thrived under the leadership of John Exner who has served as its President for the last 6 years. The Society has enjoyed a considerably expanded membership during this time, and its activities in addition to the triennial congresses includes publication of Rorschachiana, its annual yearbook of internationally solicited articles printed in English; a regular Bulletin keeping members informed about Society news and international matters; and the establishment in Bern of the Rorschach Archives, a library of articles and mementos of which John Exner has formally been appointed as Curator. SPA members continue to play prominent part in these activities. I had the honor in Amsterdam of being elected as IRS President to succeed John, who continues to serve on the Executive Board as Past-President, and Bruce

Smith was elected to the Executive Board as one of its members from abroad. The first and second Vice-Presidents of the IRS, Anne Andronikof-Sanglade from France and Odile Husain from Canada are SPA members, as are two other recently elected Members-at-Large, Leo Cohen from the Netherlands and Salvatore Parisi from Italy.

To those SPA members interested in the Rorschach and other projective methods who have not availed themselves of the opportunity to join and participate in the IRS, I would have to say in all candor that you are really missing something that is very exciting and a lot of fun. The present cost of \$15.00 added to SPA dues for the IRS membership is less than half of what the Rorschachiana yearbook costs, and it is distributed free to members along with the Bulletin and a reduced registration fee at the Congress. Now might also be a good time to begin thinking about attending or presenting at the next triennial Congress, which will take place in the second week of September, 2000, in Rome. Could there be a finer place than the Eternal City to combine a European vacation with a top-flight scientific meeting?



## SPA Expands to Belgrade

Bruce L. Smith

As I mentioned in my last President's Letter, a number of us who were at the International Rorschach Congress in Amsterdam this past July had the pleasure of meeting two young Yugoslavian psychologists who had braved political turmoil and international travel red tape to meet with others interested in projective methods. All of us were impressed with the warmth, wit, and wisdom of these two women who are struggling to make normal lives for their families as well as build a profession amidst violence, chaos, and repression. The courage they display in the face of unbelievable hardship is awe-inspiring.

I am pleased to welcome Dragana Jovic and Tamara Dzamonja as new Associate Members of the Society for Personality Assessment. Both Dragana and Tamara graduated from the Medical Psychology Faculty at University of Belgrade in 1985. Both women received Masters degrees in 1997. Tamara completed her Ph.D. in 1998, while Dragana is currently finishing her dissertation. Tamara's masters thesis was on suicide and depression from a personal construct point of view (published in translation in Great Britain), and her Ph.D. dissertation was on comparison of 5- and 7-factor personality models. Dragana's thesis was on "Empirical Analysis of Borderline Personality Indicators on the Comprehensive System," and her dissertation topic is "Conceptual and Empirical Correlations of NEO-PIR and Rorschach Indicators."

Both women work for the Institute for Psychiatry of the Clinical Center of Serbia in Belgrade where in addition to clinical and teaching responsibilities, they are designing research focusing on the use of the Rorschach Comprehensive System and new generation inventories (e.g., NEO-PIR, MMPI-2) in Yugoslavia. They are trying to bring these techniques to a country that has been essentially cut off from the rest of the scientific community for the past 10 years.

The challenges they face are monumental. In addition to living in a country whose infrastructure has been largely destroyed, the lack of an active professional community

and contact with the larger scientific world make professional development and research very difficult. For example, they have needed to learn the Comprehensive System entirely out of books, because funds are not available for travel overseas to workshops or to bring instructors to Belgrade. Indeed, the subscriptions to JPA that are a part of membership in the Society will benefit not only Dragana and Tamara, but the entire psychological community in Yugoslavia, as the University has not had the funds to subscribe to foreign publications for some time.

Not only are we contributing to the rebuilding of a professional community in a ravaged country, but SPA members stand to benefit from our new association as well. Those of us interested in cross-cultural research, as well as the effects of social upheaval and trauma on personality may have the opportunity for collaborative research that is potentially quite exciting. I look forward to years of collegiality and collaborative work.

Welcome! ▲



## Assessment at the Millenium and Beyond

Len Handler

---

I have a dream, a dream for the year 2000, and beyond. In that vision I see much more collaborative assessment and more assessment tied firmly and directly to important criteria, such as psychotherapy process and outcome; transference and countertransference issues; and behavior in the life world. The dream focuses on people, younger colleagues like the older ones I have loved and admired, who have impressed me over the years with their keen abilities, and who continue to tie assessment more directly to the assessee's experience of self and others. I dream of these focused assessments conceptualized and verbalized in experience-near language.

