



2009

Insight 2009

Department of Psychology

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INSIGHT

Published by the Psychology Graduate Student Association

Department Head Dr. James E. Lawler



Greetings!

We're at the end of another academic year, and it has brought home the ancient Greek adage that the only constant is change. We have a new American President, a new UTK system President (Interim), a new Chancellor, and a new Provost. Each year, we celebrate the accomplishments of our faculty, students and staff. This year featured a major change in our Awards Day program.

One of our former PhD recipients made donations in 2007 and 2008 in support of graduate student travel to present research at national meetings. John Hubbard is currently Global President of ICON Clinical Research. Following his PhD in Psychology with an emphasis in cardiovascular physiology, he did postdoctoral work in Pharmacology and took various research and development positions in the pharmaceutical industry, eventually moving over to management.

Read more about John at:

<http://development.tennessee.edu/stewardship/whywegive/Hubbard.html>

At a luncheon before our Awards Day celebration in the afternoon, the Chancellor presented John with an award as an Accomplished Alumnus. Several months ago, John expressed a desire to come to our Awards Day if students who were in the lab with him could come, as well. Four other former students were able to attend Awards Day as our Guests of Honor. They were seated with representatives from the upper Administration, including the Provost, Associate Provost, Dean of the Graduate

School, Vice Chancellor for Development, Dean of Arts and Sciences, two Associate Deans, and four staff from Development. They were also seated with several of our graduate students, including recipients of an NSF Predoctoral Fellowship, an NIH Predoctoral Fellowship, an APA Minority Fellowship, and various other awards at the national level.

We had 98 people in attendance. The afternoon started out at 3:30, with a poster session given by some of the students who had received travel support from John's donation (we had room for only 20 posters). There was a lively one-hour session of poster presentations, which was nothing short of electric. This was followed by heavy hors d'oeuvres and the formal awards program.

Research awards included the \$500 Ted Cureton Award in Experimental Psychology, which went to graduate student Rex Cannon, whose CV rivals that of many Assistant Professors; the \$3500 Overall Science Alliance Award in Psychology, which also went to Rex Cannon; the \$1500 Award in Clinical Psychology, which went to Justin Smith; the \$1500 Award in Counseling Psychology, which went to John Richardson; and the \$1500 Award in Experimental Psychology, which went to Jessica Owens.

The graduate student teaching award of \$500 went this year to clinical graduate student Laura Widman, who has been the recipient of many honors at both the local and national levels. We have about a dozen graduate students who teach courses each year. This award recognizes the best of a great group of future faculty.

Undergraduate awards of \$100 each went to Arts and Sciences Extraordinary

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Special Donor Profile:

Jeff Belser

Jeff Belser, currently Vice President and Treasurer of Ingram Industries in Nashville, has made a five year commitment to help support graduate student travel to conferences to present research. This is the first commitment of this magnitude and duration in our department's history. As Department Head, I contacted Mr. Belser to learn what had motivated his extraordinary commitment to our graduate students. Jeff responded initially to our need – the fact that the downturn in the economy was affecting us in two ways – a decrease in state appropriations and a decrease in individual donations. But why did he decide to respond to that need?



Jeff was an undergraduate psychology major who graduated in 1978. He described his academic career as “undistinguished.” He had two recollections of his undergraduate years in psychology that he passed on to me. He took physiological psychology in his senior year. In those days, there was an optional laboratory course (long since abandoned due to lack of funds). He remembered how much he liked the graduate student TA, whom he described as encouraging, informal, and enjoyable to be around. I wondered who the TA

was. Jeff said he couldn't remember his name, but he was an accomplished weightlifter. Well, that was my own student, Ron Cox, now Associate Professor of Exercise Science at Miami University. Also in Jeff's senior year, he was trying to decide what career path to take. In talking to his psychology professor and advisor, Dr. Steve Handel (now retired), Jeff was encouraged to seek an MBA. He decided to pursue that path and received his MBA from UTK in 1983. The rest, as they say, is history.

It was a true pleasure to meet Jeff in person on February 9, 2009 in Nashville. It was a very enjoyable conversation and lunch. Jeff related that his time as an undergraduate in psychology provided the groundwork for him to pursue a “successful and satisfying career in business.”

The graduate students and I join in thanking Jeff most sincerely for his extraordinary gift to our Alumni Support Fund.

—Dr. James Lawler



New Developments Among the Developmental Faculty

New work has developed among some of the developmental faculty, but this time, statistics, conceptualization and data collection are not involved. Interestingly, two of the prime child researchers, Dr. Daniela Corbetta and Dr. Paula Fite, have additions to the Department and to their own families now.



Dr. Daniela Corbetta and Dr. Todd Freeberg are excited to introduce Maya Elise Corbetta-Freeberg (pictured at right) to the Department. She was born November 24th, 2008. She is doing well, if “not a little ahead of the curve, developmentally.” Dr. Freeberg and Dr. Corbetta feel that Maya is a wonderful part of their family and a total joy. Dr. Freeberg added that Maya is still getting into the groove of a regular sleeping pattern and the two professors are looking forward to more sleep themselves eventually.

Dr. Paula Fite introduced a new little man to the world this year. Carter Joseph Fite was born January 20th, 2009 at 1:51 a.m on a very important day of American History-the Inauguration Day for President Barack Obama. He weighed 7lbs 14.6oz and was 19.5 inches long. He eats and sleeps very well. He smiles more and more every day, and he makes lots of noises and faces. Carter is now officially being introduced into the Department during clinical supervision and a variety of other meetings. He is thriving in his new position within the Department.

