

RiSE-UP Newsletter

Research on Socially and Economically Underrepresented Populations

An Organization of the Association for Psychological Science Student Caucus

In This Issue

- Reflections on RiSE-UP
- RiSE-UP Updates
- RiSE-UP Research Award Information
- APS 21st Annual Convention—Reasons to Attend
- APSSC Board Elections

RiSE-UP Committee Leadership

RiSE-UP Coordinator
Michele Oliver
riseup.coordinator@gmail.com

Funding and Advocacy Chair
Israel Beren
ChezSruil@yahoo.com

Advertising and Recruitment Chair
Rebecca Letellier-Spearman
Rebecca@strayer.edu

Aging Chair
Jessica Wong
jtwong8@gmail.com

Persons with Disabilities Chair
Marina Veprinska
marinav13@gmail.com

Ethnic Minorities Chair
Zara Marie Spooner
zara.spooner@gmail.com

LGBT Persons Chair
Joseph Angarella
joseph@angarella.com

Social Class Issues Chair
Kymberlee O'Brien
kmaxine@brandeis.edu

Weight Issues Chair
Paula Brochu
pbrochu2@uwo.ca

Women's Issues Chair
Daisy Tsao
riseup.womens.issues@gmail.com

RiSE-UP Website:
<http://www.psychologicalscience.org/apssc/riseup/>

Reflections on RiSE-UP

By Michele Oliver

What an exciting time to be a member of RiSE-UP! Regardless of our political views, I think it's safe to say that 2008-09 has been and will continue to be a season of change. In addition to our country experiencing change, we are also experiencing some major issues. From economic hardships, to health disparities to social and ethnic concerns, our communities, cities, and countries have much to talk about.

These issues remind me of how important RiSE-UP is as a community since many of the issues that we are facing as a nation involve underrepresented groups. Let's keep in mind our goal: To act as a voice for the great need for research by and about underrepresented populations. How do we do this? By increasing the visibility of RiSE-UP in the psychological community; by providing information regarding research involving underrepresented populations being conducted locally and globally; and by being a student voice and future leaders in psychological research, dedicated to studying underrepresented groups. Again, this is an exciting time to be part of RiSE-UP!

Although RiSE-UP began as a small group of students in 1994, we are now 82 members strong and have grown to include committees for a variety of underrepresented groups. We have become an active scholarly community that advocates for underrepresented groups in meaningful ways! Thank you all for being a part of RiSE-UP!

Updates on RiSE-UP Members, Activities and Committees

FA Chair, **Israel Beren**, has updated the funding and resource lists and has found information pertaining to each of the RiSE-UP committees. Please check your e-News for additional information and be on the look out for the resource list on our website in a few weeks.

Rebecca Letellier-Spearman, our AR Chair, has been hard at work on developing new and effective recruitment strategies for RiSE-UP. Thanks to her efforts, our membership has drastically increased to **82 committee members!**

Jessica Wong, Aging Chair, is working with committee member Ian M. McDonough on investigating the neural correlates of memory retrieval

strategies for distinctive and non-distinctive stimuli in younger and older adults. Past research has shown that older adults have comparable memory performance to younger adults for pictures (distinctive stimuli), but are much worse at remembering words (non-distinctive stimuli). Their fMRI experiment will help determine which brain regions older adults use to remember words and pictures, which will provide insight how the neural correlates of memory strategies change across the lifespan.

Ian McDonough (Aging Committee Member) is investigating whether the distinctiveness of autobiographical memories changes across the later adult lifespan.

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RiSE-UP Research Award

A record number of **250 reviewers** have joined the peer review team for the RiSE-UP Research Award! Thanks to you all for helping make this happen! RiSE-UP Research Award winners will be announced no later than **February 17th**. Winners will be selected based on their outstanding work on underrepresented groups, and will present their research in address format at the APS Annual Convention during the RiSE-UP Symposium. Continue to check out the website for more information.

