Newspaper of the CPA/SCP

Section on Women & Psychology
Section: Femmes et Psychologie

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Consulting a Career Option for Psychologists

Congratulations!

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1997-1998 Executive

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Please let us know if you would like to receive your newsletter electronically. This will help us reduce some of the costs of producing the Newsletter. Please mail your e-mail address to the Editor. Thanks!
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**COORDINATOR'S MESSAGE**

I begin with the sad news, which reached me just before the holidays, that Elainor Burwell of Carleton University died after a long battle with cancer. A short article about her contributions appears in this issue. SWAP will be making a contribution to the scholarship fund being established in her name at Carleton, and I encourage those of you who knew her to make an individual contribution as well. Elainor was a pioneer in working for women in psychology and she will be greatly missed.

The fall has been a very busy and fruitful time for me as Coordinator. All the programs for the Edmonton Convention (June 4-7, 1998) had to be planned and set up and a number of deadlines occurred including that for nominating members for the CPA Board, and for CPA Fellows. I am very pleased to report that there will be two Invited Speakers at CPA who were nominated and supported by SWAP. Dr. Jean Clandinin will be the SWAP Invited Speaker. Dr. Clandinin has a background in Educational Psychology, is a Certified Psychologist in Alberta, and a Professor at the University of Alberta. She has worked in many areas and has published widely. Her most recent work involves the use of narrative technique to understand women's professional development as educators and learners. As the narrative technique is a central feminist research strategy, her expertise in this area will be of great interest to many members of SWAP as well as to many other researchers and practitioners at the conference. Dr. Clandinin has given a number of invited talks nationally and internationally, including the 1994 Cattell lecture at the American Educational Research Association meetings. I am delighted that she has agreed to be the SWAP Invited Speaker and look forward to hearing her invited address which is titled: Narrative Inquiry in Research and Practice.

Dr. Hilary Lips will be a CPA Keynote Invited Speaker. Dr. Lips is well known in Canadian psychology. After a number of years at the University of Winnipeg where she was active in SWAP, CPA, and Canadian Psychology, she moved to Radford University in Radford Virginia where in addition to a full-time position in psychology, she is the Director of the Center for Gender Studies. Dr. Lips' pioneering work on the social psychology of power and gender is widely known. Her book Women, Men and Power won the Distinguished Publication Award of the Association for Women in Psychology in 1992. Her work on gender and achievement spans more than two decades and she has made major contributions to our understanding of gender differences in achievement in the areas of mathematics, science, and computer technology. Among her many contributions in this area are a number of invited and international
presentations. She is one of the foremost experts on gender in North America and her
gender textbook, Sex and Gender: An Introduction, which is in the third edition, is
widely used in both the US and Canada. In addition to her textbook, she has also made
important pedagogical contributions to the teaching of the psychology of gender,
including three invited addresses to the National Institute on the Teaching of
Psychology in the US. I am delighted that the CPA Programme Committee accepted
the SWAP nomination and I look forward to hearing her invited address which is titled:
"Gendered Possibilities: Young Women’s
and Men’s Visions of their Potential Power and Competence".

I am also excited about the SWAP Program
which will be a Workshop that focuses on
bridging feminist theory and practice. Marla Steinberg will be the workshop facilitator,
and three feminist psychologists will briefly present their ideas leaving lots of time for an
exchange of ideas among the panel members and members of the audience.
The panel members include: Dr. Cynthia Matthewson of the Psychology Department of
Mount Saint Vincent who will talk about bridging feminist theory and action in the
design of course content; Dr. Charlene Sawchuck of the Psychology Department of the
University of Windsor who will talk about bridging feminist theory and action as
advisors, mentors, and departmental colleagues; and Dr. Rose Spricker who is in
private practice in Edmonton and will talk about bridging feminist theory and action in the
therapeutic setting through empowerment. Because most of the
workshop will focus on an exchange among panel members and the audience, there will be
ample opportunity to bring up other areas of concern as well.

So, make your plans now to attend the
Edmonton Convention and take in SWAP
events as well as many other sessions of
interest. Unfortunately, as I reported in the
September Newsletter, there won’t be a
SWAP Institute this year. However, plans
are still in the making for having an Institute
in Halifax in 1999. Several people have
indicated an interest in helping with the
institute. If you would like to add your name
to the list, please e-mail, write, or phone me
(information on front cover of this
Newsletter) and I will get back to you as
well as to the others who have also
indicated an interest.

I reported in the September Newsletter that
one of my projects was setting up a SWAP
Newsletter. It still is a project, just one I
haven’t gotten around to yet. However, in
the meantime, if you have a message you
want sent to the e-mail list I have begun to
collate (it is not complete but has over 50
e-mail addresses on it), you can send the
message to me (kimball@sfu.ca), indicating
it is a message for the SWAP e-mail list,
and I will forward it manually. After I get the
list set up, messages won’t have to go
through me, but can be sent to the list
directly. If you haven’t received any of the
three or four messages I sent out to this list
in the fall (the latest was about Elora
Burwell’s death) then you are not on the list
and if you e-mail me your address and your
interest in being on the list, I will add your
name.

During the spring various SWAP members
will be busy with nominations and
submissions. I encourage you to pay
special attention to the calls for nominations
for the SWAP Distinguished Member
Award, Coordinator Elect, and
Secretary/Treasurer, and the call for
submissions for the SWAP Student Paper
Prize and Travel Bursaries that appear in
this Newsletter. If you have any questions
about these nominations, please contact me
or the member of the Executive identified in
the call for nominations or submissions.

Meredith Kimball, Coordinator
departments, working with multidisciplinary teams, forging relationships with the community, encounters with the media, opening your own practice, surviving a post-doc, surviving the tenure process, surviving the first years in a tenure stream position, etc. If you have any thoughts about any of these experiences or any other professional event, consider writing about it. If you know someone who is embarking on a new professional journey, ask her to contribute a piece to the Newsletter. I would like to thank Susan Smelling for contributing our first piece, “Consulting as a Career Option for Psychologists.”

