

# SEPA NEWSLETTER

## SOUTHEASTERN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

### FALL 2006



#### Hey, Doc, throw me some beads!

Lillian Range  
SEPA President

Come to SEPA in NEW ORLEANS at the Sheraton Hotel! In New Orleans in 2007, Mardi Gras ends on February 20, but the fun continues the next day because SEPA starts on Wednesday, February 21. Come early to experience the local festivities, and stay to learn and enjoy the exciting program planned by President-Elect Deborah Richardson. It is hard to explain Mardi Gras to someone who has never experienced it, but if you try it you will like it. It has something to offer everyone from the 2-year-old toddler to the 102-year-old toddler. Here's a link to something put together by the tourism board, to remind you of some of the things New Orleans has to offer. The article is a good read, too. Once the link opens, click the green arrow to play the music video.

<http://www.neworleansonline.com/neworleans/music/musicvideo.html>

If you want to plan your SEPA trip to include a taste of the world-famous cuisine, or to get a feel for the surrounding area, this website might be helpful to you:

<http://www.neworleansonline.com/>. So, in ways both professional and personal, SEPA in 2007 is going to be an event to be savored. See you there!

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## Start Planning Your Trip

Deborah Richardson  
SEPA President Elect

Start planning that trip to New Orleans in February. Of course Mardi Gras happens in February, but that's just a party. Plan now to attend and make presentations at a SEPA meeting that will capture your attention and that will feature the outstanding contributions of psychologists in the southeast – a meeting that will be just as intellectually and professionally stimulating as any party is socially stimulating.

The theme for the 2007 program, “Psychology in the Public Interest,” acknowledges that what we do and what we know has value to and is interesting to the general public. This is a particularly relevant issue as we convene in a city that has recently suffered such devastation, and this theme recognizes that the work of psychologists is especially relevant as people in the area where we are meeting adjust to and cope with major life changes. This theme also reminds us of our responsibility to “give psychology away” – by sharing our knowledge as teachers, by creating new knowledge as researchers, and/or by meeting needs as service providers.

Speakers and invited symposia will address issues that are of particular interest to the public:

- **Irene Frieze** (University of Pittsburgh) will present the SEPA/CEPO invited address on “Rethinking violence in close relationships: What does the research really say?” Dr. Frieze’s address will be accompanied by a symposium organized by **Jackie White** (University of North Carolina – Greensboro), which will examine other research on intimate violence.
- **Angela Scarpa**, a clinical psychologist at Virginia Polytechnic and State University will speak on the psychological effects of community violence.
- The Association for Psychological Science (APS) is sending us a particularly appropriate speaker for the theme -- **Dr. Morton Ann Gernsbacher**, who is co-editor of *Psychology in the Public Interest*.
- The American Psychological Association (APA) is sponsoring an invited address by **Dr. Steve Lopez**, who also fits our theme exceptionally well. A member of the clinical faculty at UCLA, Dr. Lopez’s interests include sociocultural factors in psychopathology, psychological assessment, and Latino mental health.
- **David Washburn** (Georgia State University) has agreed to organize a symposium on a topic of special relevance to the public in these times – psychological contributions to national security.

I am still finalizing plans for two more invited addresses. Check [www.sepaonline.com](http://www.sepaonline.com) frequently for updates.

As you know, a program is much more than invited addresses. The contributions from so many of our members who bring their own work and the work of their students (as well as themselves and their students) to the conference give the program energy, diversity, and interest. It is the work of our colleagues and the interactions among scholars that make SEPA a dynamic and exciting meeting. Be there!

## **News from the SEPA Office**

*Rosemary Hays-Thomas  
SEPA Administrative Officer*

### *The Latest on our New Orleans Meeting!*

The 2007 meeting will indeed be held in New Orleans just after the Mardi Gras weekend, but our meeting will be held at the Sheraton Hotel. In late July we were notified by the Fairmont Hotel that their renovations would not be completed till well after our 2007 meeting. This threw our office into crisis mode until we could make arrangements for another site but thankfully we now have a new contract in place so the transition will look “seamless” to some of you.

