

MSPP *rapport*

Volume 3 Issue 1 Spring 2005

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

"Development"



Nicholas A. Covino

Organizations, like children, require a great deal of care and feeding to flourish. Good genes begin the process and, while it might not really "take a village," the generosity and talents of many are needed for their growth.

This year, MSPP turns 30! In this issue, you will read about some of the plans for a Gala Celebration at the school on June 3, which I hope will reunite graduates, former faculty, staff and friends who have nurtured and fostered the growth of MSPP.

The national training conference at Vail, Colorado in 1973 found: "For new knowledge in psychology, the PhD is appropriate, and for delivery and evaluation and improvement of professional services, the PsyD is appropriate." Over the past 30 years, professional school education has proven itself to be far more than "appropriate." Our internship applicants arrive with several years of clinical experience, and, in a year when hundreds of applicants failed to match with an APA internship, all of our 13 interviewees did! Professional school graduates now represent more than one-third of practicing psychologists, and the MSPP admissions office

Please continue to Page 2. ▶

MSPP *inside*

Goodbye from Kathy Murphy

MSPP Launches Unique Latino Mental Health Initiative

Professional Plummers

Donor, Trustee, and Student Profiles

On Friday evening June 3, a large white tent, resplendent in candlelight, serving cocktails at 6:00 and a gourmet dinner with soft jazz music as background at 7:00, will greet several hundred guests of MSPP on the grounds of the school. For those with a passion for dancing away the gourmet calories, a disc jockey will provide the beat. In addition to rekindling old connections, the evening will also be a time to honor someone in the mental health community who has served those in greatest need. The first annual MSPP Mental Health Advocacy Award will be presented to the Director of Boston's Homeless Services, Mr. Richard Weintraub for his outstanding contribution to the city's homeless and mentally ill. A few other awards will complete a brief program, but the night will belong to a celebration of 30 years of MSPP!

Comments Charlie Hogan, PsyD, co-chair of the Gala, "I want our guests to know that MSPP regards this Gala as a remarkable opportunity for many people to renew their association with the school and to feel the energy and see the growth that has occurred at MSPP." Co-chair Anne Waters, PsyD, says: "On a personal note and as a proud alumna and faculty member of MSPP, I feel I have 'come home' to a school that has had a profound impact on my life."

Please continue to Page 2. ▶

30th Anniversary Gala

Juvenile Court Chief Justice Martha Grace to be Commencement Speaker

MSPP is pleased to announce that Martha Grace, chief justice of the Massachusetts Juvenile Court, will serve as the school's 2005 Commencement speaker. President Covino says: "Justice Grace was the unanimous choice of the Board of Trustees to receive an honorary degree and to address our graduates. As a sitting chief justice, she took time to pursue advanced training in child development and knows more child psychology than most of us. She brings a psychological mind to her courtroom work with families and children in crisis and has made psychological consultation and training a priority for the judges and court personnel under her direction."

Before her appointment as chief justice in 1998, Justice Grace served for eight years as associate justice of the Worcester Juvenile Court. She earned a bachelor's in zoology from Smith College, a master's in history from Clark University and her JD from New England School of Law. Now in great demand as a panelist and lecturer, she has received numerous awards, including the YWCA-Katherine Erskine Award (1998), St. Thomas



Chief Justice Martha P. Grace

Please continue to Page 4. ▶

PRESIDENT continued from page 1.

selected this year's entering class from among several hundred very bright young people who only want to spend their graduate years in a program of intensive, supervised field experience with rigorous academic training.