But the dream contains a small, frightening nightmarish segment, in which the spector of meaningless objectivism suddenly appears - a vision of assessment reduced to simplistic self-report measures, designed merely to tap discrete and specific aspects of personality functioning. I see assessments being done only by machines, designed to objectively highlight two, three, four, or



Len Handler

five (if necessary) personality factors that are said to comprehensively do a competent assessment.

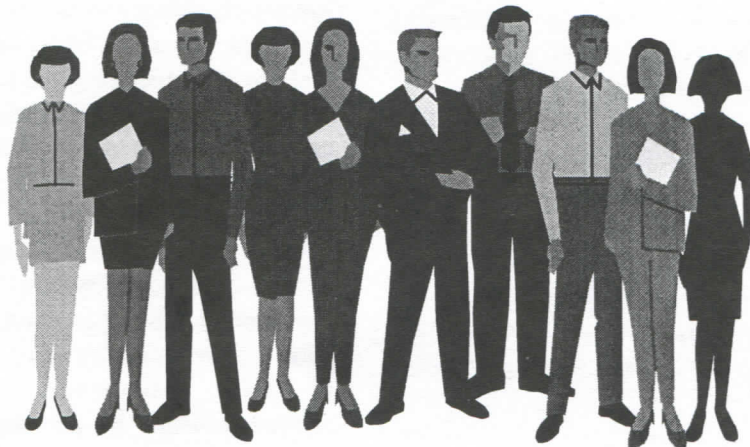
Of course, the dream ends happily; the disturbing nightmare is vanquished, replaced by the careful, thorough and intensive work of those who have designed techniques and procedures to tap the exquisite humanness of their charges. I have already witnessed the beginning of these changes, as we focus, for example, on the healthy and adaptive qualities of personality functioning and of the positive aspects of relationships with others. I can hardly wait. If not now, when?

▲

## Announcement

We are setting up a committee on "Assessment and Prevention" that will focus on the role of personality assessment in early identification of problems and the development of prevention intervention programs. One task of the committee might be to identify model assessment and prevention programs. Anyone interested in working on this committee please contact:

**Sandra Russ at [swr@po.cwru.edu](mailto:swr@po.cwru.edu).**



## Assessment after the Millenium: Predictions (Whimsical and Otherwise)

Bruce L. Smith

With the explosion of information technology and an emphasis on hard science, assessment in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century will eventually be conducted entirely by computer and entirely at the cellular level. Personality assessment as we know it will disappear because personality will become a thing of the past. Interventions aimed at the genetic level will enable individuals to choose their personalities, and cosmetic psychiatry will be the latest fad. Asserta TM will be taken to enable a more assertive personality, while Allurzac TM will create instant sex appeal.

The ascendancy of Managed Care will finally be complete, and psychotherapy will be all but eliminated. Research will be directed at chronic illnesses-including psychiatric-with the goal of reducing medical costs. Eventually, all illnesses will either be quickly cured or equally quickly fatal. Thus, depressives will either respond to anti-depressants within two weeks or be required to commit suicide. I foresee a role for personality assessment here in identifying which patients are likely to fall into the latter category.

Regardless of the kind of assessment conducted, contact with the patient will no longer be necessary or even allowed. Instead, assessments will be conducted over the Internet. This will effectively eliminate the role of the psychologist, once the assessment program is uploaded onto the website. We will all be spending our lives designing websites and selling real estate.

On a more serious note (the above was mostly not-serious), I foresee several developments in assessment, some of which are exciting and others of which are troubling. Reading the recent literature in JPA and other journals, it is clear that current research has invigorated our field and made it much more relevant to the clinical enterprise. Empirical research grounded in psychological theory is increasing the utility of standard instruments such as



Bruce Smith

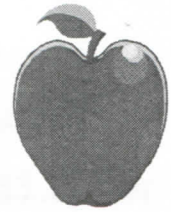
the Rorschach and MMPI-2, while providing deeper understanding of the human personality. In my own area of particular interest, the Rorschach, the increasing acceptance of the Comprehensive System as well as a growing recognition of its limitations has lead to exciting attempts to merge dynamic and empirical methods of Rorschach interpretation that promise to yield fruitful new ways of using this venerable method in the coming years.

