

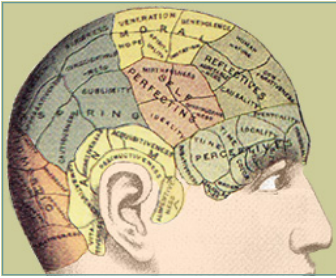
NEWS & NOTES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

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Editor: Dr. Natalie Ciarocco



PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS TAKE TOP HONORS

Krista St. Louis has the distinction of being selected to attend the Annual Professional Development Conference for Undergraduate Seniors Interested in Graduate Training in Family and Child Sciences. The competitive conference is designed to bring together eager and bright students to learn about the exciting changes and facets of research-oriented graduate training in family and child sciences. Students will attend interactive discussion sessions that allow them to learn more about the profession, develop networks of faculty and students from

across the country, and help prepare themselves for graduate school.

In September a selected set of senior undergraduate students from across the country, who plan to pursue doctoral graduate education in a discipline related to family and child sciences, will be brought together on the Arizona State University campus in Tempe, AZ for a week-end of discussions about preparation for graduate school, where the field is going, opportunities for interdisciplinary research and education, and gen-

eral discussions with faculty and graduate students in the field. Selected students, like Krista, will be provided with funding to pay for all travel-related expenses.



Krista St. Louis
presenting her research

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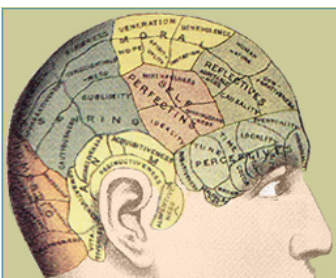


Leigh-Ann Javas won a Psi Chi Regional Research Award at the 79th Annual Eastern Psychological Association

Conference held in Boston, MA in March. All Psi Chi members (undergraduate and graduate) are eligible to submit their research for the Regional Research Awards. Awards were presented to students submitting the best research papers to Psi Chi sessions at the conference. Ms. Javas, a Senior Psychology Major, was awarded the honor and \$300 for her poster

entitled, *Life satisfaction versus relationship satisfaction: The influence of personal characteristics*. The poster was based on research done in collaboration with psychology department professor Dr. Gary Lewandowski.

Leigh-Ann joined a number of other Monmouth University psychology students in presenting at the conference last March.



PSYCHOLOGY UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH CONFERENCE

At the end of the semester, the Psychology Department sponsored the 48th Semi-annual Undergraduate Research Conference. The conference provided undergraduate students with an opportunity to share their original quantitative or qualitative research. This semester the conference was organized by Dr. Natalie Ciarocco and Dr. David Payne. The conference took place on Saturday May 3, 2008 in Bey Hall Auditorium and included two poster sessions, two paper sessions, and a keynote address.

After a welcome from Dean Green, forty undergraduate students were given the option to present their research as a poster or in a formal talk throughout the day. The keynote presenter was Dr. Gary Lewandowski Jr. who spoke about romantic relationships with a talk titled, *Hello Goodbye: From Initial Attraction to Break-up in Romantic Relationships*.



Michael Zdunek and Sarita Sackie with their best presentation awards at the 48th Semi-annual Undergraduate Research Conference held on May 3, 2008

An award was given for each format of presentation. Michael Zdunek presented a paper titled, *A romantic contrast effect: The effects of romantic writing on relationship perception*. His study examined how reading romantic literature can influence a romantic relationship through either the contrast or priming effect. In his study, participants in dating relationships completed both pre and post surveys assessing relationship satisfaction, passionate love, quality of alternatives, closeness of current partner to ideal, and closeness of current relationship to ideal. The findings, though primarily inconclusive, suggest that positive aspects of a relationship decrease when compared to an ideal.

Sarita Sackie was the recipient of the award for best poster. Sarita's poster was titled, *A Re-assessment of the Sixty Items on the Bem Sex Role Inventory: Plus Twenty New Adjectives*. This study was a re-examination of the items on the Bem Sex Role Inventory (BSRI; Bem, 1974). Participants completed the BSRI as well as 20 new items added by the researcher in order to assess the masculinity, femininity, and neutrality of all 80 items. The results revealed that 2 of the 20 feminine items were found to be no longer exclusively feminine. In relation to the masculine words, 10 of the 20 masculine items were found to be no longer exclusively masculine. There was no significance for the 20 new items. The findings suggest that some of the stereotyped items on the BSRI are no longer stereotyped and new items should be considered for inclusion on the BSRI.

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NEWS FROM PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

By: Natalie Menendez, Psychology Club President
Susie St. Amour, Psychology Club Vice President

On the evening of March 25th, the Psychology Club presented a distinguished group of panelists for students in attendance. The speakers included: I/O Psychologist Natalie Loeb, social worker Rachel Anderson, mental health associate Ashley Hale, MU '05, and primary counselors from a substance abuse facility Nicole Rogers and Katheryn Bucco. Panelists were open to any and all questions the students had including topics such as job duties, paperwork, and the benefits of specific advanced degrees. Many of the panelists shared information about what they do on a daily basis and that they were in the career because it was their passion.

