Department News

Time again for the Department of Psychology’s annual newsletter. As you will see from the faculty reports, we have had another busy and productive year.

Professor Craig Hill published a new sexuality textbook; Professors Kenneth Bordens and Josh Gerow published a new edition of their intro psych book, and Bordens also published a new edition of his social psychology textbook. You can see from our list of publications and presentations that faculty were very active in scholarship this year.

It’s also the case that several faculty members won awards or were selected for participation in various local and national events this year. Professor Lesa Rae Vartanian was chosen as the IPFW Advisor of the Year. Professor Michelle Drouin was awarded the Sigma Xi College Science Teacher of the Year award. Professors Jeannie DiClementi and Carol Lawton were selected as IPFW Featured Faculty, and will serve in that capacity for the next two years, representing the university’s commitment to showcasing the scholarly accomplishments of the faculty. It’s notable that two of the seven people chosen for the IPFW Featured Faculty for 2008–10 were from psychology.

At the national level, Professor Brenda Lundy was selected by the American Psychological Association (APA) to take part in a workshop on structural equation modeling, an advanced statistical technique, and Professor Elaine Blakemore was chosen, also by the APA, to take part in a national task force to make recommendations for the future of the undergraduate psychology curriculum for the 21st century.

The department faculty have made some changes in teaching as well. Professor Jay Jackson taught a new advanced research methods course in social and personality psychology, and DiClementi has been podcasting her PSY 120 lectures. We have added new online courses with Hill’s sexuality course, a popular new addition to our online offerings.

We are now regularly offering Elementary (PSY 120), Child (PSY 235), Social (PSY 240), Abnormal (PSY 350), Lifespan (PSY 369), Addictions (PSY 317), and Learning (PSY 314) online, with less frequent offerings of courses in Adolescence (PSY 362), Adult Development and Aging (PSY 367), and a special topics course in Psychology of HIV/AIDS.

The department has made plans to offer online courses regularly, but to keep the number of offerings to less than 20 percent of our sections during the regular semesters, and class sizes to 30 or fewer.

Unfortunately for the department, and we think for any prospective students who had been awaiting the program, we have put aside our plans for a graduate program after several years of working to develop it. Professors Hill, Jackson, Lundy, and DiClementi put many hours into the proposal, but eventually it became clear that the university did not have the resources to put into the program, so we decided to withdraw our proposal.

We know this is disappointing to many students, and it is to us also, but without the appropriate resources in terms of new faculty, space, and money, we would not be doing right by students who might want to pursue these master’s degrees. Perhaps at some future point we can return to a high-quality master’s program as a goal.

From the Faculty

Elaine Blakemore, Ph.D.
Department Chair

In July, I completed my three-year term as secretary-treasurer of the Midwestern Psychological Association. I was also elected president-elect, and served that term this year, becoming MPA president at the annual meeting in May 2008.

I was also in my last year of a two-year term in the Office of Academic Affairs here at IPFW, spending almost half my time in that office. I have enjoyed making contributions to the university through my role there, writing a manual for department chairs, developing a mentoring program for new chairs, sponsoring a lunch series for chairs to make informal connections with each other, and this year, chairing a task force on the role of online courses in the university’s future. I will be glad to return to psychology full time, though. It’s always a challenge to split yourself between two jobs.

Another big accomplishment this year is that my gender development book finally has gone to press, and it is in production at Taylor & Francis, Psychology Press, with an expected publication date of October 2008. It’s been a long time coming, and my coauthors, Sheri Berenbaum and Lynn Liben of The Pennsylvania State University, and I am looking forward to seeing it come out.

On another exciting note, I was recently selected to take part in the “National Conference on Undergraduate Education in Psychology: A Blueprint for the Future of our Discipline”, sponsored by the American Psychological Association. About 50 psychologists from across the country will be meeting for almost a week in Tacoma, Wash. The end result will be a book and a set of recommendations about the undergraduate psychology curriculum for the 21st century.

Although I hadn’t planned to teach during my time in the Office of Academic Affairs, I found I missed it after my first semester of not teaching, so returned to the classroom in our “Intro to the Major” course, which I have taught one section of for each of the past three semesters. Next fall, I will return to a more regular teaching load, and in Spring 2009 I will be teaching Gender Development of Children with my new book.

