



Claude **Steele** [1997], Brewster **Smith** [1986], Eleanor **Maccoby** [1975], Elliot **Aronson** [1990], Christina **Maslach** [1988], Philip **Zimbardo** [1983], Dorothy **Eichorn** [1988], Gordon **Bower** [1991], Nancy **Eisenberg** [1996], Richard **Thompson** [1995], Albert **Bandura** [1981], and Robert **Solso** [1998] (stolen from <https://www.uky.edu/~eushe2/Bandura/BanWPA.html>)  
N.B.: Identification convention – boldface surname with bracketed presidential year or years

# WPA Presidents from Antiquity to the Present Day:

Biographical, Historical, and Historiometric Moments

So let's start with the main title and then go to the subtitle!

## PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE WESTERN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION

| 1920s                       | 1930s                     | 1940s                     | 1950s                       | 1960s                      | 1970s                      | 1980s                         | 1990s                      | 2000s                      | 2010s                       |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
|                             | John E. <b>Coover</b>     | Howard R. <b>Taylor</b>   | Floyd L. <b>Ruch</b>        | Donald B. <b>Lindsley</b>  | Harold H. <b>Kelley</b>    | Norma D. <b>Feshbach</b>      | Elliot <b>Aronson</b>      | Diane F. <b>Halpern</b>    | Stanley <b>Sue</b>          |
| Lewis M. <b>Terman</b>      | Stevenson <b>Smith</b>    | Mary Brooks <b>Eyre</b>   | Maud A. <b>Merrill</b>      | David <b>Krech</b>         | Howard H. <b>Kendler</b>   | Albert <b>Bandura</b>         | Gordon <b>Bower</b>        | Philip G. <b>Zimbardo</b>  | Jeffery S. <b>Mio</b>       |
| Lewis M. <b>Terman</b>      | Calvin P. <b>Stone</b>    | Ernst R. <b>Hilgard</b>   | Robert <b>Leeper</b>        | F. Theodore <b>Perkins</b> | R. Nevitt <b>Sanford</b>   | Patricia <b>Keith-Spiegel</b> | John <b>Garcia</b>         | Leona S. <b>Aiken</b>      | Delia S. <b>Saenz</b>       |
| Edward C. <b>Tolman</b>     | Edward K. <b>Strong</b>   | Jean W. <b>Mcfarlane</b>  | Ruth S. <b>Tolman</b>       | John P. <b>Seward</b>      | Fred <b>Attneave</b>       | Philip G. <b>Zimbardo</b>     | James L. <b>McGaugh</b>    | Dale E. <b>Berger</b>      | Robert V. <b>Levine</b>     |
| Edmund S. <b>Conklin</b>    | Edwin R. <b>Guthrie</b>   | Jean W. <b>Mcfarlane</b>  | Nancy <b>Bayley</b>         | D. W. <b>MacKinnon</b>     | Paul H. <b>Mussen</b>      | Elizabeth <b>Loftus</b>       | Shelly E. <b>Taylor</b>    | Cheryl L. <b>Spinweber</b> | Victoria M. <b>Follette</b> |
| Arthur H. <b>Sutherland</b> | Harold E. <b>Jones</b>    | Jean W. <b>Mcfarlane</b>  | Neil D. <b>Warren</b>       | Robert R. <b>Sears</b>     | Eleanor <b>Maccoby</b>     | Marilyn B. <b>Brewer</b>      | Richard F. <b>Thompson</b> | Elizabeth <b>Loftus</b>    | Jodie B. <b>Ullman</b>      |
| Walter A. <b>Miles</b>      | Grace M. <b>Fernald</b>   | Jean W. <b>Mcfarlane</b>  | Allen L. <b>Edwards</b>     | Hugh M. <b>Bell</b>        | Richard C. <b>Atkinson</b> | M. Brewster <b>Smith</b>      | Nancy <b>Eisenberg</b>     | Gordon <b>Bower</b>        | Howard S. <b>Friedman</b>   |
| Kate <b>Gordon</b>          | Milton <b>Metfessel</b>   | Joy P. <b>Guilford</b>    | Joseph A. <b>Gengerelli</b> | Eliot H. <b>Rodnick</b>    | Seymour <b>Feshbach</b>    | Joseph D. <b>Matarazzo</b>    | Claude <b>Steele</b>       | Robert <b>Pelligrini</b>   | Joan S. <b>Tucker</b>       |
| Shepard L. <b>Franz</b>     | Paul R. <b>Farnsworth</b> | Robert C. <b>Tryon</b>    | Leona E. <b>Tyler</b>       | Leo <b>Postman</b>         | Tracy S. <b>Kendler</b>    | Dorothy <b>Eichorn</b>        | Robert L. <b>Solso</b>     | Peter <b>Bentler</b>       | Terry A. <b>Cronan</b>      |
| Warner <b>Brown</b>         | Knight <b>Dunlap</b>      | Ralph L. <b>Grundlach</b> | Quinn <b>McNemar</b>        | Frank <b>Beach</b>         | Irwin G. <b>Sarason</b>    | Christina <b>Maslach*</b>     | Robert A. <b>Bjork</b>     | Ronald E. <b>Riggio</b>    | Laura <b>Freberg</b>        |