These esteemed speakers came from various fields of psychology and graciously detailed the paths that led them to their respective careers. Aside from being an incredible learning experience, we were able to get to know these

speakers and see where we as students might fit within the field of psychology. It is important for psychology majors to know the many possibilities that our degree can afford us. These presentations and hopefully future panels, help us to make a connection between what we study every day and the various situations where we can apply our knowledge once we graduate. This evening was valuable and informative and gave students some insight to potential internships or eventual careers.

The Psychology Club hosted an Easter Egg Hunt on March 22nd for area children in collaboration with the Manna House .



Research Opportunities Available

Please visit:
<http://bluehawk.monmouth.edu/~psych/frames/fs.html>

Department Chair:

Janice Stapley

Department Advising Coordinators:

Gary Lewandowski & Michele Van Volkom

Career Advisor and Planners:

Doris Hiatt & Gary Lewandowski

PSI CHI HOSTS INDUCTION

On April 20th the Monmouth University chapter of Psi Chi hosted their annual induction ceremony. Psi Chi is the National Honor Society in Psychology, founded in 1929 for the purposes of encouraging, stimulating, and maintaining excellence in scholarship, and advancing the science of psychology.

The keynote address was given by Dr. Janice Stapley and Lina Jaramillo, from Psi Chi, who explained how they applied their knowledge of psychology in creating a conference on socialization of sex role stereotyping in November 2007. Following the address, twenty-one students were officially inducted into the Monmouth University Chapter. In addition, April Brock, Phi Chi member, received the volunteer award.



Officers: Anthony Alaimo, Lina Jaramillo, Dr. Lisa Dinella, Shannon Connell, and Krista St. Louis at the Psi Chi Induction

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2008!



The department of psychology is proud of the psychology majors in the class of 2008. While our students will undoubtedly go on to do a number of great things, the following is a preliminary list of students who have decided to continue their education in the fall.

Alexandra Bartlom	Master's, Social Work, Boston or Monmouth University (Undecided)
Dana Forsbach	Master's, I/O Psychology, The Chicago School for Professional Psychology
Lauren Goslin	Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, Chestnut Hill
Kim Green	Master's, School Psychology, Rowan University
Lauren Gunneson	Master's, Professional Counseling, Monmouth University
Brandon Hager	Master's, Developmental Psychology, Columbia University
Ken Kubes	Master's, Professional Counseling, Monmouth University
Lisa Maietta	Master's, Social Work, Monmouth University
Maria Mereos	Master's, Professional Counseling, Monmouth University
Natalie Nardone	Master's, Social Psychology, State University of New York at Stony Brook
Esther Quezada	Master's, Counseling (School/Guidance), New York University
Erin Sammon	Master's, Counselor Education (Alcohol & Drug Abuse), Kean University
Fortune Shababo	Master's, Psychological Counseling, Columbia University

In addition, Christine J. Hatchard, MU '01, psychology, received her Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology from Chestnut Hill College's American Psychological Association accredited program.

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT STUDENT AWARDS

This spring four students were selected for various department awards. Congratulations to all!

Shannon M. Connell won the **Alice Gustav Scholarship Award** for being a psychology major who exemplifies the ideals of compassion, hard work, independence, striving towards excellence, and a commitment to the feminist tradition.

Nikki R. Hernandez was honored with the **Rose Feinberg Award** for being a deserving student in

psychology. This award was donated by Harold Feinberg, and by family and friends of the late Mrs. Rose Feinberg, a graduate and faculty member of Monmouth University.

Susan D. St. Armour was awarded the **Randeberg Memorial Award** for her outstanding all around performance as a psychology major by exemplifying the ideals of service and involvement in psychology. The award reflects excellence in academic work, commitment to scientific research and discovery, and the

demonstration of leadership and social responsibility.

Barbara J. Battistuz was the recipient of the **Griffin Award** which is presented in honor and recognition of the highest Grade Point Average by a graduating Psychology major.



FACULTY HAPPENINGS

A number of psychology department faculty will be teaching the Freshman Seminar (LC100) in the fall semester. Dr. Natalie Ciarocco, Dr. Gary Lewandowski, Dr. David Strometz, and Dr. Michele Van Volkom will be joining veteran Dr. Keith Morgen in the instruction of this class.

~Natalie Ciarocco, Ph.D.

Presentations Include:

Ciarocco, N. (2008, March). *The impact of rejection on prosocial behavior*. Poster presented at the 79th Annual Eastern Psychology Association Conference, Boston, MA., USA.

Grants Include:

Grant-in-aid for Creativity award for \$1,921 for a series of studies on the beneficial effects of rumination.

~Jack Demarest, Ph.D.

