Welcome to the New Year – 2011. As I sit and write this message, however, I am still in 2010 and in the midst of the holiday season – the season of giving. So my thoughts in composing the President’s Message for this edition have been focusing on the spirit of giving and philanthropy – from an organizational point of view. In the Fall Newsletter I presented a modified view of NASPSPA. I opened the door to discussing a shift in our business model. We have operated on a “break-even” financial model. In today’s economy, I’m suggesting that NASPSPA move to a “for-profit” model. I outlined the logic of such a shift in the last Newsletter. In this message, I offer some thoughts about individual philanthropy within the organization.

Some of you are likely aware of the concept of micro-giving. The concept emerged 30 years ago when an economics professor, Muhammad Yunus, created a new form of banking – the microloan. These small loans were given to small start-ups, individual entrepreneurs with big ideas. It was a chancy idea and most believed the default rate...
Think warmth, sunshine, and blue clear water. Think Burlington, VT in June, the site of our upcoming conference. The conference area program chairs (Daniella Corbetta, MD, Amy Latimer, SEP, Tim Welsh, MLC) and I are working hard to put together a high-quality program. Of course, the quality of the program is largely dependent on the quality of the abstracts and symposia submitted, so we thank you very much for your submissions. In early March we will send out accept/reject e-mails and a preliminary program will be posted on the conference website. At that time we will ask participants to double check titles, names, and affiliations before the program is finalized.

In this newsletter, you will find information about our HK Lecturer and keynote speakers. The work of the three area program chairs and their respective committees started in the fall with the identifying and contacting of keynote speakers. They next decided on the format and presenters for the special symposium being held in each program area (to be highlighted in the spring newsletter). They are currently reviewing abstracts and then will plan the program. In addition to acknowledging the work of Daniella, Amy, Tim and their committees, I also wish to thank Kim Scott from Human Kinetics, who worked to make the submission and review process both smooth and timely. Finally, I would like to thank my research assistant, Nicole Westlund, who is helping with editing and handling queries. We trust that everyone found the abstract and symposia submission process relatively easy.

I would like to remind you that you must be a member of NASPSPA to present at the conference so be sure to renew your membership on the Web site. Also, remember to register early for the conference to take advantage of the early registration fees. Equally important is reserving a room at the conference hotel because NASPSPA contracts for a specific number of rooms that we must fill. There is a jazz festival in Burlington the same weekend as the conference so book your hotel room well in advance.

Finally, as every past president likes to do, I wish to thank Penny McCullagh for her coordination and organization of so many conference tasks such as travel and accommodations for keynote speakers, menus, coffee breaks, meeting rooms, and the dinner cruise (banquet), among others. She is always helpful and deserves much credit for her behind-the-scenes role.
NASPSPA Conference 2011

Conference Hotel Information

Hilton Burlington Hotel

- Overlooking Lake Champlain, “America’s Sixth Great Lake,” the Hilton Burlington is the centerpiece of Burlington’s acclaimed Waterfront Renaissance
- Stroll to the Church Street Marketplace, the Burlington Town Center and the Waterfront where exciting dining, shopping and entertainment activities abound including ECHO Lake Aquarium & Flynn Center for the Performing Arts
- Just 4 miles from the Burlington International Airport and offering complimentary airport shuttle service
- Within a one-hour drive to the world-class mountain resorts of Stowe, Smuggler’s Notch, Sugarbush & Bolton Valley
- Selected by the Arts & Entertainment Network (A&E) list for “Top 10 Cities that have it all.”

Features of the hotel:

- 258 Luxurious Guestrooms featuring:
  - Ultra-Comfortable Hilton Serenity Beds by Serta
  - High-Speed Wireless Internet Access – available for $9.95 per day.
  - Alarm Clock/Radios with MP3 Docking Station
- Cuisinart Dual-cup Single Brew Coffee Makers and Lavazza Coffee
- Spacious Work Desks with Herman Miller Chairs
- Crabtree & Evelyn Toiletries

Eating and Drinking and Working Out:

- Bar 60, Sophisticated but Relaxed
- Battery Street Grill offering savory American Cuisine for breakfast, lunch & dinner
- 24 Hour PreCorUSA® Fitness Center - FREE FOR NASPSPA GUESTS
- Indoor Heated Swimming Pool & Whirlpool
- Gift Shop - ATM Machine

For additional information regarding conference registration, hotel fees, etc. Please visit: http://www.naspspa.org/about-the-conference/about-the-conference
NASPSPA Conference 2011

Penny’s Top Ten Reasons to Stay at the Conference Hotel:

10. NASPSPA signs a contract years in advance to try to get the best deal and in doing so promises the hotel that they will occupy a specific number of sleeping rooms. We do not stay at cheaper hotels because they cannot house our meeting room needs.