Recent challenges to assessment in the courts and in the managed care arena have, in fact, lead to research efforts that are demonstrating the reliability, validity, and utility of our methods. I anticipate further developments in this area that will re-affirm our commitment to personality assessment as a science and a clinical enterprise.

On the troubling side, there continue to be attacks on assessment both within and without professional psychology. Blanket condemnations of assessment by some in the academy only serve to strengthen the hand of those who would like to eliminate it from reimbursement. By all means, it is important for us to continue to evaluate critically our methods, but the kind of unfounded polemical attacks on assessment that are found in some of the literature and within certain APA Divisions are neither scientific nor politic.

Most importantly, I look for SPA to continue to provide the leadership to the profession and to continue to educate the public on the value of assessment-both as a scientific discipline and as a practice. ▲

## The Teacher's Block Some Thorny Issues in Teaching Intellectual Assessment



Jed A. Yalof, Psy.D.  
*Immaculate College*

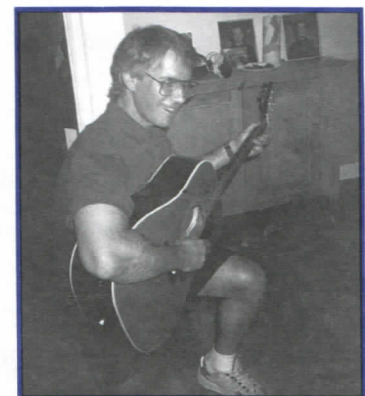
Teaching clinical students the basics of intellectual assessment is fraught with some potential, familiar obstacles that are worth revisiting as an update:

- Potential problems associated with the logistics of having students locate subjects on whom to practice their developing skills (eg., Where does the student find practice subjects who are acceptable candidates for taking an IQ test?).
- Ethical considerations for teachers who require that students locate practice students (eg., What is the importance of attending to issues associated with consent forms, of provisions for helping the student deal with difficult situations, of accessibility to volunteer clients, of feedback consideration?).
- Ethical considerations for teachers who permit their students to test other students in the same program as part of skill practice (eg., Is there a potential ethical dilemma built into this practice?).
- Helping students process feelings associated with assimilating IQ assessment into their developing professional identities (e.g., What are the implications for the student of labeling/classifying people, or of possible conflicts associated with giving clients low scores, or of bias/fairness issues and attendant professional debates?).
- Helping students to work flexibly with some of the real-world constraints of IQ subtests and indices (e.g., How does a low score on two measures of non-verbal reasoning, or an index of visual processing speed, relate to something in the client's school and/or non-school experience? How might an individual's "emotional intelligence" as a construct affect successful adaptation?).
- Empathizing with the student's experience of what might be best described as the challenge of managing the "physical aspects of IQ testing" (e.g., "Let's talk

about what it's like to sit for two-hours on a hard chair with your legs crossing and uncrossing, balancing a manual, hungry, in a muggy room, and trying to figure out if you should inquire a particular Comprehension subtest response because they all seem like 1-point answers. At the same time, you're feeling detached from the client more often than not, making limited eye-contact, with your nose stuck in the test manual. You've also had problems handling your stopwatch! And, on top of it all, you also have this nagging feeling that you stopped the Vocabulary subtest too soon and you don't know what to do!").

- For the teacher...hoping that someone empathizes with what it's like to spend your entire weekend checking the score of 15-20 IQ protocols against a manual for accuracy of administration, subtest scoring, transfer of raw to standard scores, and calculation of index/IQ scores, and then trying to come up with a reasonable way of grading!

Some very good information about this topic can be found in the April 1999 Issue of Professional Psychology: Research & Practice, in an article by Rupert, et al, entitled "Practical and Ethical Issues in Teaching Psychological Testing." ▲



*Jed demonstrating  
one of his many  
talents!*

## Assessing Adolescents: Weathering Storm and Stress with the Right Testing Implements Radihika Krishnamurthy, Psy.D.

Imagine the following conversation between parent and teenager, which may be all too familiar if you have had an adolescent boy lurking in your household:

"How was your day?"

"Uh, fine."

"What did you do in school?"

"Nothing much."

"Are you hungry?"

"I guess."

The psychological examiner and/or therapist working with an adolescent may have a similar experience:

"Why do you suppose you were brought here today?"

"I don't know."

"How are things going for you?"

"Fine."

"Is there anything troubling you?"

"Not really."

"What are your parents concerned about?"

"Beats me."