As for advice to the few graduate students who are soon-to-be parents, Dr. Freeberg suggests that students “start stockpiling sleep now.” Dr. Fite suggests that students “take a few weeks to recover yourself, taking all the help you can get from others. Enjoy the baby, but also know that there are not so enjoyable moments. Then gradually ease your way back into work and find a balance that works for you and the baby. Just don’t be in a big hurry to do anything, because the baby will dictate that!”

On a gossip note, Carter and Maya have had a few play dates, including a trip to the mall and dinner over at Maya's, leaving the question looming about Carter's feelings for Maya. However, Dr. Freeberg firmly believes that Maya “will never date Carter, and friendship between the two will likely be strained, as Carter is going to be a Chicago Bears fan, and Maya will be a Green Bay Packers fan.” As a Department, we will wait to see if the results are significant.

—Ali Nathanson

Faculty Spotlight: Dr. Gina Owens



Gina Owens' research with the military veteran population focuses on the cognitive appraisal processes that occur after traumatic events and how these appraisals impact coping and distress levels. She specifically is interested in trauma-related cognitions and the process of making meaning from combat experiences. Past projects include a study with veterans of various service eras examining the impact of guilt and presence of meaning in life on the severity of posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD) severity. Higher levels of guilt and lower levels of a sense of meaning significantly predicted higher PTSD severity. She also has completed some work specifically with female veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan investigating their barriers to seeking mental health care. Dr. Owens is currently collecting data for a project with veterans from any service era which consists of qualitative interviews as well as survey questionnaires. Veterans are interviewed

about their past combat experiences and how these experiences impacted their views about themselves and others. Survey and qualitative data will assist in exploring how veterans make meaning from combat trauma and its relationship to PTSD and depression severity.

Faculty Spotlight:

Dr. Gregory Stuart



Dr. Gregory Stuart's program of research has a particular emphasis on the role of substance use and abuse in intimate partner violence perpetration and victimization. His work has addressed a broad spectrum of factors that are relevant to the etiology, classification, assessment, prevention, maintenance, and treatment of intimate partner violence. Dr. Stuart has tested theoretical models of partner violence and has documented the mediating role of substance abuse and

relationship discord. His research has shown that intimate partner violence perpetration and victimization are overrepresented in populations of individuals in treatment for substance abuse, and that substance abuse is overrepresented in men and women court-mandated to attend batterer intervention programs. Dr. Stuart has found that, in both male and female patients and their relationship partners, intimate partner violence and psychological abuse perpetration and victimization decline subsequent to treatment for alcohol abuse and dependence. Similarly, functioning in other relationship domains improves after alcohol treatment. His work has demonstrated that, in both genders, the prevalence and frequency of intimate partner violence, psychological abuse, and sexual aggression are higher among relapsed alcoholics relative to remitted alcoholics following alcohol treatment. With his colleagues at the University of Tennessee, Dr. Stuart has conducted research showing a direct temporal connection between substance use and that intimate partner violence. In populations of men and women arrested for domestic violence, and men and women in substance abuse treatment, his research has shown that the probability of intimate partner violence perpetration and victimization is substantially elevated on alcohol use (and cocaine use) days, relative to days of no substance use.

Dr. Stuart's research also highlights the importance of incorporating alcohol treatment into standard batterer intervention due to the excessive rates of hazardous drinking among men and women arrested for partner violence. In addition, data show that individuals with alcohol problems are more likely to recidivate to violence after batterer intervention than individuals without alcohol problems. Currently, Dr. Stuart is conducting a clinical trial in which male batterers are randomly assigned to standard batterer intervention versus standard batterer intervention plus a brief motivationally focused alcohol intervention. Preliminary results suggest that participants receiving the brief alcohol intervention have better substance use and partner violence outcomes (particularly psychological abuse and sexual coercion) than those receiving only standard care. In 2007, he began a similar randomized clinical trial in which a brief al-

cohol intervention is administered to women arrested for domestic violence.

Dr. Stuart is excited to get studies underway in Knoxville. He is interested in adapting the brief alcohol intervention used with batterers to other populations. He is also interested in studying family violence across the life span, from child abuse through elder abuse, with a focus on interventions that may reduce aggression.

Dr. Stuart's work includes over 125 publications, 3 NIAAA-funded grants in which he is the principal investigator, and an additional 16 grants in which he has served as a coinvestigator or consultant. He also serves as a mentor on 3 T32 postdoctoral training grants. His research has impacted the field in several ways: by increasing awareness of the potential role of both partners' substance use in partner violence perpetration and victimization, by encouraging the development and testing of multivariate theoretical models to examine this relationship, by working collaboratively with domestic violence community agencies, and by integrating alcohol treatment into standard care for batterers and promoting interventions that address both substance use and relationship aggression. Dr. Stuart is an Associate Professor at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. He maintains his appointment as an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Human Behavior at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University, and he is the Director of Family Violence Research at Butler Hospital. He serves as an adjunct faculty member at the Brown University Center for Alcohol and Addiction Studies. For six years he was the Director of the Adult Psychopathology Track of the Brown University Clinical Psychology Training Consortium, and he was a Brown internship rotation supervisor for 8 years. He served a two-year term as co-president of the Couples Research and Therapy Special Interest Group at the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies. He is an ad hoc member of the NIAAA Clinical and Treatment Grant Review Committee and has reviewed research grants for the Centers for Disease Control, the Harry Frank Guggenheim Foundation, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. He is a standing member of the Clinical and Pediatric Extramural Loan Repayment Program grant review committee at NIAAA. In 2007, he was the recipient of the National Center of Excellence in Women's Health Outstanding Faculty Mentoring Award, as well as the Outstanding Teaching Award in Psychology from Brown University. He serves as a mentor on postdoctoral training grants funded by NIAAA, NIDA, and NIMH, as well as on individual F31 and F32 grants, a fellowship grant funded by the Canadian Institute of Health Research,

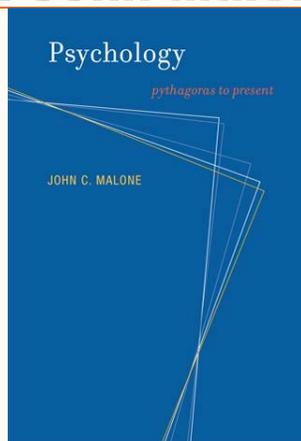
Continued on page 10.

