

Engaging Autism: From Early Diagnosis through Adulthood

By Amy Cohen

I'll never forget the conversation that confirmed for me that I wanted to study autism spectrum disorder (ASD). During my undergraduate years, I was working as an in-home behavior therapist when an exasperated parent came to me with tears in her eyes, asking "Why does my son have this? What can be done to help him, and what does this mean for his future?" It was then that I realized that not only did I not know the answer to these questions, but that the experts in the field were also struggling to answer them. I decided to dedicate the rest of my life to the pursuit of these answers.

Given the current prevalence of ASD, chances are that you know or love someone on the autism spectrum. Our most recent estimates from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) Autism and Developmental Disabilities Monitoring (ADDM) Network indicates the prevalence of the disorder is estimated at 1:68, and is about 4.5 more common in males than in females.

Throughout my career, I have studied multiple different facets of the disorder. My work has focused on the dynamics of the familial relationship when a family member has ASD, with a particular emphasis on supporting siblings. I have also investigated behavior analytic strategies for the promotion of learning, paying special attention to fostering communication and the reduction of problem behavior. During my post-doctoral fellowship, I had the opportunity to work on the first population-based screening and direct assessment study to determine ASD prevalence in the United States.

My current work as a Clinical Assistant Professor allows me the opportunity to meet and work with so many wonderful individuals, families, and graduate students. Through the University of Illinois Autism Clinic, graduate students from Clinical/Community psychology learn how to evaluate for Autism Spectrum Disorder and other developmental disabilities using gold-standard methodologies. Through this clinic, we serve individuals as young as 12 months up through adulthood. Families who come to our clinic are seen in a series of three appointments:

a developmental intake interview, an assessment session, and a feedback session where a comprehensive evaluation report and diagnostic findings are reviewed in detail.

Initially when students come to work with me, they often have a lot of anxiety about sharing the news of a new diagnosis with the family. To be sure, it can be a daunting task to sensitively explain to families the long and often confusing road that they are about to go down. I tell my students the same thing that I tell the families we serve: This child is the exact same person that they were five

minutes ago, before we uttered the word 'autism.' The defining difference is that this new understanding allows the rest of us to have a clearer framework in which to understand how we can better help them navigate the demands they will face in the world.

In addition to diagnostic services, one of my long-term aims is to create an interdisciplinary research and treatment effort in order to better understand, assess, and treat individuals with ASD.

We hope to place Psychology at the forefront of this effort. We have already started collaborations with several academic units across campus (Speech and Hearing Sciences, Nutritional Sciences, Human Development and Family Studies, and Education to name a few), and hope that our collaborative efforts result in bringing groundbreaking research and treatment for ASD to the Illinois campus in a more systematic manner.

Beyond diagnostics and research partnerships, the Autism Clinic strives to be responsive to the needs of the ASD community in the Urbana-Champaign area. In conjunction with The Autism Program (TAP) on campus, graduate students have provided evidence-based social skills training groups to adolescents and parents, sibling support groups, teen dating groups, college jumpstart programs, and psychoeducation about autism in local elementary school classrooms. This coming summer, we are excited to be adding two new initiatives to our programming. In an effort to

(continued on page 22)



PSYCHOLOGY TIMES

Psychology Times is a publication of the University of Illinois Department of Psychology produced by the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences Office of Communications and Marketing. Pictures: Luvvie Ajayi, Stephanie Costa, Diane Beck, Yuan Bian, Laura & Russell Bolton, Deborah Cronin, Jessica Fitts, Heather Gillett, GradImages, Carrie Grady, Lauren Hays, Larry Kanfer, Debra Kimme, Hans-Friedrich Köhn, Alessandra Lanier, Enrique Neblett, Pete Ondish, Erin Orentas, Della Perrone, Daniel Pien, Keri Carter Pipkins, Ashley Ramm, Anastasia Sorokina, L. Brian Stauffer (Public Affairs), Thompson-McClellan Photography, Inc., Roxanne Walker, Claire Wheaton, Katherine Wood.

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COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS & SCIENCES

From the Department Head



Welcome to the University of Illinois Psychology Department Winter 2017-18 issue of *Psychology Times*. We have lots of exciting things going on.

To start with, we celebrate the inaugural year of our Masters in Psychological Science Program (MSPS). This program is designed to meet the needs of students who wish to enhance their preparation for a doctoral education and/or for a job in industry. Eight students are enrolled in the program which is located in dedicated renovated space on the 3rd floor West hallway of the building. We have hired a new Director to lead the program, Teaching Assistant Professor Dr. Caroline Tancredy. Dr. Tancredy is an award-winning teacher known for her dedication to the professional and academic development of her students and the MSPS program could not be in better hands. We look forward to interacting with our MSPS students in our classrooms, labs, and Psychology Department activities.

This fall we are launching a project to create a new major in Brain and Cognitive Science. This effort is designed to showcase opportunities that are already available for education and training in our department but that are not readily obvious because they lack a unifying theme to describe them. We are pleased that the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences has acknowledged the value and timeliness of this endeavor and has approved a search for a new Assistant Professor with a computational neuroscience background to support it.

Despite ongoing lean times due to state budget problems, the department has seen some exciting improvements to the building. The basement was closed over the summer for massive classroom renovations (funded by the campus) and we look forward to our first two “smart” (iFLEX) classrooms. Hopefully any nostalgia over the loss of the old stadium-style classroom (Room 32) will be offset by the amazing new technology and organization of the new space, which allows both lecture and group project activities, as well as seamless computer and audio-visual integration.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of our energetic and inspired Alumni Advisory Board to grow the Shape the Future Today fund, this year we will offer Professional Development Awards up to \$500 to support research and travel for graduate students. Faculty will continue to be eligible to apply for \$750, again thanks to the generosity of our alumni L. Gene and Cathie Lemon of the Lyle Lanier Fund.

We remain grateful to our generous donors of graduate fellowships, including the John Dallenbach Fellowship; the James H. Davis Fellowship; the Charles L. Hulin Fellowship; the Evelyn Hobson Fellowships in Psychology; the Fred & Ruby Kanfer Clinical Psychology Fellowship, the Rue Micklos Fellowship; and the Herbert Woodrow Fellowship. These are joined this fall by the new McGrath Graduate Fellowship, donated by Robert and Katherine McGrath. Alumni have also provided generous scholarships to undergraduate students, including the Raymond B. Cattell, Roger B. Smith, and James Spoor Scholarships as well as the Julie Sutton-Osgood Award and the Janet Tritsch Award.

Among other important activities, the Psychology Alumni Advisory Board has created a unique mentoring opportunity for undergraduates and alumni. The “First Friday of the Month” panel discussions help current students explore career options. Contact Cheryl Berger if you are interested in volunteering for a panel during the 2018-19 academic year. To learn more about the Alumni Advisory Board please visit www.psychology.illinois.edu/alumni.