Our apprenticeship model of training requires significant competence and generosity from field supervisors. As a site visitor for the Field Placement Office, I have met Drs. Hawks, Danchise, Solman, Putz, Chase, Markert, Lavin, Smith, Park, Sundermeier, Azar, Woodruff, Reeve, Dyl, Martin, Paccione, Kittler, Hayes, Cross, Hennessy, Grossman, Jampel, Slavin, Richman, Escoll, Rosario-Perez, and Feldman at Lynn Community Health, Gosnold-Thorne, Roger Williams College, Rhode Island College, the Home for Little Wanderers, Bentley College, Tufts University and Bradley Hospital. Where many institutions have pushed staff productivity requirements well past the tolerance of most, these psychologists and other professionals make the time to invest in psychology training in a fashion that is reminiscent of a much earlier period. While special, these supervisors and teachers are joined by three hundred others who meet MSPP students every week for supervision, seminars and doctoral research.

As MSPP develops its mission to train specialists in School Psychology, Executive Coaching, Psychopharmacology, Latino Mental Health, Education and Forensics, we have a ready model for success. As we plan new educational programs, assist needy students and devote training and consultative resources to the community, we rely on our dedicated staff and faculty and the assistance of benefactors and friends. Philanthropic contributions, like those of time and talent, advance MSPP and strengthen its mission. This issue of the *Rapport* introduces some of the programs and patrons that have brought MSPP along and make our 30th year a cause for celebration.

Please join the celebration on June 3rd!

Nicholas A. Covino, PsyD
President

Goodbye from Kathy Murphy

After 20 years of guiding MSPP through its graduations and key events and witnessing its myriad of changes and growth—to say nothing of soothing its faculty, students, and occasionally the President—Kathy Murphy is saying goodbye and retiring.

A self-proclaimed “country girl from the mountains in Northern California where it snows from October through many Fourth of July parades,” Kathy met her husband Ed, while attending college in San Francisco where he was in the Army and attending classes. “Married 49 years to the same man,” she muses, “I tell everyone I married when I was three years old.”

Over the years, Kathy's MSPP responsibilities have greatly changed, beginning as a clerical person “when we still used typewriters” to currently assisting in alumni and development work. “We were in the attic of a Newton School when I began,” she reflects, “conducting classes at night, and when a room was needed for a colloquia, we sought permission from the school's Sister Superior. It was then that the MSPP president, Bruce Weiss, gave me a telephone book and told me to find another location for MSPP. So we moved to Dedham for 10 years and then to our present site for 13 more years.”

Kathy frequently speaks of the intimacy of MSPP and its family environment and applauds the current efforts of the school in reconnecting with its alumni. “Recently Nick was in California and connected with several alums,” she explains, “and MSPP is working toward small gatherings of alums in faculty homes as an opportunity to reconnect.”

Kathy confesses that she will miss the interaction with the students and faculty, when she retires. These have been highly significant relationships for her. Unclear how she will spend her retirement, she nevertheless offers a list including: more time with Ed, a certified public accountant, and her grown children and grandchildren who reconnect in the summer at the Murphy's Cape Cod farmhouse. And then of course, there's the annual travel to Switzerland, home of one son and family; there is quilting to be sewn and there is always cooking—a great love of Kathy's.

“I do want to say a few things before I go,” she says, “Nick Covino's leadership as president has been like water to a wilting flower; no matter how small your task, Nick recognizes and appreciates your efforts; it's really important. And then there is Nick Spada whose contributions to MSPP have been tremendous. And did I ever tell you about the time Nick Spada arrived at the school dressed as a gorilla, carrying secretary Bernice Sandler in his arms? It was the funniest...”



Kathy Murphy

30th ANNIVERSARY GALA continued from page 1.

What began 30 years ago as an alternative path to clinical practice has become a program of choice. According to Hogan, “the most notable aspect of the school's growth has been the quality and numbers of applicants to the doctoral program. The pool of candidates is truly extraordinary and speaks to the distinguished reputation that the school is establishing.” MSPP has trained close to 800 psychologists and several thousand mental health professionals through its CE and certificate programs. With broad vision, MSPP is looking to become more of a *College of Psychology* offering those in education, law, law enforcement and business the psychological theory and skills to work more effectively in their profession.

