



Western Psychological Association

September 1, 2017

Letter of Support for Students Attending the Western Psychological Association Convention

The Western Psychological Association (WPA) was founded in 1921 to stimulate the exchange of scientific and professional ideas among students, professors, and practitioners of psychology. WPA Presidents and members have included the top psychologists in the world including Albert Bandura, Gordon Bower, Christina Maslach, Philip Zimbardo, Stanley Sue, and Elizabeth Loftus. Because of the relatively small size of the annual convention (about 2,500 psychologists and students), students in attendance have exciting opportunities to actually meet, closely interact with, and learn from the best psychologists in the field. Students participate by presenting papers and posters that feature their research undertaken with their professors. They also attend presentations, informal conversation hours, and receptions. Thus, WPA serves as a major and unique vehicle for students to enhance their educational experience and learn about professional careers as psychologists.

The 2018 convention will be held April 26-29 in Portland, Oregon. The convention is hosted by Pacific University Oregon. The program will include featured addresses by distinguished psychologists such as Sarah Bowen, Troy Campbell, Thomas Doherty, Jennifer Freyd, Howard Friedman, Phillip Holcomb, Robert Kaplan, Shari Young Kuchenbecker, Eric Landrum, Steve Lindsay, Elizabeth Loftus, Ksenija Marinekovic, Christina Maslach, Brian McNeill, Allen Omoto, W. Todd Schultz, and Phillip Zimbardo. Many of these presenters will hold a conversation hour with students immediately after their presentation. There will also be special programs for students sponsored by Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology, and workshops on topics in statistics and research methods. We are looking forward to an exciting convention program that will be a valuable learning experience for students.

Sincerely,

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