We will open in the evening of the Wednesday after Mardi Gras (“Fat Tuesday”), February 21, with an opening welcome reception and poster session. The convention will continue on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday morning. A limited number of rooms will be available for our members at the group rate (or at a discounted rate) during the Mardi Gras weekend period (the preceding Friday through Tuesday) for those who register by mid-December.

If you have concerns about coming to post-Katrina New Orleans, please speak with someone who has been there recently, perhaps to attend the APA convention in early August. The French Quarter, downtown area, and the Magazine Street - St. Charles Avenue uptown corridor are ready to receive visitors and you will find that many of your favorite New Orleans haunts are back in business. On my recent visits to New Orleans I was warmly received and felt safe – and very much appreciated by those who were happy to see conventions returning to their city. SEPA has an opportunity to assist in the recovery of this historical and cultural gem simply by meeting in the city, and, speaking personally, I hope many of us will find other ways to be helpful. Please contact the SEPA office or Program Chair Deborah Richardson if you have ideas in this regard.

### *Program Submissions*

This year we will use the electronic submission system initiated in fall, 2005. As a reminder, only dues-paid members are able to use this system. The August mailing will contain further information and the dues notice. Dues can be paid by check or money order, or by credit card between September 1 and October 31. Our submission deadline is October 3; paying dues early will help avoid problems.

In planning your submissions, please consider the full range of possibilities. In addition to paper and poster presentations, consider organizing a panel or symposium with colleagues who are working on the same topic. Perhaps you can share a skill or technique by offering a continuing education workshop in an area of your expertise. (Registration fees are waived for those presenting a CE workshop.) Invite a prominent psychologist to conduct a conversation hour about their research. Organize an interest group as a forum for networking about a topic for practice, education, or research. If you have an idea for a new and different format, please contact the SEPA office and we can advise you on how to submit it.

Because we are meeting in New Orleans, some of you may want to develop program submissions (including symposia, panel discussions, or conversation hours) that deal with psychological aspects of disaster and recovery. At the recent APA convention there were many interesting sessions dealing in some way with these issues. Psychologists at Loyola, Tulane, Dillard, Xavier, the University of New Orleans, and at other regional institutions such as LSU have been involved in this work, as have others in the health and mental health care systems in the State of Louisiana. This is certainly consistent with Program Chair Deborah Richardson's convention theme of "Psychology in the Public Interest."

*Awards, Awards!*

Please check the August mailing for information on the awards offered by SEPA. You may wish to nominate someone for the Mentoring Award. The most highly-rated papers and posters are automatically considered for the Outstanding Professional Paper Award if the first author is a professional (non-student) member. Students who are studying minority or women's issues may want to submit their work to the CEPO Student Research Awards. Graduate students can also submit work on any topic for consideration for the Graduate Student Research Awards. If you are working with students whose work would qualify, please suggest that they submit to these award programs using the electronic submission system. Each program carries a cash award and helps build one's CV!

### **SEPA Mentor Award**

*Jean Spruill*

*SEPA Past President and Chair of the SEPA Mentor Award Committee*

For several years, the Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) has given an award to one member who has demonstrated exceptional mentoring through:

- a. Involving large numbers of student in the annual SEPA meeting
- b. Shepherding the careers of various members of SEPA
- c. Supervising and teaching various members of SEPA.
- d. Contributing to the professional development of

**Dr. Christopher Leone** of North Florida University was selected as the 2006 SEPA Mentor of the Year. Students nominating Dr. Leone were very complimentary in their remarks. Some comments were: "Dr. Leone has provided encouragement, consul, and guidance to countless undergraduate and graduate students as well as junior faculty....Dr. Leone provides organized hands on learning opportunities for students to master professional poster presentations...he has coordinated trips to SEPA for countless students...even assisting students in finding sources of funding for trips to SEPA....Dr. Leone facilitates the professional development of many junior faculty and aspiring scholars many of whom are SEPA members....He is knowledgeable, experienced, caring, and committed. We can think of no one more deserving of the 2006 SEPA Mentor Award." Obviously the committee agreed with this and selected Dr. Leone for the award.