And so on. While adolescents can

spend hours on the phone with their friends, or have plenty to say in internet chat rooms, they are often at a loss of words to express their inner thoughts and feelings to adults. This presents difficulties for the therapist who may be accustomed to obtaining voluntarily offered information during an intake interview and does not anticipate having to coax the words out of the client's mouth. Moreover, working with an adolescent requires being prepared for some degree of variability from one session to another. Recall the description of past experts: G. Stanley Hall's portrayal of adolescence in terms of "lack of emotional steadiness," Anna Freud's depiction of the adolescent as acting "for a considerable length of time in an inconsistent and unpredictable manner," and Erikson's account of the adolescent's mind being "a mind of moratorium." The current state of understanding of adolescents continues to indicate more erratic emotional states in this stage compared to other age periods, even if intense turmoil is not a necessary accompaniment. For the clinician, feeling frustrated, impatient, or at a loss may result when the teenage client goes from reticent to rambunctious, and cooperative to surly...surely a good time to check in on clinician Strum und Drang.

A beginning premise of this article is that psychological testing is crucial for obtaining an accurate picture of

adolescents' functioning as they may not be the most forthcoming, accurate, or effective in presenting a self-portrait through verbal report. This is particularly so when critical issues such as suicidal risk, runaway attempts, and other risk behaviors are in question. Assessing adolescents requires no small measure of patience, flexibility, and spontaneity over and above the requisite knowledge of appropriate tests and methods.

It goes without saying that establishing rapport is critical to achieve a successful assessment. Stephen Finn, in writing about using the MMPI-2 as a therapeutic intervention, has discussed the importance of getting the client involved in the testing by exploring what the client wants to know about him- or herself, addressing the client's reservations upfront, and being genuine and invested in the testing process. For the adolescent, being nonauthoritarian yet firm, reassuring to allay fears yet respectful of capabilities, and calm in the face of anger are also vital.

The examiner should have at hand a variety of tools to evaluate the adolescent, using the ones that have a "goodness-of-fit" for the particular teenager being evaluated. For example, when interview methods produce a limited yield, the examiner could reflect on the nature of the obstacle: Is it due to embarrassment or awkwardness with discussing difficult issues in a face-to-face manner? If so, a written technique such as a Sentence Completion method could be used, provided the adolescent is willing and able to self-express using this less direct method of communication.

*continued on next page...*



## Assessing Adolescents:

...continued from page 8

However, a Sentence Completion Test (SCT) may be unfruitful for adolescents who are unable to find the right words to describe their feelings and experiences. A good alternative for such teens would be a self-report test such as the MMPI-A, which provides the thought, feeling, or behavior, and merely requires endorsement of relevant experiences in a simple yes/no format. Thus, a teen who is unable to articulate his angst may find that it can be expressed in terms of endorsing MMPI-A items dealing with feeling unable to "get going," not caring about what happens to him, feeling useless, brooding, feeling lonely amongst company, and lacking appetite, interest, or energy for age-appropriate activities and inclinations. Readers of this article may recall that several MMPI-A items were developed specifically to represent adolescent experiences including behavior problems, difficulties in school, and family conflict, in addition to reflecting a broad range of psychopathological symptoms. The Millon Adolescent Clinical Inventory (MACI) is useful when dysfunctional personality patterns and clinical syndromes need to be identified. An adolescent version of the Personality Assessment Inventory—PAI-A—is currently being developed by Les Morey, offering clinicians another self-report instrument for evaluating adolescents.

The adolescent who is reluctant to offer his or her sentiments may give superficial, even flippant responses to the sentence stems of a

SCT, such as "I like...burgers" "I failed...to finish my book report yesterday" "I feel...an itch on my nose" "I secretly...don't have secrets." He or she may also produce a defensive or guarded MMPI-A profile that prevents meaningful, comprehensive interpretation (Check on the examiner rant-and-rave gauge at this point). A more indirect technique such as the Rorschach, which does not rely on awareness of disturbances or willingness to describe them, may be most suitable in this scenario. The Rorschach is, however, not necessarily the ultimate solution, as low R/ high Lambda records are not uncommon for adolescents.

A variety of other methods are available for testing adolescents including the TAT for those who respond well to narrative methods, checklists, drawing techniques, etc. Collateral information from parents, peers, and therapists are often invaluable supplements. Informal assessment against the backdrop of a recreational activity can be a useful adjunct to formal assessment (I recall getting all kinds of unexpected, unsolicited disclosures from my adolescent clients while shooting pool with them in the recreation room of a psychiatric hospital).