The Susan Stout Library gift funds have also allowed us to create a position for a graduate student to help with the organization, access, and use of Psychology Department research and training information, which we are calling “The Librarian”. The initial efforts of this position are focused on a website redesign for the department and the development of overarching research themes that better capture our wide range of collaborative and interdisciplinary work. Coming Fall 2018 we can look forward to a new and enhanced internet presence.

We are also pleased to announce the creation of a new Writing Support Center for graduate students, now located in Room 205. It is staffed by an advanced graduate student who is available for one-on-one writing consultation and assistance. In addition, resources for writing success will be developed including writing groups to support specific projects. Faculty oversight will be provided. We hope that this new service will enhance the success of our graduate students in their academic and professional endeavors.

Finally, the department is planning a conference for the Spring semester 2018 entitled “*Illinois Summit on Diversity in Psychological Science*.” The meeting is intended to bring together nationally recognized as well as emergent psychological scientists whose work focuses on issues relevant to the science of diversity, broadly defined. The Summit is set to kick off on Monday, March 26, 2018, 4 p.m. with the Keynote Address and Lyle Lanier Lecture by Dr. Enrique Neblett (<http://eneblett.web.unc.edu>). You can read more details about the Summit on this page.

I am grateful to be part of such a collegial, dynamic and pioneering department, and I’m looking forward to another great year.

Wendy Heller

Wendy Heller
Professor and Head

Illinois Summit on Diversity in Psychological Science

The Department of Psychology is planning a conference for the 2018 Spring semester entitled “*Illinois Summit on Diversity in Psychological Science*.” The meeting is intended to bring together nationally recognized as well as emergent psychological scientists whose work focuses on issues relevant to the science of diversity, broadly defined. The overarching aim of this Summit is to set a new agenda for research in psychological science that will transform the way we think about diversity and its context in the academy and in society more broadly.

The Summit is set to kick off on Monday March 26, 2018 at 4 pm with the Keynote Address and Lanier Lecture by Dr. Enrique Neblett (<http://eneblett.web.unc.edu>). Talks and workshops will take place at the I-Hotel on Tuesday March 27 and Wednesday March 28. In addition, to the plenary sessions, the Summit will have symposia on various diversity-related topics such as stereotype threat, implicit bias, identity development, intergroup dynamics, law and/or social policy, and diversity in science as well as break-out sessions and a graduate student poster fair. Continuing Education is available for attendees.

Go to conferences.illinois.edu/diversitysummit to register and for more information.



2018 Lyle Lanier Lecture

The Department of Psychology has invited Dr. Enrique Neblett to present our annual Lyle Lanier Lecture, “*Toward a Manifesto for Diverse Psychological Science*”, on Monday, March 26, 2018, 4 p.m. at the Beckman Institute Auditorium, 405. N. Mathews, Urbana, IL. He is also the Keynote Speaker for the Illinois Summit on Psychological Science.



Dr. Neblett is an Associate Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience and Lab Director of the African American Youth Wellness Laboratory at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. In 2016, Neblett was appointed Co-Director of Diversity Initiatives in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience. Neblett’s research examines the link between racism and health in African American youth, and he has published articles in clinical, developmental, biological, applied and multidisciplinary psychology publications.



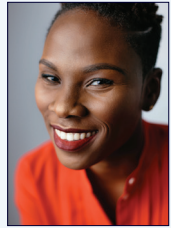
LYLE H. LANIER FUND

The Department of Psychology would like to thank L. Gene and Catherine Lemon, and Lyle Lanier, Jr. for establishing the Lyle H. Lanier Fund in memory of Catherine and Lyle’s father, head of the Department of Psychology (1951-1959); dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (1959-1960); and provost of the Urbana campus (1960-1972).

In honor of his many contributions, the Department organized the Lanier Lecture Series to illustrate how the scientific approach to the analysis of the mind and of behavior can yield results of significance to a variety of human concerns. The Lanier Lecture brings a distinguished psychologist to campus whose work is of interest to the general campus and local community.

LAS Outstanding Young Alumni Award

By Doug Peterson



Luvvie Ajayi: image courtesy of Luvvie Ajayi.

Ifeoluwa (Luvvie) Ajayi (BS, '06) knew she had finally made it when Oprah Winfrey rubbed her head. Ajayi had been selected for Oprah's "SuperSoul 100 list," and she was invited in June of 2016 to interview Oprah and the rest of the cast of "Greenleaf," a TV show premiering on the Oprah Winfrey Network. "I told Oprah how I loved her character's hair, and I mentioned that I had just recently cut my locks really short," recalled

Ajayi. "And then she suddenly grabs my head. It was like her anointing."

Ajayi's multitude of fans have also anointed her as one of the most distinctive and popular bloggers in the country, with 500,000 readers every month, 272,000 likes on her Facebook page, and 187,000 followers on Twitter—and counting. What's more, her New York Times best-selling book, "I'm Judging You," released in the fall of 2016, is in development to be turned into a TV series, originally optioned by Shonda Rimes, best known as the creator and producer of the popular shows, "Grey's Anatomy" and "Scandal." With such a record, it is no surprise that Ajayi is also a winner of the 2017 College of LAS Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

Ajayi was born in Nigeria with the name of Ifeoluwa, although she now goes by Luvvie, not to be confused with the Illinois football coach. When she was nine years old, her family uprooted and moved to Chicago for her older sister's college education. But according to Ajayi, she thought at the time that they were simply leaving for vacation. She had no idea it was going to be permanent until she enrolled in a Chicago school. "It was absolutely a culture shock because it was the first time I had ever been the new girl anywhere," she said. "I was coming from Nigeria where everyone is black, and here in Chicago most people at my very diverse school did not look like me."

Then, in 2002, Ajayi came to the University of Illinois, where she majored in psychology and started blogging on a dare from her friends. "My college blog wasn't popular or anything," she said. "I wasn't putting any effort into making it a thing. It was just a personal journal about being a student."

Ajayi says the most important class that she took at Illinois was about black women in the U.S., taught by Jessica Millward, a former Chancellor's Postdoctoral Fellow. Ajayi would banter with Millward and crack jokes in class, but the course was also instrumental in opening her eyes to the contributions of black women in America. Ajayi also wrote an advice column for The Daily Illini from 2004 to 2005, covering such things as back-to-school blues, relationships, and time management. "It was just



Luvvie Ajayi and Wendy Heller.

random advice," she said. "Random" is a word she also applies to her current blog, which she says chronicles her "randomness and shenanigans." The blog, "Awesomely Luvvie," covers everything from pop culture and what's happening in her life to travel and politics.

She started this new blog in 2006—the same year she graduated from the U of I and began work as a marketing coordinator for the nonprofit, Community Renewal Society. She wrote the blog in the evenings, but when she was laid off in 2010, "that's when I was pushed to make the leap of faith I wasn't going to make myself: working for myself."