Craig Hill and I recently had an article published in Sex Roles in February 2008, and two presentations this spring, one at the Gender Development Research Conference in April, and another at MPA in May. I have also returned to active data collection on a new collaborative project with Craig. We have been doing a pilot project this Spring and have been assisted by IPFW students.

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Holly Fee and Tara Jones. Next fall this project will be fully underway.

On a personal note, my husband Tom and I took a short trip to Quebec City last summer, stopping to visit my brother in Perth, Ontario, and my niece in Montreal. If you’ve never been to Quebec City, it’s a fascinating city and well worth the trip.

Bruce Abbott, Ph.D.

Last summer I attended the annual conference of the Control Systems Group (CSG), which was held in Minneapolis on a campus of the University of Minnesota. The conference ended with a delightful dinner cruise aboard a sternwheeler riverboat a short distance down the Mississippi River. A day or so later I witnessed the infamous collapse of that interstate highway bridge over the Mississippi in Minneapolis, not far from where our cruise had taken us.

At last report, Dr. Bordens and I were in the process of finishing the seventh edition of our textbook, *Research Design and Methods: A Process Approach*. It was published in the fall with a 2008 copyright. Dr. Bordens and I are already starting to think about what changes to make for the next edition. It’s a bit like washing the dishes or mowing the lawn: no matter how well you do the job, at some point you’re going to have to do it over again.

Speaking of textbooks, next spring I’ll be taking a sabbatical to work on a new book on learning and behavior. This is something I’ve wanted to do for a long time as I have not been satisfied with any of the current textbooks on that topic. The field of learning and behavior is the area of psychology that explores how behavior is modified by experience through the learning process and is the field in which I received my graduate training. I’ve been teaching Introduction to Learning on campus for many years and now also have an Internet-based version of the course that has been much in demand, so the new textbook would be put to good use.

My wife Stephanie and I continue to enjoy frequent visits with our granddaughter, who is now just over 21 months old. She now has a rapidly expanding vocabulary, whizzes around with more energy than the Energizer Bunny, and can make the sounds of about a dozen animals on request. (Ask her what sound a monkey makes!) What a joy it has been to watch her grow and develop.

Michael Bendele, Ph.D.

This past year I have taught a number of sections of Elementary Psychology (one section again was part of the First Year Experience), Cognition and Artificial Intelligence (this was only the second time for teaching this course — we used a very different book than last time — an improvement to the course I think), Research Methods, and the Undergraduate Teaching Assistant course. Last summer Sarah Kirkendall, Sarah Taylor, and I had a CTUP (Council of Teachers of Undergraduate Psychology) poster presentation on the phantom hand illusion at MPA convention. I returned to Chicago for the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (CASTL) Institute at Columbia College. The theme for the conference was “Civic Engagement in the Classroom”.

Chris Fisher, an IPFW psychology major who is working on independent research with me, is close to wrapping up his first experiment for the honors thesis (we have already discussed potential experiment number two).

On a professional level, I have helped conduct a few workshops here at IPFW on the “Scholarship of Teaching and Learning”. Last fall and this spring I worked on the instructor’s manual and test bank for Sternberg’s *Cognitive Psychology* textbook (always a relief when it is finished). I have completed my first year as a teaching fellow (this involves engaging other faculty in a conversation about teaching).

Kenneth Bordens, Ph.D.

This past spring semester I was on sabbatical and completed a study on psychology and the arts. The experiment looked at whether providing historical context information influences how individuals perceive different styles of art. I have completed collecting the data and some preliminary analyses. I will be presenting a poster at the 20th Biannual Congress of the International Association of Empirical Aesthetics in August. Speaking of that conference, I am also the program moderator for it and all is going very well. Submissions were received and reviewed and the program is being prepared. Professor DeFonzo and I are working on the final aspects of the conference this summer. It looks like it will be an interesting and successful conference.

This year the seventh edition of the research methods book came out. Professor Abbott and I think this is the best edition yet. We will start on a revision for the eighth edition sometime next year. The general psychology text will come out in a new edition, most likely next year. Professor Gerow and I will work on the revisions for the new edition this summer. The good news is that the book will now be published by Pearson Custom Publishing and our editor seems to be committed to making the book a success.

