



## Western Psychological Association

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September 1, 2013

Letter of Support for Students Attending the Western Psychological Association  
Convention

The Western Psychological Association (WPA) was founded in 1921 to stimulate the exchange of scientific and professional ideas among students, professors, and practitioners of psychology. WPA Presidents and members have included the top psychologists in the world including Albert Bandura, Gordon Bower, Christina Maslach, Philip Zimbardo, Stanley Sue, and Elizabeth Loftus. Because of the relatively small size of the annual convention (about 1,500 psychologists and students), students in attendance have exciting opportunities to actually meet, closely interact with, and learn from the best psychologists in the field. Students participate by presenting papers and posters that feature their research undertaken with their professors. They also attend presentations, informal conversation hours, and receptions. Thus, WPA serves as a major and unique vehicle for students to enhance their educational experience and learn about professional careers as psychologists.

The 2014 convention will be held April 24-27 in Portland, Oregon. The convention is hosted by Western Oregon University. The program will include featured addresses by distinguished psychologists such as Philip Zimbardo, Stanley Coren, Diane Halpern, Sonja Lyubomirsky, Eric Landrum, Lisa Diamond, Morton Ann Gernsbacher, Delia Saenz, Bettina Casad, Melinda Blackman, and Victoria Follette. Many of these presenters will hold a conversation hour with students immediately after the presentation. There will also be special programs sponsored by Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology and workshops on topics in statistics and research methods. We are looking forward to an exciting convention program that will be a valuable learning experience for students.

Sincerely,

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