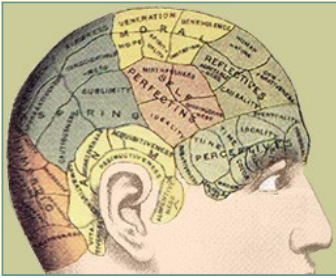


NEWS & NOTES

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

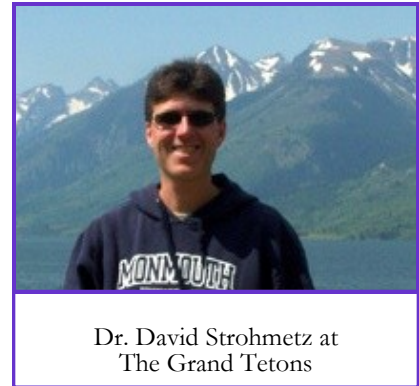
Editors: Dr. Natalie Ciarocco & Dr. Michele Van Volkom

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COLLEAGUE PROMOTED TO FULL PROFESSOR

Dr. David B. Strohmets is the newest member of the psychology department faculty to be promoted to full professor. After graduating with a doctorate in social/organizational psychology from Temple University, Dr. Strohmets spent several years as a professor at Shenandoah University before starting his career at Monmouth University in 1996. From 2002 to 2006, Dr. Strohmets served as the chair of the psychology department before taking an administrative position. Currently, Dr. Strohmets holds the position of Assistant Vice President of Academic and Institutional Assessment. In this position, he examines the educational experience and student learning from a campus-wide perspective. The focus of his personal scholarship is on tipping behavior as well as strategies for the better teaching of research methodology. These interests have led to a number of publications, grants, and the development of teaching ancillaries. While in his administrative position, Dr. Strohmets still teaches for the psychology department. Each year he teaches sev-



Dr. David Strohmets at
The Grand Tetons

eral sections of Social Psychology. His main goal in this class is to have students apply class concepts to their “real lives” which he facilitates through innovative activities. “Darn it Strohmets!” is an ongoing blogging assignment where students share the experience of suddenly recognizing a concept from class in their everyday lives. In addition, Dr. Strohmets has students develop scrapbooks in which they piece together a visual representation of a personal experience or media items such as newspaper articles, television shows, movies, or songs that exemplified a concept from each chapter of their text. When not on campus, Dr. Strohmets likes to travel the country and tour national parks with his family.

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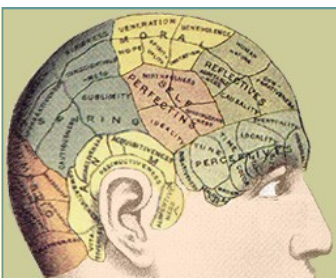
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PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT HOSTS 52ND SEMI-ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

On Saturday May 1, 2010, the psychology department's faculty and students gathered for the semi-annual undergraduate research conference in Wilson Hall. The day began with welcoming remarks from Dean Green, department chairperson Dr. Stapley, and Psi Chi president Ashley Battista. The presentations began with an applied psychology poster session, where students who completed their field experience in the spring of 2010 were able to showcase their placements.

There were two paper sessions during the conference, where 16 students orally presented the results of their original senior thesis projects. There were also two poster sessions during the conference, where approximately 30 students presented the results of their senior thesis projects in poster form. Many students had family and friends in attendance to witness the culmination of much hard work and dedication.

One of the highlights of the day included a keynote presentation by Dr. Rhoads, the chair of Monmouth University's biology depart-

ment. Both students and faculty alike were fascinated by his talk, titled *Genes, Alcohol and the Adolescent Brain – A Perfect Storm*. Dr. Rhoads answered questions for the audience, and stayed to hear the afternoon paper sessions.

The psychology department is proud of all of the thesis students and their supervising professors. Of particular note were the three award winners at the conference. Richard Sisler won the award for best applied psychology poster. Caitlin Smith won the award for best research poster. Emma Higgins won the award for best paper presentation.

Many thanks go to Mrs. Carlson, our department office coordinator, who ensured that the day was a success through all of her behind-the-scenes work and planning. Thanks as well to Dr. Rhoads for joining us at the conference. Thanks also go to Dr. Ciarocco and Dr. Stapley, who co-coordinated the conference this semester. Congratulations to all the thesis students and professors for another successful conference!



Award winners

Emma Higgins, Caitlin Smith, & Richard Sisler



Keynote speaker Dr. Rhoads
enjoying the conference

NEWS FROM PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

By: Ryan Keough, Secretary

The Psychology Club has been keeping busy this semester with events celebrating Martin Luther King Jr., hosting a live hypnotist, sponsoring a trip to the annual Eastern Psychological Association conference in New York and donating a sizable amount to our new charity. It is also time for the old executive board members to move on as graduation approaches to make room for the new members!