My passion for motorcycling is as strong as ever. With gas prices the way they are, we will be riding my bike more and more to save money. This year the Cruiser Club has its national rally in Indianapolis and I will be attending, as I usually do. It is nice that it’s close to home this year. We enjoyed a July 4 weekend ride to Niagara Falls and will ride to Tennessee in August to ride the “Tail of the Dragon” near Deals Gap, N.C. (318 turns in an 11-mile stretch of road). These are all in addition to our regular club rides scheduled throughout the riding season.

Jeannie DiClementi, Psy.D.

After spending most of last summer in Denver, I got to stay in Fort Wayne all of this academic year, except for one trip to Washington, D.C., in November. I had two articles and a book chapter published last year. I am currently working on a study of perceptions of risk in research: one on critical thinking in the classroom; a study of symptom perception in chronic disease; a study of the individual and social network characteristics of rural methamphetamine user; and a study looking at types of HIV educational materials and the effects on sexual risk behavior change. I am working with the Office of the Vice Provost for Research at Purdue in developing a Center for Addictions Studies. I am also working with three other psychologists in developing an undergraduate textbook on the psychology of HIV disease. I was promoted to associate professor with tenure last August, and this April was selected as a featured faculty for the IPFW Featured Faculty Campaign.

Michelle Drouin, Ph.D.

This has been a very exciting and fruitful year for me. Most significantly, my husband and I welcomed our first child, Tyler Wade, to our family
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Craig Hill, Ph.D.

I have been working with several students this past year on a project to develop a way of measuring implicit sexual motives. To state it more simply, this means that we are attempting to examine nonconscious reasons that people are interested in sex. The students who have been involved in this research are Amanda Gilbert, Rachel Kiser, Colleen Mee, Virervia Rodriguez, and Joel Sprunger. We provided evidence to support the existence of implicit motives in the fall semester, as well as their association with frequency of sexual behavior. Last spring, we attempted to replicate those findings and extend them to the frequency of sexual fantasy.

I also conducted a study on the relationship of sexual fantasy and behavior to sexual motivation. A paper based on this study was presented at the 2007 convention of the Association for Psychological Science in May. Amanda Austin, Paul Richeson, and Megan Stotler helped me collect the data.

I have used my textbook, Human Sexuality: Personality and Social Psychological Perspectives, in my PSY 444 courses during the spring semester for the first time. It was released by Sage Publications in July 2007. To accompany the textbook, I created a student study guide and instructor resources, which I hope will enhance learning for students. I am pleased to have been able to write the book, which I believe is a new way of looking at the field of sexuality research. It emphasizes psychological issues, theories, and perspectives, and as the title indicates, in particular focuses on aspects relevant to social and personality psychology.

I have been involved in research headed by Elaine Blakemore on parent’s attitudes about gender-related behaviors in their children. This research was published this year in an article in Sex Roles. Dr. Blakemore gave a presentation in April and another one in May based on this program of research. I have also been involved in a follow-up project, also headed by Professor Blakemore, to provide additional evidence for the attitude measure we developed.

During the Spring semester, I taught courses in Social Psychology and Human Sexuality.

Jay Jackson, Ph.D.

Hello again from IPFW! Another year has gone by too fast, but it was a good one. In January Dan Miller and I traveled to Memphis for the Annual Meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology. We, along with fellow social psychologist Emanuele Castano, organized the Group Processes and Intergroup Relations preconference. It was a lot of work, but very rewarding and a huge success. At the conference, Jason Rose and I presented our study, “The Stereotype Consistency Effect Is Moderated by Group Membership and Trait Valence.” Jason is a graduate of IPFW and is now finishing up a Ph.D. in social psychology at the University of Iowa. Yeah, Jason! In May, it was off to Chicago for MPA. My students, Lee Beck, Sarah Kirkendall, and Jessica Gerg, and I presented the results of a study, “Incremental Changes in Group Size Affects Group Performance and Cohesion”. Sarah, incidentally, just got accepted into a Bowling Green’s Ph.D. program in I/O psychology! Way to go, Sarah!