Because there were so many outstanding people nominated this year the committee selected two individuals as runner-ups for the award, **Dr. Jenny Lucas** from Agnes Scott College and **Dr. Susan Walch** from the University of West Florida.

Some comments from the students nominating Dr. Lucas were: “Dr. Lucas is known in the psychology department primarily for two things: 1) her ability to go days without sleep while in the midst of leading research projects, and 2) her overall enthusiasm and commitment to her students.”; “Given the number of students’ careers she has directly impacted [several were described in the letter] and the energy she dedicates to ensuring bright futures for her students, I believed Dr. Lucas exemplifies the ideals of the SEPA Mentor Award.”

Some comments from the students nominating Dr. Walch were: “Dr. Walch is one of the most intelligent and knowledgeable individuals I have had the privilege of knowing....I truly enjoyed Dr. Walch’s effective lectures and teaching interaction in her classes....Dr. Walch has unique qualities that foster both personal and professional development in her students....She is an enthusiastic advocate for the University of West Florida, for SEPA, and for the professional as a whole....She exemplifies the ideals of the SEPA Mentor Award.”

Please join us in congratulating the award winners.

### **Outstanding Professional Paper**

*David Washburn*

*Executive Committee Member-At-Large and Chair, Outstanding Professional Paper Award*

The Outstanding Professional Paper Award was established with funding from the APA Science Directorate to recognize outstanding papers at the annual meeting presented by professional members. Papers that are most highly rated in the submission-review process are nominated for the award. Awards are given based on an evaluation of a written manuscript as well as the oral presentation at the annual meeting. For the 2006 award, 24 papers were nominated, with each identified in the program as an award nominee. From this large and particularly competitive pool, the outstanding professional paper was “Prospective memory: Evidence for spontaneous retrieval processes in older adults” by **Gilles O. Einstein**, Katie M. Arnold, Rachel B. Bishop, and Michael K. Sculin of Furman University. In recognition of this accomplishment, Professor Einstein will receive a plaque and \$400. Two additional papers were mentioned as runners-up for the award: **Melissa L. Harrison** (University of South Florida) for her paper with M. Scott Young, Daryl Fink, John Weir, and Kathleen A. Moore titled “An evaluation of treatment of homeless individuals with co-occurring disorders”; and **Donna B. Elliston** (University of South Florida St. Petersburg) for her paper, “The family context of coparenting withdrawal at three months postpartum.” Runners-up each received \$200 in recognition of the accomplishment. SEPA gratefully acknowledges the continued support of the APA Science Directorate and the service of the following members of The Outstanding Professional Paper Award Review Committee: Lyn Boulter (Catawba College), Pamela Banks (Jackson State University), Tim Daugherty (Winthrop University), Reginald Gougis (Savannah State University), Georgina Hammock (Augusta State University), Steve Hobbs (Augusta State University), Cathy Litty (Western Carolina University), Robert Reeves (Augusta State University), Sherry Schneider (University of West Florida), Sabina Widner (Augusta State University), David Washburn (Georgia State University, Chair).

## **Graduate Student Research Awards**

*Deborah Richardson  
SEPA Executive Committee*

The Graduate Student Research Award competition at the 2006 SEPA meeting can be considered a success, thanks to the efforts of 10 graduate students who submitted abstracts and three judges who reviewed and evaluated the 5 papers that were selected for presentation at a paper session during the SEPA meeting.

The abstracts submitted to the competition represented a large number of areas of psychology -- biopsychology, clinical psychology, cognitive psychology, developmental psychology, personality, and social psychology.

