



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

*By James C. Impara, Buros Institute for Consultation and Outreach and Caveon Test Security*

It's been an interesting and active year. Without going through everything that has happened, I'll summarize some major accomplishments and changes and also thank some of the people who have worked hard for our organization this year.

### New Management Team

We have had almost a full year with our new management team: The Rees Group (TRG), and our new Executive Director, Bruce Wheeler. It's been an excellent year. Bruce and the rest of the folks at TRG have been very responsive and helpful. Thanks to Bruce, Susan Rees, John Hofmann, and all the others on the team who have pitched in to make it a good year.

### Annual Meeting Proposals

Although there were a few glitches, not surprising for a new effort, the submission and review of proposals electronically went very well. We will continue to use and improve this system in the coming years. Thanks to John Hofmann of TRG, Chad Buckendahl and Leslie Lukin, Program Co-Chairs, and Lori Nebelsick-Gullet, Chair of the Professional Development Committee for their work, and the work of other committee members for this effort and for providing us with a truly outstanding conference program and set of training sessions.

### Annual Meeting Arrangements

We continue to contract with AERA to handle many of our annual meeting arrangements (like making our hotel arrangements, registration, and obtaining our meeting rooms). TRG handles such things as catering and helping to make things run smoothly once the meeting starts. This is the first year for this and, as is often the case, we have had some good outcomes and some less positive outcomes. Be patient. Thanks to Bruce Wheeler and Jane Shepard of TRG and Jim Mears and Robert Smith of AERA for their efforts to make the meeting run smoothly and efficiently.

### New Committees

This year we formed one new standing committee, reconstituted a committee and formed one temporary committee. The new standing committee is the **Finance and Budget Committee**, the reconstituted committee is the **Standards and Test Use Committee**, and the temporary committee is the **Web Site Redevelopment Committee**.

The Finance Committee has several major responsibilities including developing the annual budget, developing an investment policy, and overseeing expenditures. Prior to this year the President, Vice President, and Executive Director were responsible for these activities. Because of the move to The Rees Group from AERA, the Board agreed to consolidate these activities and created the Finance and Budget Committee. Thanks to David Frisbie (Chair), Larry Rudner, and Jerry Melican for agreeing to serve on this committee.

The Standards and Test Use Committee's major responsibility is assisting the Management Committee (a joint committee that has one member each from AERA - Suzanne Lane, APA - Wayne Camara, and NCME - Barbara Plake) in determining if the *Standards* need to be revised, keeping the NCME Board and NCME members advised on the status of the redevelopment of the *Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing*, and reviewing the draft standards as they are being developed. Doug Becker, the Chair of this committee, serves as the liaison between NCME and the Joint Committee. Doug and Board Members Judy Koenig and Duncan MacQuarrie are in the process of forming the committee.

The Web Site Redevelopment Committee, Chaired by David Miller, will be reviewing and reacting to TRG's proposed redesign of the NCME web site. As this is being written, our web site is being reconstituted. The new web site will include a Members Only page that will permit membership renewal online and other features that will bring our web site into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. As of this writing, the

committee has not been formed, but like all committees, the members will work hard to bring about these important changes for NCME.

### **Existing Committees and Editors**

NCME has a large number of standing committees, all of which have a chair and up to six members. The Newsletter doesn't have enough space for me to thank all the Chairs and members individually, but I very much appreciate all the hard work and effort put forth by all those who have contributed this past year. We have three super publications that provide information for our members. Thanks to the editors and to their editorial advisory boards for continuing in the fine tradition of excellence.

### **Board and Executive Committee**

The President is only as effective as his or her board allows. There must be a strong bond between the various officers so that effective and timely decisions can be made. I was most fortunate to have the support and great advice from the other members of the Executive Committee: Dan Eignor and Dave Frisbie, when tough decisions were needed in a timely way. The Board was also very supportive of the few new initiatives that were instituted. Thanks very much to Board Members Terry Ackerman, Jeri Benson, Linda Cook, Judy Koenig, Duncan MacQuarrie, and Hariharan Swaminathan.