(3) Brief Reports on Research Projects
If you or your students are involved in a project that you feel would be of interest to SWAP members, consider writing a brief report (approximately 1000 words) outlining the major findings. My thanks go to Lisa Fiskenaam and her colleagues at York University for submitting the first article of this type.

These are a few of my ideas for how we can expand the content of the Newsletter. Feedback is most welcome. If you have other ideas for Newsletter articles or thoughts about our mission please let me know. If this has sparked your desire to write an article, please send it in. The deadline for the upcoming Newsletter is April 17th.

Maria Steinberg, Editor.

Letter to the Editor

As a graduate student, I am disappointed that SWAP has chosen to deal with its financial crisis by reducing the amounts of the student paper award and the student travel bursaries, and eliminating one of the travel bursaries.

I do not dispute SWAP’s financial crisis, although I must note that the September Newsletter does not contain enough information to enable me to see for myself that such a crisis does exist. Nor do I dispute the likelihood that many of the academic and professional members of SWAP may be struggling in the wake of recent government cutbacks within universities and the social services. But it is also the case that students are already bearing a disproportionate burden of those cuts, among other ways in the form of tuition increases. I cannot understand why SWAP would replicate this pattern of cutting most from those who have least to start with. Indeed, on the basis of the Newsletter, the ONLY budget cut that SWAP has definitely committed itself to making is that of student assistance (although some efforts were being undertaken to try to cut some of the Newsletter costs as well). How and why was it decided that the Newsletter was more important than student assistance?

I find it particularly ironic that the Newsletter contained both the announcement of this cutback (which will make it more difficult for students to attend CPA conventions) and Meredith Kimball’s invitation to “new and younger members of SWAP” to participate in the SWAP program at the upcoming convention. In comparison with other sections and with CPA as a whole, I have appreciated SWAP’s greater commitment to students and attention to financial inequality, and I am saddened that the current budget crisis has, to my mind, compromised this.

Jodee McCaw, M.A. (jmccaw@aracnet.net)

Response

I understand your concern that SWAP has reduced the amount of the student paper award and cut one of the travel bursaries. I wanted to provide some context for the Executive’s decision, so that it may be clearer why we did this. Over the years, our expenses have increased, while our revenues have decreased. Our expenses now greatly outweigh our revenues. For 1996, we face a shortfall of about $1000. We must therefore cut costs. Our two main expenditures are the Newsletter and awards to students, and the Executive decided to cut back on both. With the Newsletter, we no longer have a paid editorial assistant. We are looking at other ways to reduce costs, for example, by eliminating the cover and sending the Newsletter electronically to those members who have email. The Newsletter is our primary means of communication with the SWAP membership and we do not want to lose it.

Another area in which we have cut costs significantly is the Coordinator’s travel expenses to attend the CPA convention. In 1996, the Coordinator was allotted $1000, while in 1997, we cut that to $400 because of budgetary problems. In 1998 the Coordinator is not asking for any money for travel expenses. This reduction was not noted in the minutes for the business meeting, because we made this decision earlier in the year.

As you say in your letter, SWAP has been committed to supporting students and the Executive was not happy about reducing this support. When we made the decision, it was with the proviso that we would restore funding should our financial situation improve. At the next SWAP business meeting we will be discussing whether we can return to the previous level of funding. At the same time, we have been looking at ways to increase revenues. We are open to any and all suggestions!

I hope that I have addressed some of your concerns.

Elizabeth Church, Secretary-Treasurer
In Memory
Elinor Jean Burwell
April 11, 1925—December 6, 1997

Elinor Burwell will be remembered as one of Canada's pioneers in the development of feminist scholarship and teaching. After receiving her BA from the University of Toronto in 1946, she worked for the Department of Veteran Affairs in Ottawa from 1946 to 1951, and as a Scientific Information Officer with the Defence Research Board, Department of Defence from 1951 to 1956. In 1961 she received the first MA in Psychology from Carleton University. She was appointed as a half-time Lecturer in the Carleton Department of Psychology in 1963, a full-time Lecturer in 1965, Assistant Professor in 1967, and Associate Professor in 1983. She married in 1946, and both raised her three children and continued her professional career throughout the 1950s, a rare accomplishment for the time.

She served as a member of the Task Force on the Status of Women in Canadian Psychology which was formed in 1974 to examine all aspects of women's participation in psychology. She focused on the education and training of women in psychology. When the Task Force report was published in 1977 as an issue of the Canadian Psychological Review (Vol. 18, No. 1), her article, "Issues in the Education and Training of Women in Canadian Psychology" emphasized the problem areas in graduate training for women.

At Carleton University she taught the first Psychology of Women course in 1973-1974, developed and team taught Introduction to Women's Studies in 1974-1975, and played a major role in planning the Pauline Jewett Institute of Women's Studies which opened in 1987-1988. She was also involved in work in the field of Psychology of Aging throughout the past 20 years. She was active in the Ottawa community serving on a number of boards and projects concerned with women and aging and women's substance abuse.

Elinor Burwell retired in 1986. She passed away peacefully at home after a lengthy battle with cancer. She is survived by three children and four grandchildren. She will be missed by her family, her colleagues at Carleton, and many members of CPA who knew her. Her pioneering work in feminist psychology is honored by all who continue in the development of feminist research and teaching in psychology. A scholarship fund is being set up in her name at Carleton University. For more information contact me.

Meredith Kimball, Coordinator

Section on Women and Psychology By-Laws 1997

By-Law I - Name

1. The organization shall be called the Section on Women and Psychology hereinafter referred to as "The Section.".

By-Law II - Purpose

1. Sections are the primary agents through which the particular and special needs of members of the Canadian Psychological Association (hereinafter referred to as "CPA") are met and interests are served. The purpose of this Section is to promote the development of Women and Psychology as a special interest area in psychology.

