

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY NEWSLETTER

Editors: Dr. Natalie Ciarocco & Dr. Michele Van Volkom
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Inside this Issue

Undergraduate Research Conference 2

News from Psychology Club 3

Psi Chi Update 3

Class of 2011 4

Teaching Website 5

Faculty Happenings 5

DEPARTMENT STORMS EPA CONFERENCE

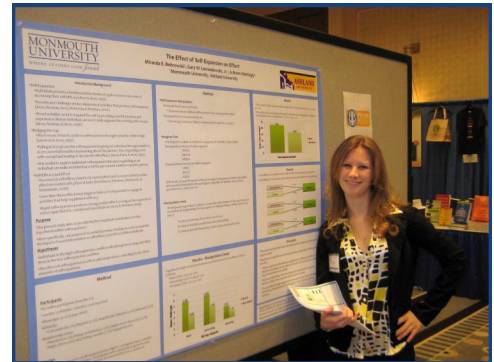
This year the psychology department made a strong showing at the 82nd annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association which was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Cambridge, M.A. from March 10-13, 2011.

Psychology major Miranda Bobrowski received the Psi Chi best poster award for her presentation with Dr. Gary W. Lewandowski. Ms. Bobrowski's winning poster "The effect of self-expansion on effort" examined how self-expansion influences the amount of effort produced by individuals to solve a cognitive task.

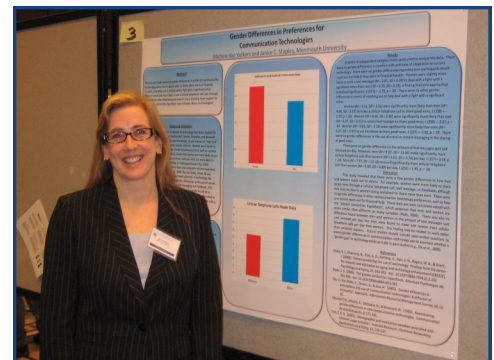
Dr. Janice Stapley, Chair of the Department of Psychology, presented two posters "Gender differences in preferences for communication technologies" with Dr. Michele Van Volkom and "Emotional memories of undergraduate students who want to be therapists." This second poster was co-presented with Keith Gisubel, Red Bank Catholic High School teacher, and Red Bank Catholic students who are part of a special program in which AP Psychology students do research internships in the Emotions Laboratory.

Monmouth University was very well represented, with Dr. Jack Demarest presenting a paper "Gender differences in spying on a mate" and a poster session with recent MU psy-

chology graduate Ian Cohen. Emma Higgins also gave a paper on "The sunk-cost fallacy in relationships: throwing good investments after bad" that was co-authored with Dr. Gary W. Lewandowski. Psychology majors Emily Gately, Caryn Dambra, Stephanie Kocsik and Jackie Abate and May 2010 MU Psychology graduate Barbara Fulmer also presented posters with various professors in the department.



Miranda Bobrowski at her winning poster



Dr. Janice Stapley at her poster presentation

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT HOSTS 54TH SEMI-ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE

On Saturday, April 30, 2011, the Department of Psychology proudly hosted the semi-annual research conference. This conference featured the work of our senior thesis students as well as students from Dr. Doris Hiatt's Field Experience course. The conference was coordinated by Dr. Natalie Ciarocco and Dr. Janice Stapley.

This semester's conference began with welcoming remarks from Dr. Janice Stapley, chair of the Psychology Department and Dr. Stanton Green, Dean of the School of Humanities and Social Sciences. Welcoming remarks were also delivered by Miranda Bobrowski, the newly elected president of Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology.

Throughout the day, conference attendees, including students, faculty members, and the families and friends of our students, were treated to a mixture of paper presentations and poster presentations. Each presentation highlighted the student's original senior thesis. Whether quantitative, qualitative, or mixed de-

signs were employed, research projects are the culmination of several semesters of training and all involved designing the study, collecting and analyzing data, and then presenting the findings in the student's chosen format. In all, the day featured 17 paper presentations delivered via Power Point and 18 poster presentations. There were also 14 posters highlighting field placements for student internships.

