
Vocational Psychology News

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETY FOR VOCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY: A SECTION OF THE SOCIETY OF COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY (DIVISION 17) OF THE AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

Volume XII, Number 2

Summer, 2005



Message from the Chair

Having just returned from the wonderful Society for Vocational Psychology (SVP) conference in Vancouver this past weekend, I am even more enthusiastic about the energy and passion of our Society than usual. (Those of you who know me well will acknowledge that my investment in SVP has a high baseline to begin with.) The seventh biennial conference of SVP was an unequivocal success in terms of its content, surroundings, and opportunities for friendship and new connections. In this column, I will describe some of the highpoints from the conference, sharing my impressions of the most meaningful implications from our meeting. I also will summarize the progress that we are making on the new initiatives that I outlined in my last column. I then close with an overview of our upcoming APA events for the August convention in Washington, DC.

The Vancouver Conference

Rather than provide a precise summary of each presentation and poster from the conference, I will share some particularly important

observations that emerged as I have reflected on this excellent conference. First, I would like to thank Richard Young and Beth Haverkamp for their outstanding effort in putting this conference together. Their efforts clearly paid off. All of the participants were greeted by a highly organized conference, beautiful surroundings at the University of British Columbia, great lunches and dinners, as well as a thoughtful and innovative program. In my view, the conference reflected the best of what SVP represents. The content of the sessions was uniformly excellent. Each of the presenters and discussants in the symposia prepared scholarly and novel papers that were informative, and, often, quite entertaining. The poster sessions also were very consistent in their high quality. I particularly enjoyed talking with the poster presenters, many of whom represent the next generation of vocational psychologists.

Second, I would like to share my impression of the overall impact of the conference. Rather than viewing the conference as a set of disparate papers, many of us were struck by the collective contribution of the presentations. The conference theme, "New Methods for Research and Practice in Vocational Psychology" offered a broad palate of themes and content areas. Indeed, the conference presentations were particularly strong in the qualitative and narrative realms, in which we were exposed to some of the latest thinking and applications. At the same time, the symposium on new directions in quantitative methods was extremely well-received. In addition, the symposium on research and practice on

evidence-based practice was very informative, offering participants a rare opportunity to learn about important new innovations. When considered collectively, the conference offered logical positivist and post-modern/social constructionists with a mean of achieving a rapprochement. In fact, Mark Savickas' presentation provided a conceptual foundation for attaining a rapprochement, which foreshadowed one of the most important outcomes of the conference for me. I also was struck by the absence of rancor in the discussions between scholars from various research camps.

In my view, one of the reasons for the emergence of a coherent and open-minded ambience among the participants was the growing discussion of the pressing social problems that vocational psychology can address both for individuals and communities. A number of papers and poster sessions directly discussed the social issues that are often less evident in our discourse on working and careers. As the conference progressed, it became clear that the issues raised (which included narratives from immigrants about their working lives and a paper on the restoration of a life via work to towns that have been destroyed in forest fires) require our best efforts. The needs identified by the presenters and in the poster sessions may be differentially met by research that is qualitative, quantitative, or a combination of the two. I think that the intellectual openness of both Richard Young and Beth Haverkamp and their colleagues at the University of British Columbia helped to create critically needed space for the sort of integrative thinking that characterized our Vancouver conference.

(Continued on page 8)

SVP Related APA Conference Events

APA Conference Events

SVP Symposium

Changing World of Work---A Vocational Psychological Perspective
August 18 Thu: 3:00 PM - 3:50 PM
Washington Convention Center

Additional Vocational/Career Related Symposia

Adolescents' Constructions of Work and School---An International Perspective
August 19 Fri: 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM
Washington Convention Center

Work--Family Conflict---Exploring the Role of Self-Efficacy
August 19 Fri: 9:00 AM - 9:50 AM
Washington Convention Center

Career Assessment and Self-Efficacy---The 25th Anniversary
August 20 Sat: 10:00 AM - 11:50 AM
Washington Convention Center

Poster Sessions

Career and Academic Counseling
August 20 Sat: 12:00 PM - 12:50 PM
Washington Convention Center

SVP Business Meeting

Thursday, August 18 11am– 1pm
Congressional Room C
Washington, DC Renaissance Hotel

SVP Conversation Hour

Thursday, August 18 1pm-3pm
Congressional Room C
Washington, DC Renaissance Hotel



CCPTP, Sections, SAG Poster Session SVP Student Posters

The addition of prestige to the interest-environment congruence and satisfaction relation.
Christy Hofsess and Terence J. G. Tracey, Arizona State University

Stability of Interests and Career Satisfaction: A 30-Year Follow-Up of Career Development
Kristin L. Coon, Abigail Gaffey, Patrick J. Rottinghaus, and Donald Zytowski, Southern Illinois University