2. In pursuance of this purpose, the Section is expected to: a) provide information to members about current activities, events, research and practice developments in the area; b) organize sessions at the annual CPA Convention that are of interest to members; c) represent the interests of the Section within CPA through initiation of such activities as position papers, policy statements, and special meetings; and make representations, on behalf of its' members to external organizations or agencies with the approval of the EXECUTIVE Committee of the CPA Board of Directors; d) publish a newsletter three times a year; e) confer an annual student paper award for submission to the Convention; f) provide student travel bursaries to qualifying individuals to the annual Convention; g) organize an annual one day Institute (when feasible) with a focus on a particular issue or theme specific to women; h) liaise with the CPA Status of Women Committee and act jointly with the Committee when appropriate.

3. The Section may also engage in, from time to time, other activities at the direction of the Section Executive.

4. The Section shall have access to the Board of Directors through the Executive Committee for consideration of issues of concern to the Section involving matters relevant to the relationship of the Section to the Association as a whole of component parts thereof, or concerning agencies or activities external to the Association. These may in turn be referred to the Board for consideration and action.

By-Law III - Formation

1. The Section is an agent of CPA and operates in accord with By-Law VII of the Association.

2. Approval to establish the Section within the Association is granted by the CPA Board of Directors in accord with CPA By-Law VII.2.

3. The Section may be dissolved by the CPA Board of Directors in accord with By-Law VII.3.

By-Law IV - Membership

1. Full membership in the Section is open to all Fellows, Members, and Students, Foreign, and Special Affiliates of CPA. Associate Membership in the Section is open to those who do not meet the requirements for Full membership, but who are involved in work or studies relevant to the stated purposes of the Section and who declare an intention to pursue those purposes. Applications for Associate
they do not resign, the Executive Committee shall give notice of motion, to be considered at the next general meeting, requesting their expulsion from the Section. A copy of this motion shall be communicated to the member concerned in time for that person to make a written response. If a response is made, it shall be circulated without the notice of motion. The members concerned shall be given an opportunity to explain their positions at the meeting at which the motion requesting their expulsion is considered. Approval of such a motion shall require a two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

By-Law V - Officers and Executive Committee

1. There shall be four elected officers, these being the Coordinator, the Coordinator-Elect, the Past-Coordinator, and the Secretary-Treasurer. The term for the first three offices is one year. The term for the Secretary-Treasurer shall be two years. All terms will end at the close of the Annual General Meeting. The Newsletter Editor shall be appointed by the elected Executive for a term of two or more years. The Executive Committee shall also appoint a Coordinator for the annual Section Institute. The Executive Committee shall also appoint the Provincial Representatives and the Graduate Student Representative.

2. Nominations for the Coordinator-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer may be made up to the time of the annual election.

3. The Coordinator-Elect and the Secretary-Treasurer shall be elected by a majority vote of members present and voting at the Annual General Meeting.

4. The Coordinator shall: a) provide the overall supervision and administration of the affairs of the Section and ensure that all policies and actions approved by the general membership or by the Executive Committee are properly implemented; b) preside at general meetings of the Section and chair meetings of the Executive Committee; c) represent the Section on the CPA Committee on Sections to the CPA Board of Directors, and to external bodies (CPA By-Law VII.7 states: the Section shall elect or appoint a representative to sit on the Committee on Sections of the Association and shall regulate through the Section By-Law the method of appointment or election and the terms of office; d) provide an annual report to the members and to CPA.

5. The Coordinator-Elect is available to carry out duties assigned by the Coordinator or requested by the Executive Committee or the general membership.

6. The Past-Coordinator shall: a) fulfill the duties of the Coordinator when that person is temporarily absent or otherwise unable to perform the duties of the office; b) perform duties assigned by the Coordinator or requested by the Executive Committee or the general membership; c) chair the Nominating Committee for the positions of Coordinator-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer.

7. The Secretary-Treasurer shall: a) issue notices and agendas, and prepare and maintain an up-to-date list of members, including a record of the dues paid by members in order to establish those in good standing. Membership dues shall be collected by the CPA Head Office at the time of the annual membership subscription to the Association. The CPA Head Office distributes the dues collected to the Section along with a roster of the names and addresses of Section members. A fee for processing Section dues and memberships is set by the CPA Board of Directors in consultation with the Committee on Sections and with sufficient notice given to allow for the Section to plan a budget; d) be responsible for the care and custody of the funds and other assets of the Section and for making payments for all approved expenses; c) maintain books of the accounts which shall be made available for inspection by members at any reasonable time on request; e) annually, at least four weeks before the Annual Report, the Secretary of the section shall submit an Annual Report, which includes a financial statement to the Board of Directors of the Association. The financial statement shall include a budget for the ensuing year which
shall be subject to approval by the Board of Directors; 1) carry out other duties as may be assigned by the Coordinator.
8. The signing officers of the Sections shall be the Coordinator and the Secretary-Treasurer.
9. Officers shall remain in office until their successors are elected or appointed, unless they resign, or are removed from office by a two-thirds vote and the body that elected or appointed them. Proper notice must be given of a motion to remove a person from office and the individual concerned shall be given an opportunity to speak before such a motion is put to a vote.
10. Vacancies that occur on the Executive Committee shall be filled by appointment by the Executive Committee. A vacancy in the office of Past Coordinator shall normally be filled by the next immediate Past Coordinator.

By-Law VII - Committees

1. The Executive Committee may appoint standing or other committees as it deems desirable to facilitate the achievement of the purposes of the Section. (Standing committees that Sections may wish to establish include Convention Programme Committee, Newsletter Committee, Public Information Committee, Scientific Affairs Committee, Professional Affairs Committee.)
2. Terms of reference of standing committees shall be prepared by the Executive Committee of the Section and put before the membership for approval at a general meeting. Ad hoc committees may be established by approval of a motion at a general meeting or at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Section.

By-Law VIII - Amendments

1. These By-Laws may be amended by approval of a motion by a two-thirds majority of votes cast at the Annual General Meeting of the Section, provided that at least thirty days notice is give for such a motion, and that the amendments receive subsequent approval by the Board of CPA.