9. NASPSPA uses a huge amount of meeting room space but pays little to nothing based on the fact we will occupy a certain block of sleeping rooms.

8. If we do not occupy our contracted sleeping room rates, we will pay huge penalties and rates will increase for future conferences.

7. NASPSPA looks at total price of conference (coffee breaks, poster board, AV, reception, dinner prices) and then sets the conference rates. Once again, these prices are based on sleeping room occupancy.

6. Sometimes cheaper rates appear for the hotel on various travel sites – these prices fluctuate based on occupancy rates throughout a city for example – however if you book a hotel – even the conference hotel through these sites to save a few dollars – it is difficult and sometimes impossible to get this counted in our room block and NASPSPA is at jeopardy again.

5. Hotels also require guarantees on food and beverage. They also expect that people will go to the bar and buy breakfasts and dinners while we are on site. Most Saturday night dinners cost from $40 to $60. We guarantee by Monday before conference how many will attend – no shows – we pay for empty plates.

4. Think how cozy you will be at this beautiful hotel – share with friends – get four in a room.

3. Many conferences are doubling registration rates for those who do not stay at hotel – some conferences require you to stay at the hotel if you are presenting.

2. Conference hotel is usually pretty nice (remember these nice hotels have meeting room space that other hotels cannot provide)

1. All in all it will be a lot more fun!
2011 NASPSPA Lecturer and Scholar

Human Kinetics Lecturer
Robert J. Vallerand, Université de Montréal

**Presentation:** Passion in sport and exercise: Theory and research.

After receiving his Ph.D. from the Université de Montréal, Professor Vallerand pursued postdoctoral studies in Experimental Social Psychology at the University of Waterloo. He has taught at Guelph University, has been an Invited Professor at McGill University, and is presently Full Professor of Social Psychology and Director of the Laboratoire de Recherche sur le Comportement Social in the Department of Psychology, Université du Québec à Montréal. He has written or edited 5 books and well over 200 scientific articles and book chapters. Professor Vallerand has served as President of both the Quebec Society for Research in Psychology and the Canadian Psychological Association and he is currently President Elect of the International Positive Psychology Association (IPPA). Professor Vallerand serves as Consulting Editor for several of the top international journals in the field. He has supervised to completion a number of doctoral and postdoctoral students, including 17 who are now university professors across Canada and Europe. Professor Vallerand has received numerous prizes and honors from over a dozen learned societies, including being elected a Fellow of the International Applied Association for Psychology, the American Psychological Association, the Association for Psychological Science, the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, the Canadian Psychological Association, and others. He has also received the Sport Science Award from the International Olympic Committee. Professor Vallerand is recognized as a leading international expert on motivational processes. He has developed theories dealing with intrinsic and extrinsic motivation, as well as passion. In a previous life, he played competitive basketball with a passion. He is a former collegiate basketball player and he has played several times in international competition for the Quebec Provincial team.

Early Career Distinguished Scholar
Amy Latimer

**Presentation:** Knowledge translation: A two-way street for innovation

More than ever before, knowledge translation has become an expectation of researchers by many funding agencies. Certainly, society has much to gain from translating research evidence into effective practice and policy. Often forgotten, however, are the benefits of knowledge translation for researchers themselves. Knowledge translation initiatives highlight knowledge gaps and are an impetus for pursuing new and innovative research questions.