Social Self-Efficacy and Proactivity among Native American Adolescents
Julia L. Conkel, Michelle J. Trotter, Allison N. Reich, Jason J. Siewert, and Sherri Turner
University of Minnesota

Ex-offender Employment: A Phenomenological Approach
Juana J. Wu, Anya E. Moon, and Victoria A. Shivy
Virginia Commonwealth University

Measuring Career Maturity: Revisiting Super's Six Indicators
Catalina D'Achiardi and Jane Swanson
Southern Illinois University—Carbondale

Career Decidedness, Sense of Identity and the Big Five
Beverly C. Huffstetler
University of Tennessee



Stress, Appraisal, and Coping in Job Search
Diane Gee and Mary J. Heppner,
University of Missouri

Vocational Interests, Self-Efficacy, and Intended Job Functions of Psychology Majors
Abigail R. Gaffey, Patrick J. Rottinghaus, Fred H. Borgen, & Christopher A. Ralston
Southern Illinois University

SVP Business Meeting Agenda

Thursday, August 18
11am– 1pm
Congressional Room C
Washington, DC Renaissance
Hotel

1. Opening remarks
2. Overview of 2004-05 events:
 - a. SVP conference update
 - b. Thanks to Board members
 - c. Treasurer's Report
 - d. Communication Officer's Report
3. Elections Report-Past Chair
4. Awards
 - a. Distinguished Professional Achievement Award
 - b. Graduate Student award
 - c. ACT travel awards
5. New initiatives:
 - a. NCDA/SVP collaboration
 - b. Name change proposal
 - c. Training guidelines:
 - d. Website
 - e. Listserv
 - f. Newsletter
 - g. Directory
 - h. NSF initiative
6. Plan for the next symposium
7. Plans for next SVP conference:
2007

**SVP
Communication's Officer
Candidate Statement
Deadline to vote:
August 5, 2005**

I have served as the SVP's communications officer for the past 2 years (2003-2005). I took over the position from Paul Gore and believe me I had huge shoes to fill (and not just because my feet are smaller than Paul's). Both Paul and his predecessor Paul Hartung implemented key and vital ways to communicate with our members including the newsletter, membership directory, listserv, and website. Managing these various entities is a very important duty-one that I take quite seriously, especially because the Society plays such an important role for so many in our field.

For example, the Society serves as a professional home to many, especially to those who are new to our field. I can say that for me when I joined the society in 1995 (as a master's student), it was a key part of my professional development and identity. Meeting vocational psychologists whose work I was reading and having the opportunity to be taken into the society and mentored is one of the key reasons that I continued to pursue vocational psychology as my main area of research. This is the reason that I believe very strongly in "giving back" to the society and why I am running for a second term as communications officer.

If elected for a second term, I have several important agenda items that I plan to pursue such as finalizing the update of the website and web edition of the membership directory, continuing to sign up new members, and moving our newsletter to an electronic format. In addition, I am in the process of moving our from our current provider to an APA listserv which will greatly reduce the inappropriate and solicitation emails (look for more information on this in the next section).

In sum, it has been an honor to serve as your communication officer for the past two years. I have thoroughly enjoyed

working the members of the society and the executive board who are an amazing and dedicated group. I look forward to the possibility of continuing to serve as your communications officer.

Saba Rasheed Ali,
University of Iowa

**SVP WEBSITE AND
LISTSERVE UPDATE**

Two important changes are currently being implemented related to SVP's website and listserv. First, the website is currently in the process of re-construction and will contain information that is of interest to our members including an updated membership directory and upcoming conference events.

Second, I am in the process of transferring our listserv from our current provider to APA as our provider which will greatly reduce our current problems with the listserv including inappropriate emails. The proposed new listserv name will be div17SVP@LISTS.APA.ORG. Members who are currently subscribed to the listserv will automatically be subscribed to the new listserv, so if your email address is outdated and you would like to subscribe your new email address to the listserv please email the new list administrator, Keith Cooke at kcooke@APA.ORG.

All members who are not currently subscribed to the listserv, but who would like to join the new listserv should also send an email to Keith in order to ensure timely delivery of SVP related information.

Thank you very much with your patience with this process. I know that it has been a tedious process, but I appreciate everyone hanging in there with these changes.

