



Welcome from Department Head Keith Campbell

We have just finished another great semester in the Department of Psychology. In this edition of the newsletter you will see just a sample of what our students, staff and faculty have been doing. Thank you for your continued engagement and support!

DEPARTMENT NEWS

The Psychology Department is happy to announce that three of its professors have been selected to be inaugural participants in the Center for Teaching and Learning Fellows for Innovative Teaching. Congratulations Dr. Dyckman, Dr. Frick, and Dr. Welsh!

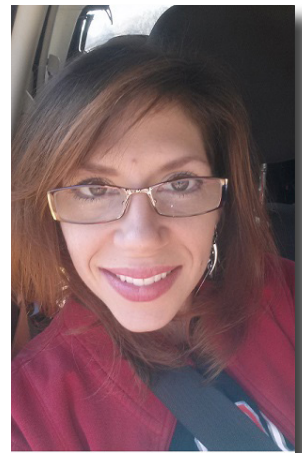
The Psychology Department is pleased to congratulate our honorees of the 2013 and 2014 University of Georgia Graduate School Alumni of Distinction Award. Of the 26 awards so far, six recipients have strong connections to this department: Dr. Phillip Brantley (2014), Dr. Perry Buffington (2014), Dr. Michael Feuerstein (2014), Dr. Pamela Flattau (2014), Dr. Donald Ingram (2013), and Dr. Thomas Lyons (2013).

Recent research conducted by Dr. Gene H. Brody and Dr. Steven R. H. Beach was featured in a New York Times article.

Our very own Temilola Salami won the graduate student award at the Black Faculty and Staff Organization's 12th Annual Founder's Award Scholarship Luncheon.

STAFF: MICHELLE WILSON

Although Michelle is new to the main office of the Psychology Department she has been a member of the psychology staff since February of 2008 when she started working in the Psychology Clinic. She accepted her new position in the main office because she genuinely enjoys interacting and assisting students, staff, and faculty with special projects, in addition to ensuring day to day activities proceed as smoothly as possible. Michelle is an Athens native and loves the Athenian culture. Michelle can often be found around town participating in local events or attending her church. Michelle also enjoys spending time with family and friends, as well as preparing and sharing edible creations. If you haven't had the pleasure of tasting some of her cooking then you need to start hanging around the main office some more!



UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS: CHRISTOPHER MORGAN AND JACQUELINE GENZMAN



Christopher Morgan

Christopher Morgan is a senior here at the University of Georgia, double majoring in psychology and sociology. During his time at UGA, he has become interested in industrial-organizational psychology. He has worked as a research assistant in the Advanced Psychometric Lab, the Leadership Education and Development Lab, and the Advanced Human Resource Lab. He wants to obtain his PhD in industrial-organizational psychology because it will allow him to contribute to existing research, helping organizations in instituting practices that lead to continuous improvement. These practices can directly and indirectly affect the areas of work which interest

him the most: selection, leadership, organizational culture, and occupational health. In addition to doing research, he is excited to teach students who are interested in learning more about the field. In his free time, he enjoys writing and reciting poetry. For as long as he can remember, poetry has been his creative outlet, allowing him to express his thoughts about the world. Also, as a big fan of the Atlanta Hawks, he enjoys going to basketball games and events where he can meet the players. Lastly, he enjoys going bowling with his friends and family.

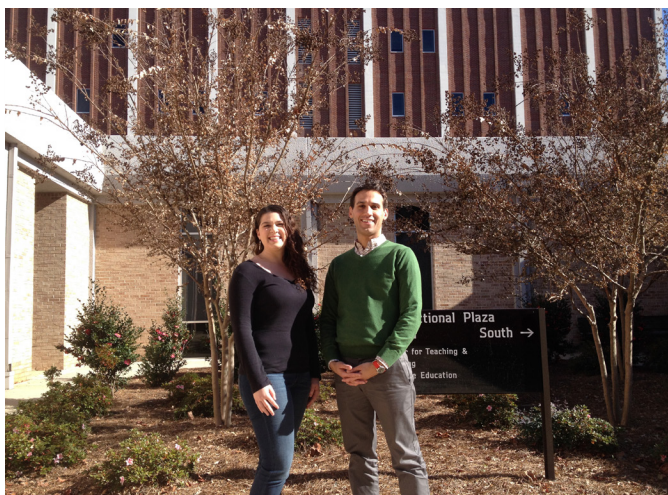
Jacqueline Genzman

Jacqueline Genzman is a triple major here at the University of Georgia studying psychology, sociology, and criminal justice. As if pursuing three majors was not already impressive enough, after graduation Jacqueline is planning to pursue a degree a PhD in clinical forensic psychology which will allow her to creatively combine all three of her undergraduate majors. Although academia would clearly benefit from someone with Jacqueline's drive and intelligence, after finishing her PhD studies Jacqueline plans on beginning a career with the FBI in the National Center for the Analysis of Violent Crime as either a researcher or special agent. However, when she isn't studying and preparing to be Special Agent Genzman, Jacqueline is busy with her role as the Undergraduate President of UGA's Psi Chi Chapter and as a member of Delta Gamma. Despite all of this Jacqueline stills finds time to pursue some of her many hobbies such as traveling, photography, and spending time with her friends.