So she dove into blogging full-time, and it was a steady, but slow climb. "There's no such thing as an overnight success," she said. "You have to stick with it and build it. There are times when you think nobody is listening, but if you continue to do the thing you love, rewards can come."

Ajayi's rewards came as readership grew, and she caught the attention of TV producer, Rimes. Ajayi started doing recaps of the Rimes' show, "Scandal," and the producer took notice. "One day in 2014, Shonda Rimes tweeted that she was staying up to read my timeline as I tweeted about 'Scandal,'" Ajayi said. "Wow, I thought, that's beyond major! That's when I really understood that she was paying attention and knew who I was."

Ajayi has called herself everything from a troublemaker to a "professional shade thrower" because she tells it like it is—a common quality for Nigerians, she said. "The voice of my blog is authentic to who I am," she said. "People who know me in real life hear my voice when they read my words. It's very relatable and conversational."

Ajayi also began the **Red Pump Project** in 2009—a national nonprofit that educates women and girls of color about HIV/AIDS. "When I was in college, I met somebody who told me

she had 20 cousins who had been orphaned by HIV/AIDS in Malawi, and they all lived with their grandmother. It was one of those moments that woke me up," she said, "because I didn't know this was still such a problem."

When a friend of hers (Karyn Brienne Lee) learned that one of her friends was HIV positive, they came together to ask other bloggers to talk about HIV and AIDS on March 10, 2009—and 135 bloggers answered the call. This led to the Red Pump Project, which asks women to wear red shoes every March 10—with red being the color of the AIDS ribbon and March 10 being National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. Ajayi's Red Pump Project also organizes educational events. For example, they partnered with the U.S. Embassy in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, to conduct HIV/AIDS educational workshops for 900 adults in 2015.

As Ajayi's star continued to rise, she drew the attention of corporate sponsors, beginning with the clothing store, the Gap, which asked her to host a party for the launch of a new jeans line. She has also worked with McDonald's, Netflix, HBO, and NBC. Chevy even sent her on a road trip in 2015 to talk about the new Camaro and share her experiences on social media.

Her book, "I'm Judging You," came out in 2016, and she said, "It's a book about why we all need to do better. So I thought 'I'm judging you' was very apt. We all need to do better in life, in social media, in fame, in culture. It's a book about why we're all ridiculous."

As a psychology alum, Ajayi certainly puts her educational background to work in a unique way, analyzing the psyche of the culture through her many social media outlets. But she says that when she was sitting in Psych 100, she certainly never could have envisioned that blogging would become her career.

As she put it, "It's all a beautiful surprise."



Ajayi with Psychology Leaders at the student/honoree dinner on October 23, 2017. Pictured (L-R): Adonis Holmes, Katie Malcharek; Luvvie Ajayi, Sahana Moodabagil; Olivia Spence; Jaida McDowell, Keila Pope.

Distinguished Alumni Award

Jill-Ellyn Straus earned her BS degree in Psychology (1979) and JD (1982) from the University of Denver College of Law. Straus started at the 17th Judicial District Attorney's Office in 1983 and retired from there in 2008 upon her appointment to the bench as a District Court Judge for the 17th Judicial District of Colorado.

As a prosecutor she specialized in crimes against children and juvenile delinquency. She was a Chief Trial Deputy for eighteen years and trained professionals from many different disciplines on issues related to the investigation and prosecution of child abuse and neglect.

Straus acted as a consultant with the child protection team for the C. Henry Kempe National Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Child Abuse and Neglect, and was the prosecution representative on the State Child Fatality Review Committee for eighteen years. As a lawyer and as a judge, issues of addiction, mental competency, insanity, and mental illness, intellectual delays and deficits have been part of so many of her cases. The science of psychology has always been woven through her professional life.



Jill-Ellyn Straus received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Wendy Heller, Professor and Department Head, on May 13, 2017.



Straus delivered Psychology's commencement address on May 14, 2017. Photo by Gradimages.

Alumni Opportunities

Greetings Fellow Department of Psychology Alumni!

As fellow alumni, we would like to update you about recent events in the Department of Psychology and reach out to you for help and advice. The career diversity and accomplishments of Psychology alumni continually amaze us. They clearly demonstrate how the skills we developed during our college days apply to a wide range of disciplines. The impact Illinois Psychology alumni continue to have on our world is impressive, and students will join us in expanding that influence as they become alumni.

The State of Illinois' two-year budget stalemate created challenging circumstances never before experienced. The effect on the University of Illinois and the Department of Psychology has resulted in reduced budgets, decreased personnel resources, diminished funding, and canceled programs. Despite these challenges, the Department has risen to the challenge, finding new ways to inspire students and prepare them for future careers. In ways that make us extremely proud, our faculty, staff and alumni are actively engaged in providing the best education and career preparation possible for current students. Fellow graduates like you are directly and indirectly involved with the Department of Psychology Alumni Advisory Board and have worked diligently with Wendy Heller, Department Head, and her team to maximize students' college experiences. Some of these efforts include:

- Internship opportunities and training
- Mentoring events and networking opportunities
- Leadership workshops to help develop interviewing and career skills
- Scholarships for educational opportunities
- Travel and research grants for graduate students

Given the recent crisis and its impact on the University, we are asking for your assistance. The Board would benefit from 1) your ideas on how to serve students in new ways, 2) your participation in some of the above programs, and/or 3) your financial support to increase much-needed scholarship funds. If you have an interest in making a difference in the lives of current students, please contact us at loren.kuzuhara@uic.edu and carrieg445@yahoo.com. You can learn more about our programs at www.psychology.uic.edu/giving/shape.

We look forward to the possibility of learning about your interests and sharing information about the Alumni Advisory Board's accomplishments/plans for the future.



Go Illini!
Loren Kuzuhara, President, BS, '85
Carrie Grady, Vice President, BS, '99
 Psychology Alumni Advisory Board

Alumni Initiatives



Leadership Workshop



Career Information Night



First Friday Alumni Panel

Alumni Professional Development Awards

Your donations have made it again possible to help support undergraduate students in unpaid internships this summer through the Alumni Professional Development Awards. This year three awards were given to the following recipients:



Stephanie Costa

"This summer I was a Human Resources Generalist Intern for the Champaign Park District. It was a great experience that provided me with the opportunity to gain hands-on experience working in my chosen field. I conducted new hire and seasonal employee orientations, maintained and processed HR records, learned about employee compensation and benefits, processed worker's compensation claims, conducted a compensation study, organized a companywide picnic, and performed various HR tasks.

In addition to being a student, I am also a mother. Therefore, I must work while being a full-time student to care for my child. I would have not been able to accept this opportunity without the Professional Development Award. This opportunity has provided my child and I with a brighter future. After completing my internship, I was offered a paid position as an HR assistant for the summer of 2018. This will provide me with experience that I can use to further my career in HR and network with professionals who have the same career interests as me."