Saba R. Ali
SVP Communications Officer

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(Under re-construction)



Don't end up in the lost and found, send change of address notices via email to: Saba R. Ali at saba-ali@uiowa.edu

Society Spotlight

by Camille DeBell



I had the opportunity to talk with Ellen at the biannual conference in Vancouver in June about her recent return from a Fulbright Fellowship in Chile. Ellen's interest in Latin America dates back to at least her college years, when she received a B.A. in Psychology with a concentration in Latin American Studies from Notre Dame. I asked her how this interest in Latin America interfaces with her interest in vocational psychology: "I've always been interested in social change processes, social justice, and multicultural counseling. Vocational psychology seemed like the most pragmatic way to combine those interests in a way that had implications beyond an individual level." In her own words, let Ellen tell you a little about her fellowship year:

"Benedict (my husband) and I began planning for this sabbatical when we were graduate students! During college, Benedict had spent 15 months in a service-learning program, living in the slums of urban Peru. There he worked closely with his uncle, a Catholic priest who had been expelled from Chile after the military coup of 1973. Benedict's uncle returned to Chile in 1990 after the dictatorship ended, and we've visited him many times and seen his dedicated work on family enrichment, social justice, liberation theology, and community empowerment. After several visits, Benedict and I were invited to provide training in areas such as communication skills, parenting, and marriage enrichment. Because this was so rewarding, we decided we wanted to spend an extended time there, to teach longer classes and engage in research. The Fulbright Program seemed like an excellent way to achieve these goals.

"We also wanted to provide our daughters (ages 7 and 13) with a cultural and language immersion experience. Initially, our top priority was to assist them in learning Spanish and to flourish in a

very new and challenging social and cultural environment. It required some discipline to speak only Spanish with our daughters! But we saw the fruits of that discipline rewarded, as they developed Spanish fluency and also integrated into their neighborhood school. It was rewarding to see them develop close friendships and to be able to learn new classroom material and complete their homework with less direct assistance from us. It was an incredible year for our family, very renewing.

"Benedict and I engaged in university-based teaching, offered workshops at our respective universities and conducted a research project on risk and protective factors among Chilean adolescents (including, of course, a variety of career-related variables). Professionally, it was very interesting to serve as "Fulbrighters;" for example, to attend U.S. Embassy events. I think the most rewarding professional experience, though, was our community-based teaching. So many couples dedicated to enriching their families and their faith communities through paraprofessional training in things like group facilitation, problem solving, and intimacy skills—it was wonderful to be part of a common project, to have much to contribute and to gain, with so many dedicated, generous, and courageous people.

"Our daily living experiences with school, neighborhood, and community-based work were with lower and working class Chileans, which brought all kinds of rich learning, thinking and reflecting on the class dimensions of vocational psychology. I think our research findings, as we continue to analyze them, will add another dimension to the learning associated with this experience.

"Beyond our daily living, teaching, and research, however, we had other culturally enriching experiences. I frequently brought visitors from the U.S. to visit Villa Grimaldi, a former concentration camp that operated from 1973-1978, during the dictatorship. This is part of our history, too, given the U.S.'s role in the coup and its aftermath. We visited the homes (now museums) of Pablo Neruda, one of Chile's two Nobel prize winning poets. We enjoyed reading his works, which for the sake of authenticity, had to be done while drinking Chilean wine. We navigated the complex private bus system in Santiago, finally learning that we could push our way on through a crowded bus's back door, pay our fare by passing the coins forward through the passengers, and eventually receive a receipt from some detached hand that would appear then disappear. I loved that.

"As anyone who does cross cultural work will tell you, it was very complicated and frustrating sometimes. But it always led to what Harry Chapin called, "the good kind of tired," and we have probably never laughed so much while working so hard. I reflect back on my experience of sitting in the back of a freezing classroom, my enormous legs crammed under a tiny metal desk, trying to figure out why the teacher is berating us, the parents. . . knowing that 6 or 7 kind individuals will try to explain the question to me and the echo of multiple voices off of the bare walls and floor will likely keep me from grasping more than a few words. . . those experiences elicited insecurity and shyness that I didn't like feeling in 6th grade and don't like feeling now. But I am certain that those were among my most formative

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)
experiences.

“The experience in Chile did change me. I am more than I was, my family is more than we were. More what? I’ll have to keep you posted”

My thanks to Ellen for telling her story! Gracias, mi amiga.

“The Society Spotlight” is a regular column in the SVP Newsletter. If you have ideas about individuals you would like to Spotlight in future columns, please contact Camille DeBell, column editor, at dcamill@okstate.edu

Journal Spotlight

Journal of Career Assessment

Journal of Career Assessment

Volume 13, Issue 3

August 2005

Articles

Measuring Confidence for Basic Domains of Vocational Activity in High School Students by N. E. Betz and J. B. Wolfe

Perceived Barriers to Career Development in the Context of Social Cognitive Career Theory by L. D. Lindley

Career Decision Self-Efficacy, Career Barriers, and College Women’s Experiences of Intimate Partner Violence by L. M. Albaugh and M. M. Nauta

Contextual Factors Influencing the Career Decision Status of African American Adolescents by M. G. Constantine, B. C. Wallace, and M. M. Kindaichi

Dharma and Interest-Occupation Congruence in Asian Indian College Students by S. Gupta and T. J. G. Tracey

Physician Assistant Self-Directed Search Holland Codes by D. M. La-Barbera

Volume 13, Issue 4

Special Issue

Career Assessment: Qualitative and Mixed Methods
November, 2005

Articles

Qualitative Research in Career Development: Exploring the Center and Margins of Discourse about Careers and Working by D. L. Blustein, A. C.