I’m continuing lines of research on social identity, group decision making, social dilemmas, and prejudice. I’m also continuing my work on the editorial board of Group Dynamics, as well as reviewing articles for scientific journals. On the teaching front, I taught my first online course last summer (PSY 120). It went very well, although it was strange lecturing without students in front of me! I also developed and taught a new course, Advanced Research in Personality and Social Psychology, which was a lot of work but equally enjoyable. I also continued to teach Personality Psychology, History of Psychology, Social Psychology, and Elementary Psychology. At home, Andrew and Joseph continue to provide Professor Lundy and me with plenty of stimulation, both mental and physical. Here’s a joey joke (keep in mind, he’s four): Why did Tigger look in the potty? He was looking for Pooh. Or this one: Do you have a hole in your shirt? [No, Joseph I don’t.] Then how did you get it on!? Thank you! Good night!

Daren Kaiser, Ph.D.

The research in my lab this past year has focused on animal timing. As usual I have a lot of help from students. Amanda Austin, Nicole Hall, and Jennifer Seeger helped run animals over the summer, and in the fall Amanda Austin, Chad Biddle, Jessica Krueckeberg, and Nicholas Todoran helped out. Amanda and Jessica have continued to work in the lab this semester, and Noah Richel has joined the lab.

The animal timing experiments we ran in the lab this past year have resulted in a manuscript published in the journal *Behavioral Processes* and several presentations. Currently, Amanda Austin and I have another timing manuscript under
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review. This manuscript has been revised twice, so we are hopeful that this last resubmission will get through. This would be my first publication with a student, so I would be very excited to get this manuscript published. Amanda also made an oral presentation at the Tri-state Animal Learning and Behavior Conference in March. Her talk went very well and the attendees showed a lot of interest in our work. She also presented this research as a poster at the Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting in May.

Currently the lab is running two new animal timing studies. Noah is working in the lab for class credit and has been very helpful with keeping the animals going in the morning while I am class. Amanda and Jessica have graduated, but they have continued to remain active in the lab. They have been compiling the data from the current studies and we are hoping to have results before the end of the semester.

Away from the university I have been enjoying the nice spring weather. The past couple of weeks it has finally begun to feel like winter might be over, and lately dreams of crappies have disturbed my nights. That’s not weird is it? Anyway, I haven’t managed to get any fishing in yet, but I have done a bit of hiking on the trails around Roush Lake. I am looking forward to a pleasant summer and I hope that you have one too.

Carol Lawton, Ph.D.

I am excited about my new venture into the world of virtual mazes as I continue to explore gender differences in spatial cognition. I was able to find my way into this world only through the talents of one of my students, Amanda Austin, who is herself a great fan of video games. Amanda was willing to put in the time to figure out how to use a software program that allows us to create mazes with landmarks hanging on the walls and to record how long it takes participants to find a hidden target. Amanda created the mazes that we used in an experiment which showed that both women and men pay a lot of attention to nearby landmarks, but men pay more attention than women to distant landmarks. We have been helping in conducting this research by students Holly Beck, Ashley Day, Veronica Heimann, Hope Peters, Amanda Stryker, and Erin Uhey.

I taught Research Methods and Psychology of Women again this year. I am looking forward to going to Europe this summer to attend a conference and to visit my son who is studying in the Netherlands.

Brenda Lundy, Ph.D.

Another year has come and gone—its amazing how time flies!

I am in the process of rewriting an NSF grant proposal to seek funding for my research program. The proposed research involves a longitudinal design that will explore fathers’ contributions to their toddlers’ early socio-cognitive development. Individual differences in fathers’ autonomy-supportive interactions are expected to be associated with variations in children’s emergence of a) sense of self, emotional empathy and perspective-taking skills during toddlerhood, and b) skills related to theory of mind during the early preschool years. Such skills play an important role in young children’s social relationships.

I will be taking part in the American Psychological Association’s Advanced Training Institute on structural equation modeling in longitudinal research in Virginia in June. This will be a big help in revising my NSF grant proposal. I presented some of my previous work at the Midwestern Psychological Association meeting in Chicago last May and I have recently published some research related to service learning in the journal Teaching of Psychology. I plan to begin a new study in the fall, so I’ll be looking for a few good research assistants!