By-Law Changes

Last year SWAP took over the running of the Status of Women Committee when it was dropped by the CPA Board as a Standing Committee. A short history of this process and the Terms of Reference for the Status of Women Committee appeared at the Annual General Meeting in Toronto, appeared in the September 1997 Newsletter. This charge has necessitated three changes in the SWAP By-Laws (see this issue for a copy of the current by-laws). The changes specified below will be discussed and voted on at the SWAP Annual General Meeting in Edmonton this coming June. A two-thirds majority of votes cast at the Annual General Meeting is required for approval of each by-law amendment.

1. By-Law II.2.h: Delete the current wording ("liaise with the CPA Status of Women Committee and act jointly with the Committee when appropriate.") and replace with "establish and maintain the Status of Women Committee."

2. By-Law V.1: Add to this section: "The Executive Committee shall appoint the Chair of the Status of Women Committee for a term of two years."

3. By-Law V.5: Replace the current wording (The Coordinator-Elect is available to carry out duties assigned by the Coordinator or requested by the Executive Committee or the general membership.) with: "The Coordinator-Elect shall: a) be available to carry out duties assigned by the Coordinator or requested by the Executive Committee or the general membership; b) serve as an ex-officio member of the Status of Women Committee; and c) recommend to the Executive Committee a chair for the Status of Women Committee when that position becomes vacant."

FROM CPA

As the current SWAP liaison for the CPA Board of Directors, I've been asked to provide some feedback on recent Board meetings. The meetings are long and the agenda full, so I won't attempt a complete summary of proceedings; lots of information will be coming through Psynopsis and other communication channels. Even a short list of examples of meeting topics gives an indication of the high level and diversity of activity within CPA: our website is now attracting tens of thousands (yes, that's tens of thousands) of individuals per month and is bringing significant numbers of new members into CPA; CPA will be the host organization for the AIDS International Convention in 1999; we made a strong statement about the problems with the proposed Tri-Council Ethics Code (CPA President Janel Gauthier was quoted in the
recent University Affairs article on this issue); included in CPA’s efforts to enhance communication with members was the recent acquisition of a toll-free telephone line (the number is 1-888-472-0657, for your information); CPA has entered into a joint initiative with APA to conduct research and training to aid those affected by ethnopatriarchal warfare. Finally, of special interest to SWAP members is the fact that the section nominee, Hilary Lips, was approved as an invited speaker for the CPA convention next June.

Rather than give you more information on what transpired at the meetings, I’d like to try to convey to you the message that, more than ever, there’s a very real opportunity for CPA members to directly influence the activities and direction of the organization. As you probably know, over the past few years, CPA has been re-organized. One significant change has been a reduction in the size of the Board; the number of members will be down to nine in June. With that number and with a multiplicity of responsibilities to cover, we will require increased involvement of CPA members on committees and task forces in order to function. I think members of SWAP, especially, should consider active participation in CPA; we need to assure that the feminist viewpoint is heard throughout the organization. At the next meeting (March 7 and 8, 1998), the Board will be completing the final stage of the strategic planning exercise, identifying specific priority areas for the next five years. That provides an ideal opportunity to be part of what are likely to be new and important initiatives for the organization. If you’re willing to assist in any of CPA’s committees or activities, let your interest be known—look for invitations to input in Synopsis, contact committee chairs, or ask me or any other Board member to find out where help is needed or who to contact to get involved.

Best wishes to all SWAP members in 1998!

Joanne Gallivan, Professor of Psychology
University College of Cape Breton

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SWAP Distinguished Member Award
Nomination of Esther Greenglass
By Sandra Pyke

I am pleased to nominate Dr. Esther Greenglass for the 1997 SWAP Distinguished Member Award. I have known Dr. Greenglass since 1967 when we were both newly hired faculty members at York University. Over the almost three decades of our acquaintance, I have become increasingly aware of the many significant contributions that Dr. Greenglass has made to the discipline in general, to the psychology of women area of specialization, to women psychologists, and to women generally.

In terms of her influence on academe, Professor Greenglass, almost single-handedly, pioneered the emergence of the psychology of women field in Canada. She was thinking and speaking about Women’s Studies and the Psychology of Women long before almost anyone else in the country. For example, in a lecture given at Loyola College in 1971, she presented some of her ideas on the psychology of women. At that time she was obviously in the vanguard of what has become a flourishing branch of the discipline. She subsequently designed and taught York’s first undergraduate and graduate psychology of women courses. She was a member of the influential York University Senate Task Force on the Status of Women (1971-75). The report of this Task Force served as a model for other universities and led to many significant changes, not the least of which was redressing gross gender-based salary inequities. In 1982, the first Canadian authored text on gender roles appeared, written, not surprisingly, by Dr. Greenglass. This book has recently been translated into both German and Japanese. Professor Greenglass has continued to be a major figure in advancing the status of women in academe and has been extremely influential in setting the pace and determining the agenda for the development of psychology of women on the Canadian scene.

She was also one of the architects of the infamous or famous “Underground Symposium” in 1972 when CPA was taken to task for its neglect of and failure to recognize the merits of research on psychology of women topics. Her commitment, determination and enthusiasm for this event were an inspiration for all of us who were involved and helped to keep us going even in the face of adversity. She subsequently guest edited an issue of the Ontario Psychologist and published the papers presented at the Underground Symposium ensuring that the event would be chronicled. It should be noted that Dr. Greenglass was one of the founding members of the Section (then known as an Interest Group) in 1976 and is currently a Fellow of both CPA and APA.

Another index of Professor Greenglass’ outstanding contributions to the field is revealed in an analysis of her research record. First, it must be noted that her productivity is extraordinarily impressive—close to 100 published items. Evidence of the good quality of this work is reflected in the quality of the journals in which the reports appear and in her success in attracting grant funds to support this research. Further testimony to the importance and originality of her scholarship is the fact that a good many of her articles have been reprinted elsewhere. Similarly, her many invited addresses to both academic and lay audiences attest to both the relevance of the issue studied and the high regard of her colleagues for her research. Like many pioneer feminists, Dr. Greenglass is a generalist. Her work embraces myriad topics—abortion, marriage, motherhood, sex bias, work, stress, coping, burnout—and the approach and commitment are not cursory; in every case, the issues, obviously relevant to
women, are examined in depth and from several perspectives.