The objectives of Dr. Latimer’s research program are: a) to develop and test strategies for increasing physical activity participation particularly among people with a physical disability and b) to disseminate these interventions using innovative health communication strategies. In her presentation, Dr. Latimer will highlight how these objectives have evolved over the course of her career as a result of the knowledge translation initiatives she has undertaken. Specifically, she will discuss how implementing an evidence-based physical activity program for adults with a physical disability has fostered a program of research examining the stigma-mitigating effects of physical activity for people with a physical disability. She also will address how the experience of developing evidence-based practical recommendations for communicating physical activity guidelines has impacted her investigation of the mechanisms underlying the effectiveness of physical activity messages.
2011 NASPSPA Keynote Speakers

Motor Development Keynote Speaker
Micheal Merzenich, University of California at San Francisco

Presentation: TBA

Dr. Michael M. Merzenich is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Otolaryngology at the University of California at San Francisco. For more than three decades, Dr. Merzenich has been a leading pioneer in brain plasticity research and with his collaborators provided vast contributions to the field of neuroscience and rehabilitation.

He earned his BSc degree in 1964 at the University of Portland and his PhD in Physiology in 1968 at Johns Hopkins. Using dense micro-electrode techniques, his team of researchers was able to map the sensory and auditory cortexes and demonstrate that these sensory maps are labile into adulthood in animals performing operant sensory tasks. He led the team that invented the cochlear implant at UCSF. He collaborated with other researchers to develop training strategies that produce improvements in the language skills of children with temporal processing impairments. He is also the co-founder and leader of research teams at Scientific Learning Corporation and Posit Science Corporation, two firms applying brain plasticity principles to design brain training software to assist adults and children with learning and movement disabilities. Posit Science, particularly, offers remedial therapies on a broad range of behaviors.

Dr. Merzenich has received numerous awards and prizes (including the International Ipsen Prize, Zülch Prize of the Max-Planck Institute, Thomas Alva Edison Patent Award, the Purkinje Medal, and Karl Spencer Lashley Award). He was honored by election into the National Academy of Sciences for his research on brain plasticity and went on to be elected to the National Academy of Engineering and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

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2011 NASPSPA Keynote Speakers

Sport and Exercise Psychology Keynote Speaker
Julian Barling, Queen’s University

Presentation: TBA

Julian Barling received his Ph.D in 1979 from the University of the Witwatersrand, in Johannesburg, South Africa, where he subsequently taught Industrial Psychology. In 1982, he joined the State University of New York at Stony Brook as a Visiting Professor of Psychology. He joined Queen’s University in 1984, initially teaching in the Department of Psychology. He moved to the School of Business in 1994, where he is Professor of Organizational Behavior and Psychology and Associate Dean of Research and MSc/PhD Programs.

Dr. Barling is the author and editor of 10 books and well over 200 research articles and book chapters. Dr. Barling was formerly the editor of the American Psychological Association’s Journal of Occupational Health Psychology and chair of the American Psychological Association’s Task Force on Workplace Violence.

Dr. Barling has received several awards for Excellence in Research and Teaching. He is a Queen’s Research Chair and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada, the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology, the European Academy of Occupational Health Psychology, and the Association for Psychological Science. In recognition of his outstanding skills as a mentor,
I was born in Tehran, Iran in 1963 to loving and wonderful parents Zahra and Mohammad-Hadi Shadmehr. They had the amazing foresight to send me to live in America when I was 14 years old. There, I was raised by another pair of loving people who were parents to me in every way but name, Lee and Evelyn Applington. I lived in Spokane, Washington until I was 21, having finished high school (Shadle Park) and undergraduate education at Gonzaga University, earning a degree in Electrical Engineering. In spring of my graduating year I married the love of my life, Tanaya, a college-mate and also an Electrical Engineer. I won an IBM fellowship and chose to go to graduate school at the University of Southern California. Tanaya and I lived in LA near the beach for six years. I went to school while she supported us by testing satellites at Hughes Aircraft. I was a student of Professor Michael Arbib, a mathematician and computational neuroscientist. I received a PhD in robotics in 1991 with research that focused on theoretical motor control. I was then awarded a McDonnell-Pew Fellowship to attend MIT, where I was a student of Professor Emilio Bizzi. I worked with Emilio and Sandro Mussa-Ivaldi on the problem of human motor control, making a number of experimental observations that led to the concept of internal models in the brain. Our first child, Alexander, was born when we were in Boston. In December of 1994, after 3 years at MIT, I was given my first and only job: a faculty position at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Soon after we moved to Baltimore our second child, Roxanna, was born. I am currently Professor of BME and Neuroscience, and the Director of the PhD Program at Hopkins. I am a neuroscientist who uses mathematics to understand how the brain controls our movements. My greatest accomplishments are my students, who are some of the most outstanding young neuroscientists in the world.
Hello NASPSPA Student members! I hope you have all had a wonderful holiday season and the new semester is treating you well. As the abstract submission deadline for the 2011 NASPSPA conference approaches, I hope you have all taken the opportunity to submit your research for presentation. In addition to submitting an abstract for presentation, you can also apply for the Outstanding Student Paper award. Up to three Outstanding Student Paper awards can be given this year, one for each NASPSPA research area (i.e., motor development, motor learning/control, sport/exercise psychology). Applications for this award, valued at $350, require submission of a short abstract, as well as a five-page abstract and advisor letter of recommendation by February 1st.