Erin Orentas

"As an intern at Children's Research Triangle, I assisted the research team with several projects on prenatal substance exposure and treatment outcomes of trauma-exposed children.



My duties included conducting literature searches, collecting and entering data, helping write grant proposals, and scoring psychological measures given to clients. I also was able to shadow one of the on-site clinical psychologists during a day-long assessment of a particular client. My experiences here were both enjoyable and educational, and they have been influential in my decision to pursue a career as a clinical psychologist. Because I was working as an intern nearly every day of the week, it was difficult to find a part-time job that would accommodate my schedule. I am very grateful to have received the Professional Development Award because it allowed me to be able to afford the travel expenses that my internship necessitated, giving me the freedom to dedicate much of my time to my internship."



Claire Wheaton

"The Professional Development Award allowed me to participate in this unpaid internship. Because of my participation, I was able to explore various health disparities facing minority populations and think about the provision of equitable healthcare in the future. I saw a glimpse of the scope of work being done at the Illinois Department of Public Health, and this in part would not have been possible without the money granted to me from this award. All in all, I am happy with the experiences I had and the people I met as a result my internship at the Illinois Department of Public Health. I look forward to incorporating my experiences this summer at my internship into my future work in the health care system, as a medical student and future physician."

First Friday Alumni Panels

"How can I use my psychology degree for a career in?"

The Psychology Alumni Advisory Board provides a mentoring opportunity for undergraduates and alumni. The "First Friday" panels help current students explore career options. Alumni interested in participating in a panel should contact Cheryl Berger, Assistant Head for Alumni Relations, cberger@uic.edu.

Fall 2017/Spring 2018 Schedule:

- October 6:** Graduate School
- December 1:** Law
- February 2:** Human Resources
- March 26:** Mental Health
- April 6:** Social Services



Bradley Axelrod



L-R: Meera Zukosky, Tianjun Sun, and John Shustitzky.

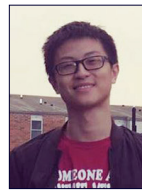
Laura Bolton Research Development Award



The Department of Psychology would like to thank **Dr. Laura Bolton** (BS, '66), shown on left, and her husband, **Dr. Russell Bolton** (BS, '55; MS, '59; PhD, '68 Ceramic Engineering, Illinois), for establishing the *Laura Bolton Research Development*

Award. The award provides financial support to qualified undergraduate psychology students who are conducting summer research in a psychology lab on campus.

2017 Summer Award Recipients



Yuan Bian
Cognitive Psychology

"I am currently working with Professor Gary Dell in the Beckman Institute. Our research studies show how adults learn new phonotactics in a lab setting and measures the learning by slips of the tongue. We are interested in whether early linguistic experience (e.g., different mother tongues) can affect adults' ability to learn novel phonotactic constraints dependent on stress and tone in the language production system. I want to thank you for your recognition, and gracious financial support, with which I can focus more on my studies and pursuing a future career."



Yuetian Li
Clinical/Community Psychology

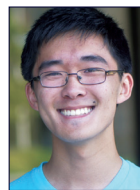
"I started to work in the Youth, Emotion, Development, and Intervention Lab (YEDI) as a sophomore and have been in the lab for a year. The main research I am involved in is the Personalized

Depression Prevention. I am starting to work on my own research project this summer. I am interested in emotion regulation and its association with non-suicidal self-injury. Right now I am reading research papers related to these two topics and trying to construct a more detailed question that I want to focus on. For summer, my plan is to come up with the question and hypothesis for the project and start to work on statistical analysis.

Without a doubt, receiving this scholarship acknowledges my passion about research and encourages me to work harder in the future. Thanks to your generosity, the financial burden placed on me during the summer will be reduced. I really appreciate your investments in Psychology students like me."

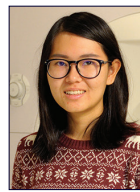
Daniel Pien
Clinical/Community Psychology

"The summer research question that I will be exploring is whether self-esteem moderates the relationship between anxiety and interpersonal stress. I was interested in this project because



self-esteem and stress were prominent challenges in my own and my peers' high school experiences. In addition, I plan to become a high school counselor in order to foster mental health in our youth. Thus, I believe that this research project will further my understanding of these concepts, as well as inform future practice with students.

As an out-of-state student, I was uncertain of my decision to pursue research here for the summer because of the large commitment of time and money; however, your award has enabled me to engage in such a wonderful learning opportunity without having to worry about other concerns."



Amanda Chen
Cognitive Neuroscience Psychology

"I am working in the Social, Cognitive, Personality and Emotional (SCoPE) Neuroscience Lab where Associate Professor Florin Dolcos is the principal investigator. I have been learning a lot working in the lab. I learned about mechanisms behind fMRI, fMRI safety, and running rules. I have been searching and reading literature regarding the effects of different interventions on emotions and how brain structures differ in individuals with different traits or mental disorders. It is a great opportunity and help to have this summer experience as I would like to study brain structures or functions and the relationship with mental disorders for my thesis.

This award has relieved the stress associated with my summer expenses and made me more devoted to my research experience. Your kindness has inspired me and I would like to help other students who want to devote themselves to research, as you have helped me, whenever I am financially capable."



Anastasia Sorokina
Behavioral Neuroscience Psychology

"Thanks to your generous support, I will be able to remain on campus to continue my research on genetic differences between control mice and ADHD-like mice. This research will give us new insights into genes and pathways that may factor into the development and progression of ADHD, and further on this may also contribute to finding novel treatments. Next semester, I plan on presenting the research that I am conducting this summer at the annual Society for Neuroscience meeting in Washington, DC. I will also use this research as a foundation for my senior thesis.

I am very passionate about research, and I feel that a PhD will allow me to continue doing what I love. With your generous support I will be able to focus more closely on finishing the research for my thesis, as well as beginning to apply for graduate school."

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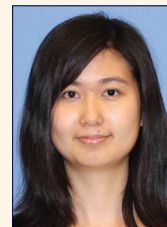
Psychology Alumni Advisory Board Travel Award



Alexis Hanna
Society for Industrial/Organizational Psychology Conference

"These funds will certainly further my career goals by helping me gain experience presenting as a graduate student, networking with influential members of my field, and learning from other

presentations and research ideas. I really appreciate all that the Alumni Board does for current graduate students and for the University as a whole, and thank you for your immense generosity in making these funds available."



Anqi Li
National Council on Measurement in Education

"I am really grateful for the opportunities this award will provide me. The National Council on Measurement in Education annual meeting is one of the largest and most important meetings in the field of educational measurement. Attending this meeting will not only help me learn cutting-edge knowledge in this field, gather feedback to improve my current research, but also enhance my professional communication skills, including presentation and academic writing."

Visit www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/why/GradTravelAward2016.aspx to help support graduate student conference travel.