Both co-chairs anticipate that the 30th Anniversary Gala will be a milestone in the history of MSPP and suggest that you sign up now for this wonderful event.

For more information or to buy tickets or be a sponsor for this event, call Kathy Murphy at 617-327-6777 x259 or go to www.mspp.edu.

MSPP Launches Unique Latino Mental Health Initiative

A native of Ecuador, the late Cynthia Lucero, PsyD, had a passionate interest in improving mental health care among Latinos in Latin America and the U.S. In recent years—as the Latino population within Massachusetts surges—this issue has reached a critical juncture, and MSPP has stepped up to address the problem with an effort aimed at assisting underserved members of the Latino community, while honoring the ideals of Cynthia Lucero.

According to MSPP faculty member Amaro Laria, PhD, the number of Latinos unable to access adequate mental health services at the state and national levels is staggering. “Approximately 13 percent or one in every eight individuals in the U.S. is Latino. It is estimated that one-fifth of the nation’s population will be Latino by 2010, and one-quarter by 2050. Even among those who access services, 50 percent never return to a psychologist after the first session, most likely due to a lack of ‘cultural fit.’ When you consider that only one percent of the nation’s psychologists is Latino, you begin to appreciate the magnitude of the problem. In the Boston area the demand for Spanish-speaking psychotherapists far exceeds our capacity.”

The new MSPP effort began last year with a meeting of representatives from the school and some of the area’s facilities, including major hospitals and community health centers. During this informal conference, the scope of the problem was discussed, and several members volunteered to serve on an MSPP committee that would draft curriculum recommendations for a new program to train Spanish-speaking/culturally-competent psychologists.

Led by MSPP faculty, students and professionals in the mental health community, this group has been meeting since September. Laria, who teaches cross-cultural psychology at MSPP and directs the school’s Medical Consultation and Multicultural Competence Training Program at the Joseph M. Smith Community Health Center, says, “We’ve discussed various program models, and we are leaning toward recommending a certificate curriculum emphasizing intensive language

training, as well as exposure to the complex social, cultural, economic and political factors involved in working with Latinos. We’re now talking to colleges and universities in Latin America where MSPP students could spend a summer in a total Spanish immersion experience.

“In addition, we’ll provide other academic activities for the students, such as specialized coursework and language support groups. We’re also hoping to strengthen our collaboration with clinical settings that serve a large Latino population where students can hone their Spanish while developing their clinical skills.”

Laria says the committee is also investigating ways to offer a respecialization program so immigrant Latino mental health professionals

can earn their doctorates and become licensed in Massachusetts. Once launched, the new MSPP training program will be one of the few of its kind in the nation.

While still in the preliminary stages, the effort’s potential has generated excitement. First-year student Maria Celli is an active member of the committee. A native of Venezuela, she uses her combination of clinical and language skills in her field placement in Jamaica Plain. “I see the new program going beyond language training. To really help clients, clinicians must appreciate the cultural context of different Latin American countries, and they should have an understanding of the immigrant experience as well.”

Jodie Kliman, PhD, a member of the MSPP faculty and fellow of the Network for Multicultural Training, also sits on the committee. A non-Latina, Spanish-speaking psychologist who specializes in culturally responsive family therapy, she sees a great need for a designated Latino Mental Health training program. “The demand for culturally responsive psychologists who can do effective therapy or testing with Latino clients in Spanish is enormous. Latinos represent the largest ethnic minority group in the United States today, but there really are very few traditional mental health programs addressing the needs of this community,” she says.