Daniel Miller, Ph.D.

I presented my research at three conferences in 2007. In January, Professor Jackson and I attended the Society for Personality and Social Psychology’s (SPSP) annual meeting in Memphis, Tenn. While at the meeting, I presented the results of several studies on fear as inhibitor of collective protest. In addition to presenting our research at the main conference, Professor Jackson and I had the honor of organizing and hosting a preconference on group processes and intergroup relations, our area of research expertise. Each year at SPSP there are several small preconferences on specific topics (e.g., attitudes or intergroup relations). I am pleased to say, the preconference was well attended and went rather smoothly. In May, I traveled to Chicago for the Midwest Psychological Association’s (MPA) annual meeting. This was my tenth MPA, I haven’t missed a meeting since my first year of graduate school. While at the meeting, I presented the results of several studies conducted with Professor Bordens and Christopher Fisher, on political dispositions and prejudice. In June, I “had” to go to the Netherlands to present my research at a conference on social stigma. I presented the results of studies demonstrating that collective protest can act as a coping mechanism for the stresses brought on by being a member of a socially disadvantaged group. The coolest part of the trip was that the conference actually took place in a castle. I gave my talk in the weapons room — there were actually suits of armor and swords in the room — pretty cool.

Several colleagues and I (Professors Schmitt, Branscombe, and Bremh) had a paper accepted for publication in the journal Group Process and Intergroup Relations. The paper demonstrates that the difficulty of reparations can affect the intensity of collective guilt. In other words, when a group does something wrong, how much effort it takes to correct their wrongdoing affects how guilty they feel about the situation.

This summer I am going to teach my first summer course. In addition, I imagine I will spend some time fishing. Although, I am not a big fan of fishing (I know Professors Young and Kaiser will find this hard to imagine), my four-year-old daughter cannot get enough.

Have a great summer!

Lesa Rae Vartanian, Ph.D.

No way—another year has passed! As the saying goes, times flies when you are having fun, and I am having a blast! My daughter turned three in December and is the light of my life. That said, I do still feel a passion for my work at IPFW and derive great joy from it. This past year I’ve enjoyed teaching more students in PSY 100—I’ve taught a total of 9 sections to date. I love playing a role in helping students formulate their plans for their futures. I also taught sections of Intro and Child Psychology, and am continuing to collect data for my study of students’ experiences with online exam review sessions. I’m in the process of assembling my “dream team” of research assistants, and hope to collect data in local middle and high schools beginning in the fall. I’m looking forward to teaching Internet sections of Child Psychology and Adult Development and Aging this summer; I have just celebrated a milestone birthday (the Big 40!), and so the adult development class will have special meaning for me. I’m sure!
David Young, Ph.D.

Even at age 54, Hulk Hogan is an imposing figure. Thankfully, he was extremely polite to everyone in the Tampa airport (even to me and student co-author Joel Sprunger). Seeing the Hulk on your way home to Fort Wayne after presenting at the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology was yet another highlight in an eventful year. Nearing the $50,000 mark in donations and emergency grants awarded to students through the Brown Ink Society was another. Perhaps the most satisfying, though, was jumping through hoops to arrange to see Matthew 25 (the city’s free clinic) patients through the departments’ facilities. Slow going at first but we are getting there and hope for a small but steady stream of patients.

I hope my teaching continues to evolve. Don’t tell anyone, especially my Luddite friends and colleagues who teach on the “interweb,” but I am now using the computer in my “real” classes.

For those interested in Young family tales, son Jacob survived a three months writers’ strike and is again employed in sitcom heaven in L.A. Son Benjamin loves his job working for Wishard Hospital in Indianapolis. Both “boys” have significant others. Kindly join me in prayer for grandchildren. Mary Ellen likes her work as a vision therapist and has (probably in a fit of madness) agreed to accompany me to Alaska for the better part of the summer. If I’m not back by “duty week” agreed to accompany me to Alaska for the better part of the summer. If I’m not back by “duty week” agreed to accompany me to Alaska for the better part of the summer. If I’m not back by “duty week” agreed to accompany me to Alaska for the better part of the summer. If I’m not back by “duty week” agreed to accompany me to Alaska for the better part of the summer. If I’m not back by “duty week” agreed to accompany me to Alaska for the better part of the summer.