\*also current 2020 President

# WPA Presidents who have also served as APA Presidents

|                             |           |      |
|-----------------------------|-----------|------|
| • Lewis M. <b>Terman</b>    | 1921-22   | 1923 |
| • Edward C. <b>Tolman</b>   | 1923      | 1937 |
| • Walter R. <b>Miles</b>    | 1926      | 1932 |
| • Shepard I. <b>Franz</b>   | 1928      | 1920 |
| • Edwin R. <b>Guthrie</b>   | 1934      | 1945 |
| • Knight <b>Dunlap</b>      | 1939      | 1922 |
| • Ernest R. <b>Hilgard</b>  | 1942      | 1949 |
| • Joy P. <b>Guilford</b>    | 1947      | 1950 |
| • Leona E. <b>Tyler</b>     | 1958      | 1973 |
| • Quinn <b>McNemar</b>      | 1959      | 1964 |
| • Robert R. <b>Sears</b>    | 1965      | 1951 |
| • Albert <b>Bandura</b>     | 1981      | 1974 |
| • Philip G. <b>Zimbardo</b> | 1983/2001 | 2002 |
| • M. Brewster <b>Smith</b>  | 1986      | 1978 |
| • Joseph <b>Matarazzo</b>   | 1987      | 1989 |
| • Diane F. <b>Halpern</b>   | 2000      | 2004 |

Most often, WPA is the stepping stone to APA, but sometimes not, like Robert R. **Sears** [1965], who started his career in the East and Midwest before returning West



# WPA Presidents who have also served as APS Presidents

|                              |           |           |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| • James L. <b>McGaugh</b>    | 1993      | 1989-1991 |
| • Gordon <b>Bower</b>        | 1991/2006 | 1991-1993 |
| • Marilyn B. <b>Brewer</b>   | 1985      | 1993-1995 |
| • Richard F. <b>Thompson</b> | 1995      | 1995-1996 |
| • Elizabeth <b>Loftus</b>    | 1984/2005 | 1998-1999 |
| • Robert A. <b>Bjork</b>     | 1999      | 2000-2001 |
| • Nancy <b>Eisenberg</b>     | 1996      | 2014-2015 |

Since the advent of APS in 1988, WPA Presidents are more likely to become Presidents of APS than APA

# What am I supposed to do with these folks?

- The subtitle says
  - Biographical, historical, and historiometric moments
  - We all know what the first two adjectives signify
  - So what does “historiometric” mean?
- Historiometric research applies quantitative methods to biographical and historical data in order to test scientific hypotheses using multiple-case samples of eminent persons, creative products, or significant events
- Although the term was not formally defined until the early 20th century, it’s the oldest scientific method in the behavioral sciences!
- Hence, a brief historiometry's history that somehow takes us through the very first President of WPA, Lewis M. **Terman** [1921, 1922] – twice!

# Great moments in historiometry's history

- Quetelet (1835): first historiometric study; introduces the normal distribution of individual differences (alas, including the BMI)
- Galton (1869): first historiometric monograph; “natural ability” (aka intelligence) normally distributed; genius at upper tail
- Cattell (1904): historiometric measure of individual differences in achieved eminence for 1000 historic figures using reference works
- **Terman** (1916) puts out first edition of Stanford-Binet, and hence ...
- **Terman** (1917) publishes “The intelligence quotient of Francis Galton in childhood” based on Pearson’s (1914) biography and using the same  $IQ = 100 \times MA/CA$  definition of the Stanford-Binet (IQ  $\approx$  200!)

