

SWPA



southwestern psychological association

SWPA Newsletter

June 2014

In this Issue

- [Greeting from new president](#)
- [2014 Convention Numbers](#)
- [Membership Update](#)
- [Financial Update](#)
- [Undergrad and Grad Research Awards](#)
- [Research competition Poster Showcase](#)
- [2014 Convention Photos](#)

Greetings from Kansas!

By Dr. Jenn Bonds-Raacke **President**



Dear colleagues,

My name is Jenn Bonds-Raacke and as the current President of SWPA I am excited to tell you about the 2015 annual convention. The theme of next year's convention is Myths Meet Science. As the title implies, the invited speakers and special programming will explore ways that psychological myths in society are busted or overturned through the use of the scientific method.

We have great speakers and entertainers on board! For example, Dr. Scott Lilienfeld (co-author of 50 Great Myths of Popular Psychology: Shattering Widespread Misconceptions about Human Behavior), Dr. Regan Gurung (Society for the Teaching of Psychology Master Teacher), and Dr. Travis Langley (author of the book Batman and Psychology: A Dark and Stormy Knight) will all share information on how their research has dispelled psychological myths. We will continue this theme with programming designed especially for students by featuring dual-career couple Dr. Heather Berlin and Mr. Baba Brinkman. Dr. Berlin will present on legal implications for individuals with prefrontal brain damage and Mr. Brinkman will provide an educational rap on myths in evolutionary psychology. Watch for bios of all presenters in the fall newsletter!

The location of the 2015 convention will be at the Hyatt Regency in Wichita, KS. The hotel is offering very reasonable rates (\$119 per night for single and double occupancy) and free internet in chic and comfortable accommodations. Learn more about the hotel at: http://www.swpsych.org/conv_dates.php. In addition, Wichita has many wonderful museums and restaurants, and the city hosts a wide variety of shopping and night life options just waiting for our members to explore. [Check out this short video to get a taste of the many attractions Wichita has to offer.](#) If you have any questions or suggestion, please let me know.

I look forward to seeing you in Wichita!

-Jenn

2014 Convention Program Report

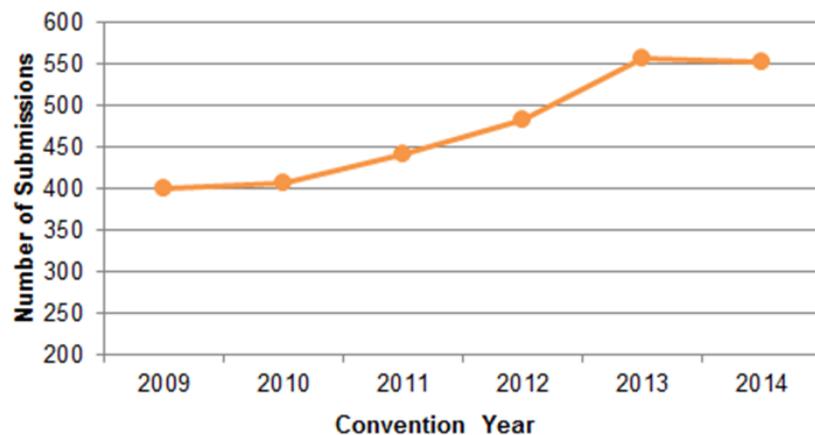
SWPA Continues to Grow

By **Jeanne Burdsal** **Program Chair**



- **43** total SWPA sessions at the 2014 SWPA Convention
- **43** more affiliate sessions at the 2014 SWPA Convention
 - Including: SAMR, SCPA, SWToP, and Psi Chi
- **10** invited speakers
- **66** research talks
- **327** research posters

Total Number of Talk and Poster Submissions
(including affiliate organizations)



Membership Report (May 27, 2014)

By **Dr. Amy Bohmann** **Membership Registrar**

We have **1443** members, including life members and past presidents. Some of them are not active.