Faculty Spotlight:

Dr. John Malone

If you ask Dr. John Malone what motivated him to write his upcoming book *Psychology: Pythagoras to Present*, he will provide a simple answer: He wanted to provide a history of psychology that is accurate, since such a thing is hard to find. While the answer is simple, the task certainly is a challenge, and Dr. Malone rises above and beyond with this new history of psychology. As the publisher's synopsis states:

"Certain ideas have preoccupied thinkers since ancient times: the nature of mind, the sources of knowledge and belief, the nature of the self, ethics and the best way to lead our lives, the question of free will. In this book, John Malone examines these ideas in the writings of thinkers from antiquity to the present day and argues for their importance not just as precursors of modern views but as ideas that are frequently better than current ones. We can get good advice, he writes, from the writings of the best thinkers of the past. Pythagoras, Thales, Plato, Protagoras, Aristotle, Diogenes, and Epictetus all offer tried and tested ideas on how we should lead our lives and on the treatment of psychopathology—as do Berkeley, Hume, John Stuart Mill, Johann Friedrich Herbart, Wilhelm Wundt, William James, Sigmund Freud, and B. F. Skinner.



Malone begins with the naturalistic and mystical strains of early Greek thought, moves on to Platonism and the world of Forms (and considers parallels between the thought of Plato and Freud), and discusses "Ancient Self-Help Therapies" (including Epicureanism). He investigates the psychological insights of Enlightenment thinkers including Francis Bacon and Galileo, Locke's and Kant's theories of experience, and Darwin's evolutionary thinking. He charts the rise of modern psychology and the beginning of "biological psychology." He examines the work of Wundt, Titchener, Freud, Peirce, and James, among others, and describes the ideas of behaviorism, Gestalt psychology, and cognitive science.

Malone's history offers both breadth and depth, an engaging style and rigorous scholarship, demonstrating vividly the relevance of the great historical psychological thinkers."

The book has already received overwhelming positive praise and several endorsements. Here are just a few:

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Outstanding Undergraduate Research Assistants: In Their Own Words

Considering the incredible productivity of our Department, it is a wonder that our faculty and graduate students have time for everything they accomplish. In fact, it would be impossible for the UT Psychology Department to be so productive without our undergraduate research assistants. Their focus and dedication to the details and mechanics of our research are integral to our published articles, awarded research grants, and our impact upon the community.

Not only are we reliant upon our research assistants, or "489's," but their work with us is essential for their own journeys into their future careers. Working as a 489 in one of our many psychology labs gives undergraduates both skills and knowledge necessary for navigating graduate school applications and job applications alike. Most importantly, the "489 experience" gives a rare glimpse into the world of psychological research and often incites passion and initiative in those that serve as 489's. Their experiences are best told in their own words:

Thomas Hewetson, 489 in Dr. Lowell Gaertner's lab working with graduate students Erin O'Mara and Lydia Eckstein Jackson. "What really got me attracted to working in the lab setting at all was just to get a feel for what research actually entailed. I read about it in textbooks, read about it in journals and articles, but I wanted a more personal feel for it while at the same time gaining some experience for graduate school. I had a particular interest in Lowell's lab really due to my interest in the field of social psychology and by recommendation from Erin that I should help out in his lab. I can certainly say that it was a good choice and my time there has been great.

"As for my responsibilities as a research assistant, I had

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quite a few. Myself, as well as the other research assistants, were basically in charge of the everyday running of several projects. We would implement the various scripts and procedures needed for the project to run smoothly and, when applicable, run debriefing sessions at the end of each session. I, as well as the other assistant, also assisted in data collection, data filing, and in some cases data analysis. All in all, I was privileged enough to really see research at the university level.

“My ultimate goal for the future is to get my PhD in counseling or social psychology. Right now I'm basically focused on finishing up my last semester here at UT on a high and graduating. Aside from graduate school, I've been looking to get into teaching and maybe work towards future degrees while working.”

Brianna Janz, also a 489 in Dr. Lowell Gaertner's lab working with graduate students Erin O'Mara and Lydia Eckstein Jackson. “Working in the lab with Erin and Lydia has been such a fun and enlightening process. This is my second semester working with them, and I couldn't ask to be with more patient and hard working grad students...What attracted me to their lab in particular was the focus on social experiments and trying to find why it is that people act in certain ways. That was always one of the biggest draws to psychology for me, so doing hands-on work in that field has been a great experience in learning what goes into taking a concept from a question to an experiment, and then analyzing those results to try to find something meaningful about human behavior. In the lab, my responsibilities are making sure that Lydia and Erin's experiments are run properly, which includes material set up and organization, posting times for participants to sign

up for sessions, making sure procedures are run correctly, and debriefing participants after their sessions. I plan on graduating next spring, and I'm going to be applying for Teach for America or the Peace Corps... I think my psychology degree will give me a great background for understanding people and their actions.”