# Great moments in historiometry's history

- In 1921, the same year that **Terman** became WPA President, he began collecting participants for his five-volume *Genetic Studies of Genius* (1925-1959), where “genius” defined as IQ 140 (top 1%); two tidbits
  - Robert R. **Sears** [1965], a “Termite,” became an investigator in this classic longitudinal study after Terman’s death in 1956 (e.g., Holahan & **Sears**, 1995)
  - Howard S. **Friedman** [2016] (not a “Termite”) continued the longitudinal study long after **Sears** died (e.g., Duggan & **Friedman**, 2014; **Friedman**, 2011)
- Catharine Cox, **Terman**’s 30-year old 2nd-year graduate student, switches from collecting Termites to extending **Terman**’s (1917) methodology to Cattell’s (1903) eminent sample to determine the relation between estimated IQ and achieved eminence, resulting in ...

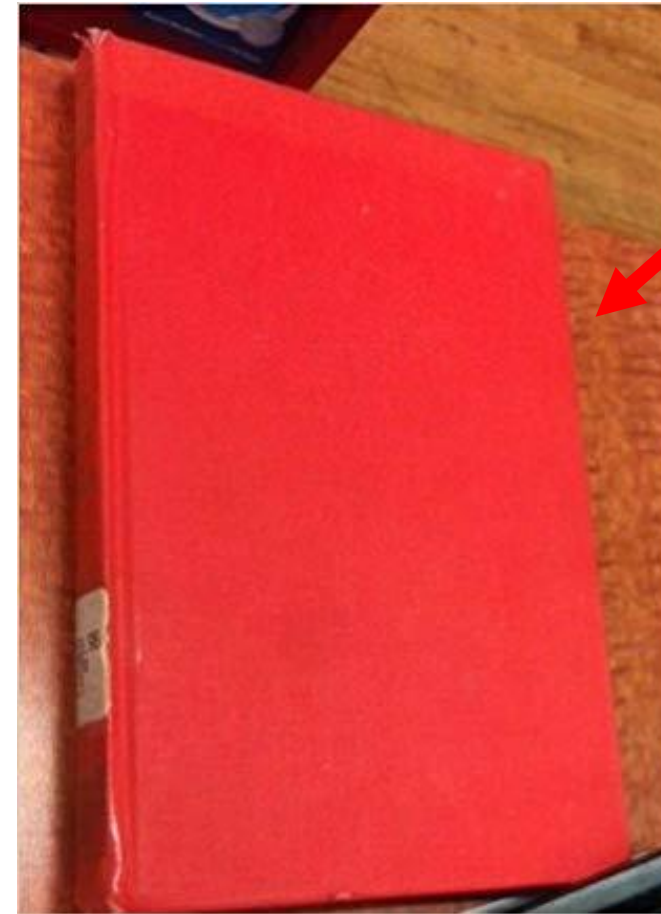
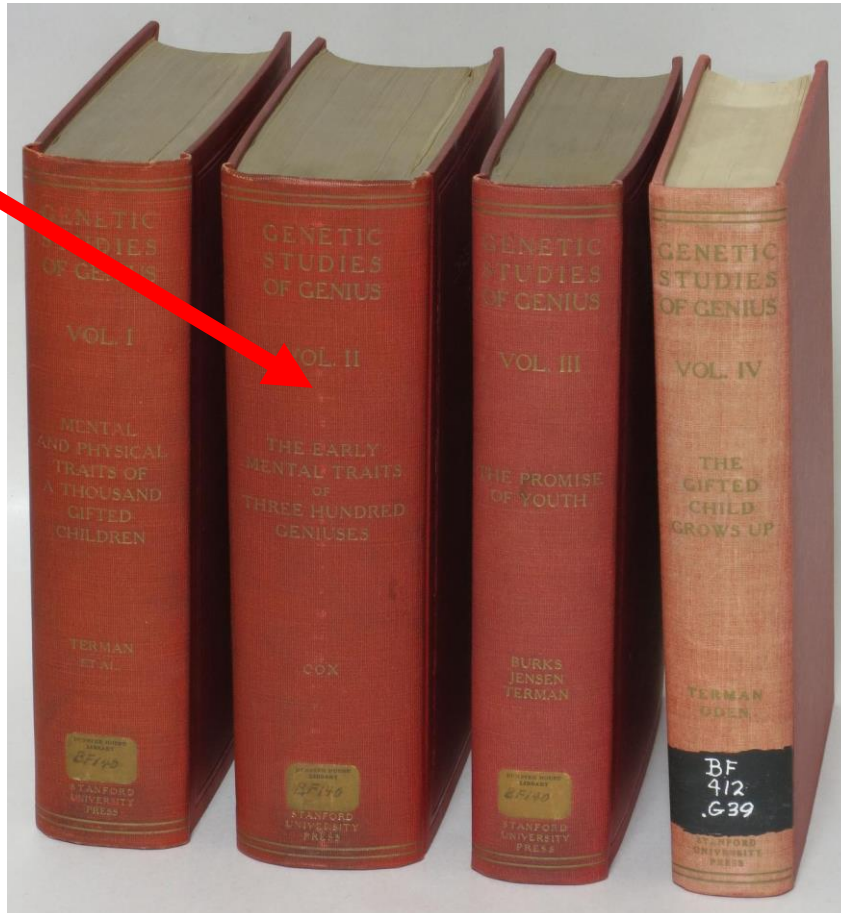


