



NEWSLETTER OF THE WESTERN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

WESTERN PSYCHOLOGIST



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Welcome Message from WPA President

Christina Maslach



To all WPA members —

The WPA Centennial Committee and I are so excited that our 100th anniversary will be taking place at a new time (October 28 - October 31, aka Halloween weekend) — but now virtual. We look forward to everyone coming to join us!

We will have the same wonderful program (thanks to Greg Feist of San Jose State). In addition, we have put together a special book about the 100 years of WPA — with

100 pages filled with comprehensive information about all 100 conventions, about leading issues and people in psychology, and with an informative timeline of what was happening in the world, all laid out in beautiful formats. The book is truly amazing, and definitely a “first” among all the psychology regional associations -- and you will be able to purchase your own copy at westernpsych.org (look for the announcement later in this newsletter for a special early bird price)! The book is a remarkable permanent memento that memorializes the 100-year history of WPA, and that is a wonderful gift to everyone who has been a part of this professional association. Terman and Tolman would be very proud!

Stay safe and healthy during the coming months, and I hope we can have a wonderful time celebrating together in the fall.



100 Years Anniversary

VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

October 28 – 31, 2020

REGISTER NOW FOR THE 2020 CONFERENCE

[Register Now](#)

If you have previously registered for the conference, your registration has carried over to the virtual conference. In addition, the early registration deadline has been extended to September 30, 2020, offering a significant discount to the regular registration rates that begin on October 1. Completing and paying for registration by **September 30, 2020** also provides you with a discount for the 2021 convention (more details provided later in this newsletter).

We are excited to announce that we have partnered with **X-CD to host our virtual conference**, which will provide for live presentations by our distinguished speakers, professional produced recorded symposia, and on-demand paper and poster sessions. For all sessions, you'll be able to **post questions** for the presenters to respond to either synchronously if you are watching while the presentation goes live or asynchronously if watching the presentation on demand. While we will have several live sessions



throughout the day by our **distinguished speakers, all presentations will be available on an on-demand basis throughout the course of the conference** and for several months following the conclusion of the conference. With your registration, you'll be able to consume content both during and after the conference.

Live programming will occur daily during our “live” convention hours:

- Wednesday, October 28 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM
- Thursday, October 29 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM
- Friday, October 30 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
- Saturday, October 31 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

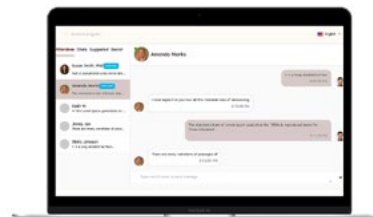
Please note that the Statistics Workshops and the WPA Conference on Teaching may deviate from the hours noted above.

HOW WILL THE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE WORK?

An online program will be made available to all attendees in **early October** and you'll also be able to scroll through a list of the day's presentations from our virtual lobby. Our platform will allow you to **select from sessions that are “live now,”** from all live sessions, as well as poster and paper sessions. While all content is available on-demand, we encourage attendees to be present when the recorded presentations go live as they'll be able to **interact with the presenters** synchronously using the chat function that is specific to each presentation.

Perhaps the best part of our virtual conference platform is that it provides for **virtual networking and virtual convention badges**. You'll be able to enter Zoom-like rooms to chat live through video with other attendees or **use text-like chat** to communicate with one another; there's no longer a need to leave a note on our bulletin board as in past conferences. Keep an eye open on our **chat rooms** as there will be many arranged by topic, interest, and the like.

We will also be **hosting an exhibit hall** as we do in-person and you'll be able to peruse all that our exhibitors have to offer. They'll be able to interact with you live through **video chat** and you'll be able to **download materials** from each booth. In addition, we will be offering **daily prizes** to those who visit the most exhibitors and interact the most with them; more details will be provided as the convention approaches.



