

WPA Social Responsibility Awards

The WPA Social Responsibility Award is given to an individual in recognition of substantial and influential work that facilitates peace, freedom, social justice, and/or protection of this planet's natural environment.

2016 WPA Social Responsibility Award

Roxane Cohen Silver, University of California, Irvine



Roxane Cohen Silver is Professor of Psychology and Social Behavior at University of California, Irvine. Professor Silver is this year's recipient of the WPA Social Responsibility Award, which is given to an individual in recognition of substantial and influential work that facilitates peace, freedom, social justice, or protection of this planet's natural environment. She is richly deserving of this award.

Dr. Silver is a founding Director, and Chair of the Board of Directors, of **Psychology Beyond Borders**. This organization provides international leadership in evidence-informed psychosocial preparedness, prevention and response to disasters, armed conflict, and terrorism.

Professor Silver is one of the world's top researchers studying the acute and long-term psychological and physical reactions to stressful life experiences. Remarkably, she does not limit her work to one or two traumas but studies physical disability, loss and bereavement, and childhood sexual victimization, as well as large collective events such as terror attacks, war and natural disasters. Her work is a model of how to do significant research, informing psychology while making the world a better place.

Locally, Dr. Silver is Associate Director of the UC Irvine ADVANCE Program for equity and diversity where she is responsible for directing the Diverse Educational Community and Doctoral Experience Faculty Mentors Program.

2015 WPA Social Responsibility Award

Dacher Keltner, University of California, Berkeley

Dacher Keltner received his BA from UC Santa Barbara in 1984 and his PhD from Stanford University in 1989. After a post-doc at UCSF with Paul Ekman, in 1992 he took his first academic job, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and then returned to Berkeley's Psychology Department in 1996, where he is now a full professor, and director of the Berkeley Social Interaction Lab ([http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~keltner/.](http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~keltner/))



Dacher's research focuses the biological and evolutionary origins of compassion, awe, love, and beauty, and power, social class, and inequality. Dacher is the co-author of two textbooks, as well as

the best-selling *Born to Be Good: The Science of a Meaningful Life*, and *The Compassionate Instinct*. He has published over 160 scientific articles, written for the New York Times Magazine, The London Times, and Utne Reader, and has received numerous national prizes and grants for his research. His research has been covered in TIME, Newsweek, the New York Times, the BBC, CNN, NPR, The Wall Street Journal, and in many other outlets, and been a focus in two panels with His Holiness, the Dalai Lama. He has collaborated with directors at Pixar and a design team at Facebook, on projects at Google, and was recently featured in Tom Shadyac's movie *I Am*. Dacher has received the outstanding teacher and research mentor awards from UC Berkeley, and seen 20 of his PhD students and post-doctoral fellows become professors. WIRED magazine recently rated Dacher's podcasts from his course Emotion as one of the five best educational downloads, and the Utne Reader selected Dacher for one of its 50 2008 visionaries.

Dacher is a founder of the Berkeley Greater Good Science Center (<http://greatergood.berkeley.edu>) and its faculty director, overseeing the Center's fellowship program and serving as executive editor of Greater Good magazine. He has taught executive education at Stanford and Berkeley for over 15 years. He is also a WPA Fellow. Dacher lives in Berkeley with his wife, Mollie McNeil, an alumna of Berkeley, and their two daughters.

2014 WPA Social Responsibility Award

Allen M. Omoto, Claremont Graduate University

Allen M. Omoto is a Professor of Psychology at the Claremont Graduate University in Claremont, California. He is a social psychologist whose research interests generally focus on interpersonal processes, but specifically on the social and psychological aspects of prosocial behavior and civic and political engagement, including volunteerism. He also conducts research on issues related to the environment, HIV disease, and lesbian, gay, and bisexual concerns. His research has been supported by funding from federal and foundation sources, and has been published in peer reviewed journals, chapters, and other professional outlets.



Early in his professional career, Dr. Omoto worked with community members in conducting a needs analysis and in founding and administering an AIDS service organization. This frontline experience with community organizing and delivering support and educational services, especially for vulnerable and stigmatized populations, led him to pursue broader-level policy experience. Specifically, he served as a legislative aide in the U.S. House of Representatives as APA's inaugural William A. Bailey AIDS Policy Congressional Fellow. This experience widened his perspective on the roles of psychology in public life and helped push his research and training interests further toward social responsibility and social issues.

Dr. Omoto also has engaged in social responsibility activities for the profession through extensive leadership and governance in associations and societies. He has served on the governing Council of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues and as its President. This Society has a long-standing commitment to social justice and scientifically-informed policy. In addition, Dr. Omoto has been active in the American Psychological Association, including having served on its main legislative body, the Council of Representatives, and on the Board for the Advancement of Psychology in the Public Interest and the Committee on Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Concerns.