Emeritus Faculty

Lenore DeFonso, Ph.D.

It’s just a little over a year since I retired from IPFW. Many people told me that I would probably be busier than ever after retiring, and they certainly turned out to be right! I don’t know how I managed to hold down a job and do everything else. Most of my time has been spent working on a conference of the International Association of Empirical Aesthetics (basically, psychologists who study the arts and aesthetics), to be held in Chicago in August 2008. Professor Bordens is the program chair, which means that he deals with all of the paper submissions, setting up the program, etc., and I am the conference organizer, which means that I deal with everything else. I have had to search for a conference venue, plan a conference banquet (plus transportation to and from the banquet), find out about AV and other necessary equipment, and deal with all of the registration forms and fee payments. It looks as if we will have a good program and an interesting mix of people, many of whom are coming from foreign countries. So far, we have people coming from China, Taiwan, Russia, Serbia, Denmark, France, Italy, Germany, England, and Canada, among others, and of course from the United States. So, this should make all the hard work worthwhile.

Singing is still taking up a lot of time, too. In addition to the Bach Collegium, which I have sung with for several seasons, I am now singing with the IPFW Choral Union. It’s a university-community group under the direction of Professor Todd Prickett of the Music Department. We have just completed a season of interesting and challenging music. I’m looking forward to continuing with both groups next fall.

Other than a quick trip to North Carolina with my high school buddies, I haven’t done much traveling this past year, but I’m looking forward to having some free time after the conference to check out some places I haven’t seen yet.

Josh Gerow, Ph.D.

It seems like it was only a year or two ago that Professor Blakemore asked if I would write a short piece for Psychobabble on the occasion of my retirement and my leaving IPFW. A certificate on the wall behind me reminds me that, having arrived at IPFW in 1969, my retirement was actually in 2001! At that time, my wife, Nancy, and I moved to Florida on a full-time basis. We surely enjoyed our time in Florida (I think of it as a long-term sabbatical), but decided that the time had come to return to Fort Wayne. We arrived back in town late on a Sunday evening in June 2007. The next night there I was in Kettler G46 facing a class of PSY120 students.

For the academic year 2007-08 I have been teaching PSY 120 through the auspices of Continuing Studies as a “limited term lecturer,” a rather strange label for what we used to call “adjunct” or “associate faculty.” I have had classes in Kendallville, Warsaw, Decatur, and the new Public Service Academy south of town. I must tell you that it has been a wonderful experience. I knew that I missed being in class, but did not know to what extent. I am looking forward to the next academic year when I will have a full-time visiting faculty appointment. He’s bazzack!

Yes, the campus has changed. Yes, the new technology (first WebCT then Blackboard) took a bit of adjustment. But, to be back in class, with students, and with my colleagues—some from the “old days,” some new to me—has been exhilarating. And, yes, I continue to work on revising my (now two) introductory psychology texts (one with Ken Bordens). I always have considered it a special blessing to have found something meaningful to do with my life that I truly enjoyed. Looking forward to “going to work” is not something that happens to many people. I greatly appreciate this opportunity to be back at it.

Undergrad Teaching Assistant Class

Craig Hill, Ph.D.

Professor Bendele and I have continued to offer our course, PSY 392 Undergraduate Teaching Experience, both fall and spring semesters. This course gives students the opportunity to address issues related to teaching in psychology by supervising them in their role as a teaching assistant (TA) for an instructor of PSY 120 Elementary Psychology. Professor Bendele and I meet with the advanced psychology majors as a group to address issues concerning practical aspects of teaching and serving as a TA. We also discuss academic articles published about such topics as helping students develop critical thinking skills, strategies to motivate students to learn, ethics involved in teaching, writing exams, and providing feedback to students. A number of top-notch psychology students have participated in this learning experience during the fall 2007 and spring 2008 semesters. Fall 2007 semester: Megan Ayres, Kimberly Culp, Dawn Dice, Cristina Kern, Rachel Kiser, Jessica Todd and Nicholas Todoran. Spring 2008 semester: Ryan Boyd, Dilynn Brewery, Chris Fisher, Patrick Gonser, Lawton Hicks, Jason Hoffman, Latoda Pope, Haley Richardson, Holly Rochelle and Erin Uhey.

