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"SOLIDARITY FOREVER"

One of the primary functions of the Purdue Association of Graduate Students in Industrial Psychology is to develop a spirit of solidarity among the membership. The organization achieves this objective admirably, and through its social activities has extended the function to include the families of members. Our motto implies that maintaining this spirit among our alumni is also one of the group's goals.

The MPA party has been one of PAGESIP's main efforts to encourage this solidarity among alumni and "active" members --- we hope to see YOU there this year. The newsletter is the other major organizational activity designed to achieve this goal.

For the past 8 years, the newsletter has served as a means of keeping PAGESIP members and alumni posted on new members of the group, research projects underway, the activities of ORC staff members, social functions of note, and other pertinent news. The obvious orientation is to communicate "from the campus to the alumni".

Whether or not this approach is sufficient to preserve solidarity is debatable.

In an attempt to enhance solidarity by broadening the orientation to include "alumni to group" communication, the newsletter has presented a "Letters to PAGESIP" section for the past 3 years. More alumni participation in this section, directed to the group at large, could enable the newsletter to fulfill its role of fostering unity to a greater extent, of course.

Two problem areas have become apparent in considering the concept of alumni solidarity. One of these concerns the processes by which solidarity is developed. The activities cited above represent both within-membership and membership-alumni interactions, and the MPA party also produces within-alumni interaction for those present. The only organizational effort directed toward encouraging all alumni to communicate with each other, however, is incorporated in the "Letters to PAGESIP" section of the newsletter, which provides a means of contacting the entire group.

The other problem area concerns the type of observable behavior expected as an indication of alumni

solidarity. The current editor hypothesizes that many of the alumni may be interested in obtaining knowledge about both the "active" members and other alumni, but may not wish to become actively involved in any group projects (except the MPA party). This clinical insight might partially explain the lack of participation in the "letters" section, even though the section is considered useful and interesting.

Compiling a directory of alumni, for alumni, has been deemed a suitable solution for these two problem areas. It is hoped that such a directory will encourage interest in, and provide the necessary information for, communicating directly with individual fellow alumni. Whether a person wishes to do so or not is left entirely to the individual to decide.

Establishing a directory service appears to be a logical extension of the newsletter's function, but would be appropriate only if members of the group (1) would like to have such information and (2) are willing to be listed. A questionnaire to determine the answers to these two questions was included in the last newsletter. For convenience, the information necessary for such a directory was requested on the same questionnaire, to be used only if the answer to question (2) were "yes".

A further reason prompted sending the questionnaire at this time. Some information was desired to fill some blank spaces in the ORC record book, and this material could be collected on the same sheet.

The questionnaire also serves another important purpose. The newsletter mailing list has grown to almost 230 persons, with a concomitant increase in publication and mailing difficulties. The nature of our mailing process, however, yields no information on whether or not the newsletter reaches the person to whom

it is addressed. Since there should be no reason for failing to return the questionnaire, other than non-receipt or disinterest, the project will provide us with a criterion for revising the mailing list.

The directory will be "published" this summer, with further supplements supplied as necessary --- how often will be determined later --- and a revision when it appears to be needed. We sincerely hope that it will help give more meaning to the phrase, "Solidarity Forever".

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## ORC NEWS

by Jon Myers

DR. PERLOFF will be busy this spring, summer, and fall presenting papers and sponsoring symposiums. At the MPA convention, he is chairman of the symposium on "The Nature and Training Implications of the Systems Approach to Human Factors Research". In the fall, he will present a paper at APA on "The Role of the Consumer and Psychology in Consumer Psychology". In between, he is giving a paper in June for the Purdue University Agricultural Extension Service's Annual Homemakers Conference on "The Psychological Determinants of Food Preference".

This month DR. MCCORMICK travels to the Dougway Proving Grounds in Utah to participate in a meeting of the Army Scientific Advisory Panel.

The Bobbs-Merrill Company, book publishers and test developers, have appointed DR. PERLOFF as Psychological Consultant to their Test Development Department.

DR. KEPIART has been appointed to the Advisory Committee on Special Education in connection with the Department of Special Education.

DR. PERLOFF has written a review of the Fifth Mental Measurements Yearbook that will soon be published in Personnel Psychology.

A new book, Success Through Play, has been co-authored by DR. KEPHART and D.H. Radler and is now available from Harper & Brothers.

## Letters to PAGESIP

(Since there have been no alumni letters expressly directed to the entire group since the last issue, we have taken the liberty of presenting one received by this subgroup.)

Dear Newsletter Staff:

I am enclosing my Directory Questionnaire and would like to add my name to the ever-growing list of alumni who appreciate the fine job you are doing in keeping us posted on each other's activities and whereabouts.