Outside the university, Dr. Greenglass has participated on a variety of important task forces, councils, boards and committees, both at the local level and nationally. These appointments reflect the reputation she has as a leader and expert on women's issues.

In sum, Dr. Greenglass served as a role model when there were few women feminist psychologists to be found and she continues to have a major impact on future generations of psychologists, through her scholarship, her teaching and her professional and community involvements. It would be hard to overestimate the influence of the many contributions of Dr. Esther Greenglass. She has typically been a step or two ahead of the rest of us, paving the way, making it easier for those who follow. I know of no more courageous individual, no one more willing to stand up and be counted, to defend the unpopular view, than my colleague, Professor Greenglass. She is a most worthy candidate for the SWAP Distinguished Member Award.

SWAP Distinguished Member Award Acceptance Speech

Esther Greenglass
June 14, 1997

I am honored that you have granted me this award and I want to thank you for your belief in me. There are many people whose continual support has made this possible. My thanks go to my colleagues at York especially Sandra Pyke for her inspiration, her leadership in defining the psychology of women field, and her collegiality. I want also to thank my students for their continued dedication and conscientious work, and my sisters in universities in other countries with whom our bonds transcend culture, language and national boundaries. And of course I want to thank my family for their continued support.

I read recently that "relationships with women are more health-promoting than those with men". Without debating whether this is due to social, structural and/or biological factors, there is a clear message for us. Through SWAP and other formal and informal organizations, we have the opportunity to support each other in our research, teaching and practice. The path we have chosen is NOT an easy one, and over time has NOT gotten easier. It's been 25 years since the Montreal underground symposium, when a group of us including Sandra Pyke and myself defied the CPA program committee's rejection and presented our symposium on WOMEN, BY WOMEN in the basement of a Montreal hotel, a symposium which was attended by about 200 people and was greeted with enthusiasm. That momentous event for Canadian women in psychology demonstrated that, contrary to the establishment's assumption the "nobody was interested in women", we did indeed show that there was interest and enthusiasm for this "new" are of research.

Today we face the fallout from many turn of events including dismantling of pay equity programs, budget cuts, downsizing, and the backlash against feminism. I still hear the worn-out old adage, often said as if it were original to the speaker, "Why can't a woman be more like a man?". In our own discipline many colleagues still equate psychology of women with gender difference research and much of psychology, to our dismay, is still being taught out of context.

Clearly our work is cut out for us. The challenge today has never been greater. We need more not less psychology of women courses. The opportunity for research exists in many more areas than ever before including psychology of women and health and life stages, violence against women, women's interpersonal relationships, career issues for women and ethnic diversity, to name only a few. We have demonstrated that we are a force within Canadian psychology, the task ahead is to dedicate ourselves to furthering knowledge so that the abundant stereotypes and misconceptions about women are replaced by a sound knowledge base developed through research which meets the highest standards of excellence.

ARTICLES

AN ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT STATUS AND FUTURE OF THE PSYCHOLOGY OF WOMEN

Lisa Fiksenbaum, Lesley Goldstein, Sandra Pyke, Esther Greenglass, and Sharon Boetswain

The 1960's and 70's were particularly fractious years in the development of psychological thought. Among the new fields to emerge was the Psychology of Women. Now, more than 30 years later, it is perhaps time to examine the success of this area of specialization.

In order to investigate the current status of feminist psychology and the Psychology of Women, a questionnaire was designed to assess various issues relating to the teaching of Psychology of Women and feminist therapy courses, the application of feminist pedagogy in teaching, and feminist principles in research and practice. In particular, this study examined whether Psychology of Women courses and feminist counselling therapy courses are included in University curricula; to what extent feminist therapy, theory, and techniques inform the provision of treatment for clients; the extent to which principles of feminist pedagogy are applied in teaching; whether feminist principles are reflected in research investigations; and finally a sense of the employment of feminist principles in administrative and management...
endeavours. Views about the anticipated future for feminist psychology in Canada were also explored.

Questionnaires were sent to 142 current members of SWAP (CPA Section of Women and Psychology, 1996). This group was selected under the assumption that they would be among the most knowledgeable about the status of the Psychology of Women field in Canada. Responses were received from 82 individuals (60 females and 22 males), yielding a response rate of 58%. It should be noted that this response rate is quite high for surveys of this nature. About equal numbers of these respondents were faculty members or therapists, while roughly 10% were either administrators or students.

Approximately 42% of the respondents had taught a course on the Psychology of Women, gender roles, or sex differences. However, more than half of these individuals (62%) had never taken such a course themselves. In addition, 13% of the respondents indicated that they had taught a course on feminist therapy or feminist counselling, and about the same proportion had actually taken a course on this topic. An overwhelming number of respondents (89%) reported that insufficient numbers of psychologists were being trained to teach courses relevant to the Psychology of Women. Furthermore, most of the respondents (77%) indicated that demand for these courses greatly exceeded the number of such courses currently available.

An additional survey item asked respondents to identify or describe the pedagogical techniques or strategies they employed in their teaching that reflected feminist principles. A large proportion of the respondents referred to issues such as the validation of personal experience, allowing a high level of student self-determination, and the creation of a non-hierarchical structure in the classroom. One respondent commented as follows, "I make it explicit at the beginning of the class that respect for each other is required. If people are not feeling heard, they should speak to me or to other members of the class if they can. If I'm doing something that students object to, they should feel free to tell me. I set up discussions that encourage students to form and express their own opinions about the material and about the class." Additionally, other respondents noted the inclusion in their courses of content (empirical, methodological and theoretical) specifically related to women. For example, one respondent stated: "I use a feminist standpoint epistemological position in my courses (privilege women's experience as a source of knowledge). I also include materials that offset overwhelming mainstream bias of most students' prior training."