“This effort is true collaboration,” concludes Laria. “Dr. Covino really launched the initiative and a number of professionals from within MSPP and the professional community participate.” In addition to Laria, Kliman, and Celli, committee members have included MSPP student Daphne Papadopoulos, Dr. Pedro Garrido-Castillo of Brookside Community Health Center, and Dr. Mari Carmen Bennisar of Boston University Medical Center’s Center for Multicultural Training in Psychology, where Dr. Lucero was interning at the time of her death. Students Katie Carlson, Ricardo Bianco, and Drs. Sarah Kleinberg, Mauricia Alvarez, Hortensia Amaro, Wanda Camacho-Marón, Sylvia Halperin and Roxana Llerena-Quinn have also provided valuable consultation to this developing program. ▀



Top: 1st year students, Katie Carlson, Maria Celli & Daphne Papadopoulos, and Field Training Director, Shellee Robbins. **Second from top:** the Dean of the Doctoral Program, Alan Beck. **Third from top:** faculty members, Jodie Kliman & Amaro Laria. **Bottom:** President, Nick Covino & faculty member, Amaro Laria.

The Third Annual Cynthia Lucero Lecture on Health Psychology

Coping & Resilience Among Latina Immigrant Mothers Who Suffer From Depression

Roxanna Llerena-Quinn, PhD, presenter | Monday evening May 2, 2005 from 7–8:30 pm | 1.5 CE Credits, \$25, Reception 6-7:00 pm

Professional Plummers

There has always been easy warmth between Jane Plummer and her daughter Molly. This feeling is now strengthened by the professional bonds of psychology and MSPP. Jane Plummer, PsyD, is an alumna of MSPP, class of '86; Molly is a first year student at the school. When the Plummers were asked if there might be a chance they would eventually go into private practice together, Molly confessed—looking at her mother—that it would be interesting to consider.

Already there are parallel paths; Molly worked on an eating disorder unit last year, Jane specializes in treatment of eating disorders in a general practice that includes MSPP 1986 alums Elizabeth Puccio and Nadine Moll. Molly's clinical placement next year is working with undergraduate students at the Brandeis University Counseling Center, the same placement that Jane completed as a student.

Their paths have not always been parallel. Molly, over laughter from her mother, says that she initially wanted to be a "CEO on Wall Street, managing people and enforcing rules. But, following an economics class,

which was not my thing, I randomly took psychology and found I liked it more. What sold me was my first work in the field at Westwood Lodge Hospital where my mother had also received training, and developed and directed the Eating Disorders Treatment Program," she says.

"I tried to keep my mouth shut when Molly was eyeing Wall Street, then was considering the law, then was considering becoming a physician," says Jane, "but I never thought she would be a psychologist. Molly occasionally comes to me for professional advice, and with her newly acquired knowledge, she also helps to keep me fresh and current in my work."

Jane believes strongly that therapists are born, not made, and good therapists simply use their training very well. As a psychology major in college, Jane loved psychology and was always the person in the dorm whom people would wait to see, wanting to talk.

Molly finds her current clinical training at Franciscan Children's Hospital very challenging and is working with children who cover the full spectrum of autism. Formerly functioning in a floor staff role at McLean



Jane and Molly Plummer

Hospital, carrying out behavioral interventions, she now works as a member of a professional team, meeting with families taking part in rounds and being the primary therapist for several patients.

Listening to her daughter's comments, Jane offers, "Now that Molly wants to be a psychologist, I can't think of a better school for her than MSPP. The integrative model is the best model for learning and training that she could receive, and I am so pleased that she chose MSPP. It brings me great joy that she has turned out to be such a wonderful young woman and I am very, very proud of her." ▶

DONOR PROFILE | Robbie Lacritz

Philanthropic efforts help this MSPP alum connect and contribute

Robbie Lacritz (PsyD, 1986) fondly reflects on her years at MSPP by saying, "I'm so grateful for the education and the many opportunities MSPP provided me. When I decided to pursue a doctorate, I already had a master's degree and several years of experience as a school psychologist and private practitioner. I selected MSPP because it values previous experience and because of its commitment to integrated training. I lacked training in a hospital setting, but through MSPP I received wonderful experiences at University Hospital (now BU Medical Center)."