2013 WPA Social Responsibility Award Anthony Biglan, University of Oregon

Dr. Biglan is a Senior Scientist at Oregon Research Institute and the Co-Director of the Promise Neighborhood Research Consortium. He has been conducting research on the development and prevention of child and adolescent problem behavior for the past 30 years. His work has included studies of the risk and protective factors associated with tobacco, alcohol, and other drug use; high-risk sexual behavior; and antisocial behavior. He has conducted numerous experimental evaluations of interventions to prevent tobacco use both through school-based programs and community-wide interventions, and he has evaluated interventions to prevent high-risk sexual behavior, antisocial behavior, and reading failure.



In recent years, Dr. Biglan's work has shifted to more comprehensive interventions that have the potential to prevent the entire range of child and adolescent problems. He and colleagues at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences published a book summarizing the epidemiology, cost, etiology, prevention, and treatment of youth with multiple problems (Biglan et al., 2004).

On a national level, he is a former president of the Society for Prevention Research. He was a member of the Institute of Medicine Committee on Prevention, which recently released its report documenting numerous evidence-based preventive interventions that can prevent multiple problems. As a member of Oregon's Alcohol and Drug Policy Commission, and Chair of its prevention committee, he has helped to develop a strategic plan for implementing comprehensive evidence-based interventions throughout Oregon.

The Western Psychological Association is pleased to recognize Dr. Anthony Biglan with the 2013 Social Responsibility Award.

2012: No award

2011 WPA Social Responsibility Award:

Adele Eskeles Gottfried, California State University, Northridge

Dr. Adele Eskeles Gottfried is Professor in the Department of Educational Psychology and Counseling at California State University, Northridge where she has been on the faculty for over 25 years. Dr. Gottfried earned her Ph.D. in Developmental and Educational Psychology at the City University of New York.



Dr. Gottfried's research has had wide-spread impact on social policies relating to the well-being of children and their families. Her research on maternal and dual earner employment was among the first major studies to demonstrate that maternal employment does not have a negative effect on children's development. The findings from her studies served as a basis for a landmark California Supreme Court ruling which prohibits the judiciary from using a parents' (mothers' or fathers') employment in a child custody determination. This ruling was later expanded and provided the foundation for subsequent case law. In an article in the journal *Scientific American*, her work in the area of dual-parent employment was described as "breaking the mold." It clearly demonstrated that mothers' employment should not be viewed as negative when it comes to children's developmental outcomes across various areas of development. In addition to her work on parental employment, Dr. Gottfried developed the Children's Academic Intrinsic Motivation Inventory. This instrument has been translated into numerous languages so as to be used internationally. It is used by school districts and state education programs to assess children who have difficulties learning in school as well as to assess motivation among gifted students. Very few developmental psychologists have had such an enormous impact on practical applications of research in the schools.

Dr. Gottfried has been a frequent winner of faculty merit awards at her university, and was recognized with the university-wide Outstanding Faculty Award in 2009. She is a Fellow of the American Educational Research Association, the Association for Psychological Science, the Western Psychological Association, and three divisions of the American Psychological Association. The Western Psychological Association is pleased to recognize Dr. Adele Gottfried with the 2011 WPA Social Responsibility Award.

**2010 WPA Social Responsibility Award:
Elizabeth Klonoff, San Diego State University**

Dr. Klonoff is Professor of Psychology at San Diego State University and Professor of Psychiatry at the University of California at San Diego. Dr. Klonoff earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of Oregon and served on the faculties of Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Duke University Medical Center, and California State University at San Bernardino before taking her current positions.

For the past two decades Dr. Klonoff has been the leader of a research institute dedicated to examining the environmental, institutional, and personal variables that predict youth purchase of cigarettes in retail outlets. Dr. Klonoff's research protocol has become the model for examining illegal purchases and has been adopted by the state of California.

Dr. Klonoff has written over 100 research papers and chapters, and she has served as Associate Editor or Consulting Editor for major journals in her area. Many of her articles have been cited hundreds of times, placing her in the top echelon of researchers. Her work over the past 30 years has been supported by more than 30 grants, including three current grants from the National Cancer Institute and the California Department of Health Services, totaling more than \$12 million.

