



Ph.D. Program in Psychology

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August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2010

To: **The Doctoral Students' Council**

From: **Bijan Kimiagar**

*Conference Co-Organizer*

*PhD Student*

*Environmental Psychology Subprogram*

***On behalf of the CUNY Psychology Pedagogy Committee***

Re: **Funding Proposal for the *Practical Pedagogy* Conference**

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The 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Psychology Pedagogy Conference will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 on the Concourse Level of the Graduate Center. This year's program, entitled, "Practical Pedagogy: Teaching Psychology at CUNY," has two main goals: (1) to provide students with the knowledge, skills, and resources needed to effectively teach undergraduate psychology courses at the various City University of New York campuses; and (2) to encourage collaboration across the eleven psychology subprograms and related disciplines (i.e., Sociology, Urban Education, and Educational Psychology) in building a comprehensive network of teachers and a pedagogy knowledge-base needed by the many doctoral students currently employed as instructors by psychology departments across CUNY.

This conference will complement the momentum created by the Psychology Student Leadership Council and cultivate cross-generational and cross-subprogram workshops and panels designed to address grounded and practical skills regarding teaching, as well as stimulate discussion about innovative pedagogical orientations.

We are appealing to the generosity and solidarity of the Doctoral Students' Council to support this new CUNY-wide initiative. Our proposal for the conference is presented on the next page. If additional information is needed, please do not hesitate to contact us. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

### **Conference Overview**

The Psychology Pedagogy Committee seeks funds to support the purchasing of conference supplies, as well as a complimentary luncheon at the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Psychology Pedagogy Conference.

Since the conference is designed to provide students with practical skills needed to teach undergraduate psychology courses, workshops and in depth discussions will be held to address students' immediate and long-term concerns about teaching. In this environment, multiple levels of teachers will be able to interact. This conference is being held early in the Fall semester in order to provide current teachers with resources, but also to prepare students who will begin teaching in the subsequent months. One particular highlight of the day's events will be the keynote address by Dr. Barney Beins, a graduate of the CUNY Psychology Department and the 2010 recipient of the prestigious *Charles L. Brewer Distinguished Teacher Award* of the American Psychological Association. As is customary to DSC funded events, we welcome all doctoral students to attend this keynote, for it will surely be relevant to students across the disciplines. We will note this on our flyer in addition to publicizing the DSC sponsorship. (Please see the mock flyer attached.) Our line-item budget is described on the next page.

**Conference Budget**

Line Item Descriptions	Amount	Funding Source/ Amount
Luncheon - 120 Attendees @ \$5 per person	\$600.00	DSC Grant/\$500 OEODP/\$100
Color Flyers - 500 copies (100lb. Paper, 8.5"x11") @ \$0.20 each	\$12.99	Psych Executive Office
Name Badges - 5 Packs (50 count) @ \$40.99 each	\$204.95	DSC Grant/\$200 Psych Executive Office/\$4.95
Reception - 100 Attendees @ \$3 per person	\$300.00	CLAGS/\$100 Multiple Psychology Sub-Programs/\$200
Mailings - 70 stamps @ \$0.44 each	\$30.80	Psych Executive Office
Posters - 50 (10pt. Card stock, 11"x17") @ \$0.20 each	\$10.00	Psych Executive Office
Table-top Easel Pads - 6 (20"x23", White) @ \$27.50 each	\$165.00	Psych Executive Office
Markers 6 Packs (Assorted Colors) @ \$6.46	\$38.94	Psych Executive Office
Keynote Speaker Honorarium and Travel Expenses - Dr. Barney Beins		APA Grant (Pending)
Conference Folders for program schedule and materials		In-Kind donation from OEODP
CUNY Tote-bags as a gift for participants		In-kind donation from OEODP
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$1362.68	
<b>TOTAL REQUESTED</b>	\$700.00	

## **Budget Justification**

Many departments in CUNY utilize doctoral students to teach undergraduate courses; however, sufficient professional development and teacher training opportunities do not yet exist. Furthermore, while some psychology departments require instructors to complete a basic course on pedagogy and teaching, many students enter the classroom as instructors without ever receiving such training. This proposal aims to partially fund a one-day conference that begins a conversation on pedagogical approaches and provides instructors with the knowledge, resources, and skills needed to teach psychology at the various CUNY campuses. Specific emphasis will be placed on accommodating for the range of CUNY students' abilities, while highlighting the benefits of the student body's diversity. The current budget accounts for basic necessities in creating a space to foster the face-to-face conversations and workshops that afford skill and knowledge building. Such an event is invaluable in strengthening graduate students' teaching skills during both their doctoral study and futures as educators.

Every effort has been made to reduce and evenly distribute the cost of the conference. We have thus far secured institutional and financial support from the Executive Office of the Psychology Doctoral Program, as well as from multiple psychology subprograms. In addition, the Psychology Executive Office is in the process of submitting a funding proposal to the American Psychological Association. Furthermore, we have partnered other Graduate Center programs including the Office of Educational Opportunity and Diversity Programs, and the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies. Each has offered \$100 towards the cost of the conference.

It is important to note that the event is being held on the Concourse level of the Graduate Center. University regulations require that Restaurant Associates provide all food and beverage services for this area, limiting our ability to reduce catering costs. While we appreciate the quality service provided by Restaurant Associates, we plan to host refreshments in the Psychology Common Area on the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor in an effort to reduce overall costs. Funds provided by the Doctoral Students' Council will not be used to purchase alcoholic beverages.

We believe the amount requested is justified by participant turnout at the All-Psychology Research Day, as well as the amount of outreach to the CUNY community that will be conducted over the next four months. Lastly, the conference is free of charge, open to the entire CUNY community and organized by a committee of doctoral students and faculty from multiple psychology subprograms. Thank you for your time and kind consideration.



Save the date

October 15, 2010

11am - 5pm

Pedagogy Conference:  
Teaching Psychology  
at CUNY

The Graduate Center  
City University of New York

Registration materials to follow

Sponsored in part by the  
Doctoral Students' Council

