MAY 2014

Psychology News

CHAIR’S SUMMARY

During the first few months of 2014, faculty, graduate, and even some undergraduate students have published 32 papers. Some of this work was highlighted in the media in outlets such as the Atlantic and Time magazine. New federal grants were awarded to faculty, a post doc, and a graduate student further contributing to the excellent level of funding maintained in the Psychology Department. Faculty and graduate students were recipients of awards for their scientific accomplishments, teaching, and mentoring. The spring semester was filled with excellent events in the department including the Brain Fair, Graduate Research Day, Undergraduate Research Day, and the Applied Behavior Analysis Job Fair. Please read on for details about many of the impressive things that have happened in Psychology over the past few months.

Research in the News...

Anders Ericsson’s research on expertise and practice was featured in Time Magazine and BBC Magazine:


Roy Baumeister’s research was featured by Stirling Behavioural Science as one of “The 15 Best Behavioural Science Graphs of 2010-2013” for his 2012 Psychological Science paper, “What people desire, feel conflicted about, and try to resist in everyday life”:


Pam Keef’s research was featured in The Atlantic and received attention through over 100 media outlets, including a live streaming interview on the Huffington Post Live. The article was based on the honors thesis of her former undergraduate student, Annelise Mabe, which was published recently in the International Journal of Eating Disorders.


Huffington Post Live: http://live.huffingtonpost.com/r/segment/can-social-media-make-young-girls-hate-themselves/5327265e2b8c2a24f70005bc

Carlos Bolaños, several of his graduate students, and colleagues from other universities published an article in the Journal of Neuroscience (2014, 34, 1007-1027) that was featured in an article in the LA Times.


Chris Schatschneider co-authored a computer adaptive reading assessment with Barbara Foorman and Yaacov Petscher (alumnus of the Developmental program) and licensed the assessment to Lexia Corporation, a subsidiary of Rosetta Stone. The assessment covers grade K-12 reading and reading-related skills. This new assessment was reported by Reuters and covered by several other news outlets.

http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/03/27/idUSH1GdBwr+74+ONE20140327

In the Spotlight

On Saturday, April 19th, the Psychology Department hosted its 3rd annual Brain Fair. Graduate and undergraduate students from Psychology, Biology, and Biomedical Sciences, as well as postdoctoral fellows and faculty members, had over 20 displays, interactive activities, and public demonstrations of neuroscience. Over 250 children attended the Fair, which operated under the theme of “Your Brain is a Superhero!”, wherein many of the presenting volunteers dressed with superhero themes and presented demonstrations of the brain’s amazing abilities. This year’s Brain Fair was coordinated by neuroscience psychology graduate students Mark Basista and Sean Ogden under the supervision of Rick Hyson.
FACULTY GRANTS

Chris Patrick received a grant from the US Army for his proposal, entitled, “Individual differences and adaptive flexibility: A psychoneurometric analysis.” The award is for a total of $1,889,818 over 5 years.

Jim McNulty was awarded funding from the Military Suicide Research Consortium for his proposal, entitled "Using evaluative conditioning to improve marriage". The award provides $125,000 in funding.

Jesse Cougle was awarded a planning grant from the FSU Council on Research and Creativity for his proposal entitled "Computerized anger-reduction treatment for alcohol use disorder".

Zuoxin Wang was awarded a planning grant from the FSU Council on Research and Creativity for his proposal entitled “Exploring the epigenetic effects on paternal behavior and neurochemical receptor expression”.

FACULTY AWARDS AND HONORS

Five Psychology faculty members were named Fellows of the Association for Psychological Science: Pam Keel, Brad Schmidt, Thomas Joiner, Jon Maner, and Jim McNulty.

Arielle Borovsky, Jonathan Folstein, and Colleen Ganley received First Year Assistant Professor awards from the FSU Council on Research and Creativity. Each award provides up to $20,000 in support to facilitate research and creative activity.

Pamela Keel was made a standing member of the Adult Psychopathology and Disorders of Aging study section for the NIH. She was also awarded the 2014 Honors Thesis Mentor Award.

Kelly Kline, a Psychology faculty member at the Panama City Campus, has won her second Outstanding Teaching Award from the university.

GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS, AWARDS, AND HONORS

Sarah Brislin (Major Professor: Chris Patrick) was awarded an NSF GFRP fellowship for her grant, entitled “Continuous flash suppression as a novel approach to disentangling neural circuits in emotion processing.” The 3 year fellowship is for $144,000.

Lindsay Bodell (Major Professors: Pam Keel & Thomas Joiner) won a Philanthropic Educational Organization Scholars Award of $15,000 and received a Dissertation Grant Award from the Society for a Science of Clinical Psychology and a Student Research Grant from the Academy for Eating Disorders to fund her dissertation research.

Tiffany Brown (Major Professor: Pam Keel) was awarded a John Sayler Memorial travel award to present her research at the 2014 International Conference on Eating Disorders in New York City. She was also selected as a Global Foundation for Eating Disorders Scholar.

Lauren Holland (Major Professor: Pam Keel) won a 2014 FSU Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award. Lauren was selected as one of six winners from among seventy-eight nominees. Six other Psychology graduate students were nominated for the award: Levi Baker-Russell, Julie Carranza, Tim Kutta, Chris Robison, Berta Summers, and Tyler Towne.

Levi Baker-Russell (Major Professor: Jim McNulty) won the Society for Personality and Social Psychology’s Student Poster Award and the Relationship Research Interest Group Student Paper Award.

Michelle Baker-Russell (Major Professor: Jim McNulty) won the Society for Personality and Social Psychology’s Student Poster Award.