Most importantly I say thanks to you, the members, who make this a great organization.

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## **NCME 2006 ANNUAL MEETING – SAN FRANCISCO**

**April 8-10, 2006**

### **Selected Program Highlights**

*Chad Buckendahl & Leslie Lukin, Program Co-chairs*

#### **Presidential Address**

James C. Impara, Buros Center for Testing/Caveon, Inc.

*Errors and Omissions: Some Illustrations from Unpublished Research*

#### **Career Award Address**

Wim J. van der Linden, University of Twente, 2005 NCME Career Award Recipient

*Response-time Modeling and Applications*

Moderator: Richard M. Luecht, University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Discussant: Ronald K. Hambleton, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

#### **Educational Continuum – Invited Symposium**

Organizer/Moderator: Ed Wiley, University of Colorado at Boulder

Robert Linn, University of Colorado at Boulder

*Large scale assessment and school improvement: Contributions of the measurement community*

Richard Shavelson, Stanford University

*Assessing learning to hold higher education accountable*

Lorrie Shepard, University of Colorado at Boulder

*Using learning progressions to link classroom assessment and large scale assessments*

Ed Wiley, University of Colorado at Boulder

*Teacher quality and credentialing: The role of the measurement community in shaping policy and practice*

Discussants: Daniel Koretz, Harvard University; Lorraine McDonnell, University of California, Santa Barbara

#### **Assessment in Higher Education - Invited Symposium**

Organizer/Moderator: Donna Sundre, James Madison University

Trudy W. Banta, Indiana University - Purdue University, Indianapolis

*Validity of institutional quality comparisons*

Peter Ewell, National Center for Higher Education Management Systems

*Policy and politics in assessment in higher education*

Richard Shavelson, Stanford University

*Assessment of student learning in college: Rhetoric and promises*

Craig Swenson, University of Phoenix

*Not deja vu all over again: Reengineering learning assessment at University of Phoenix*

Discussants: Jessica Jonson, University of Nebraska, Lincoln; Jeff Smith, University of Otago

**Strengthening the Diversity Pipeline to Educational Measurement: The Role of Testing in Access, Recruitment, Participation, and Retention – Symposium (Sponsored by the Diversity Issues and Testing Committee)**

Organizer/Moderator: Michael C. Rodriguez, University of Minnesota

Susan Cooper Loomis, NAGB

*National standardized test participation: Preparation, motivation and performance*

Catherine M. Millett, ETS

*Enhancing the success of diverse college and graduate students: Promoting access to the profession*

Elena C. Papanastasiou, Intercollege

*Psychometric testing and psychometricians outside the USA*

James Purpura, Columbia University

*The use of language assessments in selection and the impact on access*

Ernest Davenport, University of Minnesota

*The relation of achievement to number versus pattern of course taking*

Discussant: Michael C. Rodriguez, University of Minnesota

**2<sup>nd</sup> International Conference on Classroom Assessment: Classroom Assessment Practices and Issues from Six Regions – Invited Symposium**

Organizer: Susan Brookhart, Duquesne University & Brookhart Enterprises, LLC

Moderator: Rick Stiggins, Assessment Training Institute

Graham Maxwell, Queensland Studies Authority

*Australia*

Lorna Earl, OISE

*Canada*

Linda Allal, University of Geneva

*Continental Europe*

Dylan Wiliam, Educational Testing Service

*United Kingdom*

Susan Brookhart, Duquesne University & Brookhart Enterprises, LLC

*United States*

Discussants: W. James Popham, University of California, Los Angeles; Lorrie Shepard, University of Colorado at Boulder

**Improving the Validity of School Accountability Systems with Standards-Based Measures of Student Growth - Invited Symposium**

Organizer/Moderator: Scott Marion, National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment

Scott Marion, National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment

*Validity considerations when measuring growth*

Damian Betebenner, Boston College

*Using Markov chain analysis to construct transition probability matrices*

Rich Hill, National Center for the Improvement of Educational Assessment

*Incorporating values into growth-based accountability systems*

Discussant: Michael Kolen, University of Iowa

**Psychometric Research with Policy Implications for Certification & Licensure - Invited Symposium**

Organizer/Moderator: Thomas O'Neill, National Council of State Boards of Nursing

Thomas O'Neill, Weiwei Liu, Michelle Reynolds, NCSBN

*Impact of English as a second language (ESL) status on NCLEX performance*

Gene A. Kramer, Laura M. Neumann, American Dental Association

*Assessing scientific content in an integrated, clinically relevant context*

Betty Bergstrom, Kirk Becker, Jim Masters, Timothy Muckle, Promissor

*Modeling item difficulty for performance assessments that include critical steps*

Russell W. Smith, Thomson Prometric

*The implications of DIF and bias in certification testing*

Brian Bontempo, Mountain Measurement, Jerry Gorham, Pearson VUE

*A comparison of traditional and IRT based item quality criteria*

Discussants: G. Gage Kingsbury, NWEA; Barbara S. Plake, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

## **Graduate Student Poster Session (Sponsored by the Graduate Student Issues Committee)**

Organizers: William J. Bonk, University of Colorado at Boulder, Samantha Burg, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Marc Kroopnick, University of Maryland, Elaine Rodeck, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Daniel Sass, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

William J. Bonk, University of Colorado, Boulder

*Group oral second language testing: The influence of shyness/outgoingness, group makeup, prompt, and gender on individual scores*

Jeremy D. Penn, University of Nebraska, Lincoln

*Exploring the use of assessments and assessment data in school improvement: A case study of one Midwestern school*

Xiaohui Zhao, Timothy Ansley, University of Iowa

*Estimating school and district accountability using augmented tests*

Shayna A. Rusticus, Anita M. Hubley, University of British Columbia

*Measurement invariance of the multidimensional Body-Self Relations Questionnaire: Can we compare across gender and age?*

Marie-Helene Hebert, Université Laval, Eric Frenette, Université du Québec à Rimouski, Richard Bertrand, Pierre Valois, Université Laval

*Assessing DIF stability across French and English Canadian jurisdictions*

Stephanie D. Mayorga-Tipton, Gregory M. Hurtz, California State University, Sacramento

*Potential methods for minimizing false positive test results for repeated test takers*

Peng Lin, University of Maryland

*The impact of categorization on latent growth modeling using ML estimator*

Natalie L. Flindt, University of Oregon

*Exploring the relationship between reading fluency and reading comprehension across different grade levels*

Jinyan Huang, Queen's University

*Examining the score reliability of large-scale ESL students' writing: A generalizability theory approach*

Cheryl Poth, Don Klinger, Queen's University

*Student and class factors associated with reading, writing and mathematics achievement*

Shelley P. Ross, University of Victoria

*A critical examination of measurement issues in goal orientation research*

Sungwon Ngudgratoke, Michigan State University, Haniza Yon, Educational Testing Service

*Vertical linking of tests composed of testlets: A comparison between 3-PL model, graded response model, and testlet response model*

Lai Kwan Pei, Susan J. Maller, Purdue University

*Monte Carlo simulation study of differential weights on composite reliability and validity*

Sonia Shukla, OISE/University of Toronto

*Gender differences on the Mental Rotation Test: The effect of instructions on guessing behaviour*

Kevin A. Kupzyk, Jonathan Templin, University of Kansas

*Multithreaded algorithms for scalable estimation of cognitive diagnosis models*

Hua Wei, University of Maryland, College Park

*Rating agreement and rating accuracy in a large-scale writing assessment*

Jiawen Zhou, Mark J. Gierl, Centre for Research in Applied Measurement and Evaluation, University of Alberta