Keri Johns, 489 in Dr. Kristi Gordon's lab working with graduate student Julianne Hellmuth. “As a 489 research assistant in Dr. Gordon's lab, I have had the opportunity to work on a study funded by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. I have had an above average experience as a psychology undergraduate to say the least. In working on the study, I have conducted recruitment assessments and follow-up assessments on pregnant women of low SES looking at domestic violence and alcohol and drug use. I was able to do an independent data analysis on an existing data set looking at forgiveness and depression and create a poster. This poster was presented at the 42nd annual convention of the Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies. I graduated in 2008 and will be attending graduate school for a Masters in clinical psychology. Until then, I am working full time as a Case Manager at Helen Ross McNabb. After completing my Master's, I plan on getting a Ph.D. in clinical psychology. Working as a research assistant in Dr. Gordon's lab has increased my desire to integrate research and practice in my future career as well as help direct my research interests.”

—Jennifer Willett

Dr. James Lawler, continued from the cover.

Achievement recipients David Lindeman and Kathleen Kain, and to Professional Promise awardee Dani Scott.

Finally, we recognized Associate Professor Todd Freeberg with the Faculty Appreciation Award, Professor John Malone with the Psi Chi Recognition Award, and staff members Connie Ogle and Christy Lynch with the Staff Award.

What was so obvious at this Awards ceremony is how blessed we are with truly outstanding people at all levels. Standing at the podium and looking around at the audience was really quite overwhelming. This is a great Department to be a part of and to celebrate each year.

This year, we sent approximately 60 graduate students on trips to present their research at national meetings. Travel reimbursement is set at \$600, the highest level ever, yet that still doesn't cover all the costs, and students

typically pay \$400-600 out of pocket to attend these meetings (hotels, food, airfare, registration, airport shuttles, etc.). To generate that \$600 reimbursement for those students, we need donations every year of \$36,000, most of which has always come from the \$25, \$50, and \$100 donations from many of you. We really need these donations, and I hope you will seriously consider making a donation today. These donations are also used to provide the teaching award and the undergraduate awards, both of which need to be increased, and dissertation research awards, which help offset the cost of doing dissertation research (about \$4000 yearly).

I hope you will visit our web site often to keep up with the news from the Department.

<http://psychology.utk.edu>

Finally, feel free to contact me at jlawler@utk.edu – I would be pleased to hear from you. Best wishes in the months ahead.

Faculty Spotlight:

Dr. Dawn Szymanski



Dr. Szymanski's research interests are primarily in the areas of women's mental health, lesbian, gay, and bisexual (LGB) issues, racial/ethnic minority issues, and multicultural-feminist therapy and supervision. Her research focuses on examining how experiences of oppressive events (e.g., gender, sexual orientation, and/or race based prejudice, harassment, discrimination, and violence) and internalized oppression (e.g., of negative attitudes, beliefs, and feelings about oneself as a minority group member and about one's minority group) are related to minority group members' psychosocial health. Her findings have revealed that greater experiences of sexist events in the forms of unwanted sexually objectifying comments and behaviors and traditional gender role stereotyping and prejudice are related to poorer mental health among diverse groups of women. Additionally, her findings indicate that sexual orientation based hate crime victimization (i.e., physical assault, sexual assault, vandalism, or robbery), heterosexist events, and internalized heterosexism are related to greater psychosocial distress among LGB persons.

Attending to the complexity of minority group persons' lives, Dr. Szymanski has also investigated the potential additive and interactive influences of multiple oppressions on the mental health of persons with multiple minority identities (e.g., racism and sexism for African American women, heterosexism and sexism for sexual minority women, heterosexism and racism for LGB persons of color). Furthermore, she has investigated variables, such as self-esteem, social support, and coping styles that have been theorized to moderate and/or mediate the rela-

tions between external and internalized oppression and mental health in order to inform the development and evaluation of prevention and intervention strategies. For example, she is currently collecting data for a study that examines the potential buffering roles of individual, group level, and religious coping in the link between racist events and African American persons' self-esteem and psychological distress.

In addition to studying minority group stress and resilience, Dr. Szymanski has investigated how members of a privileged/dominant group become aligned with members of an oppressed group to actively work to create egalitarian relationships and eradicate oppression. Her co-authored qualitative studies on white privilege among counseling trainees and feminist identity development among male therapists illustrate how members of dominant groups can become change agents in the fight to confront and transform racism, sexism, and other forms of oppression. Dr. Szymanski is committed to training psychologists and students in multicultural issues, broadly defined, and to provide culturally competent services to their clients. As such, she teaches both the graduate and undergraduate multicultural psychology courses and developed (or co-developed) two scales, the Counseling Women Competencies Scale and the Feminist Supervision Scale, aimed at promoting multicultural feminist competence among clinicians and supervisors. Dr. Szymanski has more than 35 published (or currently in press) peer reviewed journal articles and book chapters and has made more than 50 professional presentations and/or trainings about multicultural/feminist issues.

If you would like to learn more about her work you can find many of her publications via a PsychInfo or Google Scholar search or you can contact her directly at dszymans@utk.edu.

Where Do We Present Our Research?

In 2008, our students and faculty presented at the following regional and national conferences:

Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies
 American Psychological Association
 Association for Psychological Science
 International Neuropsychological Society
 International Conference on Alzheimer's disease
 International Society for Neurofeedback and Research

International Society of Traumatic Stress Studies
 Society for Clinical and Experimental Hypnosis
 Society for Personality and Social Psychology
 Society for Research on Adolescence
 Society of Southeastern Social Psychologists
 Southeastern Psychological Association

Psychology Staff News

Connie Ogle

Our Annual Awards Night was held this year on May 4 at the UT Welcome Center. This year's event took even more planning than usual since several of Dr. Lawler's former students were in attendance, as well as several members of UT upper administration. Dr. Lawler's guests included Allan Buchholz, retired Director, Cardiovascular Drug Discovery, Pfizer; Ron Cox, Associate Professor, Miami University; Vivian Haley-Zitlin, Associate Professor, Clemson University and Brian Sanders, Associate Professor, Drake University.