Approximately 61% of the respondents reported involvement in research projects. Of these, the vast majority (81.3%) regarded their research as relevant to the field of Psychology of Women, and believe that they adhere to feminist principles in the design and conduct of their research (91.3%). Furthermore, 89.4% of the individuals who responded to the survey regarded their research as informed by feminist theory. The specific research interests cited by respondents were many and varied. Among the most frequent topics were violence against women, women and careers, emotional development, health psychology, anxiety and depression, and aging and language. Most respondents (81.3%) expressed concern that there are an insufficient number of individuals being trained to continue feminist research in the future.

Of the 82 individuals who responded, 63% provided some form of psychological service/treatment to clients. Almost all of these individuals (94.2%) incorporated feminist therapy principles into their intervention approaches. An interesting and unexpected finding was that many of these individuals acquired their feminist knowledge and skills in a non-traditional context. Examples of these unconventional approaches include workshops and self-taught methods.

This survey also asked respondents to indicate, on a 7-point scale (1 indicated "not at all" to 7 representing "a great deal"), the extent to which their organizational setting or institution might be characterized as reflecting a chilly climate for women. The phrase "Chilly Climate" is sometimes used to describe the consequences of the expression of anti-woman, anti-feminist, and anti-Psychology of Women attitudes. A surprisingly large proportion of the sample (approximately 15%) rated their organizational setting as not at all reflective of a chilly climate. However, such ratings were often given by individuals who were in private practice working alone or who were part of a feminist collective of clinicians (e.g., working in a women's shelter). Others provided several different ratings for the different institutions in which they had worked and still others made a distinction between their particular unit and the organization as a whole. One woman commented, "I chose '4' in part because it reflects a compromise position. I personally have not experienced the 'chilly climate' but I know many female colleagues who have." Ten percent of the sample regarded their organizational settings as being very chilly, giving ratings of 6 or 7.

Respondents were asked to share their predictions about the future of the Canadian Psychology of Women field. Forty-one percent of the respondents expressed negative or pessimistic views. More than a third of these respondents pointed to difficult economic times as responsible for the bleak future. Others identified the backlash phenomenon. One woman reflected, "I think that in the right wing political and economic climate of the 1990's, we are becoming an 'endangered species' in both the post-secondary education and health system in Canada (if in fact we were ever anything else)." Other respondents expressed more optimism. Specifically, they commented on the increased interest in the field, more female students and faculty, the inclusion of Psychology of
Consulting: A career option for psychologists
Susan J. Snelling

Ph.D. completed! But what next? A post-doc, and then an academic position? Of course, academic beckons to many graduates, but it is not the only possibility. Among the other options is independent research consulting. Given the present scarcity of academic positions, I expect that this career path will become more common.

It may also be of interest to people with Master's degrees who can't, or don't want to, go on for Ph.D.s. I've been engaged in consulting work over the past two years, and in this article, I hope to fill you in on some of the perils and pleasures of consulting as a career option.

First, a bit of background. I completed a Ph.D. in psychology at York University in 1994. From 1994 to 1997, I was a full-time assistant professor in a non-tenure-track position at Trent University. Since 1998, I have been working as a research consultant, at first part-time along with the academic position, and then full-time since September, 1997, when I moved to Manioulin Island.

I have come to consider my consulting work to be the professional practice of feminist activism, informed by my psychology training and expertise. Thinking of it in this way means that I can bring together various aspects of my life that often felt separate when I worked in university settings. There are significant advantages to doing research as an academic, particularly with respect to resources (grants, research assistants, libraries, and computers). But there are also pressures against doing feminist research, or indeed any type of research that is overtly political. Although I always believed that psychology had a contribution to make to feminist activism, as an academic I struggled to find a balance between my identity as a psychologist and my identity as a feminist. I did feminist research, but I often felt that I could only be a feminist activist on weekends. Consulting as a psychologist with activist, community organizations is a way to bring the two together, now I can be a psychologist and an activist at the same time.

To give you an idea of the kind of work consulting can involve, I am providing research and evaluation services to a project providing treatment to children who have witnessed the abuse of their mothers. I've been working with this project for two years now, and it was my involvement with this group that started me thinking about independent consulting as a potential alternative to academic. I have also been developing woman and child abuse prevention programming ideas for local First Nations organizations. The work is quite varied and exciting, which is one of the attractive aspects of consulting; it's never the same thing twice.

Although I have not been working as a consultant for very long, I do have some suggestions for people (especially feminists) contemplating a career in consulting. Most of this advice is based on things that I did not do from the beginning, but wish I had done. Perhaps readers will be able to learn from my mistakes, as well as from my successes. I should add that even though I think these are the right things to do, I don't always follow my own advice! My consulting career is still a "work-in-progress", but here's what I've come up with so far:

1. You will need to redefine your idea of what skills you have. As students and academics we tend to define ourselves in terms of what we know about, not what we know how to do. As I thought about what I could offer in the non-university environment, I was surprised to find that my extensive knowledge of the literature on menstruation, feminist theory, and epidemiology did not appear high on my list of real-world skills. I discovered that I needed to make a distinction between...
knowledge and skills. What organizations generally look for in a consultant is someone with skills that they need but do not possess. The skills that we have as academics, in writing, researching, and data analysis, are skills that many organizations need. Although some organizations hire consultants for their specific knowledge in an area (see point 3 below), more often, a general working knowledge of a topic is enough to get you started. For readers still in school, any courses that you can take in areas like program evaluation, applied and qualitative research methods, public policy, or community development (even if offered outside a psychology department) will enhance your skill set and increase your range of consulting expertise.

(2) Don't make assumptions about what community groups mean by terms like "research," "data," or "psychology." If you are going to work effectively with people who are not psychologists, you need to develop a shared vocabulary. What counts as "research" for community groups is often not what you and I might mean. One mistake I made initially was to describe myself as a psychologist or a researcher. Frequently, non-psychologists did not have a clear idea of how that might translate into work I might do. So my advice is to describe yourself as someone who can do certain things (my own list includes: write grant proposals, conduct surveys, do needs assessments and program evaluations, develop programs, and provide training workshops.)