The Martin Luther King Jr. event hosted in January always draws a large crowd from local elementary schools, and this year was no exception. A number of children visited our stand coloring in pictures of the late hero. On April 14th students made it to the live hypnotism show presented by Robert Fried who has a thriving practice in Neptune, NJ and a background in helping people kick bad habits such as smoking or un-

healthy eating. A number of students were hypnotized during the show including old and new E-Board members Ryan Keough and Yvonne Briddell.

The EPA trip was once again a great success, this time being held in our close neighboring city of New York. A number of students took advantage of the club sponsored trip this year to learn about current research. The club also fundraised throughout the year and donated \$263.36 to The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. We hope to see the remaining students join us next year with even more success!

The new 2010-2011 officers, Stephanie Kocsik, Yvonne Briddell, Miranda Bobrowski and George Mena, are sure that next year's club will be greater than ever!



Robert Fried hypnotizing students



Stephanie Kocsik (President)
at the MLK event



Psi Chi Students at the Ronald
McDonald House

PSI CHI INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY UPDATE

By: Barbara Fulmer, President

In March, Psi Chi held their yearly induction. Fifty-two of Monmouth University's top psychology students were inducted into the International Honor Society for Psychology. It was a beautiful event held in Wilson Hall. Dr. Stapley was our keynote speaker this year, and through the use of PowerPoint highlighted the accomplishments of the new inductees as well as current members of Psi Chi including awards won, research presented at professional conferences, students who studied abroad, and those who are currently doing independent studies and thesis. The Executive Board of Psi Chi congratulates all of the new members of Psi Chi. The new inductees worked very hard in

their academics to reach this point, and should feel honored to be a member of this society.

For the second year, Psi Chi participated in the Ronald McDonald House Meal Maker program. Once again, this event was extremely successful this year. For two evenings on April 6th and April 8th, students and faculty prepared dinner for the families who are staying at the Ronald McDonald House in Long Branch. It is one of the defining features in which Psi Chi gives back to the community. Thank you to all students and faculty who gave up their free time to help out. Everyone helped in preparing the dinners and we had a great time doing it!

Congratulations GRADUATE

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT STUDENT AWARDS

This spring five students were selected for various departmental awards. Congratulations to all!

Nicole Bayles received the *Griffin Award* for the highest grade point average as a graduating psychology student.

Timea Chemez was bestowed the *Randeborg Memorial Award* for her outstanding all around performance as a Psychology major, exemplifying the ideals of service and involvement in psychology. The award reflects excel-

lence in academic work, commitment to scientific research and discovery, and the demonstration of leadership and social responsibility.

Emma Higgins was bestowed the *Alice Gustav Scholarship Award* for outstanding performance as a returning psychology major who exemplifies the ideals of compassion, hard work, independence, striving towards excellence, and a commitment to the feminist tradition.

Michele LoPresti & Caitlin Smith were honored with the *Rose*

Feinberg Memorial 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.



WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE CLASS OF 2010?

The department of psychology is proud of the psychology majors in the class of 2010. While our students will undoubtedly go on to do a number of great things, the following is a preliminary list of students that have committed to the next step in their future.

Deana Alessio	Master's, Mental Health Counseling, Monmouth University
Amanda Buff	Master's, Mental Health Counseling, Monmouth University
John Devlin	Employment Specialist at Waters and Sims, Red Bank, NJ
Megan Inglesby	Master's, Clinical Mental Health Counseling, Georgian Court University
Dana Grinblat	Master's, Mental Health Counseling, Monmouth University
Stephanie Moffitt	Master's, Forensic Psychology, University of Denver
Olivia Nobre	Master's, Cognition and Communication, University of Copenhagen
Jennifer Noonan	Master's, Experimental Psychology, Seton Hall University
Richard Sisler	Master's, Professional Counseling, Monmouth University

EXEMPLAR STUDIES FOR TEACHING RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

When compared to subject area textbooks, research methodology texts often lack the inclusion of specific research studies to demonstrate key concepts and designs. Consequently, instructors teaching a methods course have few supporting examples of published studies to discuss and analyze in class. To address this concern, Dr. Natalie Ciarocco, Dr. David Strohmetz, and Dr. Gary Lewandowski recently collaborated to develop a teaching resource for instructors of research methodology. The resource supports students actively learning methodology in the classroom by providing instructors with an annotated bibliography of

11 contemporary research articles that illustrate 5 different research designs on a variety of psychological topics that students will find engaging. Instructors can assign these articles as supplementary readings in order to provide a foundation for the provided in-class discussion starters and activities that use the research article as a foundation for developing new research questions and designs. A 2009 Instruction Resource Award from the Society for the Teaching of Psychology (APA Division 3) supported this project. For a copy, please visit the Office of Teaching in Psychology Online at <http://tinyurl.com/27blynf>.

