

Division J: Postsecondary Education
(Susan B. Twombly, Division J Vice President)

Despite the rather gloomy financial news of 2008-2009, the year was another successful year for Division J. As of May 2009, Division J had 1,828 members, a slight decrease of 26 members from the previous year.

AERA fellows. Yvonna Lincoln and Bill Tierney were selected to be AERA Fellows.

Leadership changes. Maricela Oliva, University of Texas at San Antonio was elected to a three-year term as at-large division council member replacing Anna Ortiz of Cal State Long Beach. Mary Beth Walpole assumed the role of the division's web coordinator. Laura Perna, University of Pennsylvania was elected VP-elect. Bryan Gopaul, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education was selected as the new graduate student representative.

Graduate student representatives. Division J's student representatives, Lisette Montoto, University of Georgia, and Pelema Morrice, University of Michigan, organized a well-attended fireside chat with featured speakers Bill Tierney, USC; Marybeth Gasman (U Penn) and Phil Bowman (U Michigan).

Program highlights. Division J received 613 proposals, including 440 individual papers, 62 posters, 46 symposia (session), and 65 paper discussions (roundtable) proposals and accepted 364 individual proposals and 20 symposia, for an overall acceptance rate of 63%. The division highlighted 5 sessions:

- (Un)Disciplined Inquiries Into the Role of Historically White Colleges and Universities (HWCUs) in Making Race and Nation
- Affirmative Action, Democratic Deliberation, and Civil Rights: Understanding Ballot Initiatives and the Role of Researchers
- "Here I Try to Be More Ethnic": Interdisciplinary Perspectives on College Students' Racial and Ethnic Identity
- New Considerations of Ethics and Misconduct in the Academy: Advancing Knowledge, Research, and Practice
- Speed-Dating to Tenure: The Power of Posters in Educational Research

We also granted our first graduate student travel awards of \$300 each to five students to assist with travel to the Annual Meeting in San Diego.

Emerging Scholars Workshop. The pre-conference for advanced graduate students and new faculty members was ably organized and led by Karri Holley, University of Massachusetts-Boston, with assistance from Amy Wells, University of Mississippi. Forty-six applicants attended the day-long workshop. A shared breakfast with Division F was a highlight.

Research awards. Chaired by Lisa Wolf-Wendel, University of Kansas, the Awards Committee selected Barbara K. Townsend, University of Missouri, to receive the Exemplary Research Award. Saran Donohoe, Southern Illinois University, received the Outstanding Publication Award for her article, "Reflections on race: Affirmative action policies influencing higher education in France and the United States" published in February 2008 in the Teachers College Record.

Dissertation of the Year Award. The dissertation committee, chaired by Ben Baez, Florida International University received more than 30 nominations. Tami Lea

Moore's dissertation (Washington State University), "Placing Engagement: Critical Readings of Interaction Between Regional Communities and Comprehensive Universities," emerged as the winner.

Affirmative Action. Although Affirmative Action Chair, Jerlando Jackson, noted that Division J is doing well with respect to diverse membership on committees and the executive council (36% of committee members are from traditionally underrepresented groups, slightly more than their percentage of the total membership). A conference session was made available for the Affirmative Action Committee.

2010. Michael Bastedo, University of Michigan, chairs the program committee. The division is also considering several new initiatives in light of an anticipated modest increase in resources, including a research handbook.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone who participated in Division J activities in some way during 2008-9. Special thanks to Pen Editor, Greg Dubrow and Linda Hagedorn, chair of the nominating committee.