

The Fifty-Seventh Meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association

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Arnold D. Froese, PhD, 2011

From the President

Arnold D. Froese

Sterling College

Welcome to the 57th annual convention for SWPA. San Antonio provides an ideal setting for psychologists to consider their responsibilities—to society, to the discipline, and to those they serve through private practice, teaching, research, health, and industry. Our convention provides great opportunities for learning, networking, and recreational enjoyment.

The convention program presents several new and emerging features. An opening session on Thursday afternoon introduces the convention's theme—Psychologists' Responsibilities—and features our keynote speaker, Dr. Andrew Meltzoff, internationally recognized expert on exploring the mind of the child. The State Representative Symposia feature presentations from Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas, and cover topics of effective research programs, animal research on addictive processes, adolescent social/cognitive development, and human sexuality. An expanded Continuing Education program moves in new directions to include major invited speakers and symposia. This new direction for SWPA adds dimension to practice issues by addressing basic scientific background for psychological applications to research conduct, education, social adjustment, forensic practice, multicultural sensitivities, and other issues.

SWPA has opened its doors to related professionals for a featured event. This year we inaugurate our Forensic Psychology lecture series, featuring Dr. Gary Wells. Wells has a passion for justice and a concern for its misapplication. His research has changed the course of police investigations and lineup procedures. SWPA has invited local police departments and attorney associations to advertise inexpensive single-event guest passes to this inaugural event for their employees/members.

These convention activities are embedded in an ideal location and at an ideal time for after-hours entertainment and exploration. The expanded River Walk extends miles in two directions from right outside our hotel doors. San Antonio's Fiesta begins the same day as our convention. Fiesta provides great opportunities for exploring Southwest culture as presented in art, music, and food.

So again, welcome to San Antonio; welcome to learning challenges; welcome to networking with long-time friends; welcome to new relationships; and welcome to a cultural experience.

2011 Program Reviewers

Thank you to our members who served as reviewers!

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Acknowledgement of Financial Support to SWPA

SWPA- Southwestern Psychological Association gratefully acknowledges financial support provided since the last convention. The organization received support for its Annual Fund and for Endowed Funds.

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- Megan Crawford-Grime
- Worth Publishers

Forensic Psychology Endowed Fund Donor

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Lauren Scharff State Representative Symposium Endowment Fund Donors

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State Representative Invited Speaker Symposia

In 2009, SWPA instituted a special set of symposia coordinated by our elected state representatives during the second year of their two-year terms. The state representatives organize their symposia by inviting faculty and other esteemed professionals from around the region and the nation. The state symposia in the 2011 program were organized by the representatives from Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas. The intent of these symposia is to further enhance the level of research presented at our annual convention.

SWPA 2011 Conference Exhibitors

Exhibitors' booths are located in Coronado C-D-E near the area where the poster sessions are held.

Worth Publishers

Oxford University Press

American Psychological Association/Marketing Department

American Psychological Association is the premier source for information in psychology. APA delivers this information through its expansive collection of books, journals, newsletters, electronic products and its website, www.apa.org.

APA Insurance Trust

The APA Insurance Trust offers insurance products to APA members and affiliates, including professional and student liability, life, disability, automobile and homeowners' insurance, comprehensive business office insurance, long term care insurance, and retirement plan services.

Angelo State University

MS in Counseling Psychology Program advisor from Angelo State University (Texas Tech System) will display program brochures and other information for prospective students.

Oklahoma State University

Oklahoma State University Department of Psychology offers graduate Ph.D. programs in Clinical Psychology and Lifespan Developmental Psychology – information regarding programs available.

Audio-Visual Policy

SWPA will provide computer, projector, and screen for the Invited speakers presenting in the Romeo & Julieta and La Habana meeting rooms. SWPA will provide a screen and electrical power cords in all other meeting rooms where members present papers, workshops, or symposia. If members need any other audio-visual equipment, they are responsible for making their own arrangements and payment.

The security and storage of any equipment brought to the meeting site is the sole responsibility of the individual bringing or renting the equipment for the meeting. SWPA is not responsible for the security and storage of equipment brought to the meeting site by private arrangement.

SWPA Social Topic Table Facilitators

Many thanks to the following individuals who have agreed to serve as facilitators at topic tables at our SWPA Social on Thursday, April 7th.