The papers selected for presentation were:

- “Modeling the role of social dominance in stereotype threat” by **Michael C. Phillip** (Georgia State University) and Helen C. Harton (University of Iowa)
- “Subclinical eating disorders among female college athletes” by **Marie E. Lloyd** (University of Tennessee, Knoxville)
- “Effect of a GABA antagonist on ethanol-induced taste aversions” by **Joe Tkacz** and Stephen H. Hobbs (Augusta State University); Ralph Elkins (Medical College of Georgia)
- “Studying resilience in college women who experienced a teenage pregnancy” by **Theresa M. Rehm** (University of South Alabama)
- “Reading proficiency and depression as predictors of delinquency while incarcerated” by **Josh Eyer**, Clint Moore, Jennifer Langhinrichsen-Rohling, and John F. Shelley-Tremblay, University of South Alabama

Special thanks to our judges -- Walt Isaac (Georgia College and State University), Tom Ross (College of Charleston), and Barbara Sholley (University of Richmond) -- for evaluating the paper presentations and making the award decision.

Congratulations to the winner of the 2006 Graduate Student Research Award -- **Joe Tkacz** of Augusta State University). And, thank you to the research mentors who provided guidance and directed the research efforts of the this group of outstanding graduate students.

## **CEPO/SEPA Student Research Awards**

*Lindsay Holland  
Chair, CEPO Student Research Awards*

Each year the Committee on Equality and Professional Opportunity (CEPO) sponsors the Student Research Awards for Minority and Women's Issues. This competition is open to all undergraduate and graduate students. The number of papers submitted for the 2006 Student Research Awards for Minority and Women's Issues was up substantially from previous years. A total of eleven papers were submitted: six papers were considered in the category of minority issues and five papers were considered in the category of women's issues.

Congratulations to the finalists:

Second Place Overall was awarded to **Sheila Lapomarede** and Radhika Krishnamurthy, Florida Institute of Technology, for their paper entitled “Ethnic group differences in client demoralization as measured by the MMPI-2.”

First Place in the category of Minority Issues was awarded to **Virginia B. Wickline**, Emory University, for her paper “Acculturation, stress, and nonverbal communication predict international students’ cultural adjustment.”

First Place in the category of Women’s Issues went to **Catherine L. Purdom** and Jennifer L. Lucas, Agnes Scott College, and **Kristen B. Gaynor**, Argosy University for their paper “The differential predictive power of partner support between couple types.”

A special thank you is extended to the judges for the 2006 awards: Comfort Asanbe, College of Staten Island City University of New York; Amy Lyndon, East Carolina University; and Sherry Schnieder, University of West Florida.



The winners from left to right are Kristen B. Gaynor (Argosy University), Virginia B. Wickline (Emory University), and Sheila Lapomarede (Florida Institute of Technology). Photo courtesy of Virginia Wickline.

## **The SEPA History Project**

*James L. Pate  
SEPA Historian*

The SEPA History Project currently is a multifaceted activity, but when John Williams appointed me historian of the Southeastern Psychological Association (SEPA) in 1990, the main task of the historian was the collection of documents for the SEPA archives. I have continued to collect documents of importance in the SEPA’s history (programs, minutes of meetings, presidential addresses, et cetera), but I also have added several other activities.

Beginning in 1993, John Kelton and I organized a History of Departments of Psychology in the Southeast Symposium. Since 2001, I have organized and served as chair of that symposium. Through 2006, histories of 57 departments have been presented in this series of symposia. A typical symposium will include histories of psychology departments at an Historical Black College and University, at a liberal arts college, at an institution that awards a master's degree, and at an institution that awards a doctoral degree. Whenever possible, I also arrange to have a history of the SEPA president's institution presented in the symposium. Over the years, I have developed a set of guidelines to aid the presenters in the symposia in developing those histories and anyone else who is interested in writing a history of her or his department. If you would like to know which departmental histories have been presented, you may contact me.