Letter from the Executive Officer



KRIS LEPPIEN-CHRISTENSEN,
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

As I write this, we would have concluded our 100th annual convention in beautiful San Francisco where this all started a century ago. Unfortunately, because of the effects of COVID-19, our planned celebration did not become a reality. Fortunately, we have had the opportunity to reschedule and offer a virtual convention which will provide us with the much-needed collegiality that many of us are lacking with the “stay at home” or “shelter in place” orders that persist. My own institution, Saddleback College, closed in mid-March and all teaching went online as it was in the summer. And except for a handful of classes which are being taught outdoors under tents, 95% of our courses are online and will likely remain that way through the end of the academic year.

While we also realize that having two conferences in the same academic/fiscal year—whether virtual or face-to-face-- is not ideal for any of us, we also needed to weigh our contractual obligations along with our obligation to members and student affiliates to showcase their work. At the same time, our 2021 conference will be one of the most affordable conferences as our conference planner, Lorraine Grogan, was able to negotiate a phenomenal nightly rate at the Rio All-Suites Hotel in Las Vegas. Further, the WPA Board approved a plan to offer a substantial discount (up to 50% off the student/member preregistration rate) for those to preregistered and paid for the 2020 conference.

Like most of you, we are dealing with the hand we have been dealt, but are looking optimistically towards the future. The Board, our conference director, and I will be continuing to monitor federal, state, and local guidelines in the coming months in order to properly plan for our April 2021 convention. While we are optimistic that the 2021 convention will occur as planned, we are also considering hybrid and virtual solutions should the situation warrant it.

We look forward to celebrating with you in October.



WPA 2021 Convention

RIO ALL-SUITES HOTEL, LAS VEGAS

APRIL 29 - MAY 2



**2021
CONVENTION
Discount**

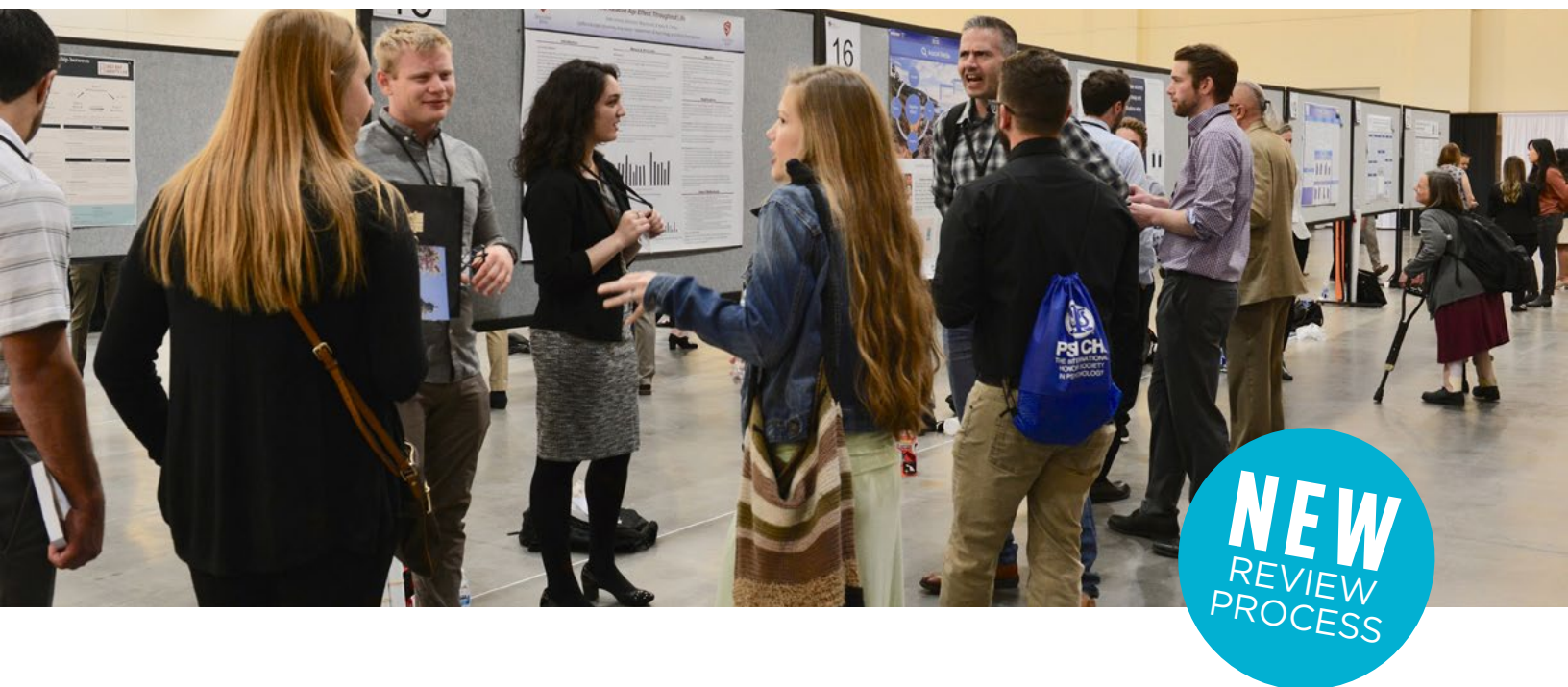
Those who preregister and pay for the 2020 Conference will receive up to 50% off* for the 2021 Conference with preregistration and payment before March 31, 2021.