Dr. Klonoff's tireless work has identified the key components in young people's ability to buy cigarettes and has influenced effective legislation to reduce children's access to cigarettes. Specially, Dr. Klonoff's work has directly resulted in a state regulation that prohibits the sale of single cigarettes and makes using credit cards to purchase cigarettes over the Internet illegal. Through these efforts sales of cigarettes to minors have declined dramatically. In addition to the fine work she has done on tobacco use among minors, Dr. Klonoff has published extensively on the causes and outcomes of discrimination for women and people of color.

The Western Psychological Association is pleased to recognize Dr. Elizabeth Klonoff with the 2010 WPA Social Responsibility Award.

2009 WPA Social Responsibility Award:
Stuart Oskamp, Claremont Graduate University

The recipient of the Social Responsibility Award is Stuart Oskamp, Professor Emeritus at Claremont Graduate University. Over the course of his 40+ year career in the field, Dr. Oskamp has proven to be the quintessential social responsibility psychologist. His years of organizing the Claremont Symposium on Applied Social Psychology and editing the books emerging from these symposia alone should qualify Dr. Oskamp for the WPA Social Responsibility Award. However, his career is much more than this symposium series. He served as president of the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) from 1993–1994 and received that organization’s Outstanding Service Award in 1996, he was editor of the Journal of Social Issues from 1988 to 1992 and on the editorial board of that journal along with Basic and Applied Social Psychology, Journal of personality and Social Psychology: Attitudes and Social Cognition, and Journal of Personality and Social Psychology: Interpersonal Relations and Group Processes. His grants have involved such social responsibility issues as the use of contraceptives, racial attitudes, and social dilemmas. Among his 25 books are his series on applied social psychology, which has covered such topics as international conflict, health, aging, and reducing prejudice and discrimination, and books on gender issues, violence, and helping behavior. He has also written about socially important issues such as international conflict, environmental conservation, and global climate change.

In the words of one of his nominators for this award, “Stuart Oskamp devoted his 40+ year career on the faculty of Claremont Graduate University to the application of psychology to the most pressing problems facing humanity. His impact is felt through his many scholarly contributions, his professional service, and his mentoring of a large cohort of students.” Another nominator concluded his letter by saying, “Dr. Oskamp has influenced a generation of psychologists, inspiring students to pursue applied careers, promoting the uses of psychological research and theory in informing policy, providing a forum for psychologists to disseminate applied research, and advancing what is known about the psychological processes that underlie environmental problems. On a more personal level, Stu incorporates his applied work into his own life—living simply, active in local community organizations, civic and university involvement, and limiting his impact of the natural environment. He is, in every respect, the embodiment of Social Responsibility.”

2008 WPA Social Responsibility Award:
Nancy Segal, California State University, Fullerton

Nancy Segal is the recipient of the 2008 WPA Social Responsibility Award. Her research specialty is in investigating aspects of twins, and she has transformed this research interest into pragmatic solutions for the better good of society. She founded the Twin Studies Center at California State University, Fullerton, in 1991 and continues as this center's director. Through this center, she has been able to both conduct research and serve as a center where parents of twins can find out information about what to expect in future years. In 2007, a special Twin Center Library was funded, and it will open in the Spring of 2008. Because of her expertise in this area and her multiple books, chapters, and articles on twins, she has been a much sought after speaker on the topic, both in academia and in the media. For example, she has been invited to give over 100 lectures at community centers, parent organizations, universities, etc., and she has been a guest on media outlets such as the *Oprah Winfrey Show*, *CNN*, *Good Morning America*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *National Public Radio*. Such dedication to this topic has yielded her professional recognition, as she has received Outstanding Professor of the Year and the Award for Recognition of Public Service from Cal State Fullerton and the *2006 International Making a Difference Award*, from Multiple Births Canada. Clearly, many people have benefited from Dr. Segal's work in this area, and we are proud to award her the 2008 WPA Social Responsibility Award.

2007 WPA Social Responsibility Award:
Vickie Mays, University of California, Los Angeles

The recipient of the Social Responsibility Award is Vickie Mays of UCLA. Dr. Mays organized psychology professors to arrive early for the annual APA Convention scheduled for New Orleans to help the community recover from the disaster of Hurricane Katrina. These professionals gave workshops for local mental health counselors, ministers, teachers, and parents to help victims of this natural disaster to recover from their trauma. This project developed into a grant funding the training of psychologists to deal with victims of Hurricane Katrina, Rita, and Wilma. She also developed tool kits for mental health professionals, referral information for mental health professionals and clergy offering services to victims of these hurricanes, and translated information into Spanish, Vietnamese, and Khmer. She is the Director of the UCLA Center for Research, Education, Training and Strategic Communications on Minority Health Disparities, which has become a national center for materials involving intervention for victims of Hurricane Katrina and the related hurricanes.