Our guest of honor this year was another of Dr. Lawler's former students, John Hubbard, Global President of ICON Clinical Research. Dr. Hubbard has been a generous donor to our Psychology Alumni Support Fund which supports our graduate students, and we were very fortunate his schedule allowed him to join us for Awards Night. Our students held a poster presentation so Dr. Hubbard and our other guests could see how alumni donations enable our students to attend and present at conferences around the country. Special guests from UT included Randy Atkins, Arts & Sciences Development; Bruce Bursten, Dean of Arts & Sciences; Don Cox, Executive Associate A & S Dean; Linda Davidson, Vice Chancellor, Development & Alumni Affairs; Gina Davis, Assistant Development Director, College of Business; John Dinkens, Director of A & S Development; Cathleen Dodge, Senior Director of A & S Development; Bill Dunne, Associate A & S Dean; Sarah Gardial, Vice Provost, Faculty Affairs; Carolyn Hodges, Vice Provost & Dean of the Graduate School; Susan Martin, Provost & Vice Chancellor; and Nathan Zipper, Assistant Director of Development. We thank all of our special guests for attending this year's event. Awards Night 2009 was all about good food, wonderful socializing and well-deserved recognition of members of our Department and our special guests.

Sandy Thomas coordinates this event each year for the Department, and always does an outstanding job in making this a very special night. However, this year, she surpassed everyone's expectations! Sandy gathered over \$5,000 in donations, which was an incredible feat given our current economic environment. Sandy gathered some wonderful door-prizes; everything from caps and pictures to karaoke and pearls! We are always so grateful to Sandy for everything she does and this year Dr. Lawler recognized her efforts by presenting her with a gift card and a musical thank you card which, when opened, played "You're Unbelievable!" We know that Sandy's efforts

made our Awards Night a resounding success, and we all extend our thanks and gratitude to her for yet another job well done! Thank you, Sandy!

The Staff Appreciation Award this year was shared between Christy Lynch and Connie Ogle. Both Christy and Connie received outstanding nominations, and the Committee decided both were equally deserving of this Award. Christy and Connie both received plaques and cash prizes. Christy joined the Psychology Department in December 2002 as bookkeeper in the Psychological Clinic. After a brief departure she returned in March of 2006. In August 2008 she moved from the Clinic to the Departmental Business Office. Christy's Departmental responsibilities include overseeing the salary portion of the Departmental and Psychological Clinic budget, curriculum and room scheduling, preparation of Clinic deposits and Departmental inventory. Christy is the wife of a wonderful husband, Josh, and the proud mother of two beautiful children, Jacob and Brooklyn. They currently reside in the Ritta Community with their two dogs Gracie and Maddie. Connie has worked in the Psychology Department since September 1984, and currently holds the position of Administrative Specialist III. She works with Dr. Lawler on administrative issues, and serves as Graduate Programs Coordinator and Staff and work-study supervisor. Connie enjoys working with staff, faculty, students and the public. She loves the campus atmosphere and enjoys meeting and talking with people from all over the world. She has a strong loyalty to the Department and University, which began with her parents, Juanita Lusk and the late Robert B. Lusk, both of whom retired from UT. Connie has two children, Donna and Justin, and one grandson, Jeffery. She is a South Knox County native, where she lives with her cat, Rum Tum Tugger and dogs, Gizmo and Sgt. JAK.

We have had one resignation since our last newsletter, with April Adams resigning her position in the Clinic. The Department will be conducting interviews for a new hire and in the interim period several staff and students are taking turns providing excellent coverage for the Clinic on a regular basis. We extend our gratitude to Kelly Dailey, Mike Gawrysiak, Ashley James, Christy Lynch, Tessi Murr, and Scott Swan for providing outstanding service to the Department and the Clinic.

The Staff of Psychology look forward to this coming year. We thank you for your continued support of the Department, and wish you well in the months ahead.

Faculty and Graduate Student Awards and Accomplishments of 2008

Faculty Awards and Accomplishments:

- Hopko, D. R. (2008). Alvin and Sally Beaman Endowed Fellowship and College of Arts and Sciences Endowed Excellence in Professorships Awards, extended from 2009-2014.
- McNulty, J. K. (2008). 2009 Early Career Award from the Relationship Researchers Interest Group, the Society for Personality and Social Psychology.

Graduate Student Awards and Accomplishments:

- Cannon, R. (2008). Early Career Poster Session for NIDA with NIAAA. Nominated for this award by the Division of Clinical Neuroscience and Behavioral Research at NIDA. *LORETA Neurofeedback: Self regulation of EEG activity in anterior cingulate gyrus.*
- Cannon, R. (2008). Student Scholarship winner. 16th Annual meeting for the International Society for Neurofeedback and Research.
- Cannon, R. (2008). Award winner Invitation for Poster Session. Transdisciplinary approaches to mechanisms of behavior change (MOBC) in alcohol: Connecting basic science discoveries to behavior change research. Columbia University, New York City Supported by The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) and The Office of Behavioral and Social Science Research (OBSSR). *The SPESA Model for Treatment of Addictive Disorders.*
- Eckstein, L. J. (2008). NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.
- Haag, I. P. (2008). All-Division Student Essay Competition of Division 39 (Psychoanalysis) of the American Psychological Association: \$500 First Prize – “Becoming a Constant Object When Constancy Cannot be Presumed: Working with a Victim of Trauma.”
- Howerton, D. M. (2008). Selected to serve as the Graduate Student Editor for the *Journal of Social Issues*.
- Howerton, D. M. (2008). CEPO Student Research Award: Minority Issues, SEPA Convention. (\$250).
- Meltzer, A. L. (2008). CEPO Student Research Award: Women's Issues, SEPA Convention. (\$250).
- O'Mara, E. M. (2008). Finalist, Outstanding Research Award, Society for Personality and Social Psychology.
- O'Mara, E. M. (2008). Excellence in Research Contributions in Experimental Psychology, University of Tennessee, Department of Psychology.
- Smith, J. D. (2008). Society for Personality Assessment Dissertation Grant.
- Smith, J. D. (2008). Center for Therapeutic Assessment Research Grant.
- Widman, L. (2008). American Psychological Association Dissertation Research Award. (\$1000).
- Widman, L. (2008). American Psychological Foundation/COGDOP Graduate Research Scholarship. (\$1000).
- Widman, L. (2008). Grants-In-Aid Dissertation Research Award, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues. (\$1000) – matched by University of Tennessee. (\$1000).
- Widman, L. (2008). Science Alliance Research Award, University of Tennessee Psychology Department. (\$3000).
- Widman, L. (2008). Dissertation Research Award, University of Tennessee Psychology Department. (\$700).
- Widman, L. (2008). Student Research Award, Society for Personality and Social Psychology. (\$500).