*Discount based on member and student preregistration rates. Maximum discount is \$45.

2021
Call for Proposals & Registration
will be available by
OCT 1!
Visit westernpsych.org



New Review Process for Conference Proposals



For the 2020 conference, the WPA Board approved a **pilot program** using members, many Fellows of WPA, to review submissions. The intent was to test a model being employed by another regional psychology association that has been largely successful for them and we wanted to see if the same would be true for us. Further, it was believed that a small review committee would provide more consistency to the ratings, which it did in fact do and was necessary given that the number of submissions to our conference have increased substantially in the last couple of years.

We look forward to providing more guidance for submissions with the next call for proposals. We will also be rotating reviews off the committee every year, with each member serving a three-year term. Review committee members will review approximately 200 submissions over a six- to eight-week period leading up to an in-person meeting which takes place in late January of each year. The in-person meeting will likely take place in southern or central California, but the location may change depending on where the majority of the committee members reside.

If you'd be interested in participating in the new review committee, please consider applying. Review committee members must be professional members of the organization and will be required to submit a letter of interest along with their curriculum vitae.



Program Overview & Special Events

Wednesday, October 28 Noon through Saturday, October 31 Noon

Wednesday, October 28

- Presidential Opening Address, Christina Maslach (12 noon)
- Posters, symposia, and paper sessions begin at 1 pm
- Statistical Workshop

Thursday, October 29

- Posters, symposia, and paper sessions begin at 9 am
- Statistical Workshop
- APA's Career Workshop
- Psi Chi Spotlight on Learning and Memory & Psi Chi Faculty Advisor Panel
- Psi Chi Grad School Session

Friday, October 30

- Posters, symposia, and paper sessions begin at 9 am
- APA Graduate School Talk
- Awards Ceremony
- Memorial for Bob Levine
- Psi Chi Distinguished Lecturer
- Psi Chi Chapter Exchange
- Psi Beta and Psi Chi Networking
- All-Attendee Competition Game – Sponsored by Alliant University (4 pm)

Saturday, October 31

- Posters, symposia, and paper sessions begin at 9 am
- Presidential Roundtables (come speak with a former WPA President in one of our virtual networking rooms)
- Closing of the Conference (12 noon) after a special talk with Dr. Phil Zimbardo and Dr. Al Bandura

* Schedule and presenters subject to change. This schedule was accurate at the time of publication.