# Great moments in historiometry's history

- *The Early Mental Traits of Three Hundred Geniuses* (sic;  $N = 301$ )
  - The greatest single historiometric study ever published, before or since!
  - Substantial improvements over **Terman** (1917), especially use of multiple raters with experience administering the Stanford-Binet, among them Cox herself, her mentor **Terman**, and Maud **Merrill** [1951], who collaborated with **Terman** in the Stanford-Binet 2nd edition and after his death released 3rd edition (N.B.: Merrill kept her name after 1933 marriage to “Judge” James)
  - Advanced historiometric methods for estimating personality traits (67 traits for subset  $n = 100$  using 2 independent raters)
  - Dissertation signed off in 1925, and at once included as Volume II in *Genetic Studies of Genius*, the *only* volume not involving the Termites or naming **Terman** as either author or coauthor (viz. Cox, 1926)
  - Also the thickest volume in the entire set – 842 pages!

# Terman's *Genetic Studies of Genius*

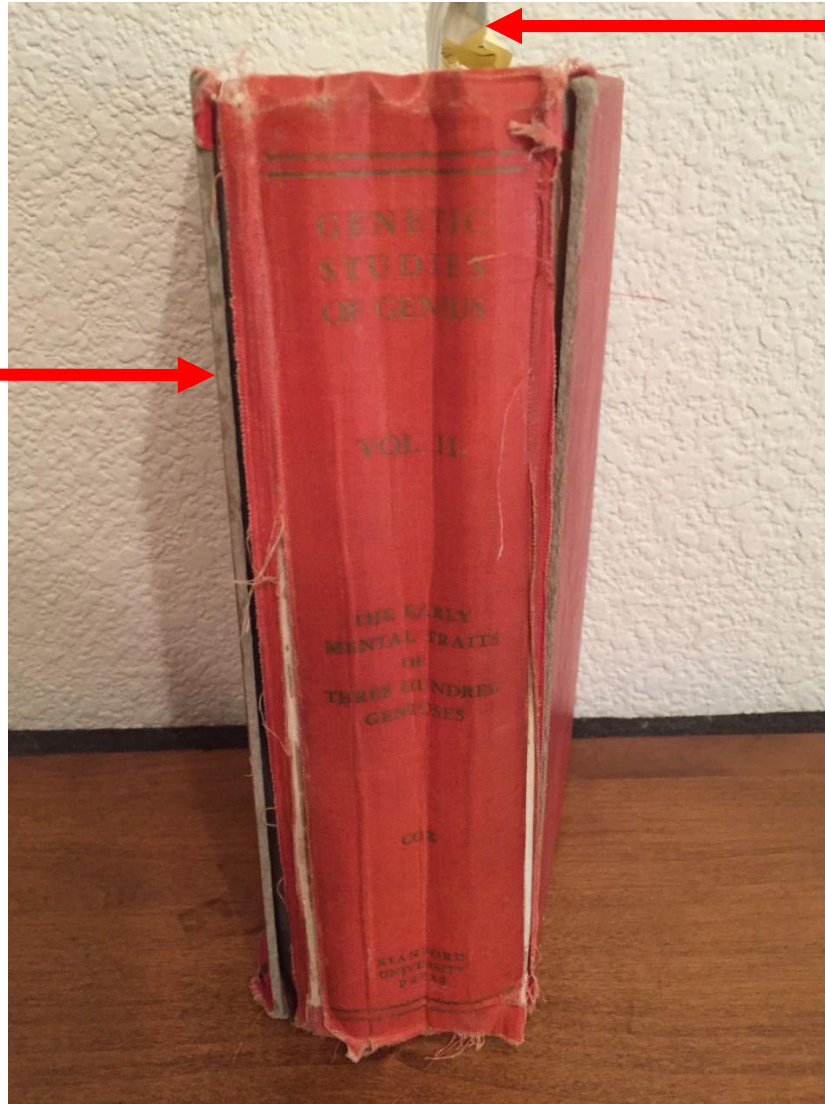
Her  
Magnum  
Opus!