*Evaluating the performance of MULTISIB using different multidimensional matching criteria*

Sun-Joo Cho, Feiming Li, Deborah Bandalos, University of Georgia

*Accuracy of the parallel analysis procedure in exploratory factor analysis of polychoric correlations*

Anne M. Gadermann, Cornelia Zeisser, Bruno D. Zumbo, University of British Columbia

*Reliability estimates for likert scales: Ordinal coefficients alpha and theta*

Mingchuan Hsieh, Sheila Barron, University of Iowa

*An investigation of Bayesian sequential procedure in computerized classification tests*

Kyung Tyek Han, Stephen G. Sireci, Craig S. Wells, April Zenisky Laguilles, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

*Methods for evaluating educational gains at the program level*

Eric B. Snow, University of Colorado, Boulder

*Validating an assessment of information and communication technology literacy for higher education*

Nicole Traxel, Thomas A. Schmitt, Sonya K. Sedivy, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

*Could lack of anxiety cause ability to be underestimated in computerized adaptive testing?*

Emily C. Ledford, Jonathan Templin, University of Kansas, Robert Henson, University of North Carolina, Greensboro

*Incorporating multiple opinions of test construction experts into cognitive diagnosis model Q-matrix construction*

Sonya K. Sedivy, Bo Zhang, Nicole M. Traxel, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

*Detection of DIF with polytomous items in the presence of missing data*

Tianli Li, Michigan State University

*The effect of multidimensionality of science tests on vertical scaling*

- Jungnam Kim, University of Iowa, Dong-In Kim, CTB/McGrawHill  
*A comparison of the four calibration methods in IRT equating using common-item nonequivalent group design*
- Xin Liu, George Karabatsos, University of Illinois, Chicago  
*A Bayesian Nonparametric Approach to Testing Essential Unidimensionality*
- Jennifer L. Ivie, Jonathan Templin, University of Kansas  
*Local optima in cognitive diagnosis models*
- Cornelia Zeisser, Bruno D. Zumbo, University of British Columbia  
*Effects of outlier contamination on the factor structure in a factor analysis model using maximum likelihood and generalized least squares estimation: A simulation study*
- Marc H. Kroopnick, Roy Levy, University of Maryland, College Park  
*Comparing fully Bayesian and marginal maximum likelihood estimation of multidimensional item response models for polytomous items*
- Weihua Fan, University of Maryland, College Park  
*The impact of categorization in assessing partial invariance*
- Ying Cui, Jacqueline P. Leighton, Yinggan Zheng, University of Alberta  
*Evaluating the performance of the two classification methods for the attribute hierarchy method*
- Jonathan P. Weeks, University of Colorado, Boulder  
*Using transition matrices and IRT to measure longitudinal school achievement growth*
- Changjiang Wang, Mark Gierl, Jacqueline P. Leighton, Centre for Research in Applied Measurement and Evaluation, University of Alberta  
*Investigating the cognitive processes underlying student performance on a foreign language reading test: An application of the attribute hierarchy method*
- Yue Zhao, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
*Detecting differential item functioning in small samples*
- Dana V. Diaconu, Boston College, Lynch School of Education  
*A logistic regression model to account for the probability of reaching a high performance on TIMSS 2003 chemistry content domain*
- Chen-Miao Chen, Young-Sun Lee, Columbia University  
*Comparing BILOG-MG and WINSTEPS in item parameter recovery of Rasch model*
- Tricia K. Lehman, University of Colorado, Boulder  
*Identifying key indicators to measure systemic school reform*
- Stephen J. Jirka, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
*Exploration of local item dependence in a large-scale state test*
- Victoria Obe, Young-Sun Lee, Columbia University  
*Comparison of nonparametric DIF detection in testlet data*
- Enis Dogan, Columbia University  
*DIF as a hypothesis testing method*
- Sara E. Templin, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Jonathan L. Templin, Janet Marquis, University of Kansas  
*Statistical properties of age equivalent scores*
- Jaehwa Choi, University of Maryland, Young-Sun Lee, Columbia University  
*The intervention effect analysis on the latent trait growth*
- Minhee Seo, Louis Roussos, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign  
*An investigation of DIMTEST Type I error on short tests*
- Jenelle Braun-Monegan, University of Oregon  
*Method for setting and validating passing scores*
- Salih Binici, Kuzey Bilir, Florida State University  
*Explanatory differential item functioning via HLM and SAS NLMIXED procedure*
- Daniel A. Sass, Cindy M. Walker, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee  
*Item parameters influence on multidimensionality detection using DIMTEST*