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Western Psychological Association

Convention Speakers

WEDNESDAY, October 28

The WPA Conference on Teaching

Requires separate registration

Jane S. Halonen (University of West Florida & Interim WPA Conference on Teaching Interim Chair), *Discover the Science Behind PsycLearn*

Jaclyn Ronquillo-Adachi (Cerritos College), *The Pros of the Proliferation of Technology in the Classroom: Keeping it Positive in the Midst of Change*

Jennifer Dyer-Seymour (California State University, Monterey Bay), *The Most Important Part of Your Syllabus: What Students Will Learn and How You Will Know They Learned It*

Phil Zimbardo (Stanford University) & Vivian McCann (Portland Community College), *Applying Psychological Knowledge as the Foundation for Creating a New Generation of Youth Heroes*

Jennifer Dyer Seymour (California State University, Monterey Bay), **Jane Halonen** (University of West Florida), **Eric Landrum** (Boise State University), & **Garth Neufeld** (Cascadia Community College), *"Getting to Yes...And:" A Workshop on Engaging Students through Improvisation*

Jaye Van Kirk (San Diego Mesa College), *Wanted: Innovations for Career Exploration in Psychology (A Community Brain Dump Experience)*

Regan Gurung (Oregon State University), *Cultivating Tasty Academic and Private Lives (APLs): Considerations for Teaching, Researching, and Living Well*

* Schedule and presenters subject to change. This schedule was accurate at the time of publication.

CENTENNIAL AND WPA CONFERENCE ON TEACHING SPONSOR

APA Digital Learning

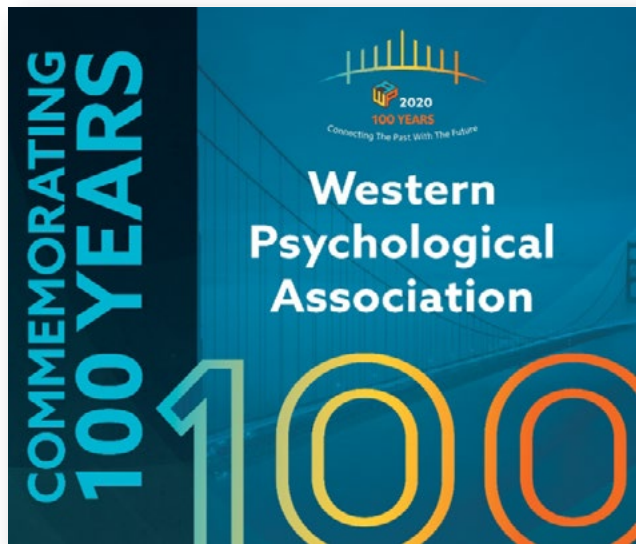
The American Psychological Association has developed two digital tools — **PsycLearn®** and **Academic Writer®** — to help psychology instructors optimize student success in writing and course content. These tools were designed to support instructors across teaching environments and are particularly adaptable during this time of uncertainty in higher education.

[Learn More](#)



To commemorate our **100th anniversary**, we've created this beautiful chronicle of the history of the WPA.

Hold History in your Hands



What's Inside

- Timeline of milestones in psychology & world events
- Biographies of each past president
- Overview of each convention
- Featured Luminaries in Psychology
- Two-page spreads that highlight advances in the field
- ...And much more!

Order Today

**Preorder by Monday October 5, 2020
to receive your \$10 discount**

\$45

(Before October 5)

\$55

(Regular)

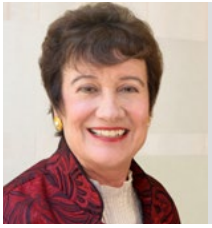
Purchase with  **PayPal**



This book was a year in the making and contains over one hundred pages of history, pictures, timelines and highlights of the most important people, experiments, events and advances in the field. You might even find yourself in one of the many convention photos!

WPA President, Dr. Christina Maslach

Convention Distinguished Speakers



Christina Maslach



Robert J. Sternberg



Rachel Wu

Wednesday, October 28

Christina Maslach (University of California, Berkeley), Welcome and Presidential Address

Robert J. Sternberg (Cornell University), Time Bomb: How the Western Conception of Intelligence Is Taking Down Humanity

Rachel Wu (University of California, Riverside), Learning What to Learn Across the Lifespan

* Schedule and presenters subject to change. This schedule was accurate at the time of publication.

APA's Monitor Needs Your Help

Are you a psychologist who took a career break?

Amy Novotney, a writer with APA's Monitor on Psychology magazine, is putting together a series of stories on how to effectively take and return from a career break. If you would like to share comments for use in her stories, Amy is looking for psychologists who have taken, or are currently taking, a career break to help with distance learning, care for an elderly relative, or any other reason related to COVID-19.