Another annual symposium is the Eminent Southeastern Psychologists Symposium, which evolved from the Eminent Women in Southeastern Psychology Symposium. Harold Moon organized the symposium from 1992 through 1997, during which time papers about 20 women psychologists were presented. From 1998 until 2000, Jane Ellis organized the symposia each year, and papers about nine women psychologists were presented. In 2000, the Executive Committee decided to change the name to Eminent Southeastern Psychologists Symposium and to make the symposium part of the SEPA History Project. Since 2001, I have participated in the organization of the symposium, first with Jane Ellis, then with Sabina Widner, and most recently with Debra Sue Pate. During these last six years, 11 papers about men and 9 papers about women have been presented. A list of people about whom papers have been presented is available from me.

Although it is not an annual symposium, I have organized several History of Psychology in the Southeast Symposia, in which people have presented histories of topics such as MMPI research, primate research, or memory research, with an emphasis on research and other activities in the southeast. Scheduling problems and time limitations have precluded making this an annual event, but I organize this type symposium whenever possible.

The final program component of the SEPA History Project is the Annual Historian's Lecture, which I gave first in 1996. Topics have included the founding of the SEPA, women in the SEPA, controversial issues, and continuing education. A list of titles is available from me.

Although the programmatic aspects of the SEPA History Project are important and interesting, the main task for the historian remains the collection and cataloguing of SEPA documents. If you have documents, particularly about continuing education activities other than at the annual meetings, I would be very interested in knowing about those documents. Also, I am seeking photographs of early meetings of the SEPA. If you have suggestions for other historical activities or if you have complaints or criticisms of the SEPA History Project, please contact me. If you are interested in participating in any of the symposia, I will be happy to hear from you.



## **CEPO Report**

*Lugenia Dixon*  
*CEPO Chair*

CEPO programming at the 2006 meeting included a variety of events in support of its mission to promote professional equality for all psychologists, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation, or disability. The SEPA/CEPO invited speaker was **Dr. Jennifer Friday** of Friday Consulting Group. Dr. Friday has worked as Senior Research scientist with Maya Tech Corporation in Atlanta, GA, and she conducted research on mental health issues at the Southern Regional Education Board. Dr. Friday has also worked at the Centers for Disease Control where she focused on public policy and health issues. For three years, at the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies in Washington, D.C., she worked on health issues such as managed care, environmental health, and HIV/AIDS. Dr. Friday was the 1995-96 president of SEPA and the first African American president of SEPA. Her address titled "Reflections on Twenty Years of Being 'nontraditional'" was informative and provided interesting possibilities for future directions in psychology.

**Dr. Valerie Whittlesey**, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs and Professor of Psychology at Kennesaw State University, gave this year's featured CEPO Keynote Address. Dr. Whittlesey is currently Secretary of the Society for the Teaching of Psychology of APA and she has served as Chair of the Teaching Institute for the APS meeting and as member of the SEPA Executive Committee. Dr. Whittlesey, who has done more than 40 presentations, is a textbook author and has published several journal articles and book chapters. Her address, "Increasing Student Learning of Diversity in Psychology," provided an excellent review of diversity research in teaching of psychology. Her address also included research findings related to psychology faculty attitudes and experiences in teaching about diversity and she shared a list of important reasons for teaching about diversity issues in psychology.

This year, instead of a CEPO Address, **Dr. Sandra Sims Patterson**, Chair of the Psychology Department at Spelman College, put together a symposium titled "Youth Violence Prevention: A Model for Family, School, and Community Collaborations." Dr. Patterson discussed preliminary findings from a pilot model program for youth violence prevention in the context of family, school, and community collaborations. With her was Chalon Ervin, a Spelman College undergraduate student, who discussed "Exposure to School and Community Violence among Middle School Youth" and Richard Harris, a Morehouse College undergraduate student, who discussed "Perceptions of School and Community Violence among Middle School Youth. Dr. Patterson and the undergraduate students provided an excellent and insightful symposium.

The CEPO/Psi Chi Undergraduate Research Program chaired by Dr. Lyn Boulter and Dr. Karen Horner of Catawba College, continues to be a huge success evidenced in increased participation by students. Of the 200 abstracts submitted, 186 were accepted for presentation at the meeting. The goal of this program is to encourage research experiences among undergraduates in the field of psychology and to support the professional development of undergraduate students. This program is a wonderful opportunity for students to become involved in SEPA programming. The first-author of each poster also receives a proceedings booklet, which includes a copy of all accepted abstracts. Dr. Lyn Boulter and Dr. Karen Horner extend their thanks to Dr. Michael

Newlin, President of the Southeastern Region of Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology and to the individuals who assisted in reviewing the abstracts.