Ms. Victoria Lin won the award for best paper presentation and Ms. Megan Jeffers won the award for best poster presentation. We are also pleased to announce that the best field experience poster award was shared by two students, Ms. Carly Halpin and Ms. Chelseya O'Connell, who has accepted a permanent position in Human Resources at her site L'Oreal.

As our students did throughout the day, we acknowledge the hard work and dedication of the thesis supervising professors this semester: Drs. Jack Demarest, Lisa Dinella, Gary Lewandowski, and Janice Stapley.



Award winners: Chelseya O'Connell, Carly Halpin, Victoria Lin & Megan Jeffers



Dawn Beaton presenting to Dr. David Payne & Dr. Judy Nye

NEWS FROM PSYCHOLOGY CLUB

By: **Stephanie Kocsik, President**

The Psychology Club has been busy this spring. The club found themselves helping those in need both on and off campus as well as raising money for their adopted charity. The Club's hard work resulted in winning an award from the MU Student Government for community service and philanthropy.

This spring the club hosted an activity at the campus MLK event and worked with a new group, the Boys and Girls Club, Red Bank chapter. The members of the club banded together to throw a Valentine's Day party for the kids of The Boys and Girls Club. The kids and club members all had a wonderful time dancing, having hula hoop contests, tossing bean bags, making valentine's card and presents, and face painting! The party was a huge success and the club has been invited back to help with the kids in the coming year.

Along with helping out the children of Monmouth's local community, the Psychology Club also sponsors a trip to the Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference. This year the

conference was held in Cambridge, MA, and the club was able to help take nine students to the conference. While there, students immersed themselves in multiple areas of psychology; from clinical to cognitive and back. Three delegations members also had the opportunity to present their own research at the conference.

Throughout both semesters this year, the Psychology Club has been fundraising through campus activities in order to help support The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. This year, the club is pleased to report donating double what they donated last year. All the members are very proud to have been able to help fund-raise for the charity and will continue to donate in the coming years.

The Psychology Club's big plans for the coming school year involve more work with The Boys and Girls Club, as well as continuing to fundraise for charity. Their new executive board is very excited to continue the tradition of helping others.



Students enjoying dinner in Cambridge



Playing games at the Boys & Girls Club Party

PSI CHI INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY UPDATE

By: **Ashley Battista, President**

Psi Chi had a great spring semester inducting 40 new members into our international honor society. The following week we used the money that has been raised from fall semester to allow us to cook for two Meal Maker Nights at the Ronald McDonald House of Long Branch. New members, along with old members and faculty, went to the house to cook dinners for the guests who are using the services provided during their difficult times. We had a great experience and are looking forward to doing it again next year! We also had a successful Old Monmouth Candy Sale. We raised over \$500 for the Ronald McDonald House! Thank you to all who sold and supported the sale.



Psi Chi Students at the Ronald McDonald House this April



PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT STUDENT AWARDS

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

Ashley Battista was given the *Randenberg Memorial Award* for her outstanding all around performance as a Psychology major, 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.

Miranda Bobrowski was 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.

Juliana M. Pierce was given 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.

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



CLASS OF



WHAT'S NEXT FOR THE CLASS OF 2011?

The department of psychology is proud of the psychology majors in the class of 2011. 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.