Kenna, K. A. Murphy,

J. E. DeVoy, and D. B. DeWine

Qualitative Career Assessment: An Overview and Analysis by S. C. Whiston and D. Rahardja

Qualitative Relational Career Assessment: A Constructivist Paradigm by D. E. P. Schultheiss

Qualitatively Assessing Family Influence in Career Decision Making by R. C. Chope

Non-Standard Career Trajectories and Their Various Forms by G. Fournier and C. Bujold

Toward Integrated Career Assessment: Using Story to Appraise Career Dispositions and Adaptability by P. J. Hartung and N. J. Borges

Battered Women’s Process of Leaving: Implications for Career Counseling by C. Brown, R. M. Linnemeyer, W. Dougherty-Keller, J. C. Coulson, H. B. Trangsrud, and I. S. Farnsworth

Qualitative Career Assessment: Developing the My System of Career Influences Reflection Activity by M. McMahon, M. Watson, and W. Patton

The Journal is abstracted or indexed in Abstract Journal of the Educational Resources Center, Current Contents: Social & Behavioral Sciences, Current Index to Journals in Education Psychological Abstracts, PsycINFO, and Social Sciences Citation Index. The Journal is published quarterly (February, May, August, and November) by Sage Publications. For additional information regarding JCA contact W. Bruce Walsh, Department of Psychology, 1885 Neil Avenue Mall, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH 43210-1222.



Australian Journal of Career Development

<http://www.acer.edu.au/publications/acerpress/AJCD/AJCDOverview.htm>

VOLUME 14, NUMBER 2, Winter, 2005

Guest Editorial - special issue higher education

Julie Howell and Anna Lichtenberg

Career Profile

Interview with Joanne Tyler

Case studies

The development of career services for international students - a case study
Ellen Gibson

Putting the wheel into motion - designing a career development program for students
Barbara Mackie and Jan Thomas

Case study of a virtual careers fair
Rhonda Leece

Articles

Student e-portfolio: the successful implementation of an e-portfolio across a major university in Australia.
Col Mccowan, Wendy Harper and Kim Hauville

“of what i could become but might not be”: using chaos counselling with university students

Rhyll P. Davey, Jim E.H. Bright, Robert G.L. Pryor and Kirsty Levin

University career service and social justice
Peter Mcilveen, Bradley Everton, & John Clarke,

The role of e-portfolios in graduate recruitment.
Rhonda Leece



Newsmakers

Section Member News and Notes



The National Career Development Association (NCDA) and SVP: A Collaborative Work!

Whether we call ourselves career counselors, vocational psychologists, guidance practitioners, counselor educators or a related term, ultimately, we have many common interests and goals. This was my impression after attending the June 2005 SVP conference in Vancouver. My original goal was simply to represent the National Career Development Association (NCDA) as its 2004-2005 President, to promote our Orlando conference, and explore opportunities for mutual collaboration with SVP. I gained much more than that however. As someone in the field who mostly hangs around S types (in Holland terms), it was good to connect with more I types who are advancing our knowledge in the fields of career development and vocational psychology..

I am grateful to those that I heard speak at the conference who are committed to the hard work of "crunching the numbers," and extending the horizons of our research models and techniques to continue to build on the scientific base for our work. I appreciate individuals in both of our associations who are concerned with a social justice view of work, and who seek to learn about and assist members of our global community who are un- and underemployed, marginalized, at-risk, or struggling in occupations that are less than satisfying, but that put food on the table and maybe provide some health insurance. Presenters at this conference shared innovative ideas for both practice, research, and instruction. had begun my connec-

tion with SVP through e-mail and phone contacts with the current chair, Dr. David Blustein. It was great to finally make a face-to-face connection with David. As most of you probably already know, he is not only a brilliant scholar, researcher and writer, he's also a really funny guy! He could do stand up comedy in his next career transition.

Finally, I just wanted to express appreciation to my SVP colleagues for supporting the idea of future collaboration and cooperation with NCDA. I believe we have much common ground to explore for the benefit of our clients, students, and the global community.

Submitted by Janet G. Lenz,
Ph.D., Florida State University, NCDA
President, 2004-2005



Janet Lenz, NCDA President and David Blustein, SVP Chair at the 7th Biennial SVP Conference in Vancouver, BC.