Here is the breakdown:

- **20** Life Members
- **40** Past Presidents
- **337** Professional Members
- **318** Graduate Student Members
- **728** Undergraduate Student Members



1170 members are listed as dues paid, so they either attended the convention, or paid for the convention and didn't attend. This includes a handful of invited speakers who attended the convention but whose registration was waived.

SWPA Financial Update

Remembering the Past and Looking Ahead to the Future



By Dr. Arn Froese **Treasurer**

At the bar in San Antonio, a member asked me if I could account for the changes in SWPA finances in the last several years. The member was referring to consistent growth in our expenditures at the same time as our finances improved consistently from year to year. I responded that the answer was fairly simple—SWPA finally got a handle on its finances.

I recall years of frustration when I was the Kansas representative on the Executive Council. At our annual and periodic meetings, I would ask for a financial report, but none was ever available. As President, Charlie Burdsal began revising financial procedures when he engaged one of his colleagues to prepare general ledgers of income and expenses from the bank records. When SWPA looked for a new Treasurer, Sharon Roberts volunteered her accounting expertise and began precise record-keeping and regular financial reporting to the Executive Council. These steps marked the beginning of SWPA's ability to monitor, project, build and adjust expenses to improve services and build reserves.

Within the last year, the Executive Council has acted to establish guidelines for holding reserves. The biggest decision was how much SWPA should keep in reserves to cover financial risks. SWPA is a non-profit organization. This means that excess funds after a convention are never distributed to directors (the Executive Council), but are held in reserve for the good of the members. The Executive Council decided that our minimum desired operating reserves should be at least 50% of our annual budget.

I am pleased to report that SWPA has been above that minimum operating reserve for some years now. For our 2014 convention year, our budget was about \$75,000. The minimum operating reserves then would be \$37,500. After all expenses are paid, SWPA will hold over \$60,000 in operating reserves.

These reserves increased by over \$11,000 after the San Antonio convention. Likely you noticed that we had many more vendor booths at the convention than in the past. These vendors bring income to SWPA and reduce the stress on member dues and registration costs. Our convention manager, Lorraine Grogan, worked hard to produce this increase in vendors.

SWPA's reserves should not make members or Executive Council members complacent. Members should know that reserves build confidence for the Executive Council to continue improving convention quality. The Executive Council has already decided to increase funding for our state representative symposium series and we look forward to improving quality of these symposia. The Executive Council is working with current President, Jennifer Bonds-Raacke, on new initiatives and new concepts for the program in Wichita in 2015.

As SWPA looks to the future, we can trust that finances can support continuing improvements in convention quality and member services. We should all remember that lesson from the bar, though, about the importance of keeping clear track of our finances.

Student Research Competition Winners Of the 2014 SWPA Convention

Graduate Competition Finalists



Troy Michael Marsden

1st Place (Grad Division)

Title: Exploratory and confirmatory factor analysis of the Milwaukee Psychotherapy Expectations Questionnaire