(3) In order to determine your "market", look for ways to connect your academic knowledge to "real-world" needs. Contrary to the extreme specialization common in academe, you will need to broaden your description of your "area". Ask yourself: if the research that I do were part of an undergraduate course, in what course would it belong? The course title can be considered a "market". For example, my dissertation, on women's perspectives on feminism, might be part of a psychology of women or women's studies course, a course on feminist activism, or a course on qualitative methods. So to translate my knowledge base into something that the general public can make sense of, I would describe my "areas" as "women's issues," "community organizing," and "qualitative research".

(4) Getting the first job is a critical part of establishing a practice. I got my first consulting job when the coordinator of the child witnesses to abuse program called a professor at Trent looking for evaluation expertise. He passed my name on to the coordinator. I responded to their request for proposals, and I was hired. Although my story makes it sound like it's just luck, or being in the right place (and that's certainly part of it), I think the larger lesson is that personal contacts make the difference. If you want to do consulting, your first step should be to talk to everyone you know (don't forget the person who cuts your hair, your next-door neighbour, etc.) that you are looking for this kind of work. You don't have to give them a big sales pitch; just make sure they know you're interested.

(5) You must find a way to promote your services. This runs counter to the training most of us have had as women and as psychologists, but it is necessary if you are to make a living as a consultant. Although work sometimes comes without you having to look for it (it has happened to me a few times; see point 4 above) you can't count on that happening. Word-of-mouth is the best way to get work, so you must do excellent work while you are on a contract, and make sure your employer knows that you are interested in doing other similar work. Most groups, if they like your work, will be glad to give your name to others. But you have to do your part by providing business cards or brochures that can be given to potential clients. And you must follow-up on leads by calling people who might need your services and asking if there are projects you might work on for them. Once you have defined your skills and areas in ways that non-academics can make sense of (see points 1-3 above), you will have a way of describing your consulting services in a way that will generate work for you. I can't say I enjoy the self-promotion aspect of independent consulting. I do it though, because it's a way to make it possible to do the work I want to do.

(6) When you discuss a possible project, make a point of asking what the next step should be, and then follow up on your discussion. Because you are not working in the same location as the people you are working with (or hope to be working with), it is easy for them to forget about you. If someone needs to check with a Board or a boss before giving you the go-ahead on a project, find out when that will happen and call back if you haven't heard. A line I have used to good effect is "How can we make this happen?" This moves the discussion from "tossing ideas around" to a plan of action, and that's pretty important if your income relies on getting commitments.

(7) Consider volunteering your time on some projects. If you don't have enough paid work, you can at least make yourself known and keep yourself busy by working for no or reduced wages. If you do this, though, make sure you are able to set some limits on your involvement so that you can take paid work if you find it. One option is to volunteer your time to write a grant proposal for a group, and then if the grant comes through, there will be money to pay you to work on the project. Most groups have more ideas than money, so if you can help them get the money, they are often very willing to pay someone (i.e., YOU!) to make their ideas come alive.

(8) See consulting as an opportunity to do work that is meaningful to you. There are many grass-roots organizations that I would not have had time to be involved with as an academic. Now I have become involved with groups whose work I believe in. Of course, consulting psychologists do work in industry, business and politics, so that's not to say that you will only consult to feminist organizations! But one of the joys of
consulting is being able to make choices about the kind of work in which you want to be involved. For me, my consulting work is a way to advance a feminist agenda in a very immediate way. I have found that being clear about my feminist perspective actually makes me attractive to women's organizations who want to work with someone who is conversant with feminist principles. For me, being a feminist has been an asset, not a liability. Whether that would be true for you will depend on the settings in which you would like to work.

(9) You need to recognize that building a client base and a reputation takes time. Even as you are working on a project, you need to be thinking about future work, and that may mean writing proposals or making contacts months before any work might come your way. Building a consulting business is a long-term proposition that requires planning ahead and a great deal of patience.

(10) Working out of a home-based office can be isolating. It's important to maintain connections to people who have similar interests, whether through e-mail, phone, or academic journals. You may also find ways to develop collaborative projects with people in your field, so your contacts may be of value for your consulting practice as well as your mental health!

I welcome any thoughts about, or other experiences of, independent consulting. Comments can be sent to Susan at snelling@kanservu.ca; telephone (705) 377-5815.

CONGRATULATIONS!

Katherine Dunham for successfully defending her dissertation entitled, "Social support for women who are abused in heterosexual relationships." Katherine obtained a Ph.D. in Applied Social Psychology from the University of Windsor under the direction of Cherlene Senn.

Belinda Crawford Seagram for the successful defense of her dissertation entitled, "The efficacy of solution-focused therapy with young offenders." Belinda obtained a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from York University. Her supervisor was Sandra Pyke.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

WORLD CONFERENCE ON FAMILY VIOLENCE
September 8-11, 1998
New Delhi, India
Phone: (800) 720-8115
Web site: http://www.wcvf.org

The goal of the World Conference on Family Violence is to focus on practical, sustainable solutions that can be implemented in different cultures to stem the growing trend of family violence.

The World Conference on Family Violence will address the continuum of violence by encompassing the interdependent relationships of child, intimate partner, and elder. Thousands of social workers, elected and government officials, advocates, educators, religious leaders, and legal and medical professionals from around the world are expected to attend.

Conference attendees will exchange information about the long-term implications of family violence. Most Conference work will focus on identifying and developing implementable alternatives to fear and violence in families. Practitioners will exchange information on how to intervene in potentially dangerous situations, and provide support for families through courts, workplaces, social networks, schools, churches, support groups, the health care system, and local government.

Intended Results:
(1) Provide each delegate with practical models of sustainable solutions to family violence.
(2) Provide the resources for practitioners to combat the problem within the cultural and contextual environment at home.
(3) Address the continuum of family violence in an interactive, participatory environment.
(4) Provide the framework and development resources for future implementation of regional and international exchanges.

Paper proposal forms and instructions for registering are available on the web site located at <http://www.wcvf.org>.

INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF APPLIED PSYCHOLOGY
August 9 – 14
San Francisco, CA

Early registration deadline is April 1, 1998.
Contact: Congress Secretariat
APA Office of International Affairs
750 First Street NE
Washington, DC 20002-4242
fax: 202-336-5956
e-mail: icap@apa.org
ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOMINATION OF DISTINGUISHED MEMBERS AWARD

Each year SWAP presents a Distinguished Member Award to a member of SWAP who has made distinguished contributions to women and psychology. These contributions may be in the areas of research, practice, teaching, and/or service to SWAP or to provincial organizations. A letter of nomination and a copy of the nominee's CV or résumé should be sent to the Coordinator, Meredith Kimball, by March 30, 1998.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS
SWAP EXECUTIVE

Nominations for the positions of Coordinator-Elect and Secretary-Treasurer are currently being accepted. The Secretary-Treasurer position is a 2 year term. The Coordinator-Elect position is a 3 year commitment, including the positions of Coordinator and Past-Coordinator. The positions will be filled by means of a membership vote at the SWAP AGM in Edmonton in June, 1999. A letter of nomination and a copy of a CV or résumé should be sent to Dr. Vivian Lalande, Past-Coordinator, by March 30, 1998.

STUDENT RESEARCH PRIZE

Announcing the 1998 annual Prize for Psychological Research on Women & Gender by graduate or undergraduate students - Awarded by the Association for Women in Psychology (AWP) & Division 35 (Psychology of Women) of the American Psychological Association (APA).

Research Issues: Research topics eligible for this award will be construed very broadly and may represent work in any area of psychology. The research should be relevant in some significant way to women's lives or, more generally, to the emerging psychological understanding of gender role influences on human behavior. The research may be basic or applied.

Eligibility: Jointly authored papers are eligible, but the first author must have been a student when the research was done. Entries should be of approximately journal length and written in APA style. Papers that have been submitted for publication or presented at a professional meeting are eligible as are papers that are unpublished or that have been previously published or accepted for publication. Do not submit reprints or manuscripts with the authors' names embedded in them.

Submission of papers: Send four (4) copies of the paper and a self-addressed stamped post card and a self-addressed stamped business size envelope by April 1, 1998 to: Joan C. Christer, Ph.D., Department of Psychology, Connecticut College, New London, CT 06320 USA.

Judging: A panel of psychologists will read all entries using a standard masked review procedure. Judging will be done on the basis of theoretical creativity, methodological skill, clarity and style of presentation, and importance of the research problem and findings.

Awards: First and alternate winners will be announced in August at APA. A $200 prize will be awarded for the best paper. Winners will be invited to present their research at the 1999 conference of the Association for Women in Psychology.

CALL FOR CO-AUTHORS

This series of sixteen books is under way, with the first proposals accepted by Open University Press. As series editor I am looking for therapists interested in theory and in comparison of theoretical approaches who might like to become co-author to authors already in place, but looking for a partner of contrasting persuasion with whom they can write the book.

The proposal is for a series of books [each of 90,000 - 35,000 words] comparing and contrasting the use of similar terms across a range of the therapeutic models, and identifying different terms that appear to denote similar concepts. Each book will be authored by two therapists, each one from a distinctly different orientation; and whose possible an international dimension. Apart from the co-operative dialogue between authors of each book, the team as a whole composed of those taking part in the project will also be available to each other to provide pointers on other concepts in the literature of their own field; and they may be available to check over passages in which such concepts from their own theoretical models are described in other books in the series.

Each book will cover the use of terms or concepts which appear to be similar (although they may turn out not to be) in the major theoretical models.

The level of reader is assumed to be one who is post-graduate or post-qualifying, interested in concepts and the way they inform practice.

At this point, the proposals for the volumes are still being drafted, and the authors chosen for the series are encouraged to provide feedback on all proposals, suggesting ideas from their own perspective. The following books in the series of sixteen have one author in place who may be ready to start work immediately on the proposal. I would be interested in hearing from anyone who would like to offer themselves as a co-author - preferably of a different theoretical orientation to the person named.

1. Conscious and unconscious - David Livingstone Smith - communicative psychotherapy (Langs)
RESOURCES AVAILABLE

From time to time, the CPA office sends to the SWAP Coordinator information that comes to the main office from the government and other sources. Depending on the content these items are either kept by the Coordinator or passed onto the Chair of the Status of Women Committee. Sometimes they are given to a member of SWAP to review and comment on. As a regular part of the Newsletter, these items will be listed along with a brief description of each. After each item the location of the document is indicated in parentheses. If any reader would like a copy of any of these documents, please contact either the Coordinator or the Chair of the Status of Women Committee and one of us will pass them onto you.

Items Received:

1. Status of Women Canada: Information on December 6, National Day of Remembrance and Action on Violence Against Women. This includes a short (2 page) question and answer document about violence against women and highlights of federal government initiatives to prevent violence against women.

2. Perspectives, vol. 1 No. 8. This is an electronic newsletter on research and science policy that is a pilot project of the Humanities and Social Sciences Federation of Canada. This issue focuses on ethical issues.

3. United Nations: Summary of Results: 41st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, March 10-21, 1997. This is a three page summary of the UN meetings held earlier this year. A copy of the full report can be accessed by visiting the UN Web site at http://www.un.org/dpcsd/caw/csw.htm or by writing to the Division of the Advancement of Women (DAW), United Nations, Two United Nations Plaza, DC2-1226, New York, NY 10017 USA. Included with the summary is the statement of the Canadian delegation to this UN Conference.


7. Department of Justice, Canadian Firearms Centre: Newsletter, two bulletins and one news release all of which deal with control of firearms and the Firearms Act and regulations.

8. International Centre on Unpaid Work: Public Forum on Unpaid Work in Saskatchewan. This is a 50 page report with recommendations on all aspects of unpaid work in Saskatchewan.

THE NEXT NEWSLETTER WILL BE PRINTED IN MAY, 1998. THE DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS FOR THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS APRIL 17TH, 1998. PLEASE SEND ANY ITEMS TO THE EDITOR.