Apart from selecting the methods that are well-suited to the individual, test examiners should be sure that their array of techniques includes well-validated tests with strong psychometric bases for adolescents, and that they use them in the intended manner with age-appropriate norms. I have once too often come across clinicians who conduct an informal assessment,

interpret the results from an intuitive standpoint, and give these results equal or more emphasis than the results of a well-established test (Paul Meehl's discourse of why he didn't attend case conferences echoes in my mind on these occasions). The principle forgotten in such situations is that the level of confidence in the interpretive statements should match the psychometric soundness of the test used.

### A few final reflections...

I am always startled when I encounter psychologists who categorically refuse to use the Rorschach (because it's "worthless," "too time-consuming," "too difficult"), as if they have a wealth of alternatives in evaluating adolescents that yield the same level of information. Similarly, I am astounded when I hear opposition to using the MMPI-A because "the adolescent may not answer face-valid items honestly," as if the veridical nature of item responses was the focus of interpretation, or because it's "too long", as if the same breadth of data could be collected in a shorter time period by interview format. The bottom line is that the effective assessor of adolescents should be reasonably well-versed in a broad range of assessment methods, open to using whatever means are likely to be most useful in a given case, and adept in adjusting to the unique demands involved in evaluating adolescents. Don't forget to bring the adolescent's parents/guardians into the evaluation process to the extent desirable. Then straighten yourself out from any bumps encountered and write that report.



## **\*\* Dissertation Grant Winners \*\***

The following individuals will obtain a grant up to \$500.00 to pursue their dissertation work in personality assessment. All will be reporting their findings at a future mid-winter meeting.

Allison Anderson  
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale  
Qualities of Impulsivity and Sensation Seeking and their Relationship to a Measure of  
Cognitive Functioning  
Chair: Thomas Schill  
Sponsor: Stephen Dollinger

Edward Petrosky  
Widener University  
Early Memories as a Projective Technique  
Chair: Maurice Prout  
Sponsor: Virginia Brabender

Shahal Rozenblatt  
Long Island University  
Aggression as a Defense Against Ego Threat  
Chair: Barry Ritzler  
Sponsor: Barry Ritzler

Steven Smith  
University of Arkansas  
Multimethod Assessment of Child and Adolescent Psychopathology:  
An Examination of Behavior Ratings, Self-Report, and the Rorschach Inkblot Method  
Chair: Eric S. Knowles  
Sponsor: Mark J. Hilsenroth

Johanna Tiemann  
Long Island University  
Assessment of Language-Based Variance in Cognition, Affect, Self-Perception, and  
Object-Relations in Fluent Bilinguals  
Chair: Barry Ritzler  
Sponsor: Barry Ritzler



## Call for Nominations

The Board of Trustees of the Society for the Personality Assessment is now soliciting nominations for the next editor of the Journal of Personality Assessment. The position will begin on January 1, 2002 and the appointment will be for a five year term.

Preference will be given to candidates who have a national reputation as an experienced researcher/clinician in the area of personality assessment. Recognizing that personality assessment is a broad, multi-faceted field, candidates should be aware of and accepting of the wide variety of instruments and techniques utilized in personality assessment. Previous editorial experience as a member of the editorial board of an assessment journal will be an asset.

Nominations must be received by September 1, 2000. Self-nominations should include a current curriculum vita and a list of four references who may be contacted for recommendations. Additional information will be solicited at a later date from the pool of most promising candidates.

Nominations should be forwarded to:

Chair, JPA Search Committee  
Society for Personality Assessment  
6109 H Arlington Blvd.  
Falls Church, Virginia 22044

## Are You Interested?

Are you interested in serving on the Committee on Local Chapters? This Committee will work to support our local chapters and facilitate the development of new chapters. Please contact the Central Office (703) 534-4SPA if you would like to be a member.

Bob Craig Ph.D., ABPP has recently published a book entitled "Interpreting Personality Tests: A clinical manual for the MMPI-2, MCMI-III, CPI-R, & 16PF", (1999), John Wiley & Sons.

Also, Bob is working on developing a test for personality disorders using adjective checklist methodology. He is in the process of testing the standardization sample and is in need of additional clinical patients to complete this 175-item test. It takes a patient 5-10 minutes to complete the test form and the clinician would need to complete the cover sheet which would take about 1 minute. If anyone is interested in helping in this project, please contact Bob at [bjcraig@mediaone.net](mailto:bjcraig@mediaone.net) or call him at (312) 666-6500 X2289 during regular business hours.