If you would like to share your experiences with Amy, you can email them to consult.anovotney@apa.org with any information you'd like to share about your break and any advice you might have for others considering this or those getting ready to launch back into working after a COVID-related break.

 Email



Convention Distinguished Speakers



Stacey Doan

Thursday, October 29

Stacey Doan (Claremont McKenna College and City of Hope National Medical Center), Health and Happiness: Lessons from Affective Science

Garth Fowler (American Psychological Association), Planning Your Career in Psychology



Garth Fowler

Regan Gurung (Oregon A. R. Gurung), Seeing Through Clothes: Prejudice, Sexism, & Impression Formation

David Schuster (San Jose State University), How Psychology Can Solve Our Toughest Technology Problems

Jason T. Siegal (Claremont Graduate University), Increasing the Provisions of Support to People with Depression: Influencing Help-Seeking, Reducing Stigma, and Avoiding Harm



Regan Gurung

Dean Keith Simonton (University of California, Davis), WPA Presidents from Antiquity to the Present Day: Biographical, Historical, and Historiometric Moments

Stanley Sue (Palo Alto University and University of California, Davis), Ethnic and Racial Minority Issues: How Are We Faring?

STP's Last Lecture

- **Stanley Sue** (Palo Alto University & University of California, Davis), Racism, Ethnicity, and Other Hot Topics for Teaching
- **Robert A. Bjork** (University of California, Los Angeles), My Life as a Cognitive Scientists: What I Learned about Learning that You Need to Know
- **Diane F. Halpern** (Claremont McKenna College), Looking at Psychology in the Rear View Mirror



David Schuster

* Schedule and presenters subject to change. This schedule was accurate at the time of publication.



Jason T. Siegal



Dean Keith Simonton



Stanley Sue



Robert A. Bjork



Diane F. Halpern



Convention Distinguished Speakers

Friday, October 30

Gregory J. Feist (San Jose State University), Creativity as the Drive for Meaning Making



Gregory J. Feist

Garth Fowler (American Psychological Association), Finding Fit: A Strategic Approach to Getting into Grad School



Garth Fowler

Michael C. Frank, APA Distinguished Scientist Lecture, Bigger Data about Smaller People: Studying Language Learning at Scale



Michael C. Frank

Laura Freberg (California Polytechnic State University), Harnessing the Curiosity Gap for Better Student Learning—Redux and Update



Laura Freberg

Howard S. Friedman (University of California, Riverside), Flourishing, Long Life, and the Genius of Lewis Terman

Gordon C. Nagayama Hall (University of Oregon), Why Do Mental Health Disparities Persist? The Personal Relevance of Psychotherapy

Elizabeth Loftus (University of California, Irvine), Fake Memories

Antonio E. Puente (University of North Carolina Wilmington), G. Stanley Hall Lecture, Neuropsychology: The Origins and Future of Psychology

George M. Slavich, Cutting-Edge Biopsychosocial Perspectives on Stress, Depression, & Health: How the Past Affects the Future

Allison A. Vaughn (San Diego State University), Studies of Stigma: Connecting the Past with the Present and Looking Ahead to Future Research

* Schedule and presenters subject to change. This schedule was accurate at the time of publication.



Howard S. Friedman



Gordon C.
Nagayama Hall



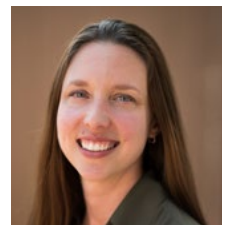
Elizabeth Loftus



Antonio E. Puente



George M. Slavich



Allison A. Vaughn



Convention Distinguished Speakers



Philip G. Zimbardo



Albert Bandura

Saturday, October 31

Philip G. Zimbardo & Albert Bandura (Stanford University), Enlisting the Power of Youth for Climate Change: Albert Bandura Q&A with Philip Zimbardo