Lacritz credits MSPP with helping her launch a fulfilling and diverse career that encompasses specialized work with women, children and in corporate settings as an organizational psychologist. In recent years, Lacritz has focused more of her energies on her family, with the remaining time spent helping a number of charitable institutions. "Philanthropy is an important way of giving back to the community—and even on a broader scale—humanity. I firmly believe that giving to others is an important component of our profession. It helps us better ourselves as human beings. When you give, you do get a lot back."



Robbie Lacritz with her husband Joseph Deitch and son Matthew Deitch.

Lacritz says she and her family are proud to support the continued efforts of MSPP. "For me—and I think for many alums—keeping the MSPP mission going is almost a quid pro quo. The school provided us with many opportunities, and now it is our chance to contribute something in return. When you think about what the school has given its students and the community, you realize that as an institution, MSPP gets it right." ▶

CHIEF JUSTICE MARTHA GRACE

continued from page 1.

More Society Ecumenical Award (1999), Massachusetts Judges Conference Award (2000), Distinguished Jurist Award of the Massachusetts Association of Women Lawyers (2002) and the Becker College Distinguished Friend of Education Award (2004).

In 2002, Grace completed a fellowship with Zero to Three, the Washington-based organization that promotes the healthy development of America's children from infancy to age three. She is a member of the Massachusetts, Boston, Worcester County and Juvenile Bar Associations; the National Association for Women Judges; the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges; the American Judicature Society; the Supreme Judicial Historical Society; and the Massachusetts Judges Conference.

Commencement ceremonies will be held on the MSPP campus on Sunday, June 5, beginning at 2 pm. Alumni and graduating students can obtain information on tickets and local accommodations for their guests by calling Mrs. Kathy Murphy at 617-327-6777, x259. ▶

TRUSTEE PROFILE | Dr. James Stellar

James R. Stellar is a trustee at the Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology. He also works 70 hours a week as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Northeastern University while continuing to teach (informally) as well as conduct research.

Stellar very much believes in the integrated model adopted by MSPP—the combining of clinical theory with clinical field training.



James R. Stellar

It is familiar ground for Stellar, given his work at Northeastern, an institution that pioneered a cooperative system where students learn by working outside the university in fields appropriate to their studies.

As a trustee, Stellar's contributions to MSPP include strategic planning as well as providing a sense of academic management. "Regarding MSPP's future," he says, "I want to see MSPP build on the excellence of its

accomplishments, and to carry this out, fundraising is extremely important, yet with a balance that does not undermine the core values of the school."

Today, Stellar, who has a PhD in biological psychology and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in neuroanatomy, chairs Northeastern's Department of Psychology, and, as the current dean, manages a large organization with a \$50 million operating budget, 285 full-time professional faculty in 21 academic departments, more than 40 undergraduate and graduate programs, and 14 research centers.

"I am also a rat researcher," says Stellar, whose research with rats has led to government-funded programs on drug addiction. His behavioral studies have included psychophysical measurements of the reward effect generated by electrical brain stimulation and intravenous cocaine self-administration and reinstatement.

"For me," he says, "there have been three major career challenges: understanding the nervous system, including research in combating drug addiction; passing on knowledge to students; and higher education—how to work and learn within, and outside, a university."

With great enthusiasm, Stellar explains he is addicted to the teaching of his students in his laboratory, "I have two families, my biological family, and my second family who are the research students. And, their numbers are growing ever larger." ▶

STUDENT PROFILE | Suzanne McCarthy

Drive and passion helps this MSPP student launch a second career

A few months shy of graduation, fourth-year MSPP student Suzanne McCarthy describes her demanding schedule almost matter-of-factly. She is accustomed to hard work and wearing many hats—attributes that serve her well as she completes her doctoral project, finishes her MSPP studies, and continues her field placement at Cambridge Health Alliance's Couples and Family Clinic.