## The Personal Column

Joan Weltzien

**Numan Almusaws** has been promoted to the rank of "Associate Professor" of Educational Measurement and Evaluation at the University of Bahrain in May of 1999.

**Kevin Arnold** was elected President of the Ohio Psychological Association for the year 2000-2001, was also elected to The Board of Trustees of the American Board of Behavioral Psychology and has written a chapter, "Directed Family Therapy" in press, Volume 18 of "Innovations in Clinical Practice." Additionally, he had two grants funded, one for social skills training with learning disabled students, and one involving coordinated assessments of students with low incidence sensory impairments.

**David John Berndt** has a web page now at [www.divorcedoc.com](http://www.divorcedoc.com) and publishes an electronic monthly e-bulletin there entitled, "When Marriage Ends".

**Robert Bornstein**, who is a Professor of Psychology at Gettysburg College, received the 1999 Walter Klopfer Award for distinguished contributions to The Personality Assessment Literature for his article entitled "Implicit and Self-Attributed Dependency Needs in Dependent and Histrionic Personality Disorders;" this award was given at the spring meeting of SPA in New Orleans. Dr. Bornstein had previously received The Walter Klopfer Award once before in 1995.

**Arnold Bruhn** has been writing on a five year NIDA project to test whether two treatment models would lower recidivism in a population of

incarcerated women. He was asked to develop a memories module as a part of this innovative treatment program. The preliminary figures indicate an 8% recidivism rate for inmates six months after release and roughly 28%, 15 months post-release. There now appears to be genuine hope that female felons with a history of contributing substance abuse can be treated. Previous studies indicate a 12 month recidivism rate of 60% to 75%. He invites individuals interested in developing a similar program, in their area, to contact him.

**Alex B. Caldwell** received the "Wisconsin Psychology Enrichment Award" with a handsome plaque from the Wisconsin Psychology Foundation Inaugural Banquet in Milwaukee during May of 1999.

**Robert J. Craig** has published another book entitled, "Interpreting Personality Tests" (MMPI-2, MCMI-III, CPI-R, 16PF by John Wiley and Sons). He has contributed a chapter on the MSMI-III in Steve Strack's book, "Essentials of Interpreting the Millon Inventories." He is hard at work developing a test for personality disorders using adjective checklist methodology. This test takes a patient five to ten minutes to complete and he is looking for psychologists who would be willing to have their patients take the test as part of a standardization sample. If you are interested call (312) 666-6500, ext. 2289 or 3484, or e-mail at [rjcraig@mediaone.net](mailto:rjcraig@mediaone.net).

**Bob Dell's** new address is 3 Arnoldale Road, D-5, West Hartford, CT, 06119, and his phone number is (860) 232-6201.

**Barton Evans** served as chair of the Harry Stack Sullivan Memorial Conference held at The Washington

School of Psychiatry in October, 1999. The conference theme was "Advances in Interpersonal and Relational Psychotherapy." As a part of the conference, he co-authored a presentation on "Sullivan, Buber, and Levines; ethical Metaphysics in Psychotherapy."

**Leonard J. Ferrante** is President-Elect in 2000 of the Southeast Florida Association of Psychoanalytic Psychology.

**Joseph C. Finney** writes to report that even though he is retired, he has continued to revise and update the University of Kentucky's system of computer interpretation of the MMPI and the CPI, revising them for new editions of the tests and new editions of the DSM. The main achievements are identifying people who commit violence and identifying alcoholics and drug abusers, even when they deny their abuse. The new operator (Behaviordyne's successor is Behaviordata) has implemented some of the updates and revisions. Dr. Finney also continues to do Polynesian anthropology and linguistics research and explore personality - and - culture. He noted that his thirty-five years of prison inmate MMPI's has been an asset as he has been able to work with prisoners not only as a clinical psychologist, but also as an M.D. and attorney. He noted that he has retired with the feeling of having been able to do some good in the world and he recently attended his fifty year Harvard reunion.

**J. Christopher Fowler** graduated in June, 1999 from his four year post-doctoral fellowship in Intensive Psychodynamic Psychotherapy from the Austen Riggs Center. He begins a new position at the center as Assistant Clinical Researcher as of July 1, 1999. This position was created in order to continue the data collection analysis

*continued on page 14...*

## The Personal Column

...continued from page 13

and writing of the "Follow-Along Study." It was designed to bridge the gap between projective testing, treatment, outcome research, and more traditional psychological/psychiatric measures of mental functioning.