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(continued from page 1)

Marina Veprinska, has provided a safe space for all of her committee members to discuss research ideas and issues pertaining to **Persons with Disabilities**. In addition, she regularly shares information via e-mail that is relevant to this area of research. In addition to chairing this committee, Marina is developing healthy relationship workshops for young adolescent girls with history of aggression. These girls are at an especially high risk for unhealthy and abusive relationships. Thus, Marina is working with a team of psychology students in developing a series of interactive workshops in promoting healthy relationships.

Joseph Angarella has created a website for the **LGBT Individuals Committee** (www.lgbt-rise-up.org). He has been working with his committee by discussing research interests in an open forum. He says, "Clarifying our ideas and strategies will allow us to make a meaningful contribution to the field of LGBT research."

Kymerlee O'Brien is on her second year as Chair of the **Social Class Committee**. Along with providing an open forum for questions and community, she has also created a list of

grant resources and websites that specifically address social class issues and health disparities associated with poverty. Her current research focuses on psychophysiological responses associated with stress, SES differences, implicit biases and intergroup relations.

Paula Brochu provides her committee with many resources and information pertaining to **Weight Issues**. For example, the journal, *Obesity*, recently published a special supplemental issue on weight bias which presents the latest theory and research on body size stigmatization among children and adolescents, the effects of weight-related teasing, perceptions of obesity across the lifespan and much more. She says, "I welcome our members to raise discussion based upon these research articles not only within our committee, but among your colleagues and peers. I look forward to discussing this special issue with you and learning how it relates to your research interests." The special issue is available online at <http://www.nature.com/oby/journal/v16/n2s/index.html>.

The **Ethnic Minorities Committee**, chaired by **Zara Marie Spooner** and the **Women's Issues Committee**, chaired by **Daisy Tsao** have been working diligently with generating discussions within their committees. They have been holding discussions about challenges unique to minorities and women as researchers, as well as providing an environment that encourages collaboration and networking.

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Each of our committee members and Chairs are great examples of RiSE-UP working as scholarly communities for student researchers! Thank you all for all that you do for RiSE-UP!!!

APS 21st Annual Convention, San Francisco, CA, May 22-25 2009

Have you decided whether or not to attend the Annual Convention? Here are a **few great reasons** why you should go:

- 1) You will have the opportunity to participate in **Cross-Cutting theme programs**: Emotional Ups and Downs: Experiencing, Self-regulating and Capitalizing on Affect; Gene-Environment Interplay in Stress and Health; and The Architecture of the Mind.
- 2) You will hear the keynote address at the Opening Ceremony by **Dr. Nancy Kanwisher** from MIT.
- 3) You can attend "Inside the Psychologist's Studio" featuring **Dr. Gordon Bower** from Stanford University.
- 4) You can attend a **Special Event** entitled "Prime Time

Psychology: Science is the Story in "Lie to me" featuring the work of **Dr. Paul Ekman**

- 5) Did I happen to mention that it's in San Francisco???



Need more convincing? The APSSC Board sponsors several **Student Events** every year, including:

- Student Convention Kick-off and Student Social—with **free** food and drinks!
- Informative **peer panels** on getting into grad school,

navigating grad school, and life after the PhD.

- A **distinguished panel** of journal editors with advice on how to get published.
- A chance to get up close and personal with some **Champions** of Psychology.
- The winners of the APSSC Research Awards (including the **RiSE-UP Research Award**) will present their research in symposium format.
- And many more opportunities to **get to know** your fellow student researchers!

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Check out the APSSC website for more information and see you in San Francisco!

APSSC Elections

As a RiSE-UP member, your involvement in RiSE-UP activities and projects provides you with a particular set of experiences that make you particularly suited for leadership in the APSSC.

Why not consider running for an APSSC Board position this year?

Information about nominations and the election process will be available in March 2009.

Check out the APSSC website for a list of Board positions:

<http://www.psychologicalscience.org/apssc/>