Savickas Participates in Invited Symposium

Mark Savickas participated in an invited symposium at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Society in Los Angeles during May, 2005. The symposium, organized by David Baker from The University of Akron, was entitled "Goodness of Fit: A History of Person/Environment Matching in Psychology." Savickas discussed the topic from the perspective of vocational psychology, while Frank Landy discussed it from the perspective of industrial/organization psychology and William Howell discussed it from the perspective of human factors psychology. **Keep up the Good Work, Mark!**

W. Bruce Walsh 2004 Leona Tyler Award Recipient

Reminder: Our Past Chair, W. Bruce Walsh will be giving the Leona Tyler Address at the Annual Meeting of APA in August

Where: Renaissance Washington DC Hotel -Renaissance Ballroom East

When: August 19, Fri: 3:00 PM - 3:50 PM

This Newsletter Relies on YOU!

The success of the Society Newsletter relies on your input. This space could be used to acknowledge the recent accomplishments of your colleagues, disseminate important information about grants or awards, or provide members with important information about upcoming conferences, books, or articles. Please consider submitting material for the Winter issue of the Society Newsletter.

SVP 7th Biennial Conference Highlights

Perspectives from Conference Attendees

SVP: Do practitioners dream about research?

by Dennis L. Nord
Director, UCSB Counseling & Career Services

After attending the SVP conference again this year I thought I would share some observations as a practitioner with the Society researchers. I highly value your work as the wellspring for innovation in the field. It is clear that many of you are concerned about the applications based on your work. I would add that some of you are better at applied career intervention than many of my applied colleagues. I am going to write in the first person here and also try to represent my fellow practitioners based on years of conversations.

Marketing your research for practitioners:

Market Share:

I want to understand what you wrote. The journals are good for communicating to fellow research psychologists. They require such spare language that often I do not understand your intervention from reading your article. What I mean is, I don't have the details for trying something similar or creating the same intervention. I might (or might not) understand that your data supports the efficacy of your intervention. Even so, I may give up implementing the best of your ideas because there is too large a gap between the report and my understanding to implement them. Most applied career intervention is the work of people who are not fellow counseling psychologists. They are reading Dick Bolle's latest book or making up their own career program. There is room for a reporter to make the SVP work more known and accessible.

Curb appeal.

What is the value added the clients will take away from their investment of time? How do I get them to see the likely outcome? I need detailed descriptive examples for my population

of clients. What did you actually do in your intervention? How long did it take? How did you get people to participate? What does it cost in staff hours? What training is required to do this well? These are the factors I consider before deciding to take your idea to the bench to test. I have questions about the way to implement.

Problems for the practitioner.

Problems for me might not look interesting as research ideas to you. I have to consider how I will make any new program appeal to large numbers of students in a cost efficient manner. I need to know what my clients consider worth doing about their careers. I need to engage them in a timely manner. Incentives, competing events, costs, developmental stages as well as the needs of the clients are part of my thinking way before implementation. More research on the impact of any of these could help greatly. I know that a great idea will be wasted if it is not appealing to my clientele. I have a limited budget to serve large numbers of people with sensitivity to a wide range of issues, needs and developmental stages and must attend to equity of access to the services. Failing might mean spending too much resource on a very good idea that I am able to deliver very effectively to a small number of clients.

Together with researchers we might identify areas of vocational need. I know that career planning is a well-established need. At the same time I see that large numbers of people do little or nothing about career planning. Most people avoid or do not recognize opportunities to engage in the career planning services provided them. I currently cope with this gap between what I perceive the need to be and what the clientele perceives as their need by advertising and marketing career services. I also package highly valued services, such as resume writing, with lesser-valued services,

self-assessment for example, to engage the clientele in developing a better understanding of themselves and the environment they plan to enter.

What time is it?

Developmental models suggest timing of interventions is critical. Interventions are more effective at specific times or in conjunction with events in the life of the client. Transition periods are important windows to learning about surviving and thriving in new circumstances. From a practitioner's point of view it may be necessary to market a service to do two things. First, I want to take advantage of the periods when clients are most motivated to use my services so as to reduce failures and unnecessary floundering. Second, I need to maximize the impact of the small budget I have. If I wait for clients to decide it is time to work on their career issues I waste much of my impact and efficiency. Though they are more likely motivated when they finally do arrive for service, I find they waited until after critical points in their path and they are on the brink of a decision. Together we then must scramble to salvage what remains of the opportunities they once had. Therefore I want larger scale programs that deliver good information and process that helps me avoid individual and expensive career rescues.