Learn how the *Shape the Future Today Fund* supports the educational experience of psychology students: www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/shape

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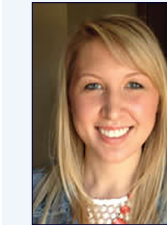
Noah Tate
Attention & Perception Psychology

"I am currently in the process of writing code to implement my experiments—in connection with my Honors Program thesis. I want to see whether or not attentional sets that are based off more

complex category structures also moderate noticing rates in inattentive blindness. Thank you for allowing me to receive this award. The reward, to me, is both an extreme help

What's Your Story?

Undergraduate psychology students would like to know how you use your Psychology major in your current field/job/career. Here's an opportunity to share your story with current undergraduate students.



Lauren Hays

"I work in a children's psychiatric facility as an HR Director so I get to use both my Abnormal Psych class, social psych, and other psych classes. I also get to apply the business-related psych information as well."



Keri Carter Pipkins

"I did not truly appreciate the education I received as an undergraduate until I started graduate school. I felt extremely prepared for graduate study because of my experience as a Psychology major at Illinois. Also, I encourage psychology majors to begin

exploring careers early by reading about careers, talking to people in interesting careers, and working or volunteering in a variety of settings. Many psychology majors pursue successful careers without continuing their education and some, like me, do not go immediately to graduate school. Learn about your options and keep an open mind."

Read more about their careers and other psychology alumni at: www.psychology.illinois.edu/mentoring/yourstory

financially as well as an acknowledgement to me that I am pursuing a worthwhile line of research."

For more information about the award: www.psychology.illinois.edu/undergrad/opportunities/awards/More_Awards.aspx

Faculty Recognized for Professional Excellence



2017 Larine Y. Cowan Make a Difference Award for Teaching & Mentoring in Diversity

Mikhail Lyubansky received this award for his tireless efforts in advocating for inclusion and access at Illinois.



Center for Advanced Study Professor

Professor **Gary Dell** has been added to the distinguished roster of Center for Advanced Study Professors, past and present. www.las.illinois.edu/news/article/?id=22290&/news//news/2017/advancedstudy17



Lincoln Excellence for Assistant Professors Award

Catharine Fairbairn has been recognized for her exceptional accomplishments in teaching and research by the College of LAS. Read more: www.las.illinois.edu/news/article/?id=19704&/news//news/2016/LEAP16



E. F. Lindquist Award

Hua-Hua Chang has been selected to receive the 2017 E. F. Lindquist Award. This award is presented jointly by the American Educational Research Association and ACT in recognition of outstanding applied or theoretical research in the field of testing and measurement. The award is meant to acknowledge a body of research of an empirical, theoretical, or integrative nature rather than a single study.



Mabel Kirkpatrick Hohenboken Award

Dan Hyde was selected as the 2017 recipient of the Hohenboken Award. This award recognizes departmental faculty who consistently contribute to instruction, focus on students and the quality of instructional outcomes, innovative approaches to teaching and influence the curriculum.



Psychometric Society Best Reviewer Award

The Editorial Council of the Psychometric Society selected **Hans-Friedrich Köhn** to receive the 2017 Best Reviewer Award.



Provost's Campus Distinguished Promotion Award

Diane Beck is one of twelve faculty members honored with the Provost's Campus Distinguished Promotion Award for 2017. During its annual promotion review process, the Campus Committee on Promotion and Tenure identifies scholars whose contributions have been extraordinary in terms of quality of work and overall achievement. news.illinois.edu/blog/view/6367/508010



SRCD Award

Renee Baillargeon received the Distinguished Scientific Contributions to Child Development award from the Developmental Division of the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD). www.srkd.org/meetings/biennial-meeting/2017-srkd-awardees



Mid-Career Award for Outstanding Scientific Contribution

Dolores Albarracín has been selected to receive the award from the Attitudes and Social Influence Interest Group of SPSP.

New Faculty



Yihao Liu is an Assistant Professor with a joint appointment in the School of Labor & Employment Relations and Psychology. His research involves newcomer socialization, occupational stress and well-being, work groups and teams, and advanced quantitative methodology.

Professorial Scholar

The Department of Psychology has a tradition of honoring faculty members who have achieved promotion to Associate or Full Professor with the title of Professorial Scholar. The appointments serve as recognition of our colleagues' outstanding achievements in research, teaching, and service, as validated by their promotion in rank.



Julian Rappaport Professorial Scholar in Psychology

Diane Beck



Richard and Margaret Romano Professorial Scholar

Monica Uddin received a three-year appointment based on recognition of outstanding achievements in research and leadership roles on campus. The position

provides discretionary funds each year of the appointment to support the awardee's scholarly activities.

Professor William Greenough's Legacy



A few short years ago, we lost a leader in Psychology at the University of Illinois. Professor **William Greenough's** legacy in the fields of psychology and neuroscience can be seen through his pioneering research in the study of brain elasticity. He also received numerous accolades including election to the

National Academy of Science and being named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Many will argue his true legacy lies with the special interest he took in the students in his lab; those he mentored and with whom he shared his passion for the process of science. We strive to continue Bill's legacy of student support at Illinois. For more information on Bill's career and his legacy at Illinois: www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/shape/Greenough_Scholarship_Fund.aspx

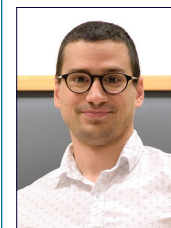
Graduate Students Honored for Teaching Excellence

Congratulations to Deborah Cronin (Attention & Perception) and Pete Ondish (Social-Personality), 2017 recipients of the Department of Psychology's Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student.



Deborah Cronin taught Psych 100 and Psych 105: Introduction to Psychology. According to Lisa Travis who supervised Cronin over the past five semesters, "Deborah first taught Introductory Psychology in Fall 2014. She did such an outstanding job that she was my first choice (from among a pool

of 16 talented graduate instructors) to take on the challenge of teaching Psychology 105, a special section designed for under-prepared students. Deborah's many strengths as a teacher include meticulous preparation, depth of knowledge about psychology, attention to the details of lecture delivery, and attention to what engages her students. Her outstanding teaching ratings, 5.0 on a scale of 1-5, have placed her on the List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent every semester she has taught, and in three semesters she has earned recognition as outstanding by being among the top 10% of instructors on campus. Cronin has also earned two teaching certificates from the University of Illinois' Center for Teaching Excellence (CITL). These certificates involve additional professional activities such as attending teaching seminars and performing service related to teaching. Last spring she participated in CITL's Teaching Portfolio seminar and the resulting product was highlighted on CITL's website as a model portfolio (www.dacronin.com)."



Pete Ondish taught Psychology 201: Introduction to Social Psychology for two years. Ondish has been consistently rated as outstanding, 4.9/5, and he has appeared on the list of Teachers Ranked as Excellent every semester. According to his faculty supervisor, Professor Dolores Albarracín, "he is engaging, professional, yet personable. He has a command of the material and a self-assured style that has already elicited the praise of hundreds of undergraduates who were lucky to enroll in his sections. He is a master at the theatrical aspects of teaching, while being fast, engaging, and funny, yet very dead serious about the education enterprise. This combination of skilled engagement, respect for the discipline, and responsibility makes Pete outstanding and deserving of this graduate teaching award."