2007-08 Psychology Honorees

Outstanding Senior

Each year, the psychology department presents the Outstanding Senior Award to a student who demonstrates academic excellence as well as a commitment to involvement in extracurricular activities such as research or clinical applications. This year’s honoree is Amanda Austin.

Amanda Austin

Since graduation from IPFW, Amanda has been assisting with Dr. Lawton’s spatial research by...
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designing virtual mazes. Amanda has been accepted into the master’s program in Behavior Analysis at Western Michigan University, and will be starting there in the fall.

**Senior Excellence**
The Senior Excellence award honors students who have shown outstanding academic performance as well as involvement in either the campus or the community. This year four students were recognized: Christopher Fisher, Amanda Gilbert, Veronica Heimann and Jessica Todd.

**Christopher Fisher**
Chris is going to continue his research efforts with Professor Dan Miller over the next year while he prepares to apply to grad school for fall 2009. He is interested in pursuing a Ph.D. in either Cognitive Psychology, Social Psychology or Social Cognition.

Amanda Gilbert
Amanda Gilbert has worked with Professor Hill as a research assistant for two semesters on a project to develop a new measure of nonconscious attitudes regarding sexuality. Amanda plans to continue being involved in research at IPFW for the next year in preparation for graduate school. She is interested in obtaining a PhD in educational or school psychology so that she can work with children and adolescents. Long term, she wants to conduct research in schools with the goal of improving the educational experience for young people.

**Veronica Heimann**
After graduating in December and relocating to Grand Rapids, Mich., Veronica has actively been seeking a job in the helping profession. She is also planning on applying to master’s programs in social work this fall.

**Jessica Todd**
Jessica’s immediate plans after graduation are to spend some quality time with her family and look for a job. Grad school in the areas of Social or Developmental, hopefully at University of Las Vegas, is on the horizon and she plans on pursuing this in the near future.

**Senior Scholarship**
The senior scholarship is given to psychology majors for use in their senior year. It is presented to students who demonstrate academic excellence and involvement outside the classroom in research or application. This year the award was given to Joel Sprunger.

Joel Sprunger
Joel is starting his senior year at IPFW and is enjoying every bit of it. He was able to work on and present a poster project with Professor Young at the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology this past January in Florida. He is also doing research with Professor Hill on a project to develop a scale that will measure implicit sexual attitudes. Over the summer Joel will be working with Professor DiClementi on research involving hypnosis, measuring susceptibility in an HIV population, which may continue to the fall.

Joel is the incoming president of IPFW’s chapter of Psi Chi. He is also a student member of the International Academy of Behavioral Medicine Counseling and Psychotherapy, a student affiliate of the APA, a student affiliate of Division 29 Psychotherapy, and a member of Phi Kappa Phi.

Outside of school, Joel likes to spend time with his fiancee and travel. He has been known to play some jazz trombone and enjoys his longest-running video game: videogames!

Joel’s future goals are to earn a B.A. in Psychology from IPFW and pursue a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Pennsylvania. His main area of interest is in anxiety disorders, particularly posttraumatic stress disorder and trauma-related stress reactions.

**Psi Chi - The National Honor Society in Psychology**
By Jessica Todd, President

Psi Chi has continued to grow in membership in the 2007-08 academic year. We actually inducted the same number of new members as we did last year, a whopping 27! We had our induction dinner at the Oyster Bar this time, and had quite a turnout. Some of the events we have sponsored include the Heart Walk in September, Stop Smoking Block Party and Stuff the Semi in October, we volunteered at Community Harvest Food Bank in January, and in March we worked the Annual Health Fair and cosponsored the Hollywood Gala.

If you are interested in joining Psi Chi please visit our Web site at www.students.ipfw.edu/~psichi/ and go to “membership information.”

Thanks for all the support—you’ll be hearing from us in the fall!