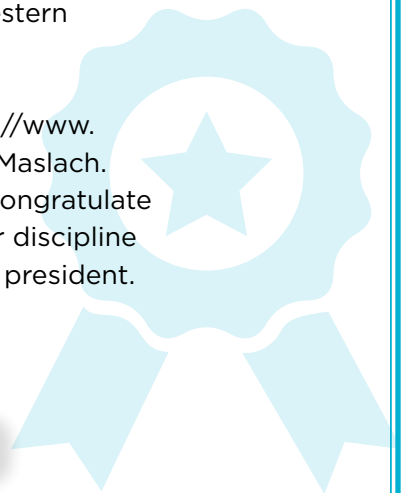
* Schedule and presenters subject to change. This schedule was accurate at the time of publication.



We would like to **congratulate our own Christina Maslach** (University of California, Berkeley) as the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Award for Scientific Reviewing for advancing our understanding of job burnout and worker well-being. This year's award is presented in the social sciences and Dr. Maslach has graciously donated her award money to the Western Psychological Association.

Read more about Dr. Maslach's work here (<http://www.nasonline.org/programs/awards/2020-awards/Maslach.html>) and consider sharing on social media to congratulate her for the enormous contribution that she has made to our discipline and the leadership she has provided to WPA as a two-term president.

Read More



Convention Statistics Workshop Speakers



W. Kyle Hamilton

Wednesday, October 28 (2:00-4:00)

W. Kyle Hamilton (University of California, Merced), Conducting Meta-Analysis in Jamovi

This workshop is aimed to provide a practical and non-technical guide to conducting a meta-analysis using the statistical software platform Jamovi. Topics covered include model selection, publication bias, detection of heterogeneity, common effect sizes and the generation of graphics and plots. Jamovi is free and open-source software that is uniquely suited to meeting the needs of researchers by providing them with both a spreadsheet-like interface for inputting study data as well as simple and intuitive menus for analyzing results. Further, this software improves transparency and reproducibility of the results by generating R code which allows for the results to be verified independently.



Amanda K. Montoya

Thursday, October 29 (1:00-3:00)

Amanda K. Montoya (University of California, Los Angeles), MEMORE: Mediation and Moderation in Repeated Measures Designs

Though repeated-measures designs are very common in social psychology, how to conduct mediation and moderation analyses in these designs has been discussed very little. This workshop will cover mediation and moderation models where the independent variable of interest is a two-instance repeated-measures factor (e.g. having each participant respond to two different stimuli or respond before and after an intervention). The workshop will provide hands on experience with real datasets using MEMORE a freely available tool for SPSS and SAS. The mediation section of the workshop will cover estimation, inference, and interpretation of indirect effects, as well as recommendations for writing about and visualizing mediation analyses. The moderation section will focus on estimation, inference, and interpretation of interactions, probing interactions using simple-slopes analysis and Johnson-Neyman techniques, as well as how best to write about and visualize interactions.

* Schedule and presenters subject to change. This schedule was accurate at the time of publication.



Michael C. Frank

Friday, October 30 (9:00-11:00)

Michael C. Frank (Stanford University), Reproducible paper writing with R Markdown

R Markdown is a simple but very powerful way to mix R data analysis code and text. R Markdown documents are a great way to document your data analysis and create reproducible reports (e.g., that automatically render your graphs and tables and even your results section from your data). You can even use R Markdown to write your entire paper, avoiding copy-and-pasting your analyses, which can be a major source of errors in papers. The rendered documents look spiffy on the web and in print. In this workshop, we introduce R Markdown and show how it can be used as part of a reproducible writing workflow.



Kathleen J. Preston

Saturday, October 31 (9:00-11:00)

Kathleen J. Preston (California State University, Fullerton), Introduction to Statistical Mediation Analysis

An essential aspect of psychological research is the measurement of individuals on a construct of interest. Furthermore, accurate measurement of individuals is imperative when high-stakes decisions are being made. Therefore, much of psychological research involves the development, revision, and application of measurement instruments. While most of the focus is on the item content, there is little focus on the appropriateness of the response options with a 5-, 7-, or even 9-point Likert-type response format being arbitrarily chosen. Fortunately, the nominal response model (NRM), a much underutilized polytomous item response theory (IRT) model, has the unique ability to estimate within-item category functioning, allowing researchers the opportunity to empirically evaluate the appropriateness of each response option. This more thorough and interesting way to analyze the effectiveness of each response option is especially important during scale development, or when concerned about the psychometric properties of an established measure.