N.B.: Terman's  
posthumous  
volume got less  
prestigious  
treatment at SUP

# What my well-used personal copy looks like!

Binding totally falling apart



Numerous frayed bookmarks

Yet I bought it new from Stanford University Press! (viz. the 1969 4<sup>th</sup> printing)

# Great moments in historiometry's history

- Cox somewhat distracted from doing more historiometric research
  - In 1927 married one of **Terman's** colleagues, Walter A. **Miles** [1925], at once becoming the mother to his three teenaged children, plus adding two of their own (but one dying at birth); henceforth known as Catharine Cox Miles
  - Pursued a rather contentious “collaboration” with **Terman** regarding gender differences (e.g., the **Terman-Miles Masculinity-Femininity Test**)
  - Joined her husband for two Yale appointments, she as clinical professor (where she met **Sears**, who wrote her excellent 1986 *AJP* obituary just a few years before his own death, she dying in 1984 and he in 1989)
- Even so, she continued studying her 301 geniuses on the side, publishing one preliminary report:
  - Miles and Wolfe (1936): “Childhood physical and mental health records of historical geniuses” (*Psychological Monographs*)

# Great moments in historiometry's history

- Yet the “Walter R. and Catharine Cox Miles papers” were deposited at the Center for the History of Psychology at the University of Akron
- There Anna V. Song, then my graduate student (now UC Merced Associate Professor), made visits to discover if Cox-Miles had any unanalyzed data hidden in the dusty files, eventually leading to:
  - Simonton and Song (2009): “Eminence, IQ, physical and mental health, and achievement domain: Cox’s 282 geniuses revisited” (*Psychological Science*)
  - This historiometric study was based 100% on the Cox-Miles data, both published and unpublished!
  - Sadly, though, Anna and I never found what we were really searching for, namely, the subset of 100 geniuses assessed on 67 personality traits!

So why not make more history by conducting a historiometric study of past WPA Presidents?

- The hypothesis? Whether estimated IQ correlates with eminence!
- After all, yours truly already has plenty of experience estimating the intelligence of (US) presidents (just google “Simonton president IQs”)
- and the potential sample size is even larger!
- Unfortunately, my invitation to give this talk came on too short notice for me to complete such an ambitious investigation
- Besides, I’m semi-retired, which means I have the luxury to set my own professional and personal priorities
- Better still, past WPA Presidents have already been historiometric subjects – used or abused by me and other researchers ...

# Historiometric studies using WPA presidents as research subjects (*not* “participants”)

- Simonton (1985): “Quality, quantity, and age: The careers of 10 distinguished psychologists” (*International Journal of Aging and Human Development*)
  - $n/N = 3/10$  (30%): Edward C. **Tolman** [1923], Joy P. **Guilford** [1947], and Albert **Bandura** [1981]
- Simonton (1992): “Leaders of American psychology, 1879-1967: Career development, creative output, and professional achievement” (“Centennial Feature” in *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*)
  - $n/N = 6/69$  (9%): Lewis M. **Terman** [1921, 1922], Edward C. **Tolman** [1923], Calvin P. **Stone** [1932], Edward K. **Strong** [1933], Edwin **Guthrie** [1934], and Knight **Dunlap** [1939]

# Historiometric studies using WPA presidents as research subjects (*not* “participants”)

- Simonton (2000): “Methodological and theoretical orientation and the long-term disciplinary impact of 54 eminent psychologists” (*Review of General Psychology*)
  - $n/N = 2/54$  (4%): Lewis M. **Terman** [1921, 1922] and Edward C. **Tolman** [1923]
  - But sample included Helmholtz, Galton, Pavlov, Freud, Piaget, Horney, Hebb, etc.
- Simonton (2008): “Gender differences in birth order and family size among 186 eminent psychologists” (*Journal of Psychology of Science and Technology*)
  - $n/N = 15/186$  (8%): Lewis M. **Terman** [1921, 1922], Edward C. **Tolman** [1923], Walter A. **Miles** [1926], Edwin **Guthrie** [1934], Ernst R. **Hilgard** [1942], Joy P. **Guilford** [1947], Nancy **Bayley** [1954], Leona **Tyler** [1958], Quinn **McNemar** [1959], David **Krech** [1961], Robert R. **Sears** [1965], Eleanor **Maccoby** [1975], Patricia **Keith-Spiegel** [1982], Dorothy **Eichorn** [1988], and Diane **Halpern** [2000]



# Historiometric studies using WPA presidents as research subjects (*not* “participants”)

- Simonton, D. K. (2017). Eminent female psychologists in family context: Historical trends for 80 women born 1847-1950. *Journal of Genius and Eminence*, 1, 15-25.
- Simonton, D. K. (2018). Achieved eminence in 80 female psychologists: Family, marriage, children, education, career, and contributions. *Journal of Genius and Eminence*, 3, 1-12.
  - $n/N = 6/80$  (8%): Nancy **Bayley** [1954], Leona **Tyler** [1958], Eleanor **Maccoby** [1975], Patricia **Keith-Spiegel** [1982], Dorothy **Eichorn** [1988], and Diane **Halpern** [2000]
- Nor am I the only historiometrician using WPA Presidents ...

