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 weekend of discussions about preparation for graduate school, where the field is going, opportunities for interdisciplinary research and education, and general 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.

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.
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.*

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.
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.

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.
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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree and Program</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandra Bartlon</td>
<td>Master’s, Social Work, Boston or Monmouth University (Undecided)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dana Forsbach</td>
<td>Master’s, I/O Psychology, The Chicago School for Professional Psychology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Goslin</td>
<td>Psy.D., Clinical Psychology, Chestnut Hill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Green</td>
<td>Master’s, School Psychology, Rowan University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauren Gunneson</td>
<td>Master’s, Professional Counseling, Monmouth University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brandon Hager</td>
<td>Master’s, Developmental Psychology, Columbia University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken Kubes</td>
<td>Master’s, Professional Counseling, Monmouth University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Maietta</td>
<td>Master’s, Social Work, Monmouth University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Mereos</td>
<td>Master’s, Professional Counseling, Monmouth University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalie Nardone</td>
<td>Master’s, Social Psychology, State University of New York at Stony Brook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esther Quezada</td>
<td>Master’s, Counseling (School/Guidance), New York University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Erin Sammon</td>
<td>Master’s, Counselor Education (Alcohol &amp; Drug Abuse), Kean University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fortune Shababo</td>
<td>Master’s, Psychological Counseling, Columbia University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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:

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:


~Lisa Dinella, Ph.D.


~Gary Lewandowski, Ph.D.

Presentations Include:


~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:


Presentations Include:


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:


~Michele Van Volkom, Ph.D.

Publications Include:

Presentations Include:

* denotes Monmouth University student