**Carl B. Gacono** is now in full time forensic and clinical private practice with The Center for Psychotherapeutic Assessment with Dr. Steve Finn in Austin, Texas. He announces that he continues to expand the Gacono and Meloy Forensic Rorschach computer database. These forensic protocols now contain over eight-hundred different protocols classified by age, gender, diagnosis, offense-type, or any combination of the variables. Please contact him at [Drcarl114@aol.com](mailto:Drcarl114@aol.com) or (512) 278-0198, if you would like to collaborate using data from their protocols in one of your ongoing projects.

**Alan R. Graham** has been appointed chair of The Steering Committee for the APA Business of Practice Network (BOPN).

**Leonard Handler** was the recipient of the 1999 Chancellor's Senior Award for Excellence in Research at The University of Tennessee.

**Allen K. Hess** and SPA Fellow, Irv Weiner, edited a twenty-five chapter volume and wrote four chapters for the *Handbook of Forensic Psychology, Second Edition*, which was published by John Wiley and Sons.

**Linda Hopkins** received her doctorate in January of 1999, from the Fielding Institute in Santa Barbara, California. She recently

received approval and funding for an innovative treatment program for incarcerated at-risk male adolescents housed in the Santa Anna City Jail. She conceptualized, created, and designed the program over the past twelve months and it is to be launched and facilitated beginning October 1, 1999.

**Stephen J. Howard**, a Fellow of the Society, has been elected to the Vice-Presidency of the Board of Directors at The Child and Family Guidance Center in Northridge, California, and has become the Chairman of The Professional Advisory Committee. Dr. Howard has retired as staff member and one of the directors at the center (previously known as the San Fernando Child Guidance Clinic) after twenty-six years of service.

**Marc Janoson** writes to alert us to a workshop on "The Clinical Uses of Drawings," which will be held in New York City in the spring of 2000. For information call (212) 685-2073, fax (212) 689-8068, and e-mail [mjanoson@aol.com](mailto:mjanoson@aol.com).

**Ron Johnson** is licensed in Wisconsin after moving from previous jurisdictions of licensure in NE and IA. He has a diplomate status in The American College of Forensic Examiners.

**John S. Kelly** retired from his position as Professor of Psychology at San Jose State University on December 25, 1998 and is relocating to Reno, Nevada. He asks that his San Jose State mailing address be continued until further notice.

**Reid Meloy** is working on his sixth book, *The Mark of Cain*, an edited Collection of the Most Influential Psychoanalytic Pages on the Psychopath (The Analytic Press, in press). He has also founded Forensis, Inc., a non-profit public benefit corporation devoted to forensic psychological and psychiatric research. One of his

projects includes the refinement and expansion of a Forensic Rorschach database, coordinated and led by Dr. Carl Gacono in Austin, Texas. The database now includes over six-hundred Rorschachs of antisocial children, adolescents, and adults.

**Peter Merenda** was awarded the Roger C. Smith Award for 1999 by The Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards. The award which was presented in Louisville, Kentucky acknowledges Dr. Merenda's outstanding contributions over a span of four decades in promoting the regulation of psychologists and the profession of psychology.

**Samuel Mikail** was appointed to the Board of Directors of The Canadian Psychological Association.

**Cecil R. Miller** retired and closed his office in San Pedro, California. His new correspondence address is P.O. Box 2762, Palos Verdes Peninsula, California 90274.

**Professor William P. Morgan**, Department of Kinesiology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, is one of the twenty-two exercise and sport scientists from around the world who has been selected to serve on The International Olympic Academy of Science. The inaugural meeting of the academy will be held in Sydney, Australia in November prior to the 2000 Olympic Games.

**Ralph Piedmont** just published a book with Plenum on the NEO-PIR entitled "The revised NEO Personality Inventory; Clinical and Research Applications." It is the only book available on the use and interpretation of this popular personality inventory.

continued on Page 15...

## The Personal Column

...continued from page 14

**Harry L. Piersma** has taken a position as Senior Psychologist in The Counseling Center at Michigan State University.

**Herbert Potash** has retired from Fairleigh Dickinson University but retains his private practice in Madison, New Jersey.

**Charles R. Potkay** has retired from teaching at Western Illinois University as of December, 1998. He is now Emeritus Professor of Psychology. His part time practice in clinical psychology continues in Macomb, Illinois.

