Date: March 4, 2020
From: Psi Chi, Dr. Shawn Charlton
Subject: Southwestern Regional VP Letter

Dear Psi Chi Members in the Southwestern Region,

Happy March! The Southwestern Region Steering Committee has been hard at work putting together an excellent program for the SWPA convention next month. Below are some details about the Psi Chi programming at SWPA, the region, and other items of potential interest.

Before I get to the announcements, I strongly encourage you and your chapter to contribute to the Inez Beverly Prosser Psi Chi Scholarship for Women of Color. Dr. Prosser is considered by many historians to be the first African American woman to receive a doctorate in psychology in the United States. Once fully funded, the Prosser scholarship will allow Psi Chi to provide additional support to women of color in obtaining their professional goals and following in Dr. Prosser’s example.

Psi Chi events at the 2020 SWPA meeting:

- The 2020 SWPA convention is April 3–5 in Frisco, TX. We hope to see you there.
- We have a full slate of research talks, workshops, panel discussions, and other events planned for the convention. Get a preview of the 2020 SWPA Psi Chi programming here.
- Our Distinguished Lecturer for the convention is Dr. Sarah Hill, Texas Christian University, speaking on "It’s Time to Talk About the Brain and the Birth Control Pill." Dr. Hill’s presentation is scheduled for Saturday, April 4, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. A Q & A session will follow from 2:00 to 3:00 p.m.
- The Psi Chi program also features an invited talk by Dr. Melanie Domenech Rodríguez, Past-President of Psi Chi, entitled, “Diversity and Inclusion: A Focus on Valued Actions,” Saturday, April 4, from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. A panel discussion and reception (free food) will follow from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- On Friday, April 3, at 12:00 p.m., we will host a buffet luncheon for Psi Chi members at the Tri Tip Grill. Reservations are required (click here to reserve your spot) and seating is limited.
- Psi Chi Award recipients will be recognized at the SWPA awards ceremony on Saturday, April 4 at 5:00 p.m. If you have chapter members who received Psi Chi grants, awards, or scholarships this past year, I invite you to e-mail me (scharlton@uca.edu) a
PowerPoint slide with the information (and a picture or two of the award winners would be great!) that we can display during the event.

- Chapter leaders, and those interested in becoming leaders, are invited to join us at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 4, for a workshop on chapter leadership skills. In preparation for this event, we invite chapter officers to submit details of recent fund-raising efforts (successful or not) by clicking here.
- We are always looking for volunteers to help with our Psi Chi events at SWPA. If you are interested in being involved with Psi Chi programming, please e-mail me at scharlton@uca.edu by Friday, March 27

In addition to the events at the convention, please be aware of the following:

- The Model Chapter Award application has been streamlined. We encourage all chapters to review the eligibility criteria for this award, as well as the Kay Wilson Officer Team Leadership Award and the Ruth H. Cousins Awards.
- Many thanks to GEICO for sponsoring the SWPA Regional Travel Grants program. We encourage you to visit the GEICO sponsorship page and get a free, no-obligation insurance quote.
- In addition to travel grants, there are other award, grant, and scholarship programs still available for this year. Please see the award section of the Psi Chi website for details.
- We encourage you to submit to the two Psi Chi publications: The Psi Chi Journal of Psychological Research and Eye on Psi Chi. All Psi Chi members are eligible to submit work to these publications.

A huge thank you to the members of our regional steering committee: Sandy Parsons (Rice University, TX), Seungyeon Lee (University of Arkansas, Monticello), Lisa Rosen (Texas Woman’s University), and Maggie Rogers (University of Central Arkansas). This exceptional group has worked extremely hard to prepare our SWPA programming and it has been a pleasure to work with them.

Have a great semester and spring! See you in Frisco (I hope)!

Shawn R. Charlton, PhD
Psi Chi Southwestern Regional Vice-President
Professor of Psychology
University of Central Arkansas