My contact with Purdue has been closer than usual lately, since we were fortunate to have Dr. (now Dean) C. H. LANSHE speak to our Personnel Management Association. The subject was "Testing: One-Two-Three" and, as you may well imagine, he did an excellent job. In fact, we had more comments and requests for copies of his speech than any other speaker in the last two years.

Keep up the good work, and I shall look forward to my next newsletter.

Sincerely yours,

EDWARD R. CARR  
Assistant Director of Personnel  
Hallmark Cards Incorporated  
Kansas City 41, Missouri

## NEW STUDENTS

by Gene Mayfield

We have two new faces in our midst this semester. Welcome, scholars!

GERALD QUATMAN comes to us via the U.'s of Dayton and Louisville. Previous work in the cold, cruel world (not counting Army time where he was officer in charge of testing and interviewing the Kentucky hill boys) consists of a part-time test administration and analysis for the Guidance Center in Dayton and working on human engineering projects for the Air Force.

GEORGE GORDON reported in from way back east --- Jersey City, N. J. A true easterner, he received his BA degree in psychology from Rutgers. His pleasant sojourn with Uncle Sam was spent as a personnel officer in the Air Force. George is presently earning his living (?) here at Purdue as a teaching assistant.

## CURRENT RESEARCH

by Fenwick and Starry

DICK CLINGENPEEL is validating a selection test battery for the aviation technology program, a two-year aviation mechanics training course at Purdue.

PAUL KELLY is analyzing the Personnel Data Sheet used by the department of freshman engineering. As a first step, he is converting to measurable responses the various types of responses that now make up the data sheet. After this step is completed, the responses will be analyzed against criteria of obtained grade point index, discrepancy score between predicted and obtained grade point index, and "in" vs. "out" of engineering at the present time.

BOB MORRISON is doing a factor analysis of valid personal history items used to predict three criteria of success for petroleum researchers.

SAM MUDD is scaling 4 dimensions of pure tone as part of his research on auditory cuing.

BILL WILLIAMS is studying a number of life history antecedents of AFROTC cadets in an effort to discover the extent to which they discriminate between volunteers and non-volunteers enrolling in the advanced programs.

## PAGSIPPING

a la Sam

A number of early investigators (Bacchus, 3207; Dionysius, 973) were involved in periodic, elemental (in fact, earthy) studies concerning the relationship between attitude change and the arrival of Spring. Later a symposium published in Athens After Midnight (Plato et al, 415) in the slightly tarnished Golden Age of Greece elevated (?) the arguments to a more abstract level. The implications of those earlier studies have recently been sharply challenged. Several writers (Worth, Mary; Landers, Ann; Williams, Tenn.) discussed the need for control of the sex variable. Ellenberger ('07) pointed out the confounding effects of barley water nested within persons. The following report concerns an attempt by JERRY WEISBRODT to sort out people interactions with Spring at a relatively unstructured, unexpurgated, PAGSIP dinner-dance.

The ceremonials, replicating earlier Hellenic studies, were begun with potations prepared by DOC OWENS, mentor and friend, who, in honor of this occasion, yielded a traditional 3:1 martini position to a 4:1 mandate of the demons. The libations proceeded along quantitative lines, the first

toast being to the 2472nd anniversary of the discovery of unexpressible numbers; i.e., those numbers that are significant at .06. The ritual recitation of the transpose of the table of Chi Square was duly rendered by PETER MOON. Further toasts were drunk to PAGSIP's Olympic forebearers: R.A. Fisher, F.C. Gauss, and Walter V. Clarke. The ceremonials were concluded with a numerical example.

Dinner consisted of the traditional ambrosia: steak, baked potatoes, and the sundry handmaidens that accrue thereto. The celebrants lingered about the festive board, talking and smoking and peeling grapes. It was said that some of the younger bloods had an additional small glass of wine after the repeat. Dancing was ad libidum except for the sacrificial.

The sacrificial is the annual indoor invitational in which the council elder of PAGSIP and his chosen victim challenge all comers. Prexy JIM NAYLOR and Mame Osbourne danced a neo-Hellenic classic entitled the "Mark IV", an interpretive rhythmic which symbolized the flight of the Dali Lama across the Tien-sar suspension foot-bridge in a 40-knot gale. At the end of the number Mame cast bracelets and trinkets to the appreciative audience, symbolizing the Dali Lama's recent gesture to his people via the international gold market.

In summary, the annual PAGSIP spring ritual was enjoyed by all and was said to be among the most successful. This latter statement is substantiated by the fact that TOM LEIDY arrived in his pajamas and stayed up until 3:30.

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## NEWSLETTER STAFF

Gene Mayfield  
Charles Fenwick  
Jim Robbins, editor

Al Starry  
Jon Myers  
Sam Mudd