Volume discount:

Individual career counseling is where I need the least amount of help from researchers. I want to get the most for the intervention dollar and cut individual work to a minimum since it is the most expensive thing I do. While refining individual work is admirable, your efforts there will likely have low impact in the field. I need more good models of small to large group (hundreds or thousands of clients) programs that target the

(Continued on page 9)

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Another theme that continues to grow within vocational psychology is our growing international presence, which continued to be evident in our Vancouver conference. The participants included many North Americans, but also included scholars from the middle East, Europe, and Asia. In addition, the Vancouver conference gave us an opportunity to learn more about the exciting events taking place in Canada. Indeed, the symposium on Canadian developments was one of the many highlights from the conference.

In sum, my sense was that this conference was a very special event for all of us. The opportunity to see friends and colleagues in the beautiful setting of the University of British Columbia and the city of Vancouver was inspirational. While I realize that I have been advocating the relational perspective for years in my work, our actual experience in Vancouver, I think, underscores the importance of relational connections as a source of inspiration, connection, and sustenance in our own work. Thank you again, Richard and Beth!!!

Guidelines Project

In addition to our biennial conferences, the SVP Executive Board is working on a number of other initiatives, including the Guidelines project. Nadya Fouad has graciously taken the lead on a project that builds on our symposium from the last APA convention, which seeks to identify and develop practice guidelines in the vocational realm. Currently, we are working with several SVP members to ensure that a theory-based understanding of the role of work in people's lives is an explicit aspect of inclusive and ethical psychological practice. If you are interested in working on this important initiative, please contact Nadya directly (nadya@uwm.edu).

NCDA Collaboration

In my last column in this newsletter, I outlined an initiative designed to increase our connection to the National

Career Development Association (NCDA), which is a group with whom we share several important goals. I am delighted to report that our conversation with the NCDA Executive Board is moving forward. At the Vancouver conference, our Board met with the NCDA Board members who were in attendance (Janet Lenz, Robert Reardon, Barry Chung, and Darrell Luzzo) for an excellent and productive dinner meeting. We have decided to explore several new interchanges. One option we are considering is developing an SVP-sponsored professional development workshop on new directions in career development research prior to an annual NCDA conference. We are also exploring the idea of holding contiguous conferences (in the same city and hotel, with one following the other) and some public policy initiatives. I am very optimistic about our collaboration, which I believe is a "win-win" for both groups and for all of our members. I would like your feedback on this initiative either via email (blusteid@bc.edu) and/or at our SVP Business Meeting at the upcoming APA convention. I also will encourage a discussion of this initiative at next Business meeting in August.

The New SVP Website

With the outstanding leadership of Saba Rasheed Ali, we are about to launch our new website. The website will include all of the typical information of a professional group, including our by-laws as well as information about conferences and other presentations. However, we will include additional information, such as instructions to obtain membership, member news, updated membership directory, and direction for joining the new listserv. Please visit the website, which should be up and running by the time you read this column. Also, let us know what sort of information and links you would like to see on our website.

Moving our Newsletter to an Electronic Format

The publication of this printed newsletter will actually be the last paper copy that we will be able to disseminate. In our Board meeting at the Vancouver conference, we reviewed our very modest budget in light of our expenses. The publication of this newsletter costs about

\$600 per issue. As many of you know, we do not have a steady source of revenue coming into our Society, with the exception of our book royalties. (All three of our books are now out of print.) We therefore have decided to move to an electronic format, which will be far less costly. We will follow up with further information on this shortly via regular mail and email.

Upcoming Events

As many of you know, SVP has a tradition of a great deal of activity during the APA conventions, which will continue during the Washington, DC convention in August. I would like to encourage each of our members and interested colleagues to attend the annual SVP business meeting, which will take place on Thursday, August 18th from 11:00-1:00 pm in the Congressional Room C of the Washington D.C. Renaissance Hotel. The business meeting will provide a critical forum for the consideration of a number of new proposals and initiatives, including the consideration of a name change for SVP, discussion of our next conference and APA symposium, and a conversation about our linkage with the National Career Development Association. We also will announce the first recipient of the SVP Professional Achievement Award as well as the recipient of the SVP Graduate Student Award.

Following our business meeting, we will continue with our conversation hour (taking place from 1:00-2:00 pm), which has emerged as a very special event at the annual APA convention. From 2:00-3:00 pm, we will have our annual reception; each of these events will take place in the in the Congressional Room C of the Washington D.C Renaissance Hotel.

The SVP-sponsored symposium this year is entitled "Changing World of Work—A Vocational Psychological Perspective". The presenters include Janet Helms, Ruth Fassinger, Camille DeBell, and Nadine Peterson and Roberto Cortéz González. The discussants will be Lenore Harmon and Mark Savickas. The symposium will take place on Thursday, August 18th

from 3:00-3:50 and will be held at the Washington Convention Center, meeting room 158. Also, I encourage a strong turnout for the student poster session, which will be held during the CCPTP Social Hour; the day and time will be in the Convention program. We have had a very strong set of submissions, which has resulted in the acceptance of 8 papers.