FACULTY HAPPENINGS

~Natalie Ciarocco, Ph.D.

Presentations:

Ciarocco, N., Echevarria, J.*, & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010, January). *Too weak to resist: The influence of self-regulation on infidelity*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Las Vegas, NV.

~Lisa M. Dinella, Ph.D.

Presentations:

Dinella, L. M. (2010, April). *Peter the Pirate and Paula the Princess: Children's Halloween costume choices as an artifact of their psychosocial and gender development*. Poster at the Gender Development Research Conference, San Francisco, CA.

Fulcher, M., Weisgram, E., & Dinella, L. M. (2010, April). *College students' vision of their future work and family roles: Associations with parental behaviors*. Poster at the Gender Development Research Conference, San Francisco, CA.

*Monmouth University Undergraduate Student

~Gary W. Lewandowski, Ph.D.

Presentations:

Fulmer, B. A. *, & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010). *Evaluating information about relationships: Quality of source and memory for information*. Poster presented at the 81st Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Brooklyn, NY.

Kocsik, S. L. *, & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010). *But will we grow in the future?: Potential self-expansion and infidelity*. Poster presented at the 81st Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Brooklyn, NY.

Weldon, K. A. *, & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010). *The effect of self-efficacy on interpersonal attraction*. Poster presented at the 81st Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Brooklyn, NY.

Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010). *Self-focused strategies for minimizing the negative effects of relationship dissolution*. Poster presented at the 11th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

Mattingly, B. A., McIntyre, K. P., & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010). *Approach and avoidance motivation as predictors of self-expansion*. Poster presented at the

11th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

Nardone, N.* & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010). *Clarity versus confusion: Effects on the self and romantic relationships*. Poster presented at the 11th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

Strohmetz, D. B., Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., & Clark, A.* (2010). *Self-expansion in college: A novel application of the self-expansion model*. Poster presented at the 11th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in Las Vegas, NV.

Invited Talks:

Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010, April). *Casting light on the darkness of dissolution: Endings, beginnings, and wanderings*. Ashland University, Ashland, OH.

Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010, March). *The science of hook-ups and heart break*. 48th Annual Monmouth Junior Science Symposium, Monmouth University.

Popular Press:

~Women's Health April 2010

~*Janice C. Stapley, Ph.D.*

Presentations:

Stapley, J. C., Gissubel, K. M., Fragale, A. K., Gagliardo, B. J., & O'Leary, C. K. (2010, March). *Emotionally elaborated First Year experiences: A window into college students' lives*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Brooklyn, NY.

Stapley, J. C., & Fulmer, B.* (2010, June). *Adolescent girls' perceptions of their parents' support and communication: What do girls want?* Paper to be presented at the Mid-Atlantic Women's Studies Association Meeting, Maryland.

Stapley, J. C., & Noonan, J.* (2010, June). *Breakup Songs: A Window into Socialization of Agency among Female Emerging Adults*. Paper to be presented at the Mid-Atlantic Women's Studies Association Meeting, Maryland.

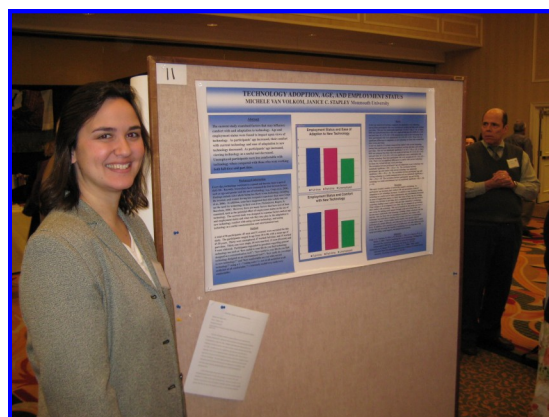
~*Michele Van Volkom, Ph.D.*

Presentations:

Van Volkom, M., & Stapley, J. C. (2010, March). *Technology adoption, age, and employment status*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Brooklyn, NY.



Dr. Janice Stapley presenting with Red Bank Catholic students at EPA



Dr. Michele Van Volkom presenting at EPA



Barbara Fulmer (student) and Dr. Gary Lewandowski at EPA