Looking Back and Moving Forward:

Susan Stout Remembered as a Role-model for Masters Students

By Dr. Caroline Tancredy

The Master of Science in Psychological Science program is an exciting new venture for the Psychology Department. The program aims to advance students' knowledge of the field of psychology, improve their research and data analytic skills, and enhance their preparation for doctoral education and jobs in industry. My role as the director of this program is to cultivate the passion that our students have for psychological science so that they can achieve their vocational goals. To fulfill this role, I draw on many resources in our department.

I facilitate a mentoring network that includes direct supervision by a faculty sponsor for each student whose interests align with the sponsor's research. The faculty sponsor integrates an MSPS student into his or her lab and ongoing research projects. Each lab, in turn, includes a group of doctoral students who provide further guidance and opportunities for collaborative work. As an advisor, I work with each student to customize a program of study that is designed to show future program committees and employers that our students are purposeful in their mission, thoughtful in their work and knowledgeable in their field.

Finally, I facilitate a weekly professional development course to teach skills that promote strengths in the areas of academic writing and presentation, inclusivity and cultural appreciation, professional communications, and research integrity, to name a few. Our current students are pursuing careers in academic psychology in the areas of neuroscience, attention and perception, clinical research and community advocacy, social psychology, and organizational and industrial psychology. As we complete our first semester of the program, I can say without hesitation that I am extremely proud of our MSPS students, who are working tirelessly in their endeavor to become psychological scientists.

The MSPS program could not succeed without the space that we have been given to work independently, meet as a group, collaborate, and plan for the future. In my early meetings with our Department Head, Dr. Wendy Heller, we discussed how the three rooms allotted for our program could best serve the unique needs of our master's students. I felt strongly that our students would benefit from a student workspace, a seminar room, and a career and resource library. The library would serve as place where students could work together to design projects, investigate future programs, internships, and careers, and to prepare their application materials. Specifically, I envisioned a tangible library of resource materials, printing and computing resources, and a task area that could support small-group work. Dr. Heller thought my vision for the MSPS Career and Resource Library would align perfectly with the objectives of the Susan Stout Memorial Library Fund.

The mention of the Susan Stout Memorial Library Fund stirred my long-held curiosity about Susan Stout. While I was aware of



2017 fall masters students: Front Row L-R: Pei-Ling Yang, Abisola Smith, Naidan Tu, Stephanie Kern; Back Row L-R: Junyeob Kim, Zoe (Jing) Xu, Drew Weiner, Angie (Kathleen) Willoughby, Director Caroline Tancredy

the Library on the 8th floor and the online resource created in Susan's name, I did not know much else about her story. From her picture I noticed that Susan was a young woman, neat in appearance, with eyes that held a cautious glance toward the future. From the short biography provided on the website, I learned that Susan was a young scholar who was passionate about psychological science. The biography begins with Susan's favorite quote, lists her educational accomplishments and concludes with a melancholy comment, "Had it not been for her untimely death, she would have completed her research for her doctoral thesis in the summer of 1962. Her special field of research interest was brain function in motivation."



Take interest, I implore you, in those sacred dwellings called laboratories. Demand that they be multiplied, that they be adorned. These are the temples of the future, temples of well-being and of happiness. — Louis Pasteur

Susan's favorite quote, kept on her desk.

The Untimely Death of Susan Stout and Why Her Story is Important

While considering the new MSPS space, I asked myself, "What does it mean to provide a career and resource library to master's students in the spirit of the Susan Stout Memorial Fund?" I needed to know who Susan Stout was and what she represents. In pursuit of the answer, I discovered that the University Main Library holds two archive boxes that contain a collection of writings pertaining to the life, work, and death of Susan Stout. I set out to learn more about Susan. Now that I have studied the contents of these boxes, I have reached the conclusion that *Susan Stout was a remarkable woman, whose death was not only untimely, it could have been prevented. As a department we need to be reminded of why we honor her memory. As a community we owe her a retelling of her story.*

Susan Stout was born in 1936, in Clarksburg, Virginia, as the only child of Susan and Alexander Stout. Her peers affectionately called her "Sue" and described her as fun, modest, compassionate, and brave. She came to the University of Illinois—Urbana, Champaign in 1958 to pursue her degree in experimental psychology, which sprung from her interest in physiology.

Susan worked under the tutelage of Dr. Lawrence O'Kelly. At the time of Susan's enrollment, the psychology department was housed on the third and fourth floors of Gregory Hall. Space was tight, so Dr. O'Kelly's lab worked out of a building on Race Street called "The Comparative Laboratory," affectionately referred to as the "Comp Lab." There, Susan had her own desk, which she piled with books and writings relevant to her research, and where she penned her master's thesis, titled, *The Effects of Legions of the Septal Region of Water Reward in the Rat*. Her next goal was to continue her laboratory work in pursuit of her doctoral thesis, which she expected to complete in 1962. Sadly, Susan did not have the opportunity to achieve this goal. Her highest degree earned was the Masters of Arts Degree she earned in September, 1961.

Susan Stout's life ended on November 8, 1961 when her former boyfriend, who was troubled and devastated by Susan's decision not to marry him, shot her, and then himself, in the lobby of her graduate dormitory.

There are many upsetting details about Susan's murder. Most disturbing are the indications that Susan had known she was in danger, and had asked for help from counselors, doctors, and local authorities, who failed to appreciate the urgency and legitimacy of her concerns. The man who killed Susan had local connections that may have biased authorities in regarding him as a threat. Notes made to herself on a printout of her experimental results say, "Run—no," showing that she feared for her life, but refused to let her fear keep her from progressing in her work.

The Susan Stout Archive contains a poignant letter from the Head of the Psychology Department, Lloyd G. Humphreys to the President of the University, David D. Henry, in which Dr. Humphreys passionately requests that the university community consider how they might have acted to give Susan more aid. His letter reflects on explicit ways Susan asked for help and calls on the community to consider how important it is to be an ally for students like Susan.

Fifty-six years after Susan's death, Dr. Humphreys call to vigilance to prevent violence against women continues to be salient. Susan's story merits retelling, in part, because the original discourse of her death did not give full voice to her struggle and pleas for help.

The Development of the Susan C. Stout Memorial Library

Following Susan's death, students at the Comp Lab began to keep a collection of journals as a memorial on Susan's desk. At that time subscriptions to professional journals were expensive and essential. The accessibility of these materials was enormously helpful to students. Dr. O'Kelly kept correspondence with Susan's mother, Susan S. Stout, who looked for ways to honor her daughter



Susan Stout, Camp Red Wing, New Hampshire. From the Susan Stout Archive Collection.

and suggested that an official space in the lab be dedicated as a Memorial Library.