See you in Washington...

In closing, I would like to thank all of the members of SVP who work so hard for our organization. I am very indebted to Richard Young and Beth Haverkamp who produced such a strong conference for our group in June. I also appreciate the hard work of our Executive Board, which includes Saba Rasheed Ali (Communications Officer), Tom Krieshok (Treasurer), Bruce Walsh (Past-Chair), and Paul Gore (Chair-Elect). They have devoted extensive time to their responsibilities, including countless conference calls, reviewing proposals, and responding to my many emails. In addition, we have many other members of our group who volunteer to help in various projects, often without recognition. I would like to thank each of these folks, who are too numerous to list here.

Serving as the Chair of SVP has been one of the highlights of my professional life. I am very proud of our organization, which has a great history of supporting and nurturing its members. In that context, if you have any ideas of ways that I can enhance our impact, either in supporting our members, recruiting new members, or in engaging with various constituency groups, do not hesitate to contact me. My phone number and email address follow my name below.

David Blustein,
Voice mail: 617 552-0795
Email: blusteid@bc.edu

Missing SVP Members

The following members addresses are outdated. If you know any of these members, please let them know that they can update their address information by simply emailing Saba Ali at saba-ali@uiowa.edu with an updated address.

Lisa Avedon
Trevia Anderson
Jane Goodman
Felissa Lee
Tamara Johnson
Louis A. Busacca
Lauren Roscoe
Jorie Hitch
Angela London-McConnell
Harry Neumann
Denise Somers
Laurie McCubbin
Leslie Maldonado-Feliciano
Justin Perry
Theresa Hanson
Paul Hamilton
Sandy Tierney
Kristin Helledy
David Reile
Terri Jennings
Carol Eikleberry
Wei-Chien Lee
Rachel Navarro
Rachel Guerra
Lynn Tracy
Marc Conover

Newsletter Moving To Electronic Format

This will be the last hardcopy of the SVP newsletter. Starting with the Winter edition, the SVP newsletter will be posted to the website and an email will be sent to the SVP listserv with the specific link. This change will result in a \$1200 yearly savings for the Society. If you are not currently subscribed to the listserv or would like to receive an email alert when the newsletter is published, please email Saba Ali at saba-ali@uiowa.edu.

(Continued from page 7)

transition points of my population inexpensively. I won't be impressed with a method that gets terrific results that requires brief individual intervention of 4 or 5 sessions. I have 6,000 clients a year to serve with 8 FTE. No matter how I divide it up, there aren't that many hours in the work year. It would be even better if we could reach 11,000 since I feel certain that at least that many have career issues in my target population. I need the Big Box deal that reaches all my clients with answers to their questions and challenges their proclivity for settling for under-employment out of fear of unemployment.

Reporter Hot Line:

When evidence emerges that could be highly effective in guiding our interventions we could use a hot line to get that information out. A "reporter" who alerts practitioners might help us all develop and elevate the worth of the whole field. I often search for new ideas. Reading about a meta-analysis that shows career interventions are moderately effective makes me wonder about the few that are highly effective. I want someone who blows the trumpet and rides through the land to drop the plans on my door.

Methods for spreading vocational psychology results to practitioners:

Engage me in formulating research questions. Ask me what works. Both of these strategies will sharpen the tools at their cutting edge where they are applied to those who need them and develop the data for furthering the theories. This seems a non-recursive fashion to speed development of more insightful research. We need to look for the positive exceptions to the moderately effective interventions to see if we can learn from the highly effective ones. At the same time we should be looking for the interventions that are inexpensive enough that they promote social justice in career development by providing adequate or better opportunities first for intervention and ultimately for jobs and work that is fulfilling.

More SVP Conference Highlights

Perspectives from Attendees

A Student Perspective on the 7th Biennial Conference of Society for Vocational Psychology

By Richard Harrison, MFA, MSW
(Counselling Psychology PhD Student,
University of British Columbia)

The recent biennial conference of the Society for Vocational Psychology at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver offered a rich panoply of approaches to research and practice in the realm of vocational psychology. In many ways, this conference exceeded my expectations, in part because of the breadth of theoretical and epistemological perspectives expressed. Research in the field was conceptualized in multiple ways, spanning from powerful quantification, to in-depth conversation, to social intervention. In my opinion, this conference was intellectually engaging, informative, and critically astute.

A common thread that interwove between and among those presentations that resonated most powerfully with me had to do with the complex, non-dichotomous interplay between individual personal agency and the construction of social reality. Several presenters, including Dr. Mary Sue Richardson, spoke of the importance of shifting the locus of inquiry in research and practice from the individual to social interaction (and to the individual in social interaction). Similarly, research itself was recognized as a practice that affects the lives of participants. I particularly appreciated Dr. Graham Stead's application of Foucault and discourse analysis to career psychology, with its tenet that people are both products and producers of discourse, of contextually situated systems of meaning that are constructed through historical and cultural practices. This line of thought

encourages us to question origins of truth claims, the contexts in which these are employed, and who benefits from them.