Dr. Lindsay Holland, University of Tennessee, chaired the CEPO Student Research Award. Eligibility for this award is open to graduate and undergraduate students in psychology or related disciplines. See Dr. Holland's article for a complete list of award recipients. CEPO encourages faculty advisors to support their students in submitting materials for consideration for next year's award.

Dr. Comfort Asanbe, College of Staten Island/CUNY, chaired the CEPO Minority Interest Group. The topic was "Exploring Psychology Career Paths for Minority Students." Participants included Dr. Lorraine W. Greene, Behavioral Health Sciences Division in the Nashville Police Department and Dr. Rosemary E. Phelps, University of Georgia. This proved to be a popular program with approximately 44 people attending.

The CEPO Graduate Network, chaired by Dr. Amy Shadoin featured programs highlighting issues related to grant funding for thesis and dissertation research and to jobs beyond academia following graduation. The Graduate Network program offered a mentoring night at Barley's Billiards where at least 15 students enjoyed food and pool and engaged in discussion with practicing psychologists from across the Southeast.

The CEPO at Night film was "Patch Adams." This 1998 movie is about Hunter (Patch) Adams, M.D. who is founder of the Geshundheit Institute. The movie hit on several topics related to psychology including leadership, listening, problem solving, critical thinking and service to humanity. An emphasis throughout the film is that laughter is the best medicine. CEPO at Night was poorly attended so at the CEPO business meeting we discussed combining film night with the CEPO Graduate Network Program.

Finally, I conclude in announcing that Dr. Lyn Boulter will not be returning as Chair of the Undergraduate Research Program. I want to thank Lyn for all the work she put into this program. CEPO welcomes on board Dr. Rosemary Phelps at the University of Georgia as the new Chair of the Undergraduate Research Program. In the past, Dr Phelps has co-chaired the CEPO Minority Interests Group. I am sure Dr. Phelps will be an excellent chair for the Undergraduate Research Program. The past year was my first year as CEPO Chair and I wish to thank all of the subcommittee chairs for their efforts and cooperation and thanks to everyone at the Administrative Office for their assistance.

## **Psi Chi Report**

*Michael Newlin*

*Southeastern Region Vice President*

The 2006 SEPA convention in Atlanta was a wonderful experience. We truly enjoyed meeting everyone and presenting sixteen \$300 student awards. Congratulations to all of the winners! The Psi Chi program was very well attended and included the following presentations:

Psi Chi/SEPA Invited Address: "Sex, Lies, and Serial Killers: The Multi-utility of Forensic Psychology" by **Dr. Katherine Ramsland**. Dr. Ramsland was a wonderful speaker that touched the academic and personal lives of many of the attendees. Her ability to affect and interest was remarkable. She was a truly

special speaker and individual! We deeply thank her for her time and effort! Approximately 350 faculty and students attended this very interesting presentation. Afterward, Dr. Ramsland met with approximately 50 students and faculty members for questions and discussion.

“Everything You Need to Know About Attending SEPA” Orientation **with Paula Miller** (Psi Chi National Office) and **Chris Koch** (2005-2006 Psi Chi President).

“Ten Years of Management Consulting: What I have Learned (and Can Share) by **Brian Cole** (Continuous Learning Group).

“Preparing for Graduate School I: Preparation Strategies” by **Lyn Boulter** (Catawba College) and **Maria Lavooy** (University of Central Florida).

“Preparing for Graduate School II: The Application Process” by **Maria Lavooy** (University of Central Florida) and **Laura May** (University of South Carolina, Aiken).

There were approximately 30 faculty advisors at the Appreciation Luncheon at Azio’s Restaurant. A wonderful time was had by all!