Presentations Include:

Turner, T., & Demarest, J. (2008). *Procedure for maintaining anesthetized fish out of water*. Paper presented at the TriBranch American Association for Laboratory Animal Science, Atlantic City, NJ, USA.

Demarest, J., & Gormley, L. (2008, May). *Investment by mothers and fathers in sons and daughters: The impact of birth order*. Poster presented at NorthEastern Evolutionary Psychology Society Meetings, Manchester, NH, USA.

Demarest, J., Correa, V., & Snee, J. (2008, May). *Stalking and spying: A mate retention tactic*. Poster presented at NorthEastern Evolutionary Psychology Society Meetings, Manchester, NH, USA.

~Lisa Dinella, Ph.D.

Dinella, L. M., & Korcz, L. (2008). *Gender Differences and the role of self-efficacy, parental expectations, and academic performance*. American Educational Research Association Conference.

Dinella, L. M., Connell, S., Fulcher, M., & Weisgram, E. (2008). *Gender Differences in the Role of Gender Identity in Young Adults' Career Aspirations*. Gender Development Conference.

Igelshteyn, D., & Dinella, L. M. (2008). *How Young Adults' Sex and Gender Identities Relate to their Post-College Ambitions: Implications for Career and Emotional Development*. Society for Research in Adult Development.

Fasolino, J., & Dinella, L. M. (2008). *Sex Differences in Young Adults' Emotional Responses to Music*. Society for Research in Adult Development.

~Gary Lewandowski, Ph.D.

Presentations Include:

Javas, L. K., & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2008, March). *Life satisfaction vs. relationship satisfaction: The influence of personal characteristics*. Poster presented at the 79th Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Boston, MA., USA.

Nardone, N., St. Amour, S., Shababo, F., Sammon, E., & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2008, March) *Perceptions of relationship quality of online dating*. Poster presented at the 79th Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Boston, MA., USA.

Raines, A. J., Nardone, N., & Lewandowski, G.W. Jr. (2008, March) *The role of the self-knowledge in college adjustment*. Poster presented at the 79th Annual Eastern Psychology Association Conference, Boston, MA., USA.

Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., & Scarponi, T.* (2008, February). *The role of self-expansion and desired similarity in romantic attraction*. Poster presented at the 9th Annual Meeting of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Albuquerque, NM.

Nardone, N.*, Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., & Le, B. (2008, February). *The relation of self-expansion to well-being and relationship quality*. Poster presented at the 9th Annual Meeting of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology, Albuquerque, NM.

~Keith Morgen, Ph.D.

Dr. Morgen was named Chair of the Committee on Spirituality in Addictions, which is a section of the International Association of Addictions and Offender Counseling (a division of the American Counseling Association)

Publications Include:

Morgen, K., Astone-Twerell, J., Hernitche, T., Gunneson, L.*, & Santangelo, K.* (In-press). Health-related quality of life among substance abusers in residential drug abuse treatment. *Applied Research in Quality of Life*.

Maschi, T., Bradley, C., & Morgen, K. (2008). Unraveling the link between trauma and delinquency: The mediating role of negative affect and delinquency peer exposure. *Youth Violence and Juvenile Justice*, 6, 136-157.

Morgen, K., & Gunneson, L.* (In-press). Decisional balance and collegiate drinking. *Journal of Alcohol and Drug Education*.

Presentations Include:

Santangelo, K., & Morgen, K. (2008, March). *Factor analysis of the English language version of the Attitudes Towards Smoking Scale*. Poster presented at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Boston.

Gunneson, L., & Morgen, K. (2008, March). *Decisional balance in problematic college drinkers*. Poster presented at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Boston.

Goslin, L., Javas, L.*, & Morgen, K. (2008, March). *How the emotional and cognitive states of*

college students influences alcohol consumption and dependence. Poster presented at the Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Boston.

Grants Include:

Grant-in-aid for Creativity award for \$1,696 for a study of clinical supervision of addictions counseling.

~Janice Stapley, Ph.D.

Presentations Include:

Resenhoeft, A. C., & Stapley, J. C. (2008, March). *Glass half full: Optimism, Year in College, and Gender's Influence on Adjustment to College*. Poster presented at the 79th Annual Eastern Psychology Association Conference, Boston, MA., USA.

Stapley, J. C., (2008, March). *Children's birthday cards: Implicit gender messages about agency and emotions*. Paper presented at the Mid-Atlantic Women's Studies Association Meeting, Abington, PA., USA.

~Michele Van Volkom, Ph.D.

Publications Include:

Van Volkom, M. (2008). Attitudes toward cigarette smoking among college students. *College Student Journal*, 42, 294-304.

Presentations Include:

Van Volkom, M., Green, K.*, & Kelly, S.* (2008, March). *The Influence of gender and athletic status on current trends in smoking and drinking in college*. Poster presented at the 79th Annual Eastern Psychology Association Conference, Boston, MA., USA.

* denotes Monmouth University student