# Historiometric studies using WPA presidents as research subjects (*not* “participants”)

- Boring and Boring (Mollie & E. G.; 1948): “Masters and pupils among the American psychologists” (*American Journal of Psychology*)
  - $n/N = 9/118$  (8%): Lewis M. **Terman** [1921-22], Edward C. **Tolman** [1923], Walter R. **Miles** [1926], Calvin P. **Stone** [1932], Edward K. **Strong** [1933], Harold E. **Jones** [1935], Knight **Dunlap** [1939], Ernest R. **Hilgard** [1942], Joy P. **Guilford** [1947], and Robert C. **Tryon** [1948]
- Suedfeld (1985): “APA presidential addresses: The relation of integrative complexity to historical, professional, and personal factors” (*Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*)
  - $n/N = 13/85$  (15%): Lewis M. **Terman** [1921-22], Edward C. **Tolman** [1923], Walter R. **Miles** [1926], Shepard I. **Franz** [1928], Edwin R. **Guthrie** [1934], Knight **Dunlap** [1939], Ernest R. **Hilgard** [1942], Joy P. **Guilford** [1947], Leona E. **Tyler** [1958], Quinn **McNemar** [1959], Robert R. **Sears** [1965], Albert **Bandura** [1981], and M. Brewster **Smith** [1986]

# Historiometric studies using WPA presidents as research subjects (*not* “participants”)

- Terry (1989): “Birth order and prominence in the history of psychology” (*Psychological Record*)
  - $n/N = 9/74$  (12%): Lewis M. **Terman** [1921, 1922], Edward C. **Tolman** [1923], Walter A. **Miles** [1926], Edwin **Guthrie** [1934], Ernst R. **Hilgard** [1942], Joy P. **Guilford** [1947], Quinn **McNemar** [1959], David **Krech** [1961], and Robert R. **Sears** [1965]
- Even better, some former WPA Presidents have themselves conducted historiometric research, as in the following two examples

# Historiometric studies by WPA Presidents

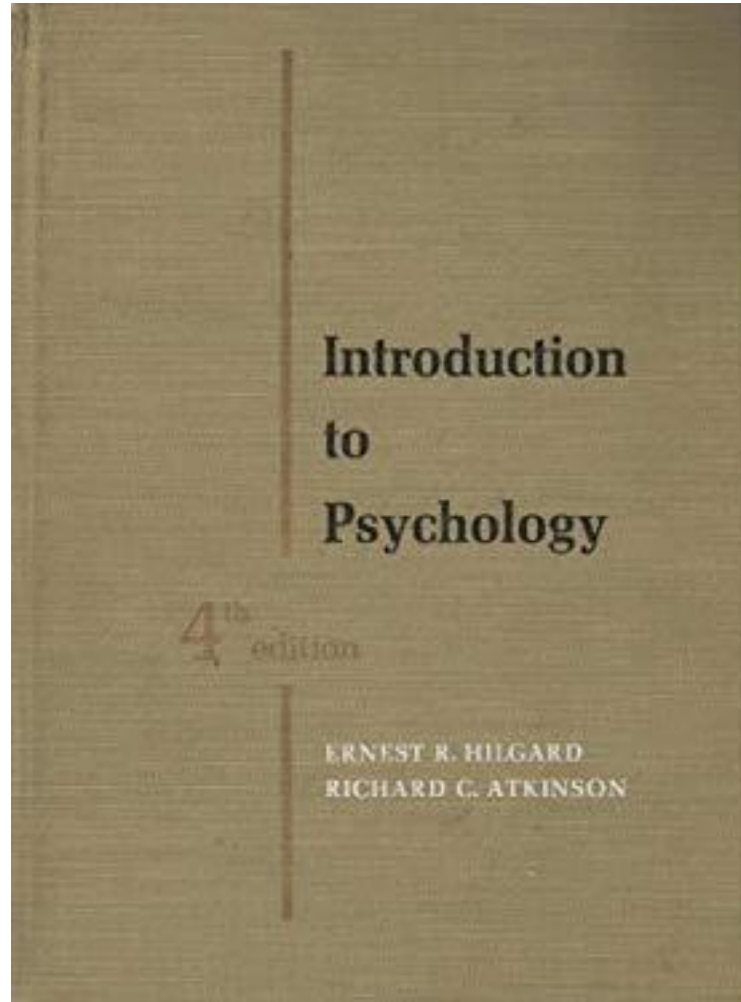
- Paul R. **Farnsworth** [1938] (also first President of APA's Division 10 in 1945):
  - His 1969 *The Social Psychology of Music* (2nd ed.) compared the amount of space that 92 classical composers received in three types of reference works (music histories, music encyclopedias, and general encyclopedias) across six decades (viz. the 1900s, 1920s, 1930s, 1940s, 1950s, and 1960s)
  - The three correlation matrices reveal that eminence exhibits considerable transhistorical stability across 70 years
  - But is that stability due to *autoregression* (each decade's evaluation revises the previous evaluation in a quasi-simplex model) or a single stable *latent factor* called "Galton's *G*" that impinges equally on all decades (modelled after "Spearman's *g*")?
  - Answer is the latter: Simonton (1991): "Latent-variable models of posthumous reputation: A quest for Galton's *G*" (*Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*)
    - Parameter estimates via the 1989 EQS program just created by Peter **Bentler** [2008]!