This session will focus on scale development and revision under an IRT framework. We will begin with a conceptual overview of polytomous IRT models focusing on the NRM. We will then cover how to specify the NRM for analysis using modern IRT software, discuss some technical decisions, and interpret and plot the resulting category parameters. Finally, we will examine the within-item category functioning through the application of the Wald test, make empirically-based modifications to the response options, and evaluate the psychometric properties of the resulting scale.

* Schedule and presenters subject to change. This schedule was accurate at the time of publication.

Staying Connected, Virtually

There's no doubt that everything is a bit different this year, and while we won't be gathering in person for the conference, we've got some clever ways to stay connected—virtually.

Follow Us

We will be tweeting and posting on a regular basis after October 1, especially before and during this year's virtual conference. Make sure you're following us on Twitter, Facebook or LinkedIn so you don't miss a thing! Links will be coming soon, check the website regularly for updates.



Attending the Conference? Become a Part of Our Digital Mosaic

We've created a dynamic digital photo mosaic comprised of pictures of attendees, sessions – and YOU.

Simply post your pictures to Twitter, LinkedIn or Facebook with the hashtag **#wpa100** and the images will automatically become part of the mosaic. And, because Halloween is just around the corner, show us your masks (COVID or otherwise).



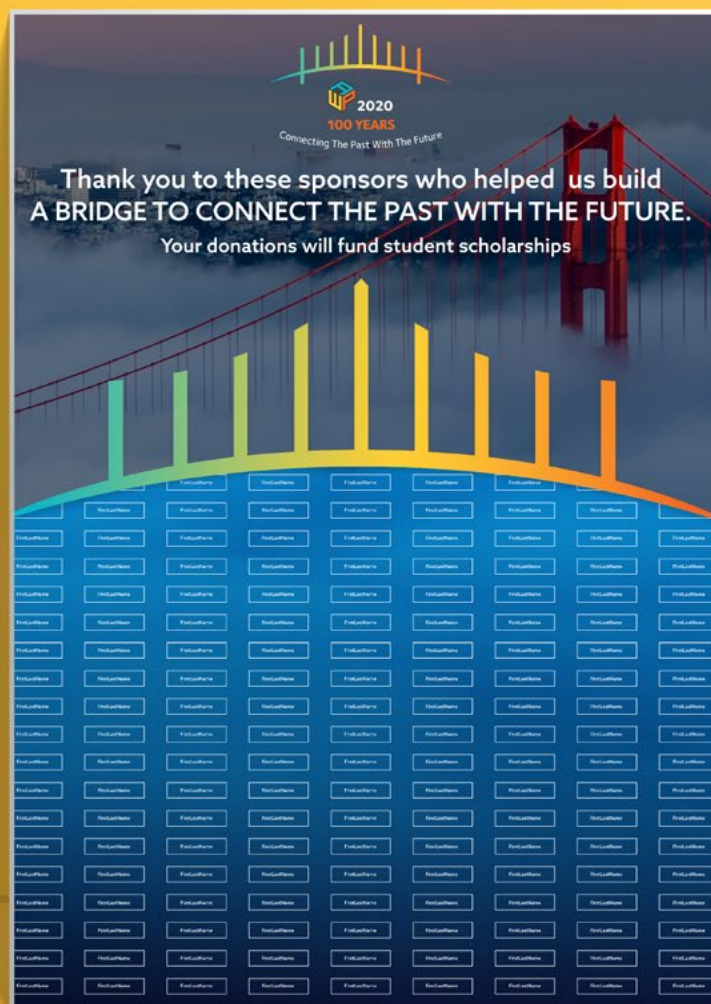
Become an Individual Sponsor

Build a Bridge

Help us build a bridge to connect the past with the future! This is a special opportunity for individuals to contribute and be recognized. Each individual sponsor will have their name displayed on a block that creates a bridge like the one in the Centennial logo. The bridge will be displayed in a prominent area of the conference, and sponsors will be personally recognized on the WPA Convention website and in program. **Your donations will fund student scholarships.**

