

**Dr. Joseph Trimble** received his Ph.D. from the University of Oklahoma and is currently a Distinguished University Professor and Research Associate in the Center for Cross-Cultural Research at Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington. He is a Research Associate for the National Center for American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health Research at the University of Colorado Health Sciences Center. Throughout most of his career, he has focused his efforts on promoting psychological and sociocultural research with indigenous populations and drug abuse prevention research models for American Indian and Alaska Native youth.

### **Abstract**

Changes in North American ethnic and cultural demographic distributions and patterns call into question the relevance of psychology that historically has not been inclusive of ethnocultural and diverse populations. Given the population changes and the historical distortions and misrepresentations about culture and ethnicity, the infusion of ethnocultural topics in psychology's curriculum is a matter of scientific and professional responsibility.

The fundamental purpose of the presentation is to provide material for the enrichment of an introductory psychology course or even advanced course with material concerning several popular cultural examples. The presentation illustrates what can happen when presumed cultural examples are not questioned and thus are passed along as "truths" when in fact their validity is questionable. Additionally, an example is provided showing how a North American Indian tribe provided considerable tribal information to an informant that led to the development of a major personality theory; the tribe never received credit for their contributions.

Psychologists have a responsibility to provide accurate and useful information about culture and ethnicity to avoid unknowingly perpetuating harmful myths, stereotypes, and assumptions that may not have a valid basis. Consequently, it is the responsibility of the educator to seek out and challenge these assumptions and conventional modes of action and thought. Incorporating culture and ethnicity into psychology courses can serve this purpose, thus providing not only a reactive perspective but also a perspective that encourages equality and fairness of representation across populations typically not represented in classrooms today.

## **The DEPARTMENT OF COUNSELING AND EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGY**



### **Seventeenth ANNUAL MULTICULTURAL RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM**

Thursday, April 18, 2013

4:30 – 7:30 p.m.

O'Donnell Hall, Room 111 & Lobby

Sponsored by  
Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology  
and  
NMSU Counseling Center

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Administration (HRSA)  
of the  
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

1 APA CE will be offered

## Schedule of Events

### 4:30 p.m.

Opening Remarks: **Eve Adams, Ph.D.**

Training Director, Counseling and Educational Psychology

### 4:45 p.m.

Second-year Counseling Psychology doctoral students present their research.

### 5:25 p.m.

Introduction of Luis Vazquez, Ph.D.: **Dr. Eve Adams**

Introduction of Donald Pepion, Ed.D.: **Dr. Luis Vazquez**

Blessing: **Dr. Donald Pepion**

### 5:30 p.m.

Introduction of Joseph Trimble, Ph.D.: **Dr. Luis Vazquez**

### **Infusing the Psychology Curriculum with Ethnocultural Content: Truths, Half-Truths, Anecdotes, and the Role of Critical Thinking**

Keynote Speaker: **Dr. Joseph E. Trimble**

Distinguished University Professor and Research Associate in the Center for Cross-Cultural Research

*Department of Psychology, Western Washington University*

Research Associate for the National Center for American Indian and Alaska Native Mental Health Research

*University of Colorado Health Sciences Center*

### 6:30 p.m.

Catered reception in O'Donnell Hall, Lobby

Poster display of CEP students' research projects

## Doctoral Student Presentations

### **Jill K. Peters, M.S.**

Alcohol and Drug Use, Co-occurring Disorders, and Academic Distress among Latino and White Students

### **Casey N. Durham, M.A., LPC-I**

Nonsuicidal Self-injury in Latino Students: Trauma, Discrimination, and Demographic Correlates

### **John A. DeBerry, B.A.**

Exploring the Relationship between Heterosexist Attitudes and Contact with LGB Individuals

### **Brett Shumway, M.A., LMHC**

Client's Religiousness and Expected Working Alliance with Theistic Psychotherapists