# Historiometric studies by WPA Presidents

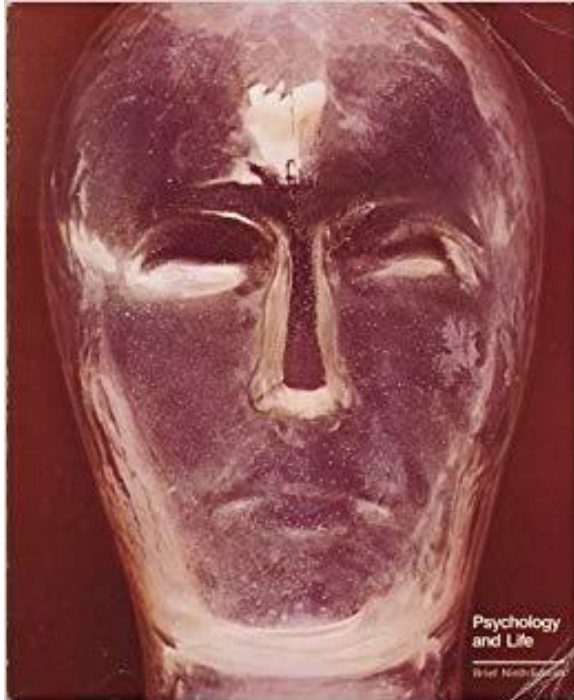
- White (1931): “The versatility of genius” (*Journal of Social Psychology*)
  - Using the raw data in typescript now still available at the Terman Archives at Stanford, estimated versatility for 300 [sic] geniuses in Cox (1926)
    - Gratitude expressed to Dr. Catherine [sic] Cox Miles and Dr. Calvin P. **Stone** [1932]
  - Yet strikingly, a footnote at the bottom of the first page says “The study was initiated by Dr. Lewis M. Terman, and carried out under his direction” who also had recommended its publication to Carl Murchison of the *JSP* editorial board
    - White was then a mere 24 year-old 2nd-year Stanford graduate student who revealed little enthusiasm for historiometric methods, and eventually did his thesis on a totally unrelated subject: “A factor analysis of tests designed to measure fluency, atypicality, and intellectual curiosity” signed off in 1937 by **Terman**, Quinn **McNemar** [1959], and Ernest R. **Hilgard** [1942]
    - White then went to Iowa to work with Kurt Levin on the classic Lewin, Lippitt, and White (1939) experiment, becoming a pioneer in peace research and commemorated in APA Division 48’s Ralph K. White Lifetime Achievement Award (M. Brewster **Smith** [1986] was the 1999 recipient)
    - Hence, according to current APA authorship guidelines, I would add **Terman** as a coauthor!