Dr. Malone, Continued from page 5.

"John Malone has written a splendid book! A lively, readable and vigorous defense of history. It covers a wide sweep from the early Greeks through Roman and Christian philosophy and the Enlightenment to modern developments such as cognitivism and behaviorism. It is both informative and critical, full of aperçus that clobber their targets with force and grace. I hope that Malone's book may do for psychology what Bertrand Russell's historical opus did for philosophy. Read it."

—**J. E. R. Staddon**, Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, Duke University

"This lucid book takes a fresh look at the individuals and ideas that comprise the history of psychology. Referring to the original theoretical and empirical sources, Malone questions many standard interpretations and received

ideas, and provides enlightening ones of his own."

—**Howard Rachlin**, Psychology Department, State University of New York, Stony Brook

"*Psychology* imposes a bit of order in the disorder of scientific knowledge and social behavior. As John Malone examines the development of psychology through the ages, his discerning and acute view of cultural and scientific work shows what the field of psychology has been missing: a unified sense of itself. This work is a milestone."

—**Giulio Bolacchi**, Chair and Professor, International Graduate Program in Science of Organization, AILUN, Nuoro, Italy

Psychology: Pythagoras to Present is being published by the MIT Press and will be available in June 2009.

—Katie McIntyre

Psychology Department Annual Awards Night 2009

The Faculty Appreciation Award

Dr. Todd Moore
Dr. Brent Mallinckrodt

The Staff Appreciation Award

Christy Lynch
Connie Ogle

Psy Chi Undergraduate Faculty Award

Dr. Deb Rhatigan



Graduate Student Research Awards

Rex Cannon, \$500 *Ted Cureton Award in Experimental Psychology*
Rex Cannon, \$3500 *Science Alliance in Psychology* (pictured below)
Justin Smith, \$1500 *Award in Clinical Psychology*
John Richardson, \$1500 *Award in Counseling Psychology*
Jessica Owens, \$1500 *Award in Experimental Psychology*

Graduate Student Teaching Award (\$500)

Laura Widman (pictured above)



Outstanding Undergraduate Student Awards (\$100)

Extraordinary Achievement Award

David Lindeman
Kathleen Kain

Professional Promise Award

Dani Scott

Dr. Gregory Stuart, continued from page 4:

and K01 and K23 career development awards. In 2008, he became a Fellow in the American Psychological Association. He currently serves as an ad hoc reviewer for 32 scientific journals and on the editorial boards of *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *Substance Abuse: Research*

and Treatment, *International Journal of Women's Health*, *Violence Against Women*, and *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology*.

If you would like to learn more about Dr. Greg Stuart's program of research, please feel free to contact him via email at gstuart@utk.edu.

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Continued on the next page.

Italicized* names indicate a faculty member and **bold names indicate a current student.

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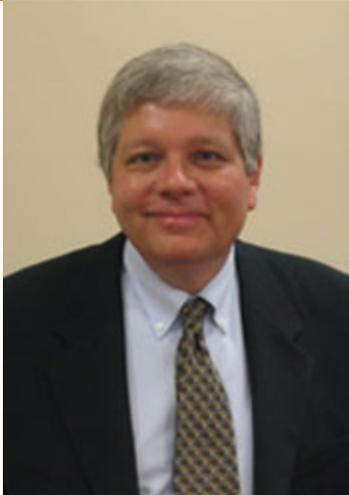
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Counseling Psychology Program Update

Dr. Brent Mallinckrodt

For most students and faculty in the Counseling Psychology program this past academic year can be divided into two periods of "BSV" (Before the Site Visit) and "ASV" (After the Site Visit). Our APA reaccreditation site visit was held on January 29-30. The BSV period extends backward from that date to April of 2008 when we began the process of preparing a self-study with a comprehensive, anonymous survey of all current students, and alumni of the program back through its inception in 1980. A great deal of useful information was generated. Although the feedback from both surveys (i.e., alumni and current students) was generally very positive, it was also encouraging to see a sharp trend toward even more positive ratings with every successive cohort surveyed. A key part of the survey presented a list of competencies to alumni and asked about both the importance of this skill set and self-efficacy in performing these tasks. This information led directly to additions in our Field Placement, Research Design, and the new Advanced Theories course to address these skills. Throughout the summer of 2009 the faculty worked to prepare the 60 page (single spaced!) self-study report, together with hundreds of pages of required appendices.



