



**“Translating Basic Research Into Application”
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Speaker information

Suzanne Donovan, PhD, is currently Associate Director of the National Research Council's (NRC) Strategic Education Research Partnership (SERP). She is Director of the SERP panel on learning and instruction, and Study Director of a project that will produce a volume for teachers entitled: *How Students Learn: History, Math, and Science in the Classroom*. She was the study director and editor for the NRC reports *Minority Students in Special and Gifted Education*, and *How People Learn: Bridging Research and Practice*. She was also a co-editor of *Eager to Learn: Educating our Preschoolers*. She has a Ph.D. in public policy from the University of California at Berkeley, and was previously on the faculty of Columbia University.

Edmund Fantino, PhD, is Professor of Psychology and the Neurosciences Group at the University of California, San Diego (USCD). He did his undergraduate work at Cornell University, graduating with a major in mathematics in 1961. He obtained a doctoral degree from Harvard University in 1964, with a dissertation that explored variables controlling gambling in the pigeon. He was an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Yale University (1964-1967), until he moved to his present position. His interest in non-optimal decision-making, developed in his studies of self-control and gambling at Harvard, has continued to the present (with uninterrupted research grant support from NSF and/or NIMH from 1965 through 2006). His research interest is focused on choice, conditioned reinforcement, and sources of multiple stimulus control in humans and in pigeons. Currently he is interested in human reasoning, especially illogical thinking, problem solving, especially as it relates to education, and in human observing, including the conditions under which information reinforces human behavior. A second major interest involves operant analogues to foraging behavior, including assessment of behavioral ecology theories with operant choice technology and optimal choice in humans and pigeons. He has served as the Editor of the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior* (1987-1991) and as President of the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior (1985-1987). He believes that by studying the variables that lead to non-optimal decisions, to illogical decisions, to inflexible problem solving, and to impulsive behavior, we will be able to develop better strategies to deal with these fundamental problems.

Robert Heinssen, PhD, is Program Officer for the Psychotic Disorders Research Program, Adult Psychopathology and Prevention Research Program, NIMH Division of Mental Disorders, Behavioral Research and AIDS. After obtaining the doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Catholic University, Dr. Heinssen worked for 12 years at Chestnut Lodge Hospital, where he developed and directed several science-based, multi-disciplinary treatment programs for schizophrenia in inpatient, partial hospital, residential, and community outpatient settings. He is the founder and past president of the Schizophrenia Special Interest Group within the Association for Advancement of Behavior Therapy and currently serves on the American Psychological Association's Task Force for Serious Mental Illness. Dr. Heinssen is on the Editorial Board of *Clinical Psychology Review* and serves as an editorial consultant for several other scientific journals.

Stuart W. "Bill" Leslie, PhD, is professor in the History of Science Department at The Johns Hopkins University. He has published numerous articles and has written a biography of the automotive inventor Charles Kettering, and study of American science and engineering in the Cold War, and is completing a study of the American industrial revolution as it was experienced in ten towns, from Manchester, NH to San Jose, CA. He received his B.A. from Carleton College and his M.A. and PhD from the University of Delaware.

James McPartland, PhD, is professor of sociology and director of the Johns Hopkins University Center for Social Organization of Schools. He also is director of the Talent Development High Schools program. He received his doctorate in sociology from Johns Hopkins and spent his early research years in Washington, DC as co-author of the Coleman Report, *Equality of Educational Opportunities*, and as a contributor to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights report *Racial Isolation in the Public Schools*. His work continues to emphasize effective schooling for students from poor and minority backgrounds with a current focus on high schools. In addition to his research, Dr. McPartland is active in restructuring high schools and serves on numerous national and regional groups studying and promoting high school reform.

Michael Perone, PhD, is professor and chair of the Department of Psychology at West Virginia University, where he has worked since 1984. He was educated at the University of Maryland (B.S., 1975) and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (M.A., 1977; PhD, 1981). He conducts basic research with rats, pigeons, and people in the areas of positive and negative reinforcement, schedule control, and conditioned reinforcement, with particular attention to bridging human and animal work. Perone also is interested in research methodology and recently co-edited, with Kennon A. Lattal, the *Handbook of Research Methods in Human Operant Behavior* (Plenum, 1998). His work has been supported by grants from NSF, NIOSH, and NICHD. He has served as President and Chair of the Board of Directors of the Society for the Experimental Analysis of Behavior, Associate Editor of the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*, co-chair of the Association for Behavior Analysis (ABA) Convention Program Committee, and co-editor of the *Experimental Analysis of Human Behavior Bulletin*. He is a Fellow of the American Psychological Association. He currently serves as President of the Association for Behavior Analysis.

Kate Saunders, PhD, is currently Senior Scientist at the Mental Retardation Research Center at the University of Kansas. She received her PhD in Psychology in 1986, from the University of Florida. She then went to the University of Kansas as a postdoctoral fellow, funded by an NICHD Institutional Research Service Award. Subsequent to her 2-year fellowship, she became an Assistant Scientist in the Mental Retardation Research Center at the University of Kansas. She has remained with the KU Research Center, where she is now a Senior Scientist. She also maintains an adjunct appointment with the Department of Human Development and Family Life. Her work has been funded by NIH since 1990. Saunders has served on the editorial boards of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*, *The Behavior Analyst*, and the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior*. She has served as an Associate Editor for the latter. She is a fellow of Division 25 of the American Psychological Association.