**Psychology Club**
By Melissa Skeel, President

This year was a great year and a new beginning for the IPFW Psychology Club. The club provided a forum where members were able to obtain and present information about various areas of psychology. Meetings were held every Friday at 12:30 p.m. in Neff Hall and the turnout every meeting was great! We had many accomplishments this semester, one of which, the Psych Club in collaboration with the Sociology Club, sent a memorial plaque to Northern Illinois University for their tragic shooting.

IPFW Psychology Club aims to promote all aspects relating to psychology and foster knowledge throughout various activities. We hope to continue to develop interest in IPFW Psychology with the same enthusiasm into the summer and next school year. Have a wonderful summer!

If you are interested in joining the Psychology Club, becoming involved in its activities, and helping plan events, visit the club’s Web site at www.students.ipfw.edu/~psychcb/. You may contact the club at psychcb@holmes.ipfw.edu or contact the club’s advisors, Professor Hill, at hillc@ipfw.edu or Professor Miller at millerda@ipfw.edu

**Current and Recent Grads News**
Stephanie Charleston, B.A. ’92

While completing a bachelor’s degree in psychology at IPFW, Stephanie worked with Professor Carol Lawton on studies of gender differences in real-world navigation. This led her to the field of environmental psychology, a wonderful blend of theoretical and applied psychology focused on the interactions between people and the built environment.

This research has served Stephanie well, as she now has to navigate from the opposite side of the road after moving to England in 2004! After completing a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology (specializing in research methods and statistics) at Indiana University, Stephanie worked as a research analyst in the “Research Triangle” located between the University of North Carolina, North Carolina State University and Duke University. This job involved large scale survey work for the US Department of Education, with hands-on experience in web-survey design and data cleaning. Though challenging, the corporate life just was not for her and Stephanie sought greener pastures; and with all the rain in England, the pastures certainly are green!

Currently Stephanie is a senior lecturer and programme leader for psychology at the University of Sunderland in the Northeast of England. This scenic campus is located just outside of Newcastle Upon Tyne and is approximately one hour south of the Scotland border. In this role she oversees the curriculum development of the major in Psychology, as well as the progression of students studying Psychology. Stephanie’s research is still...
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very much tied to the things she learned when studying at IPFW. In fact, she has bridged Environmental and Social Psychology and applied key theories of both to the study of large buildings. Specifically, her research focuses on soccer fans’ emotional attachment to their sports team’s home stadium.

There are opportunities for post-graduate study available in the department. If you fancy a change of scenery, please contact Stephanie at stephanie.charleston@sunderland.ac.uk.

Crystal Downing (Akers) B.A. ‘05
Crystal is currently attending Spencerian College in Kentucky (pursuing a degree in nursing) and just picked up two certificates for the President’s Club and Dean’s List. She is very excited to be furthering her education while at the same time contributing to the community as a social worker at Northfield Centre for Health and Rehabilitation. She has been working there for 13 months and really enjoys making the residents’ days better with simple things such as a pat on the back or a hot cup of coffee. Crystal says, “It’s amazing how the little simple things in life we take for granted can really make all the difference to someone in a long term care facility.”

Kristine Jehle DiScala B.A. ‘03
Kristine has completed coursework for a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from Southern Illinois University, and is currently working as a predoctoral intern at the University of Notre Dame’s Counseling Center. She has already completed her dissertation, which was entitled “Occupational Experiences of Counseling Center Psychotherapists: Qualitative Study.” Kristine will graduate this August with a doctorate, and is hoping to return to the Fort Wayne area to work as a therapist.

Sarah Kirkendall B.A. ‘07
Sarah Kirkendall was accepted into Bowling Green’s Ph.D. I/O program! It was one of her top choices.

Joy Nagel BA ‘05
Joy Nagel was accepted into the MSW program at IPFW and will begin classes Summer 2008.

Josh Staller B.A. ‘06
Josh Staller has been accepted into the Cognitive/Social Psychology Master’s Degree program at Ball State. He will be attending this fall.

Publications in 2007

Books


Book Chapters


Journal Articles


Presentations in 2007


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the annual meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association, Chicago, IL.


Contributions Needed

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