



President's Welcome

Dear Colleagues and Colleagues-in-Training,

Welcome to the National Latina/o Psychological Association's website!

¡Bienvenid@s al sitio en Internet de la Asociación Nacional de Psicología Latina!

NLPA is the home for Latina/o psychologists, graduate and undergraduate students as well as other mental health professionals, researchers and educators interested in matters concerning Latina/o psychology. NLPA's mission is to advance psychological education and training, scientific practice, and organizational change/advocacy to enhance the overall well-being of Latina/o populations. If you would like to join NLPA or renew your membership, please visit www.nlpa.ws/joinrenew-membership. If you are already a member, thank you very much for your support!

My name is Marie Lucía Miville, and I am honored to serve as NLPA's President for 2015. I am a faculty member and department chair in the Department of Counseling and Clinical Psychology at Teachers College, Columbia University. I have been a long-time member of NLPA, and continue to be amazed at the incredible work that our members (both professional and student) are engaged with on behalf of our many diverse Latina/o communities.

If you are interested in Latina/o mental health, NLPA is a great organization for you to join! There are many benefits to membership (listed below) as well as a great conference we organize every other year (our next conference will be in 2016).

Should you have any questions about NLPA, please feel free to contact me at mlm2106@tc.columbia.edu or any of our Leadership Council members (www.nlpa.ws/leadership-council).

2015 is a very exciting year for NLPA! My Presidential Agenda for 2015 focuses on engaging in activities that promote the health and welfare of Latina/o communities. NLPA is a member of the Alliance of National Psychological Associations for Racial and Ethnic Equity (or simply, the Alliance). The Alliance is made up of representatives from the four racial-ethnic minority associations, as well as the American Psychological Association. A major purpose of the Alliance is to engage collaboratively as equal partners in projects of mutual interest. This year's project will focus on *community violence*, a topic that continues to be of poignant relevance to us all. We will be gathering information on violence as it relates to Latinas/os from which we ultimately we would like to develop materials for both mental health providers and community members. We also are focusing on creating resources and links via the web. *Héctor Torres, Psy.D.*, Associate Professor at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology, and *Claudette Claudia Antuña, Ph.D.*, Federal Way Psychology Clinic in Seattle, WA,

are serving as Co-Chairs of our NLPA Community Violence Project. Please contact Dr. Torres at htorres@thechicagoschool.edu or Dr. Antuña at antunaclau@aol.com if you would like to be part of this initiative.

As I mentioned earlier, there are many benefits to being a member of NLPA, including receiving hard copies of our publication, the *Journal of Latina/o Psychology*, edited by our distinguished member Dr. Azara Santiago-Rivera.

In addition to our respected journal, members also receive:

- discounted rates for conferencia registration;
- discounted rates for CE programs that NLPA sponsors;
- access to our monthly webinar series;
- access to professional development and advocacy opportunities;
- participation in NLPA's Special Interest Groups (check them out at www.nlpa.ws/special-interest-groups);
- enrollment in NLPA's listserv;
- and more!

NLPA's *familia* is a particularly welcoming network for graduate and undergraduate students, as well as early career psychologists. Being a member of NLPA provides opportunities for mentoring, networking, and continuous professional development. Please reach out to our elected Student Representative, Rachel Renders-Saeman, at rrenders@uwalumni.com or our appointed Student Development Coordinator, Dr. Valerie Minchala, at vminchala@fullerton.edu for more information about student engagement in NLPA. If you are an early career psychologist (you have had your doctorate for 10 years or less), please contact Dr. Megan Carney, our elected Early Career Representative at mstrawsinecarney@gmail.com to get connected.

NLPA grants six standing, biennial awards in recognition of exceptional achievements. Three awards are for students: the Cynthia de las Fuentes Dissertation Award, the NLPA Outstanding Dissertation Award, and the Distinguished Student Service Award. The other three awards are the Star Vega Distinguished Service Award, the Distinguished Professional Early Career Award, and the Distinguished Professional Career Award. For information about past award recipients please visit www.nlpa.ws/nlpa-award-recipients. The current call for award nominations can be found at www.nlpa.ws/call-for-nominations-for-2016-awards. Please contact Dr. Eduardo Morales (dremorales@aol.com), Awards Committee Co-Chair, for more information.

On behalf of NLPA's 2015 Leadership Council, I welcome you to NLPA and I look forward to your involvement.

Warmly,

Marie L. Miville, Ph.D.
President
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I thank Dr. Andrés Consoli for his input on this document.