The Psi Chi Hospitality Suite was hosted by students from many chapters throughout the Southeastern region and was very well attended. It was a wonderful place to meet people and stop to have a drink or snack. The Hospitality Suite was open Thursday and Friday except during the Psi Chi/SEPA Invited Address.

The members of the 2004-2005 Southeastern region steering committee are Maria Lavooy (University of Central Florida), Laura May (University of South Carolina Aiken), Lyn Boulter (Catawba College), Larissa Cobb (University of Central Florida; student), and Laura May (Mississippi Women’s College). Larissa Cobb is completing a one-year term while the rest of the committee is completing the second of their two-year terms. A new student will be selected for the 2006-2007 term to aid with the student awards review process.

I am looking forward to New Orleans for a fantastic SEPA 2007.

### **Join the 38<sup>th</sup> annual SWIM meet!**

The Southeastern Workers in Memory have met at SEPA every year since 1970, attracting distinguished memory researchers from across the country. Traditionally, these meetings include full 50 minute presentations by two eminent scholars, one from the Southeast and one from outside the region. Previous SWIM colloquia have featured such prominent speakers as Bill Estes (1975), Fergus Craik (1980), Alan Baddely (1988), Daniel Schacter (1990), Robert Bjork (1995), and Janet Metcalfe (2006).

The 2007 meeting will feature Dr. Christopher Hertzog and Dr. Paul Verhaeghen. Dr. Hertzog is Professor of Psychology at the Georgia Institute of Technology and a leader in the study of individual differences in cognitive aging and metamemory. The second talk will be given by Dr. Paul Verhaeghen of Syracuse University, who received his Ph.D.

from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven in Belgium. Dr. Verhaeghen currently studies dynamic processes of working memory and cognitive control, and is also an award-winning novelist.

SWIM is pleased to have two such accomplished presenters in 2007, and welcomes all to attend. For more information about SWIM, please visit our webpage:

<http://www.fiu.edu/~schwartzb/swim.html>

### **About our Exhibits**

*Rosemary Hays-Thomas*  
*SEPA Administrative Officer*

At last year's meeting in Atlanta, some of our exhibitors reported unusual theft of books and other materials from their booths during the exhibit hours. This occurred despite increased vigilance, so we are confident it was the result of deliberate actions by one or more persons who may or may not have been SEPA attendees. We have some plans for avoiding or minimizing this problem at our New Orleans meeting. As usual, we will hire security personnel to protect the exhibit area during the hours when it is closed.

How can you help?

- Spread the word to colleagues and students that the materials exhibited **are not to be removed from the exhibit** unless authorized by the exhibitor. Nothing is "free" unless the exhibitor says it is.
- Be vigilant when you are in the exhibit area and report anything suspicious to the SEPA desk or other authorized persons. Everyone in the exhibit area should be wearing a SEPA registration badge.

The exhibitors who come to SEPA make our meeting more useful to those of you who attend and also help to support the Convention financially. If this problem continues we will have difficulty attracting exhibitors and the quality of our meeting will decline. Please do what you can to help us address this unethical and illegal behavior.

### **Deadlines and Future SEPA Meetings**

#### **2007 Meeting:**

Sheraton Hotel  
New Orleans, Louisiana  
February 21 - 24, 2007

#### **2008 Meeting:**

Charlotte, North Carolina  
March 6-9, 2008  
The Westin Charlotte

***A Word of Advice.....***

When bringing young people to the SEPA convention, please talk with them about appropriate convention behavior and attire, and caution them about taking care when they are socializing on and off the premises. Please urge everyone in your group to exercise appropriate self-management, stay with their companions, and avoid impairments that might increase vulnerability.

Our conventions are held in hotels that provide safe and comfortable environments for our meetings. Their staff can advise attendees about things to enjoy in the nearby environment that are likely to be fun and interesting without undue risk.

**Do we have your most current address?**

Please forward address and/or name changes to:

SEPA  
Psychology Department  
University of West Florida  
Pensacola, FL 32514