Rounding things out, McCarthy is a professional singer who performs favorite Broadway songs at venues across the city. And, no matter how busy things get, she makes sure to carve out time for her 10-year old daughter Savannah.

Before beginning a career in psychology, McCarthy's drive and passion helped propel her to the pinnacle of the advertising and public relations world. Working for award-winning agencies in Boston and Miami, her prestigious clients included Paramount Pictures, Fleet Bank, MCI Communications, and the National Organization for Women.

By the mid-1990s she was at the top of her game, serving as executive vice president/director of public relations for the marketing consulting firm Pamet River Partners. While she was thriving in the frenetic ad world, she was beginning to contemplate a different career and way of life. She had had a baby and wanted to travel less. In addition, she realized she had always been interested in the psychological aspects of the advertising business, an insight that led to a new career in psychology.

"I actually took time to think about what type of degree program I wanted to pursue," she says. In selecting the MSPP program she notes, "As you get older, you have more life experience, and MSPP embraces students who bring with them a variety of life and work experiences. Another enormous benefit is that you receive practical, applied experience from the very beginning of the program. I'm glad I chose MSPP—the faculty is high caliber, I've been really well trained, and I've been able to put together a program that fits my needs and interests."



Suzanne McCarthy

Like many MSPP students, McCarthy envisions a multi-dimensional career. She has undertaken the MSPP health psychology track, but also enjoys working with couples and families. Combining these two interests, her doctoral project examines the impact a diagnosis of cancer has on couples. McCarthy also sees herself returning to the corporate world, this time as an organizational psychologist.

Becoming a psychologist has been rigorous and has tested the patience of her family, but McCarthy is quick to point to its benefits, saying, "It's a privilege to be a part of someone's life and to help make a difference." ▶

The Twenty-Eighth Annual Erich Lindeman Memorial Lecture

Coming to the Rescue or None of My Business: The Effect of Responding vs. Ignoring on Community Health

David G. Satin, MD, LFAPA, moderator | Friday May 20, 2005 from 2:30–5 pm

Health Psychology and the Gay and Lesbian Community

Friday, June 6, 2005 | 8:45 am–4:45 pm | 6 CE credits

Presented by: the Wellness Community–Greater Boston, Fenway Community Health Center and the Institute of Clinical Psychology.

This conference will explore health issues facing the gay and lesbian community. Appropriate models of intervention will be discussed as well as methods to eliminate barriers to attuned healthcare.

Conference Directors: Harriet Berman, PhD,
Stanley Berman, PhD and Rhonda Linde, PhD

Conference fee is \$115

To register please call 617-327-6777 or go to www.mspp.edu

SAVE THE DATE!

Medical Family Therapy and Primary Care Psychology: Developing the Next Generation of Service Delivery and Patient Care

A Day with Susan McDaniel, PhD

Friday, September 23, 2005 | 6 CE credits | \$125

Limited to 100 participants

SAVE THE DATE!

11th Annual Living with Dying Conference

Friday, September 30, 2005 | 6 CE credits | \$125

Sponsored by: The Institute for Clinical Health Psychology
and the Family Loss Project

Spend the Summer in the City

July 25-29, 2005

Develop Your Career in Psychology at MSPP

The **Massachusetts School of Professional Psychology** provides the education and training that you need to take your career in psychology to the next level. This summer, MSPP offers an exciting array of courses in a unique week-long format that provides in-depth classroom study and free time to explore the exciting city of Boston.

Summer in the City

July 25–29, 2005

Behavioral Medicine & Hypnosis

Fundamentals & Best Practices in Forensic Psychology

Meeting the Challenge of Scientific, Research-Based
Intervention: Focus on Reading & Behavior

Integrating Cognitive-Behavioral Interventions
into Your Clinical Practice

Clinical Psychopharmacology

Visit city.mspp.edu, call
617-327-6777 x210, or
email ce@mspp.edu
to register today!

UMSPPP

221 Rivermoor Street
Boston, MA 02132