

UNBLANKING THE SLATE

A PsySR Teaching Competition to Honor Historical Memory and Defend Academic Freedom

First Prize \$500

Second prize \$300

Third Prize \$200

Task: Create and upload a short (2 – 10 minute) or long (20 – 40 minute) video onto any public video sharing site (youtube, vimeo, etc) with your lecture covering the main teaching points from the published article “A Teachable Ethics Scandal”, by Mitchell Handelsman. As of August 8, 2017, Handelsman’s article is still [available](#) from the SAGE journal *Teaching of Psychology*, but it has been slated for retraction for dubious reasons.

Background: Handelsman’s article is about how to use the [Hoffman Report](#) into the American Psychological Association torture collusion scandal for teaching social and cognitive psychology principles. This report, by APA-hired independent investigator David Hoffman, found that the APA had colluded with government agencies, including the Department of Defense, overseeing the U.S. torture program after 9/11. The proposed retraction of Handelsman’s article on the teachable features of the report and the collusion scandal arises from unsolicited correspondence directed at the editor and author. This correspondence came from a former president of the American Psychological Association—one whose name was frequently mentioned for

his supporting role in the collusion found by the Hoffman Report. The purpose of this competition is to counteract the whitewashing of history and the attempted chill on academic freedom that the planned retraction would otherwise be likely to have.

Current deadline for entries: October 1, 2017. Before beginning work on your submission, please make inquiries about the submission process with info@psysr.org at least two weeks before the deadline. Please put “Handelsman article” in the subject heading in order to receive a response.

For **judgment criteria, eligibility, and where to find Handelsman’s article**, please click [here](#).