I was pleased and heartened to find a strong emphasis on socio-cultural context and qualitative research methods at the conference. There may have been a gentle under-current of tension between post-positivist and social constructivist epistemologies among the scholars, researchers, and practitioners present; however, this difference did not seem divisive, but rather, potentially generative. Dr. Mark Savickas queried whether and how these two epistemological approaches to the field might be bridged. This is an important question and one that I believe to be deserving of further discussion and deeper analysis than was possible in this context.

As a student, the conference afforded me an exciting opportunity to meet leaders in the field, learn more about the research careers of faculty members from my department, and to connect with peers in a stimulating new context. I left with an enhanced appreciation of the role that academic conferences and scholarly publications play in *our* careers. Forums such as these provide important opportunities for ongoing exchange, challenge, and growth. The biennial conference of the Society for Vocational Psychology in Vancouver was very much a community of practice, and one in which I was grateful to be a member. I commend Dr. Richard Young and Dr. Beth Haverkamp for organizing a successful conference.

Reflections on "New Methods for Research and Practice," the 7th Biennial Conference of the Society for Vocational Psychology

Richard A. Young and Beth E.
Haverkamp

We are pleased to report that 7th Biennial conference of the Society for Vocational Psychology in Vancouver produced three days of consistently excellent science and variably sunny skies, making the conference a methodological and a meteorological success! Registration exceeded our expectations, with attendance of more than 130 vocational psychologists representing ten different countries. Symposia and plenaries achieved our goal of highlighting innovative work in both quantitative and qualitative research and fifty poster presentations provided an opportunity for many graduate students and new professionals to participate. As the meetings concluded, we heard many comments from the participants about their high degree of satisfaction with the quality of the presentations and the collegiality of other conference events. We also know that many who attended the conference had a very good time, as did we, as your hosts. It was particularly rewarding for us to be able to welcome so many friends and colleagues to Vancouver and to the University of British Columbia.

It is impossible to summarize the depth and variety of excellent work presented but we would like to offer the following glimpse of some topics covered during the conference. In the opening plenary, the stage was set for constructive dialogue researchers and practitioners, and between vocational psychologists with diverse paradigmatic orientations. The dynamic nature of vocational behavior was reflected in methodological presentations that

covered topics ranging from nonrecursive structural equation models to narrative inquiry. The plenary on global perspectives contributed to a strong sense of international collaboration that permeated many aspects of the conference. The changing nature of career practice was highlighted in several sessions, including an examination of the mental health crisis on college campuses as a challenge and opportunity for vocational psychology, proposal of a social justice perspective for graduate courses in vocational psychology, and description of the place of career in large scale economic transitions. Each day, the presentations generated active and enthusiastic conversation during coffee breaks.

We were inspired by the willingness of presenters and discussants not only to participate in this conference but to prepare and deliver truly excellent papers and comments. We also were delighted with the large number of enthusiastic graduate students who presented first-rate posters. It is our hope that this conference will make a

significant difference in our field. Our choice to address research and practice in the same conference, and to showcase both quantitative and qualitative research, seemed to create a positive synergy among psychologists traditionally “at home” in one domain or another. Many of those attending commented that they observed considerable levels of respect for and openness to less familiar approaches in vocational psychology.

Perhaps the greatest reward of serving as coordinators for the SVP conference was the chance to observe a group of exceptional academics, graduate students and professionals engaging with new ideas and new colleagues. We believe that the type of dialogue we witnessed can create a crucible for new ideas and directions with substantial promise for vocational psychology. As we look ahead to the 8th Biennial Conference, we are enthusiastic about continuing the conversations that began in Vancouver.

The Society for Vocational Psychology would like to extend our appreciation to all of the conference organizers at the University of British Columbia for an excellent 7th Biennial conference experience.

SVP Ballot for 2005 Election Office: Communications Officer

In accordance with our by-laws, it is time for all society members to cast their votes for the next Communications Officer of the society. The following individuals have been nominated. Please cast your vote by marking a check mark beside your choice for this office, detach the this ballot, and return by **August 5th, 2005** to:

W. Bruce Walsh
Department of Psychology
1885 Neil Avenue Mall
The Ohio State University
Columbus, OH 43210-1222

Communications Officer:

_____ Saba Rasheed Ali

Society for Vocational Psychology

A Section of the Society of Counseling Psychology (17)
of the American Psychological Association
c/o Saba Rasheed Ali, Ph.D.
University of Iowa
361 Lindquist Center
Iowa City, IA 52242