Even though we are in the middle of winter, June and the 2011 conference in Burlington, Vermont will be here before we know it! Overlooking Lake Champlain, the Hilton Burlington Hotel will be a great venue for this year’s conference. Some of the amenities include an excellent location: only 4 miles from the Burlington International Airport and walking distance to downtown areas such as the Church Street Marketplace, the Burlington Town Center, and the Waterfront. The hotel also has a 24-hour fitness center that is FREE for NASPSPA guests! It is important to note however that because the Burlington Jazz Festival is being held at the same time as our conference, hotel rooms will fill up fast! So BOOK ASAP! Remember, hotel reservations can always be changed, so do not wait until your abstract has been accepted to make your reservation.

Here are some other tidbits to remember in preparation for this year’s conference:

- Due to its success last year, we are continuing with our student round-table discussion lunch! This lunch is scheduled to take place Saturday and will again be facilitated by NASPSPA faculty members from each research area. The NASPSPA executive committee has graciously decided to help subsidize the cost of the lunch so that you only have to pay $10. This is a great deal considering not only will you get lunch, but also have the opportunity to talk with professionals and other students in your research area. Asking questions and making connections; you won’t find this at the local fast-food restaurant! You can sign up for the lunch at the online conference registration website but there is limited space so sign up ASAP! I am working hard to confirm a diverse group of faculty members and am certain that it will be worthwhile. The list of faculty members will be provided as soon as it is confirmed.

- Planning for the Friday evening student social is ongoing! We are trying to take advantage of the hotel’s central location and I have already been in contact with a number of venues. Due to feedback from last year’s conference, we are focusing on providing the opportunity for both new and returning students to make new connections within the student membership. More details for the student social will be available in the Spring Newsletter.

- Please take a moment to join the NASPSPA student Facebook group! I hope to use this platform as a way for you to get in touch with other students, whether it be to find a conference roommate (since you will be booking your hotel very soon!) or to share a ride to and from the airport.

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Helpful tips for Students Attending 2011 NASPSPA Conference

- In closing, I am calling for nominations for the NASPSPA student representative for the 2011-2012 term. The student representative is an active voting member of the NASPSPA Executive Committee and acts as a liaison between the student membership and the Executive Committee. Your responsibility as the Student Representative include attending and participating in the Executive Committee meetings (both during the conference and Fall executive committee meeting), planning the student social for the annual conference (in Hawaii), and present any student concerns to the Executive Committee. If you are interested in running for the position of student representative, please email your name and updated CV to me at dithurbi@msu.edu by February 1st, 2011. The election will take place online beginning May 1st, 2011 and will be open for 10 business days. The term begins September 15th 2011 and lasts one year.

If you have any other issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me! I wish you all a very happy and healthy new year and look forward to seeing you all in Burlington, Vermont!

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Fall Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

10.31.2010, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada–NASPSPA 2010 Fall EC Meeting

The Unofficial NASPSPA 2010 Fall Executive Committee Meeting Minutes can be accessed via the website http://www.naspspa.org/naspspa-executive-committee-minutes?DocumentScreen=detail&cl=21544&ccs=9795