Enhancement Fellowship during the past academic year. Brent Mallinckrodt was one of 100 psychologists in the U.S. to be invited to the 2009 APA Science Leadership Conference. Dawn Szymanski received the UT Chancellor's LGB Ally Research Award. She also was the lead author of a Major Contribution in TCP (The Counseling Psychologist). Only six Major Contribution proposals are accepted each year. The topic of her series of articles was internalized heterosexism. Finally, Amanda Alexander completed her final year of NCAA eligibility by trying out and making the UT Women's Track team. (Her specialty is 800m and the sprint medley relay.) Amanda was named an NCAA Academic

All American.

A data snapshot may convey what the some of the faculty have been working on this year, in addition to teaching and service. We have submitted proposals for \$600,000 in external funding in 2008 – all still awaiting a final decision. The total publications of four tenure track faculty (Levy, Mallinckrodt, Owens, and Szymanski) now exceed 150, which represents 4.3 publications per year for each year they have been teaching. This total includes more than 40 articles in the *Journal of Counseling Psychology*, our field's premiere publication. Their work has been cited more than 1300 times, including 192 times in 2008.

The three-person site visit team spent six weeks reviewing these materials prior to their campus visit. During the visit they met with all students and program faculty, as well as field supervisors, campus administrators, and key department faculty. When the report of the team was received in March (that is, the second month of "ASV" era) the evaluation was overwhelmingly positive. We received especially strong praise for the new Scientist-Practitioner-Advocate training model, which the team believed may be the first of its kind anywhere in the U.S. The final report of the APA Commission on Accreditation was received in July and we are pleased to report that our program was re-accredited for the maximum duration (7 years).

Finally, there are also some very exciting accomplishments for the program as a whole – that is, other than completing the APA site visit process. The first cohort of students to be admitted under the new training model began their studies in August. This was followed by a tremendously successful admissions cycle. We received 95 applications this year, a 40% increase from two years ago before the new model was adopted. Only eight offers were made to secure the seven students who accepted positions for the entering class of 2009. The incoming class helps to further increase the diversity of our students. Going forward our program is composed of 13% U.S. ethnic minority students and 27% international students. Our international students come from countries in Europe, Asia, Africa, and from the Caribbean in North America.

It has been a year of noteworthy accomplishments for faculty and students in the program. I will not mention publications or department awards which are described elsewhere in the Newsletter, but I do want to highlight recognition of other types received this year: Catherine Herrera and her advisor Gina Owens received a 2009 SARIF summer research award. Lieutenant Herrera was also recipient of an APA Minority Fellowship, which will provide a full stipend for the remaining three years of her training. For 2008 (the most recent year data have been published) there were 173 applications from throughout the U.S., with 13 fellowships awarded. Mi Ra Sung held a UT Diversity

After the busy 2008-09 academic year I think we are all looking forward to the first full year of the ASV era.

Clinical Psychology Program Update

Dr. Deborah Welsh

The 2008-09 academic year has been quite busy for the clinical program. Some of the highlights from our year include adding a new senior level faculty member, increasing our graduate applications substantially, conducting an intensive self study of our program, having a positive site visit from the Commission on Accreditation of APA, successfully placing all of our students who were wanted to go on internships in APA accredited internship sites, achieving eligibility to treat TennCare clients in our clinic, and adding new placement opportunities for the training of our students. Wow, that is a lot for one year.



we received 90 applications). We have been working hard over the past few years to increase our applications and are excited to see our work pay off. We have spent a lot of time this year conducting a thorough self study of our program and hosting a team of 3 external reviewers who spent 2 full days on site evaluating our program in order to re-accredit our program by the American Psychological Association. The site visit team wrote a very positive report documenting many strengths of our program. We are pleased to report that the program has been re-accredited for the maximum duration (7 years).

The addition of new faculty to our program is always the most important development. And this year, for the first time in over 20 years, we were given the opportunity to hire a senior clinical faculty member to our program. Universities typically prefer to hire junior faculty members for economic reasons. The University's respect for and commitment to the Clinical Program is clearly demonstrated by their allowing us to hire a senior level faculty member this past year. We are extremely happy to introduce Greg Stuart, Ph.D. as our newest Clinical faculty member. Dr. Stuart received his doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Indiana University in 1998 and was a faculty member at Brown University's School of Medicine before joining us. His research program focuses on the etiology, prevention, and treatment of intimate partner violence and the overlap between relationship aggression and substance misuse. Over the past 15 years, Dr. Stuart has authored or co-authored over a hundred publications, many in prestigious journals including Psychological Bulletin and the Journal of the American Medical Association. He has also been exceptionally successful in obtaining extramural grant funding for his research. Dr. Stuart has received a number of awards including the 2007 Outstanding Teaching Award in Psychology at Brown University and the National Center of Excellence in Women's Health Outstanding Faculty Mentoring Award at Brown University and Women and Infants Hospital. On top of Dr. Stuart's impressive strengths as a researcher, teacher, and mentor, we have also been delighted to discover that he is also exceptionally kind, fun, and down-to-earth. We are very privileged to have Dr. Stuart join the Clinical Program Faculty.

The number of applications to our Doctoral Program in Clinical Psychology increased markedly this year. We received 185 applications to our program this year, a 67% increase over the past year (we had 111 applications in 2008) and a 106% increase over the past 7 years (in 2002,

we received 90 applications). We have been working hard over the past few years to increase our applications and are excited to see our work pay off. We have spent a lot of time this year conducting a thorough self study of our program and hosting a team of 3 external reviewers who spent 2 full days on site evaluating our program in order to re-accredit our program by the American Psychological Association. The site visit team wrote a very positive report documenting many strengths of our program. We are pleased to report that the program has been re-accredited for the maximum duration (7 years).