Topic Table Hosts for Social Hour

Dr. Lynn Bufka
Non-Traditional Career Paths: Psychology and Health Care Policy

Dr. Janie Wilson
Teaching and Teaching Research

Dr. Andrew Meltzoff
Developmental/Neuro-Cognitive Psychology

Dr. Matt Palmatier
Neuroscience/Addictions

Dr. Amanda Morris
Developmental Psychology

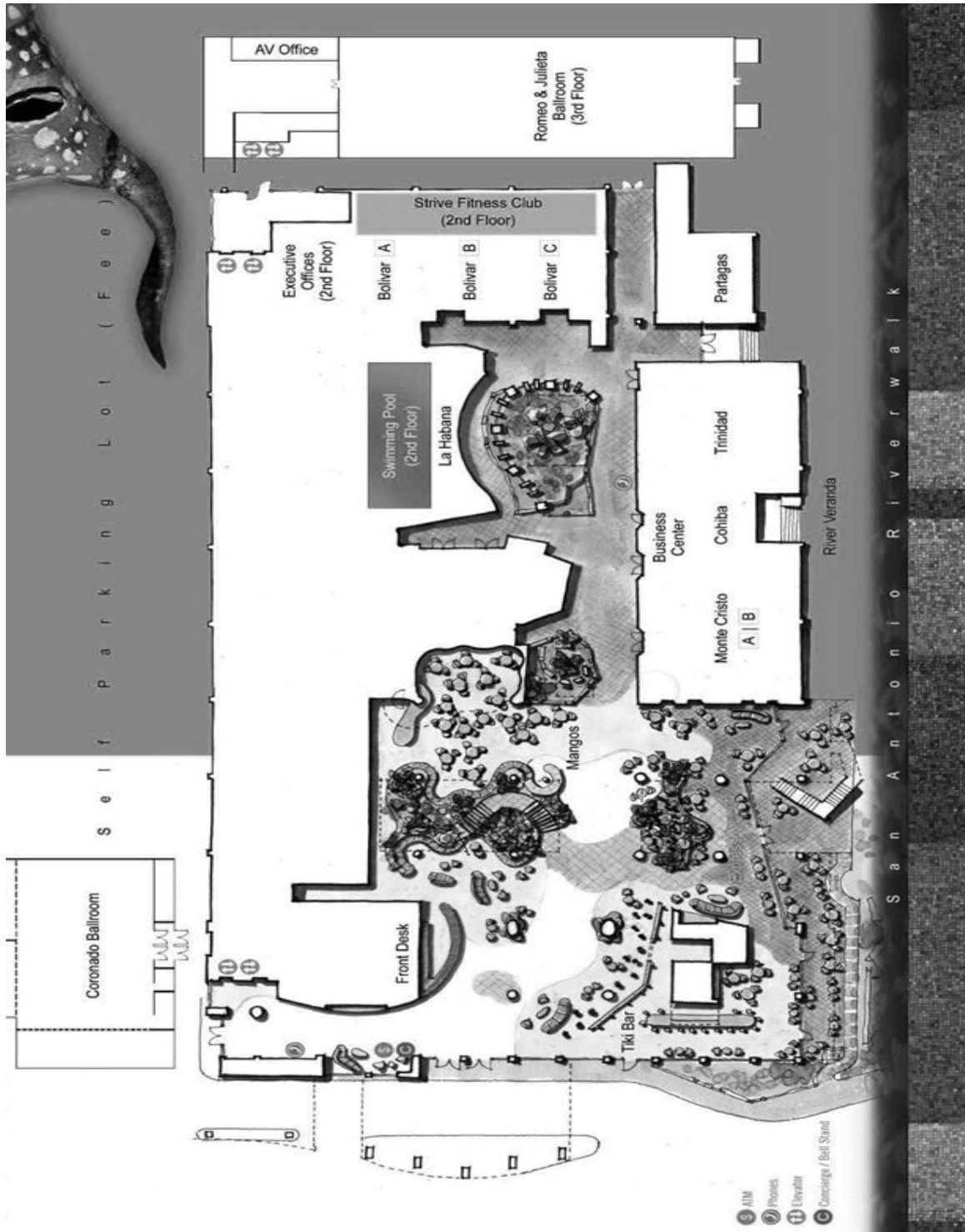
Dr. Gary Wells
Forensic Psychology

Dr. Jeff Brookings
Statistics

Dr. Sarah Brosnan
Comparative/Primateology

Dr. Gerald Koocher
Clinical Research

El Tropicano Hotel Meeting Facilities



Continuing Education Program

SWPA is moving in broader directions with Continuing Education. APA states the following: “Continuing education (CE) in psychology is an ongoing process consisting of formal learning activities that (1) are relevant to psychological practice, education and science, (2) enable psychologists to keep pace with emerging issues and technologies, and (3) allow psychologists to maintain, develop, and increase competencies in order to improve services to the public and enhance contributions to the profession.”

Our convention brings a remarkable program loaded with current research, teaching, and practice issues. These components all contribute value to education for those who have already completed their degrees. APA President, Melba Vasquez, built her February *Monitor* column on the idea that continuing education is a psychologist’s ethical responsibility. The CE description and Vasquez’s restatement of the ethical obligation drive the kind of CE offerings SWPA will provide for its members and psychology professionals.

Beginning this year, SWPA will offer CE credits for major invited speakers and symposia, which present significant research background for understanding a variety of practice and service issues. Andrew Meltzoff presents significant background issues for understanding the young child’s mind. The Oklahoma State Representative Symposium addresses issues for understanding the adolescent social self. Gary Wells and Gerald Koocher present significant issues related to justice and ethical behavior in research. The Texas State Representative Symposium presents evolutionary research background for understanding human sexual interactions. And David Matsumoto addresses diversity issues with research about similarities and differences in emotional expressions across cultures. These major addresses are relevant to practice, education, and science. They also enable psychologists to keep pace with emerging issues and technologies, and the increase psychologists’ competence for professional and community service. They are core components of a viable continuing education program. SWPA designed these program events for general SWPA participants. For those registered for CE credits, these programs carry CE credit.

In addition to these core components, SWPA offers a series of workshops directly related to clinical practice. These workshops address issues of ethics, diversity, evidence-based practice, statistical interpretation of research data, diagnosis, and treatment.

Taken together, the core of science research background and clinical practice workshops creates powerful instructional package providing information and tools for the professional to work effectively for the public and the profession.

In the program, general sessions open to all registrants for which CE credits are also available are identified with the words “**CE credits available.**” Workshops designed specifically for CE registrants are identified with the words “**CE session.**”