Greg Loney (Major Professor: Lisa Eckel) was selected for the Program in Neuroscience Lloyd Beidler Award for most outstanding graduate student.

Kevin Elliott (Neuroscience; Major Professor: Frank Johnson), Jessica Ribeiro (Clinical; Major Professor: Thomas Joiner), Ricky Macatee (Clinical; Major Professor: Jesse Cougle), Marc Goodrich (Developmental; Major Professor: Chris Lonigan), Bo Winegard (Social; Major Professor: Roy Baumeister), and Elizabeth Tighe (Cognitive; Major Professor: Chris Schatschneider) were selected as recipients of the department’s Jane West Award for outstanding research in their respective programs.

Nelson Roque (Major Professor: Wally Boot) was awarded a fellowship to the 2014 NIMH Summer Institute in Cognitive Neuroscience.

Tim Wright (Major Professor: Wally Boot) received the department’s Mark and Gloria Charness Dissertation Award to assist with expenses for his dissertation research.
**Postdoc Grants, Awards, and Honors**

Clare Mathes, a postdoctoral fellow in Alan Spector's lab, was awarded a 3-year NIH RO3 grant for her proposal, entitled "Central dopaminergic modulation of sensory and reward taste function in rats." Clare accepted a faculty position as an Assistant Professor in Psychology and Neuroscience at Baldwin Wallace University.

**Staff News**

Bonnie Wright earned a CRA (Certified Research Administrator) designation based on education, experience, and passing a comprehensive national exam that covers a broad range of laws, regulations, ethical considerations, and processes involved in grant management.

The Psychology Department welcomes Sarah Yennerell and Fran Moore to the grant analysts team.

**Undergraduate Awards and Honors**

Nicole McBride won the prestigious Phi Beta Kappa Marion Jewell Hay Award. The recipient of this award is chosen by a multidisciplinary committee based on their research accomplishments.

Melanie Jerez (DIS: Tom Joyner), a Junior Psychology major, received a competitive CUDCP (Council of University Directors of Clinical Psychology) 2014 invitation to meet with directors from PhD programs across the nation.

Annalise Mabe (Honors Advisor: Pam Keel) published a manuscript from her honors thesis in Pam Keel's lab entitled "Do you 'like' my photo? Facebook use maintains eating disorder risk". Annalise graduated in Spring 2013 with a B.S. in Psychology.

**Recent Graduate News**

Adam Fay (Major Professor: Jon Maner) accepted a tenure-track Assistant Professor position at SUNY Oswego starting in Fall, 2014. Adam will receive his Ph.D. in Social Psychology in Spring 2014.

Joanna Goplen (Major Professor: Ashby Plant) accepted a teaching position for the coming year at SUNY Oswego. Joanna will receive her Ph.D. in Social Psychology in Spring 2014.

**In the Spotlight**

On Friday, April 18th, the Department of Psychology hosted its annual Graduate Research Day (GRD), in which graduate students from across our five doctoral programs presented research through oral and poster presentations. Students were judged on the quality of their presented research and, at the end of the day, the Eugenia and Russell Morcom GRD Excellence Award was presented to the following students for best oral presentations: Matthew Ross (1st place), Tiffany Brown (2nd place), Michelle Baker-Russell (3rd place), and Nicholas Allan (4th place). The award was also presented to one student from each program for their poster presentation: Lindsay Bodell (Clinical), Jamie Tock (Cognitive), Rasheda Thompson (Developmental), Kevin Elliott (Neuroscience) and Levi Baker-Russell (Social). We were fortunate to have the Morcoms join us for the award presentations.

The following Friday, April 25th, the department and Psi Chi honor society hosted the annual Undergraduate Research Day in which undergraduate students present and discuss their research. The morning began with a poster session and was followed by brunch, the Howard D. Baker Research Talks, and an Awards Ceremony. The Howard Baker Award is given to the research project submissions that are judged to be the most meritorious. The Awards were presented to Mirela Tzoneva (1st place), Juan Vera (2nd place) and Brandon Ramsey (3rd place). Kristin Schoepfer won the Psi Chi Best Poster Award.

**Alumni News**

Courtney Cantrell was recently appointed Acting Director of the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services at the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services. Courtney received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology in 2008 (Major Professor: Mark Licht).

Lauren Brewer accepted an Assistant Professor position at Stephen F. Austin College in Texas. She was an assistant professor at the College of Idaho. Lauren received her Ph.D. in Social Psychology in 2012 (Major Professor: Roy Baumeister).

Kyle Conlon accepted an Assistant Professor position at Stephen F. Austin College in Texas. He was a senior lecturer at Boise State University. Kyle received his Ph.D. in Social Psychology in 2012 (Major Professor: Jon Maner).

Joe Breza accepted an Assistant Professor position in the Psychology department at Eastern Michigan University. He was a postdoctoral fellow at Ohio State University in the Department of Oral Biology. Joe received his Ph.D. in Neuroscience in 2011 (Major Professor: Rob Contreras).
In the Spotlight
Behavior Analysis is awash in job opportunities and this became abundantly clear on February 21st when the 8th Annual ABA Job Fair was held in the Psychology Department atrium. Over a dozen agencies from all parts of Florida and as far away as Indiana, Colorado, and California traveled to Tallahassee to meet our students in the Applied Behavior Analysis master’s program. With over 200 graduates over the past 15 years, the FSU ABA Program has quite a track record of success in placing students with some of the biggest and most well known behavior analysis organizations in the country. Many of the exhibitors were looking to hire their third or fourth FSU grad and some agencies sent our former students back to Tallahassee as recruiters.

Recent Publication Highlights
Note: The names of current students and postdoctoral fellows are underlined and the names of faculty are in bold.


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