In dedication of the library, Professor O'Kelly stated, "Our new laboratory was very much her laboratory. There is no part of it to which she did not contribute. Our memorial to Susan Stout is something we think she would have liked very much. We have set aside a place, just where her desk stood, for a working library of journals and reference books to be maintained by the Stout Memorial Fund. In this way, Susan will continue to contribute to the field that was literally more important to her than life itself."

The generous contributions of Susan's family and friends, combined with money generated from student concessions in the Comp Lab, supported the library for many years. In 1970 the Department of Psychology moved to its new location on Sixth and Daniel where the library was given a permanent, beautiful home that has been supported by an endowment provided by the Stout family. The library grew to include over 50 journal subscriptions, critical reference books, monographs, and handbooks. The library was known to be populated by students at all hours of the day. When print journals became less necessary, Susan's library was converted to an electronic resource, but the space continues to thrive as a venue for important affairs that support the growth of the department. The Department of Psychology remembers its leaders and is grateful to its benefactors who join us in building the best future possible for psychological science.

Continuing to Honoring Susan C. Stout

As we build the MSPS program, we will remember Susan Stout, not only as a hard-working and endearing student who was memorialized with tools of learning, but as a scientist who embodied the dedication to science, scholarship, and community that is the cornerstone of our program. She serves as a reminder that it is a privilege to study psychology at the University of Illinois. As part of that privilege, the MSPS students are honored to occupy a space that is partially supported by the Susan Stout Memorial Library Fund. It is my hope that Susan Stout and those that cherished her would be proud that we *are multiplying the laboratories... and libraries... as our temples of well-being and happiness*. It is fitting that Susan Stout achieved her master's degree and contributed so greatly to the community of students in the Comp Lab, which was a safe, supportive space for all who studied there. Our MSPS students strive to make contributions to science and to build community among each other.

(continued on page 16)

GENEROUS DONORS ASSIST STUDENTS

The Department of Psychology is grateful to the generous donors who have established fellowships and awards in honor of family members and distinguished faculty and staff who have influenced their lives. Gifts from alumni and friends enable the department to support the research of our most promising students.

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

Robert A. and Katherine P. McGrath Graduate Fellowship



Bob and Kathy McGrath

The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce a gift from **Robert A. McGrath** (PsyD, '74, Clinical Psychology) and **Katherine P. McGrath** (MS, '71, Education) to establish a fellowship for graduate students in the Clinical/Community Psychology Program Area. The McGraths wanted to express their appreciation for all they received from the University of Illinois by initiating a fellowship fund.

Bob McGrath met Kathy in a library at the University of Illinois. He was a graduate student in Clinical Psychology and she was starting her MA in Education. After completing her degree, Kathy worked as an Admissions Counselor at the University of Illinois. Bob did his internship at the Counseling Center at the University. After Bob received his PsyD, he took a position as a Psychologist at the counseling center at the University of Tennessee. He became the Training Director at that site, while Kathy set aside professional work as they started a family of four. In 1983 Bob became the Director of the Counseling Center at the University of Missouri Columbia. While in Columbia MO, Kathy began using the teaching skills she had learned at the University of Illinois, teaching at an elementary school. While at the University of Missouri, Bob received certification as a Diplomat from the American Board of Professional Psychology.

In 1990, Bob became the Director of the Counseling and Consultation Services at University of Wisconsin Madison (UW). Kathy brought her teaching skills to Madison and taught at an elementary school in the Madison Metropolitan School District. In 2009, Bob made a professional change and became Coordinator of Mind/Body Wellness Services at UW. At that time, he was given

the rare title of Distinguished Psychologist by the university.

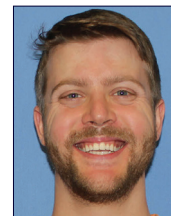
Kathy and Bob have now officially retired, though Bob continues to be a frequently requested member of the UW Speakers Bureau, giving his talk on Living with Vitality throughout the state. As Bob and Kathy reflect on their personal and professional lives, they are thankful that they met at Illinois and are also very thankful that the University provided such excellent and effective educational and professional training.



Haley Skymba is the first recipient of the Robert A. and Katherine P. McGrath Fellowship. She is a 1st year student in the Clinical/Community Program Area.

"Broadly, I am interested in understanding how various experiences of adversity early in life can impact aspects of development and place individuals at higher risk for psychopathology."

Jeffrey Dallenbach Fellowship



The *Jeffrey Dallenbach Fellowship* is awarded to graduate students conducting basic interest in experimental psychology. The fellowship was awarded to **Kirk Ballew**, a 1st year student in the Attention & Perception Program.



James Davis Fellowship

James Davis was a member of the Department of Psychology from 1967-1997. It is not an exaggeration to say that he is considered to be one of the greatest social psychologists of his generation, based on his research investigating how groups of people make decisions. Much of his work focused on how juries make decisions, and his research had immense impact—it has been cited frequently by the Supreme Court and by other governmental authorities. It has also influenced business and management practices.

The 2017 recipients, **Elizabeth Lozano** and **Kathryn Schafer**, are students in the Social-Personality Program.

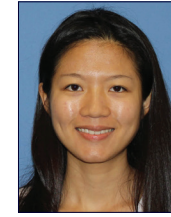


Charles L. Hulin Fellowship



The *Charles L. Hulin Fellowship* was created in 2000 by students, colleagues and friends of Professor **Charles L. Hulin**, who is credited with developing the Industrial/Organizational (I/O) Psychology Program at Illinois.

The fellowship was awarded to **Ning Hsu**, a 1st year student in the I/O Program.



Evelyn Hobson Fellowship



Evelyn Hobson and her husband, Bill, had a keen interest in higher education and through the years provided generous support to many of the finest institutions in the country. Among them are Stanford, CalTech, Harvey Mudd, Pomona, Brigham Young, and Occidental.

This generous gift from Evelyn and Bill Hobson allowed the department to offer fellowships to **Daniela Mejia** (Quantitative Program,) and **Sara Westbrook** (Behavioral Neuroscience Program).



Frederick & Ruby Kanfer Fellowship



Ruby & Frederick Kanfer

The *Frederick & Ruby Kanfer Fellowship* is awarded to a clinical psychology graduate student who is conducting research in the area of self-management, self-regulation and/or behavior change. The Department of Psychology would like to thank

the Kanfer family, his colleagues, and friends whose generous contributions helped to endow the *Frederick & Ruby Kanfer Fund*.

The fellowship was awarded to **Kathryn Kemp**, a 1st year student, in the Clinical/Community Program.



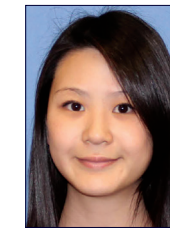
Rue Miklos Fellowship

The *Rue Miklos Fellowship* was established in 2008 to support the teaching or study of child psychology in the Department of Psychology.