**Carole Rayburn**, along with Lee Richmond, at Loyola in Maryland, write to note that they are developing a new field of study entitled "Theobiology." They plan to study the images of the Holy Spirit and personality of those perceiving these images, spirituality and personality, life choices (agnetic and communal), peacefulness, body image, and leadership. She presented a paper on Spirituality, Peacefulness and Conflict Management at the International Association of Conflict Management in Bilboa, Spain in June of 1999. In July, she was to give a paper at the University of Oxford on Theobiology and on Leadership.

**Joan Adrienne Roth** left a position as Consulting Psychologist in The California Department of Mental Health, Forensics Division, to accept a position as Director of Community Forensic Services for the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addictions Services. Her new address is: Joan Adrienne Roth, Director of Community Forensic Services, Connecticut Valley Hospital, Shew Hall, Middletown, CT

06457, Phone: (860) 262-6296 or e-mail, [adrienne.roth@po.state.connecticut.us](mailto:adrienne.roth@po.state.connecticut.us).

**Leo Shatin** is the President and Executive Director of American Ombudsman Society, "Critical and Corrective Actions to Promote Good Citizenship and Ethical Behavior."

**Paul Sussman** is the First Chair of the Annual General Meeting of "Heart-Centered Therapies Association" in Atlanta, Georgia. This association, draws it's membership from the students and graduates of The Wellness Institute in Issaquah, Washington. Membership is international and the first annual conference was attended by members from South Africa, the U.S., Canada, and the Philippines.

**John R. Thibodeau** is one of the first graduates from the Three Hundred Hour (modeled after APA's Blue Ribbon Guidelines) Curriculum of the Prescribing Psychologists' Register (PPR). At the May, 1999 graduation, he was asked to present on the use of traditional psychological tests (e.g. WAIS-III, Rorschach, Bender) in the prescribing of psychotropic medications. It was a very well received message. As a Diplomat Fellow in psychopharmacology of The Prescribing Psychologists' Register, Dr. Thibodeau intends to show how his SPA roots can have real meaning for psychologists in the prescribing arena.

**Ivr Weiner** writes to inform us that he has been elected to a three year term as President of the International Rorschach Society. The IRS is a fifty year old society with twenty-six member organizations and is dedicated to facilitating scientific exchange and international collaboration among researchers, practitioners, and teachers working with Rorschach and other projective methods

of psychological assessment. Dr. Weiner encourages SPA members who are not already affiliated with the International Rorschach Society to consider doing so and would be happy to provide them with additional information about it.

**Bruce Zahn** has joined the faculty in the Psy.D. Program at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine in July of 1999. Dr. Zahn is Assistant Professor and Clinical Training Coordinator.

**Eric A. Zilimer**, Professor of Psychology at Drexel University, has published the U.S. Edition of the d2 Test of Attention with Hogrefe and Huber. This test was originally published in Germany, has been translated into five languages and is the most frequently used neuro-psychological instrument in Europe. The test is a measure of selective and sustained attention and has been adapted for U.S. populations.

**Obituary:** Hedy Singer died on February 1, 2000. Hedy, a long-standing SPA member was Chief of Psychology at the Physical Medicine Department of Temple University's School of Medicine and Health System in Philadelphia.

### PS from Joan Weltzien:

I couldn't be more delighted at being elected to Fellow Status in SPA. Just wanted to give credit where it's due. My degree is from University of Houston, and my private practice also includes a healthy balance of individual and family therapy. Also my first mentor, Edwin Wagner- a longtime SPA member, was responsible for the excellent foundation I received for projectives. Additionally, It's delightful to meet and know so many of the authors of the excellent books which I've revered for so long. ▲

## A Photo From the September 1999 Board Meeting



Back Row: Marty Leichtman, Stephen Finn, Bruce Smith, Barry Ritzler, Len Handler  
Front Row: Sandy Russ, Connie Fischer, Virginia Brabender

### SPA Exchange

#### *Editor:*

**Virginia Brabender, Ph.D.**

Widener University  
Institute for Graduate  
Clinical Psychology  
1 University Place  
Chester, PA 19013

#### *Associate Editors:*

**Radhika Krishnamurthy,  
Ph.D.**

**Robert Lovitt, Ph.D.**

**Joan Weltzien, Ed.D.**

**Jed Yalof, Ph.D.**

**Society for Personality Assessment**  
6109 H Arlington Road  
Falls Church, VA 22044

**Bulk Rate  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 9  
Westwood**