**New NCME Vice President Named**

Anne Fitzpatrick

**New NCME Board of Directors Members Named**

Steve Sireci (At Large)  
Leslie Lukin (K-12)

## **DR. NAMBURY RAJU**

*By Anne Rose Johnson*

The measurement community has been deeply saddened by the death of Dr. Nambury Raju, Distinguished Professor of Industrial Organizational Psychology at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) Institute of Psychology.

Dr. Raju graduated with a Ph.D. from IIT in 1974 and then worked for Science Research Associates (SRA) from 1961–78. Nam joined the IIT psychology faculty in 1978 as an Assistant Professor and was promoted to Associate Professor and Full Professor on the basis of his superlative work in the area of psychometric theory and test development. In 1993 he went to Georgia Tech as Full Professor of Psychology. In 1996, he returned to IIT, where he was named Distinguished Professor and Senior Scientific Advisor of the Center for Research and Service.

Dr. Raju's work contributed substantially to the development of methods to evaluate and reduce bias in tests used in employment and educational settings. He was a prolific writer and highly involved in the profession: the author of over 150 publications and presentations, member of more than 8 professional organizations, and editor or reviewer for more than 24 professional journals. He served on the Department of Defense Advisory Committee on Military Personnel Testing from 1989–92, and on the National Academy of Sciences Committee charged with evaluating the National Assessment of Educational Progress from 1996 to 1998.

The excellence of Dr. Raju's work was recognized by the American Psychological Association Division of Evaluation and Measurement and the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychologists, where he was honored as Fellow. He received the Outstanding Achievement Award from the IIT I/O graduate students and the Lewis College Excellence in Teaching award.

Dr. Raju supervised over 35 doctoral dissertations and 20 masters theses and was held in the highest personal and professional regard by all for his warm heart, strong intellect, and unflagging integrity.

During a memorial service at the Institute of Psychology, faculty and students shared memories of Dr. Raju's walk to the vending machine for his coveted cup of coffee, and of his jar of found pennies – each one a blessing, Nam was fond of saying, and collected to remind him of how many blessings life brought to him. His current students and those who are now successful professionals and academics in their own right, cited the innumerable times he opened his home and his heart to them. Scores of them named him as both mentor and inspiration. "He made us believe in ourselves, and showed us that we could do more than we ever thought possible," was heard time and again.

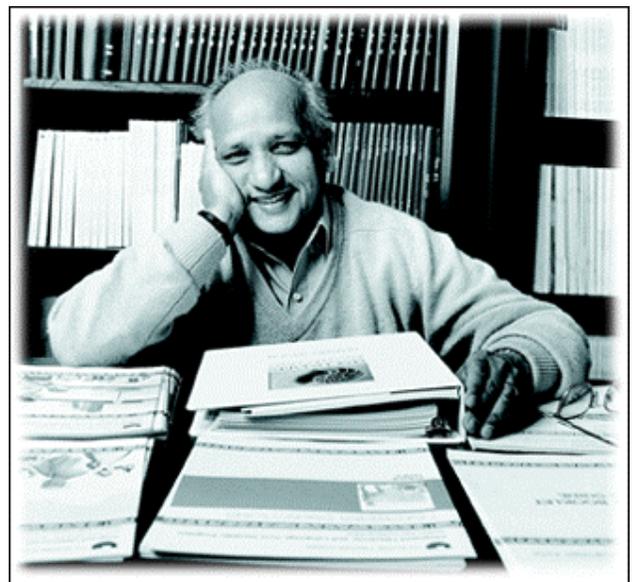
More than 200 people attended the funeral service for Dr. Raju, including Psychology alumni from around the country. A group of 90 people congregated the following week for a memorial service on campus.