Ashley Battista	Master's, School Counseling, Monmouth University
Samantha Brown	Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, Chestnut Hill
Candace Goblesky	Master's, Counseling Psychology, Chatham University
Carly Halpin	Master's, Mental Health Counseling, Monmouth University
Laura Hennessey	Master's, Social Work, Monmouth University; Working at CPC Behavioral Health
Emma Higgins	Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, Immaculata University
Stephanie Kocsik	University College London
Jaclyn Racaniello	Master's, Mental Health Counseling, Monmouth University
Gina Radice	Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, Xavier University
Nicole Sayben	Master's, Mental Health Counseling, Monmouth University

 Congratulations GRADUATE 

WEBSITE DEVELOPED FOR TEACHING RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To help facilitate the sometimes challenging process of teaching research methods and statistics in psychology, Drs. Gary Lewandowski, Natalie Ciarocco, and David Strohmets created a website (www.teachpsychscience.org) devoted to peer-reviewed resources for teaching these topics.

TeachPsychScience.org provides: PowerPoints, exemplar studies, class demonstrations, class and lab activities, assignments, student practice exercises, and links to web-based re-

sources. Additionally, the site was designed to make finding resources as parsimonious as possible.

The site launched in the fall of 2010. Please take advantage of some of the fantastic resources that have already been posted, and consider sharing some of your own resources. The website creation was supported with grant funding from the *Association for Psychological Science (APS) Fund for Teaching and Public Understanding of Psychological Science*.

FACULTY HAPPENINGS SPRING 2011

~Natalie Ciarocco, Ph.D.

Gately, E. L., Dambra, C. M., Ciarocco, N. J., & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2011, March). *The influence of temperature sensations on global warming*. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Cambridge, MA.

Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., Ciarocco, N., Pette-nato, N., & Stephan, J. (2011, January). *The influence of ego depletion on the receptivity to relationship initiation strategies*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, San Antonio, TX.

Ciarocco, N., Strohmets, D. B., & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2011, January). *Teaching through example: How to use empirical studies to teach research methods*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology, St. Pete, FL.

Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., Ciarocco, N., & Strohmets, D. B. (2011, January). *Teaching the*

science of Psychology: A collection of resources. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology, St. Pete, FL.

Ciarocco, N. J., Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., & Dinella, L. M. (2011). *Atlantic Coast Teaching of Psychology Conference*. Association for Psychological Science Fund for Teaching and Public Understanding of Psychological Science (Amount Awarded: \$1,000).

~Lisa M. Dinella, Ph.D.

Dinella, L. M., & Martin, C. L. (April, 2011). *Do tomboys conform to gender stereotypes? Congruence between tomboys' and nontomboys' stereotypes and activity preferences*. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal, Canada.

Weisgram, E., Dinella, L. M., Fulcher, M., & Grunwald, A. (April, 2011). *Pink monster*

trucks and camo baby dolls: The impact of implicit color labels on preschool children's interest in toys. Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal, Canada.

England, D., Martin, C. L., Dinella, L. M., & Leonard, S. (April, 2011). *Girly-girls and androgynous girls: How girls who vary in activity gender-typing differ in other domains of gender-typing.* Poster presented at the Biennial Meeting of the Society for Research in Child Development, Montreal, Canada.

Dinella, L. M., & Lewandowski, G. (January, 2011). *Increasing the self-relevance of psychology: Using the Twilight saga to teach family therapy concepts.* Poster presented at the annual meeting of the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology, St. Petersburg, FL.

Dinella, L. M., Ciarocco, N. J., & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2011). *Atlantic Coast Teaching of Psychology Conference.* American Psychological Association BEA Block grant (Amount Awarded: \$1,000).

Dinella, L. M., Ciarocco, N., & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2010). *Grant in support of the first biennial Atlantic Coast Teaching of Psychology Conference (ACT Conference).* Society for the Teaching of Psychology's Small Grants—Promoting Partnership Program. (Amount awarded: \$750).

~Gary Lewandowski, Ph.D.

Grants

Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2011). *Exploring the benefits of self-expansion in a community sample.* Grant-in-Aid for Creativity, Monmouth University. (Award Amount: 1498.00).

Publications

Sizemore, O.J., & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2011). Lesson learned: Using clinical examples for teaching research methods. *Psychology Learning and Teaching, 10*, 25-31.

