



Western Psychological Association

September 1, 2016

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 1,500 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 2017 convention will be held April 27-30 in Sacramento. The convention is hosted by California State University, Sacramento. The program will include featured addresses by distinguished psychologists such as Sharon Hamill, Judith Torney-Purta, Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, Lynette Bikos, Gail Goodman, Dean Simonton, Simine Vazire, Nolan Zane, Amber Gaffney, Serena Chen, Phillip Zimbardo, Linda Mona, Karen Rook, Josef Ruzek, Marguerita Lightfoot, Harold Takooshian, Bella DePaulo, Tania Isreal, Robert Gifford, Heidi Riggio, Cameron Neece, and Joshua Swift. Many of these presenters will hold a conversation hour with students immediately after the 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,

Joan Tucker

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