"Dr. Raju was a truly integrated person," remarks Dr. Michael Young, Professor Clinical Psychology. He was a very centered person, very much the same person in different contexts. That says a great deal about his integrity as a human being."

In addition to his wife, Marijke, Dr. Raju is survived by two daughters, Indira Hanley and Saroja, his son-in-law Kevin, two grandchildren, a brother, Rama, and sister, Sita.

As a testament to Dr. Raju's integral role in the development of the Industrial Organizational Psychology program at IIT, the I/O Faculty Endowment will be renamed in his memory. It was intended that Dr. Raju would hold the first appointment to the I/O endowed chair. "It is a fitting tribute that this endowment will now bear Nam's name into perpetuity and reflect his commitment to excellence in the field of psychometrics," says Dr. Bruce Fisher, Director of the Center for Research and Service.

The Raju family has asked that memorial gifts for Dr. Raju be directed to the I/O Faculty Endowment, IIT Institute of Psychology, 252LS, 3101 S. Dearborn, Chicago, IL 60616.



Nambury S. Raju, Ph.D.  
Distinguished Professor of I/O Psychology  
1937-2005

## DR. MARY LOUISE TENOPYR

Dr. Mary Louise (Welsh) Tenopyr passed away on Nov. 30, 2005. She was 76. Mary Louise received her bachelor's and master's degrees from Ohio University and her PhD from the University of Southern California in 1966. She worked for the U.S. Government, North American Aviation and then AT&T for 26 years, retiring in 1998.

During her career she was a psychometrist at Ohio University and a personnel technician for the USAF in New York and Ohio. In California, she was an analyst for North American Rockwell Corporation; an associate professor at California State College in Los Angeles; an associate research educator at UCLA; and a lecturer at USC. In Washington, she was an adviser on testing for the Office of Federal Contract Compliance, U.S. Department of Labor.

She was a member of several editorial boards, including the Journal of Applied Psychology, Journal of Vocational Behavior and Journal of Personal and Social Psychology. She also authored numerous book chapters and journal articles.

Mary Louise's distinguished career included board memberships and she held offices in many professional organizations among which were the Army Science Board, New Jersey Psychology Foundation, American Board Assessment Psychology and the New Jersey Psychology Association. She was often recognized for her dedication and service and she was the recipient of many distinguished awards and commendations.

Contributions in her honor and memory may be made to American Cancer Society, Somerset Unit, 600 First Ave., Raritan, NJ 08869, or to cancer research or other medical organizations of your choice.

*Note: Adapted from the Courier News website (www.c-n.com)*

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## SAN FRANCISCO RESTAURANT GUIDE

*By Stanley Rabinowitz, Max McConkey, and Mark Kerr*

In the 1980s, San Francisco restaurants began a movement committed to fresh, locally grown, and organic (where possible) ingredients, preferably those produced by small heritage family farms. This ecologically friendly philosophy is still prevalent; frequently, the name of a specific farm or ranch is credited on Bay Area menus. In our recommended list, we've favored restaurants that follow the simple, sustainable dictum of ingredients-based, wholesome food with a local provenance.

As a food-lovers paradise, San Francisco is home to over 3,000 restaurants, and nearly all of the good ones require reservations. We suggest planning about four weeks ahead to ensure tables at the restaurants of your choice. Please view the *San Francisco Restaurant Guide* document for local restaurants (co-posted on the NCME webpage and listserv). You can read further descriptions and make reservations for most of our listed restaurants at a centralized, convenient website, [www.OpenTable.com](http://www.OpenTable.com).

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