Conference Presentations – Research

Bobrowski, M. E.*, Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., & Mattingly, B. (2011, March). *The effect of self-expansion on effort.* Poster presented at the 82nd Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Cambridge, MA.

(Note: Miranda Bobrowski won the *Psi Chi Regional Research Award* for this presentation.)

Fulmer, B. A.*, Pedreiro, A.*, Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., & Dinella, L. M. (2011, March). *Positively princess: Princesses' self-views, occupational values, and effort.* Poster presented at the 82nd Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Cambridge, MA.

Kocsik, S. L.*, Abate, J.*, Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., & Ketay, S. (2011, March). *Learning from lost love: The nature of learning about relationships through break-up.* Poster presented at the 82nd Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Cambridge, MA.

Higgins, E.*, & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2011, March). *The sunk-cost fallacy in relationships: Throwing good investments after bad.* Paper presented at the 82nd Annual Eastern Psychological Association Conference, Cambridge, MA.

Le, B., Farrell, A.**, & Lewandowski, G. W., Jr. (2011, January). *Self-expansion and infidelity in romantic relationships: The mediating role of satisfaction.* Poster presented at the 12th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in San Antonio, TX.

* Monmouth University Undergraduate Student

** Undergraduate Student from Another Institution

Mattingly, B. A., Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., & Carson, R.** (2011, January). *Solving the unsolvable: The effects of self-expansion on generating solutions to impossible problems*. Poster presented at the 12th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in San Antonio, TX.

McIntyre, K. P., Mattingly, B. A., Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., Carey, R.**, Nieman, L.**, & Russack, D.** (2011, January). *Motivation and prospects of self-concept change affect desire to form friendships*. Poster presented at the 12th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in San Antonio, TX.

VanderDrift, L. E., Lewandowski, G. W., Jr., & Agnew, C. R. *Self-expansion in current romance, interest in relationship alternatives, and susceptibility to infidelity*. Poster presented at the 12th Annual Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in San Antonio, TX.

Professional Service

Editorial Board of the Journal of Social and Personal Relationships

Website Launch

Dr. Lewandowski, along with colleagues from Haverford College and the University of Texas at Austin, launched www.ScienceOfRelationships.com. The goal of the site is to promote the scientific study of relationships to the public by making research findings accessible to non-academics. The site features answers to questions that readers have submitted about relationships, summa-

ries of journal articles, applications of relationship research to popular culture examples, and links to relationship research stories in the media.

Popular Press Mentions

- [Appearance on CNN “Putting the ‘I’ in Marriage” \(January, 2011\)](#)
- [New York Times “The Happy Marriage Is the ‘Me’ Marriage” \(January, 2011\)](#)
- [American Psychological Association \(APA\) Research in Action: Break-ups Aren’t All Bad](#)
- Marie Claire [“The New Couple Rules” \(April, 2011\)](#)
- [Philadelphia Inquirer “How to tend a marriage.” \(March, 2011\)](#) [The Cavalier Daily “Mirror, mirror on the wall, who has the most attractive personality of them all?” \(February, 2011\)](#)

~Janice C. Stapley, Ph.D.

Dr. Stapley, co-chair of the New Jersey Women’s and Gender Studies Consortium, moderated presentations at the NJWGSC conference in March of 2011 at Brookdale Community College. Panels included *Constructing/Contesting Identities* and *Voice and the Body*. Recent Monmouth University Psychology graduate Shannon Travers presented *Gender stereotypes and perceptions of heterosexual physical and verbal intimate partner violence*.

~Michele Van Volkom, Ph.D.

Van Volkom, M., & Stapley, J. C. (2011, March). *Gender differences in preferences for communication technologies*. Poster session presented at the annual meeting of the Eastern Psychological Association, Cambridge, MA.

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY

**MONMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**

WHERE LEADERS LOOK *forward*