GRADUATE STUDENTS: DOUG TERRY AND MELISSA MITCHELL

Doug Terry

Doug is a doctoral candidate in the clinical psychology program, though his research blends clinical psychology with neuropsychological and neuroscience methods. Under the guidance Dr. Steve Miller, Doug examines the effects of sport-related concussions on cognitive ability, as well as brain structure and function. His master's thesis, "The impact of multiple concussions on verbal memory in ex-athletes: An fMRI study" is currently under review at a top neuropsychology journal. Clinically, Doug interns at Emory Healthcare to help diagnose cognitive difficulties and dementia in people with epilepsy, Parkinson's Disease, and other neurological disorders. He is also passionate about teaching and dispelling myths about the brain, which is the focus of his Intro to Neuropsychology course. Outside of his academic interests, Doug enjoys watching movies (many of which have a psychological flare) and cooking.



Melissa Mitchell

Melissa is a third year doctoral student in the industrial-organizational psychology program. Melissa hails from Vancouver, Canada where she received her bachelor of arts with honors from Simon Fraser University in 2012. Her main research interests involve understanding the cognitive and social processes underlying work/non-work conflict, balance, spillover, and crossover. In support of this research, Melissa received a grant from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health to study the intergenerational effects of grandchild care on work and well-being outcomes. She is also

FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: DR. JUSTIN LAVNER

1. *What is the best part about being at UGA?*

Everyone here has been so welcoming personally and professionally. There is a true spirit of collaboration in the department.



2. *Explain the overarching theme of your research.*

The main focus of my research is understanding newlywed marriage over time: how marriages change, why marriages change, and what factors put couples at risk for poor marital outcomes. A secondary area of interest is family and mental health issues among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) populations.

3. *Describe one of your favorite experiences since you moved to Athens.*

The week before classes started, I participated in a UGA-sponsored New Faculty Tour of Georgia. About 40 new faculty members traveled around the state for five days on a tour bus. It was a great way to learn more about the people, culture, industry, and landscape of Georgia.

4. *What is something we may not know about you?*

My younger brother Ryan graduated from UGA's Grady College of Journalism, so my family had a connection to UGA before I started working here.

5. *If you weren't a psychologist, what would you be?*

I've always loved colleges and academia, so I'd still want to work in higher education – most likely in admissions or student affairs.

involved in two daily diary studies that focus on how couples manage work and family issues. When Melissa is not busy trying to find new ways to make the work place a healthier place for its employees she can be found practicing what she preaches by attending yoga and zumba classes, as well as spending time with her boyfriend.

RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

DR. ANNE SHAFFER AND THE FRESH LAB

Dr. Shaffer and the Family Relationships, Emotions, Stress, and Health (FRESH) Lab conduct research on aspects of parenting and family interactions including emotional maltreatment, emotion socialization, and emotion communication. Broadly, this research aims to identify emotion-focused processes of interaction in the family that predict psychosocial outcomes across development, with a goal toward informing services designed to prevent maltreatment and develop more effective parenting interventions. Her research has focused on the study of risk and protective factors in the context of family and close relationships, and includes theoretical and basic research as well as applications to clinical interventions. Specifically, there are two foci to her current program of research: 1) Predictors and outcomes of family processes and interactions that can exacerbate or mitigate the risk of maladaptive outcomes in multiple domains (i.e., social, relational, emotional, and behavioral); and 2) applied research to develop and evaluate prevention and intervention efforts that address emotional maltreatment and other maladaptive family interactions. Dr. Shaffer approaches research from a developmental psychopathology perspective, integrating developmental and clinical theory to describe and predict factors leading to adaptation and/or maladaptation.



Dr. Shaffer and the FRESH Lab are currently involved in some ongoing studies. The first study is examining dyadic processes of emotional and physiological regulation between mothers and preschool-aged children. This study is co-directed with Dr. Cindy Suveg and is funded by a NIDA parent grant. The second study is a pilot intervention study designed to teach emotion communication strategies to parents as a way to prevent emotional maltreatment. Additionally, both current and previous members of the FRESH Lab have started collaborating on studies that focus on cultural and racial differences in emotion-focused parenting. Dr. Shaffer is also advancing substantive knowledge on parenting and family interactions by applying novel methods to study dyadic and relationships processes. Currently, she is working with Laura Loucks to analyze real-time emotion communication in young adult romantic couples using state-space grid methodology.

To learn more about the research Dr. Shaffer and the FRESH lab are conducting you can visit their website at psychology.uga.edu/freshlab.



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