Once again, we are happy to report that all of the 8 students from our program who entered the internship match this year successfully obtained APA-approved internship spots. Over the past 7 years, 98% (62/63) of our students who applied for internships obtained full-time APA-accredited internship placements. We wish our internship bound students well as they set off to internship sites all over the country this summer.

The Psychological Clinic is still located in the Austin Peay building. I previously wrote that we were likely to get a brand new building constructed for our clinic. We are still hoping that we will see the new building. However, due to the current state of the economy in Tennessee as well as nationally, the construction of the new building has been put on hold for the moment. We have had a few developments within our clinic though. We are excited to report that we are now approved to be reimbursed for therapy with clients who have TennCare insurance. This should increase the number of therapy clients in our clinic and increase training opportunities for our students. In addition, we have expanded the outside placement training options for our students. Beginning in August, our students will have placement opportunities in an inpatient children's medical hospital, a short-term crisis intervention facility, and will be able to work alongside primary care physicians providing behavioral care in a medical context.

These many new developments and transitions in the clinical program occur in the context of our continuing long-standing commitment to training outstanding clinicians and researchers. The many changes that are occurring will build upon this strong tradition and commitment to the Tennessee Model of clinical training.

We *Still* Need Your Help!

Each year, the donations of our alumni, faculty, and staff allow current students to continue the strong tradition of training in research, teaching, and practice at the University of Tennessee. The Psychology Graduate Student Association wishes to thank everyone who has donated in some way to our program, be it through money, time, or talent.

PGSA maintains a wishlist of items that graduate students believe would enhance their ability to learn, grow, and teach in the University of Tennessee's Psychology Department. Our biggest wish is, and always will be, a new building. The Department is currently housed in the Austin Peay Building on The Hill, and has been for the past 32 years. Unfortunately, due to office and research space constraints, we cannot house all of our Department in one building. Thankfully, Dr. Lawler was able to appropriate funds to repaint much of the building, particularly the second

floor hallway to the Psychological Clinic, where clients are greeted. This measure has helped tremendously, but we are still hoping for further improvements. Some graduate students who teach undergraduate courses do not have their own office space in which they can meet privately with students.

With travel becoming increasingly expensive, graduate students are also struggling when it comes to conference attendance. We proudly present our work at local and national conferences, but often this is a very expensive undertaking for graduate students. As proud alumni, we encourage your financial support and for your voice in encouraging University officials to do everything in their power to improve the setting, and therefore the quality, of work produced by students, faculty, and staff in the Psychology Department.



Donation Information

Please apply my donation to the following cause:

Psychology Alumni Support Fund - For Departmental projects, such as updating instructional equipment and technology, and for undergraduate scholarships, travel and research awards.

Mental Health Development Fund - To support the University of Tennessee's Psychological Clinic and initiatives toward promoting mental health.

Thank you for your generous contribution.

Please send this page along with your alumni update on the reverse page (optional) and your donation to:

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INSIGHT

Published by the Psychology Graduate Student Association

ALUMNI UPDATE

Name: _____

Address: _____
 Street Address Apartment Number

_____ City State Zip

Graduation Year (from UT): _____ Degree: _____

Concentration: _____

We'd like to know what you're up to! If possible, please answer the following questions in addition to giving us the information above.

1) What are you doing with your degree from UT? [e.g., nothing at all related; pursuing more education; practicing clinical psychologist (if so - describe what sorts of people you see and services you offer); professor (where?)]

2) What personal/professional milestones/achievements have you attained since graduating from UT [e.g., married, had kids (how many?), professional awards achievements, research grants]

3) What do you do when you're not doing psychology?

4) Tell about a significant memory you have of being a student at UT.

For example:

- an experience that shaped or defined your career as a student or your later career
- an important lesson you learned
- a special moment in mentoring

5) What advice do you have for current students? What is something you wished you had known when you were in school at UT?

6) Are you currently affiliated with UT in any way? If so, how?

7) Anything else you'd like to tell us and/or suggestions for questions we might ask in the future:

A Special Thanks for Your Donations!

Meet our 2008-2009 Donors...

Each year, the donations of our alumni, faculty, and staff allow current students to continue the strong tradition of training in research, teaching, and practice at the University of Tennessee. The Psychology Graduate Student Association wishes to thank everyone who has donated in some way to our program, be it through money, time, or talent.

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Thank you all for your continued support! Yours is truly a gift that keeps on giving.

If you or someone you know would like to make a donation to support our psychology programs at the University of Tennessee, please refer to the form on the pull-out page.

Psychology Graduate Student Association 2008-2009

The officers of the PGSA would like to thank everyone for yet another wonderful year. The 17th Annual Austin Peay Golf Classic was very successful, and a fun time for everyone who participated! We had 31 players at this year's tournament at Three Ridges Golf Course in Knoxville, TN. Thanks to our players and other donations, we were able to raise over \$1,800. This money helped to fund graduate student travel that took place during the course of the 2008 – 2009 school year. We would especially like to thank all the local businesses that generously provided support in the form of hole sponsorships and door prizes. As a result of our success on the golf course, PGSA will be able to fund a portion of travel for all of our graduate students who represented the Department at conferences this past year.

PGSA would especially like to thank our faculty advisor, Dr. Todd Moore. His input and involvement were instrumental in our successful golf tournament. If you are interested in helping to make next year's tournament even more successful, either by playing or by providing a donation, please contact Dr. Moore at tmoore24@utk.edu.

In other PGSA news, the new officers for PGSA in 2009-2010 school year are:

Destin Stewart, President
 Scott Swan, Vice-President & Social Coordinator
 Sarah Gilbert, Secretary
 Amanda Sherman, Treasurer
 Andrea Meltzer & Sara Elkins, PGSA Student Advisors

—Katie McIntyre



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