Individual Sponsorship includes:

- Special Bridge Display – a graphical display in prominent place on our website with your name on it
- Line listing on WPA convention website and in the program
- Inclusion on post-event thank you email blast

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Thank You to our 2020 Convention Sponsors

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NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

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PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE



Thank You to our 2020 Exhibitors

Thank You 2020 Exhibitors

Make sure to **visit all our exhibitors in our virtual exhibit hall** which will be open throughout the conference. Browse the booths for information and videos and talk to the exhibitors face to face on video chat. They will answer your questions on video or email, and if you are busy, set up an appointment to meet with them at your convenience.

There will be lots of **prizes to give away at the booths** to include some **grand prizes** if you visit all the booths – **visit the WPA booth for details!**

Alliant International University

APA Advocacy Program

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Loma Linda University

Midwestern University

Mount Saint Mary's University

Northwest University

Nova Southeastern University

Palo Alto University

Phillips Education Center of
Campbellsville University

Point Loma Nazarene University

Psi Chi,
the International Honor Society in Psychology

San Jose State University

Seattle Pacific University –
CE credit information at this booth!

The Trust

The Wright Institute

University of La Verne

University of San Francisco School of Nursing and
Health Professionals

Western Psychological Association



Positions Available within WPA

- Statistics Chair
- The WPA Conference on Teaching Coordinator
- CE Coordinator

Contact [Kris Leppien-Christensen](#), Executive Director, for more information regarding these positions and how to apply.

Online Resources for Professor and Students

- **Merlot.com** helps prepare teachers and student for online learning. Endorsed by Phil Zimbardo.
- **Heroic Imagination TV on YouTube**
A collection of classic videos and modern videos containing psychology content.
- **Teachpsych.org** (The Society for the Teaching of Psychology, APA Division 2). Numerous resources for those who teach psychology courses and a reasonable membership rate of \$25 per year.
- Sponsors programming at regional conferences and hosts the **Annual Conference on Teaching** which has become so popular that it sells out in advance of the conference.



**Don't forget to order your
Commemorative
100 Years Book**



Registration Fees & Refunds

Any **cancellation request after September 30, 2020 will not be honored**. This includes refunds for Exploratorium and Gala event tickets. Requests received before the deadline will be refunded consistent with the refund policies already in place (<https://westernpsych.org/wpa-conference-refund-policy/>).

To **request a refund**, please complete this form <https://forms.gle/VPg9b2LczgbUf8CeA> by September 30, 2020. Beginning October 1, 2020, any unrequested refunds will be considered a donation to WPA, a registered 501(c)3 organization.

Please note that **membership fees are separate from the conference fees** and are not refundable. However, your membership rate will continue to be honored for the 2020 conference even though it is being held in a new membership year.

[Refund Policy](#)

[Request Refund](#)



Contribute to the Freedom Train Stories

September 2020 marks the **50th anniversary** of **Dr. Joseph L. White's** article, **"Toward a Black Psychology"** (Ebony Magazine, 1970). In the spirit of this anniversary, the University of California, Irvine (UCI) Libraries will launch an online portal for the collection of Freedom Train Stories in honor of Dr. White. In collaboration with UCI's School of Social Sciences, Cross-Cultural Center, and Student Affairs, the UCI Libraries is requesting members to submit letters, stories, and digital scans of photographs, letters, files, or other articles related to Dr. White and the broad impact that he has made so that these may be cataloged and curated for future generations.

If you would like to add to this collection, you can do so here: <https://freedomtrain.lib.uci.edu>

Submissions will be accepted through December 2020. For more information on the Freedom Train Stories online portal, please contact UCI Libraries Special Collections & Archives at spcoll@uci.edu or 949-824-3947.

[Freedom Train](#)