# Concluding biographical moments

- Putting historiometric research aside, I would like to express my gratitude to various past WPA Presidents for their impact on my professional development as a psychologist
- I'm sure many members of my audience could express indebtedness echoing my own



Thanks to  
Ernst R. **Hilgard** [1942] and  
Richard C. **Atkinson** [1976]  
for writing the great intro  
text assigned in the psch 1 I  
took as an undergraduate: It  
inspired me to change majors  
from chemistry to psychology



Thanks to Philip G. **Zimbardo** [1983, 2001] and Floyd L. **Ruch** [1950] for writing the intro text that I used when I started teaching my own psch 1 course



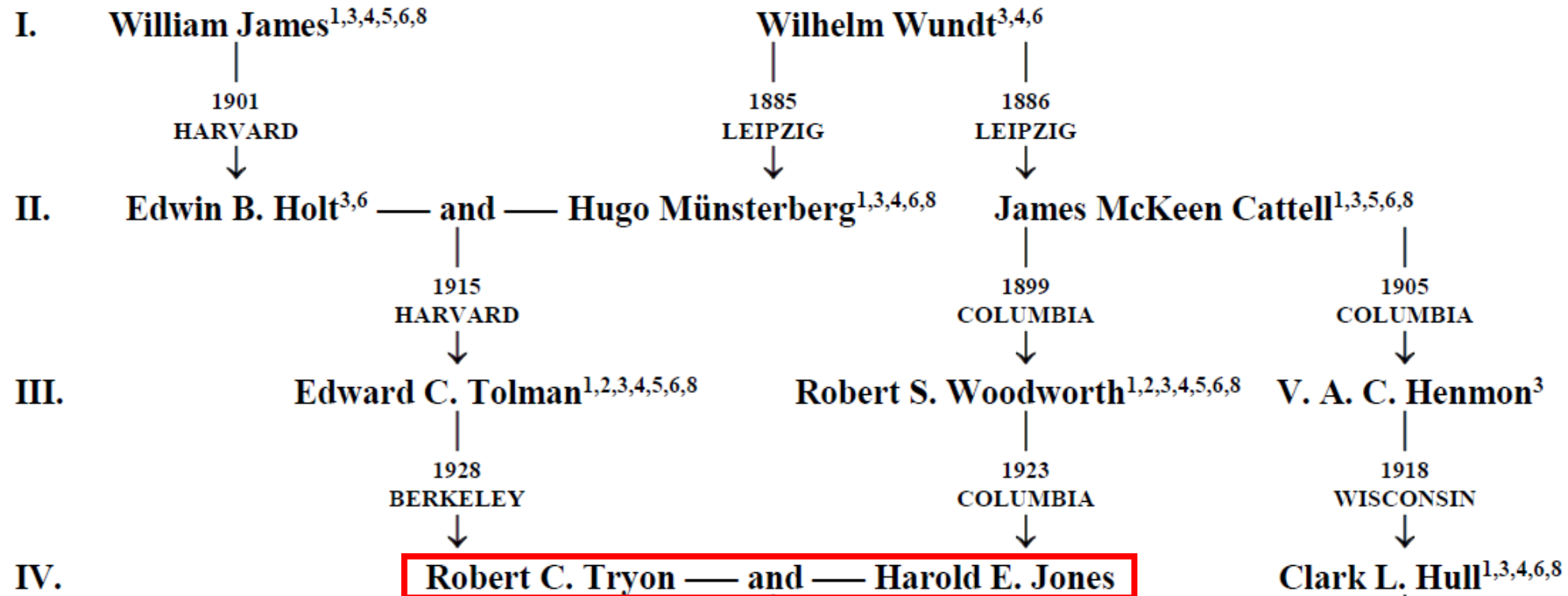
Thanks to UCD's Stanley **Sue** [2010] for inviting me to speak at the WPA held in Cancun!



Even if my personal enjoyment may have surpassed my professional development

Lastly, thanks to  
Robert C. Tryon [1948] and Harold E. Jones [1935]

*A Genealogy of Direct Doctoral Descent*



# The great grandchildren of James and Wundt who were my doctoral great grandparents!

IV.

**Robert C. Tryon — and — Harold E. Jones**

**Clark L. Hull<sup>1,3,4,6,8</sup>**

1947  
BERKELEY

1936  
YALE

V.

**Donald T. Campbell<sup>1,2,5,8,9</sup>**

**Carl I. Hovland<sup>2,3,4,5,6,8</sup>**

1972  
NORTHWESTERN

1941  
YALE

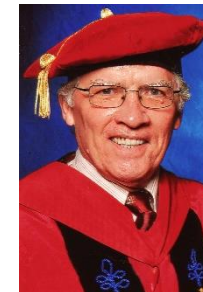
VI.

**David A. Kenny<sup>2,8,9</sup> — and — David C. McClelland<sup>2,7,8</sup>**

1975  
HARVARD

VII.

**Dean Keith Simonton**



And thank you all for  
listening to these moments!