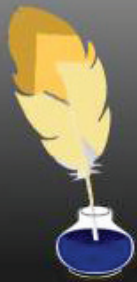
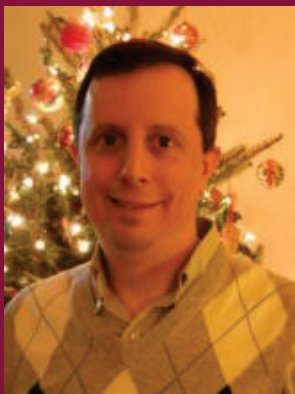


History Corner



Kevin Mahoney
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The SIOP Living History Series: An Interview With Paul W. Thayer

Note. The views expressed in this paper are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of U.S. Customs and Border Protection or the U.S. federal government.

The SIOP History Committee launched the SIOP Living History Series at the 2013 SIOP conference. The series involves interviews of historic I-O figures who have made notable contributions to research or practice in I-O psychology. This year, **Paul W. Thayer** (see Figure 1) was interviewed by outgoing SIOP Historian Kevin T. Mahoney. Dr.



Thayer is an emeritus faculty member of North Carolina State University (NCSU) and a Fellow of SIOP, the American Psychological Association, the Association for Psychological Science, and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has been a member of SIOP since 1956 and has served in all of SIOP's the elected offices, including president.

During the session, Dr. Thayer discussed his career, which has spanned both industry and academia. He spoke extensively of his 21 years at the Life Insurance Marketing and Research Association (LIMRA), including LIMRA's groundbreaking biodata research and the application of survey methodology to refute myths in the industry. In 1977, he joined the faculty of NCSU becoming the department head. He found working one on one with graduate students, serving as a mentor, and leading the department to be his favorite ac-

tivities at NCSU. His SIOP presidential address, entitled “Somethings Old, Somethings New” went on to be published in *Personnel Psychology* and is now considered one of the classic articles in I-O psychology. Dr. Thayer closed the interview by discussing what he saw as the current challenges facing our profession. The History Committee recorded the interview, which has been uploaded to SIOP’s official YouTube channel: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0kQH_AYeWgg&feature=youtu.be.

More information about Dr. Thayer’s life and work can be found in his autobiography (<http://www.siop.org/Presidents/Thayer.aspx>).

References

Thayer, P. W. (1977). Somethings old, somethings new. *Personnel Psychology*, 30(4), 513–524.

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