Undergraduate Competition Finalists



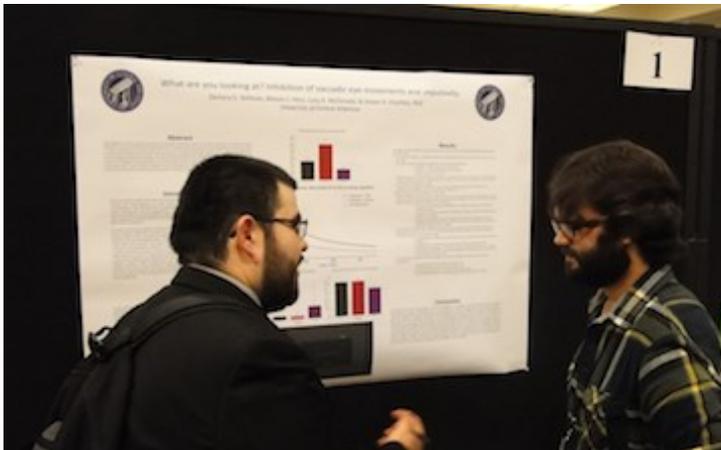
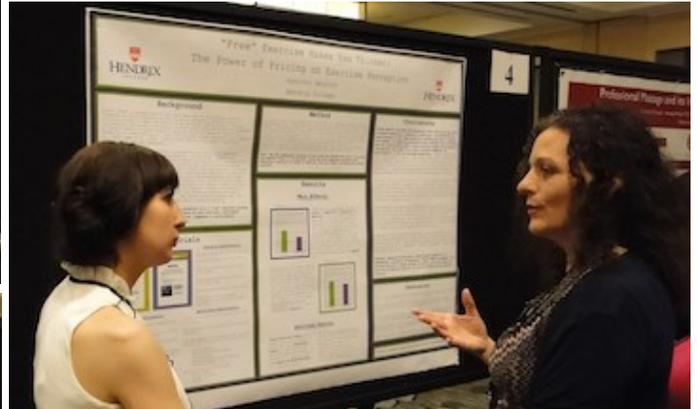
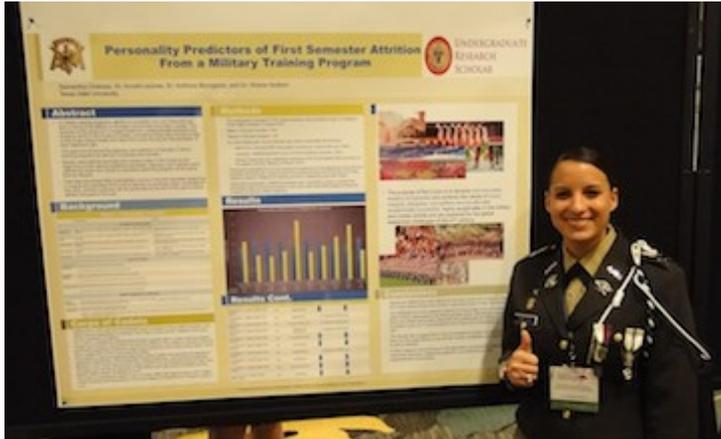
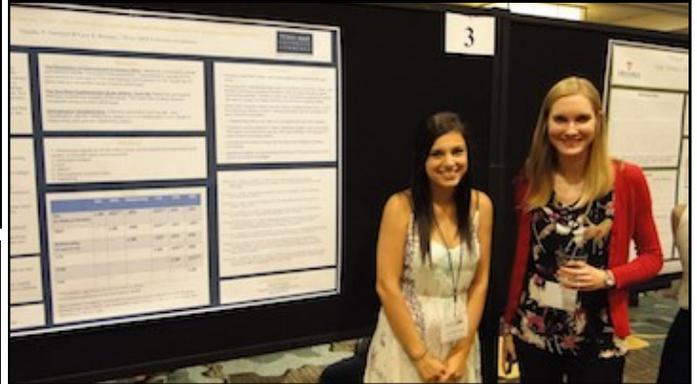
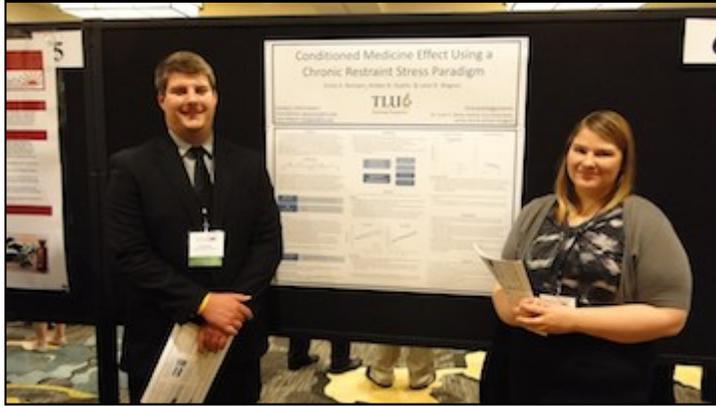
Heather Downs

1st Place (Undergrad Division)

Title: Choice blindness is likelier for simultaneous presentation of images than sequential presentation



2014 SWPA Convention Research Competition Poster Showcase



2014 SWPA Convention



Click here to see many more photos in the online photo album at swpsych.org