The fellowship was awarded to **Fernando Sanchez Hernandez** and **Yu Xiong**, students in the Developmental Program.

Herbert Woodrow Fellowship



The *Herbert Woodrow Fellowship* is awarded to the most promising graduate students in the department doing basic research in the field of psychology.

The fellowship was awarded to **Tiffany Yang**, a 2nd year student in the Behavioral Neuroscience program area.

Nancy Hirschberg Memorial Award



Nancy Hirschberg was a member of the psychology department here in Champaign from 1964 until 1976, when she joined the psychology faculty at the U of I Chicago campus. Shortly after her death in February 1979, her friends and colleagues at both campuses met to establish the Nancy

Hirschberg Memorial Fund to create a living remembrance with the hope that her memory will serve to encourage others to attain their full potential.

Sarah Sperry (Clinical/Community) is the 2017 recipient for the award. Sarah was nominated for her research examining bipolar spectrum psychopathology in daily life. Her research project resulted in three first-authored manuscripts submitted to leading peer reviewed journals.

(Sperry & Kwapil, 2017) *What daily life assessment tell us about the bipolar spectrum? Psychiatry Research.*

(Sperry, S.H., Barrantes-Vidal, N. & Kwapil, T.R. (2017). *The association of affective temperaments and bipolar spectrum psychopathology: An experience sampling study. Motivation and Emotion* [epub ahead of print].

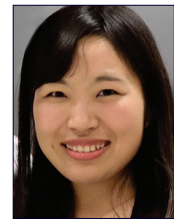
(Sperry, S.H., Lynam, D.P., & Kwapil, T.R. in press). *The convergence and divergence of impulsivity facets in daily life. The Journal of Personality.*



J. McVicker Hunt Award for Excellence in Graduate Research

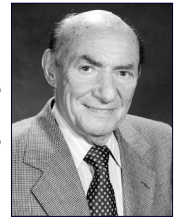


The *J. McVicker Hunt Award* was established in 2005 to honor the contributions of **J. McVicker Hunt** to the field of developmental psychology. Hunt was a faculty member in the Department of Psychology from 1951-1974. Hunt's book, *Intelligence and Experience* published in 1961, has been credited for laying the groundwork for Project Head Start, and the importance of early childhood education. The J. McVicker Hunt Award recipients are selected based on the significance and quality of their research as well as their research productivity.



Lin Bian (Developmental) is the 2017 recipient for the J. McVicker Hunt Award. Through her research, Bian wants to understand how the groups we belong to constrain our thoughts and behaviors. Her research has focused on gender stereotypes about intellectual ability and the effects that these stereotypes have on little girls' career aspirations. Bian graduated May '17 and began a post-doctoral appointment at Stanford University.

Frederick & Ruby Kanfer Award



Frederick H. Kanfer, a member of the Department of Psychology from 1973 until 1995, was a pioneer in the behavioral therapy movement and a founding father of self-management therapy. To honor his legacy, his family established the *Frederick and Ruby Kanfer Award*, to be presented to a psychology student whose scholarship and/or service in the field of clinical/community psychology is aimed at improving the psychological lives of all individuals.

(continued from page 13)

Comp Lab

The Comp Lab was a place where learning, scholarship, and research was both a commitment and a pleasure. Many of us who were fortunate enough to have been part of the Lab tried to model our own laboratories on O'Kelly's principles - a demand for hard work, excellence in scholarship, and respect for the discipline and one's colleagues which was then rewarded with a desk, a library, ready access to professors and a feeling of belonging and inclusion. In turn, that lab spawned many very successful and influential psychologists.

—F. Samuel Bauer, PhD, Graduate of the University of Illinois, *Experimental Physiological Psychology* (1965-1971)



Konrad Bresin (Clinical/Community) is the recipient of the 2017 Frederick and Ruby Kanfer Award. Dr. Catharine Fairbairn stated, "I believe Konrad brings an impressive level of maturity, acumen, and compassion to this work, and I believe that he will make an outstanding educator and researcher in the field of clinical psychology. His accomplishments in research and practice are the reasons why we have chosen Konrad for this award."

Sarah C. Mangelsdorf Graduate Award in Psychology



The *Sarah C. Mangelsdorf Graduate Award* in Psychology was established in 2008 to honor **Sarah Mangelsdorf** for her achievements and contributions to the U of I. Mangelsdorf served as associate head of the Department of Psychology 2000-2001, associate provost for the campus 2001-2003, head of the Department of Psychology 2003-2004; interim dean of LAS 2004-2006, and dean of LAS 2006 – summer 2008. Mangelsdorf served as dean of the Weinberg College of Arts & Sciences at Northwestern University fall 2008 – summer 2014. She accepted the position of provost at the University of Wisconsin-Madison fall 2014.



Yara Mekawi (Clinical/Community) received the 2017 award, which is designed to honor an outstanding female graduate student who has exhibited excellence in research, scholarship, teaching, and has shown the potential to be an academic leader.



Dr. **Caroline Tancredy** is a Teaching Assistant Professor and Director of the Master of Science in Psychological Science Program (MSPS). Prior to directing the MSPS program, she taught Personality Psychology and coordinated the Social Psychology Series. Her research interests include the study of adult twin and non-twin sibling relationships, emotion regulation, and topics in attachment and loss.

For more information about the MSPS Program visit: psychology.illinois.edu/graduate/prospective/MS_in_Psych_Science.aspx

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

Raymond B. Cattell Scholarship in Psychology



The *Raymond B. Cattell Scholarship in Psychology* was established by Dr. **Samuel Krug** (MA, '68; PhD, '71) in honor of Professor Raymond Cattell who served as his advisor through graduate school and remained a close friend until he died in 1968. He is currently chairman and CEO of MetriTech, Inc., an educational testing company that works primarily with large-scale, state testing programs.

2016 FALL RECIPIENTS

(not pictured)
Veronica Glowacki
Nicole Nesnidal

Roger B. Smith Scholarship in Psychology

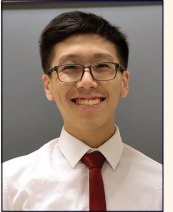
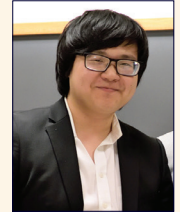


The *Roger B. Smith Scholarship in Psychology* was established in June 2014 by **Roger Bennett Smith** to support undergraduate students. Mr. Smith graduated in 1966 with a BS in Psychology and a minor in Chemistry. He formed Millennium Dealers Services, Inc. in 1999 with his son. The company is a wholesaler of mobile electronics and he continues to serve as president and owner of the company.

2016 FALL RECIPIENTS

Jefferson Fu (left)
Felix So

Recipients not pictured:
Alexandra Cooke, Logan Dodd, Peter Liambotis, Kristin Pluta, Tracy Reyes, Karina Schoenfeldt, and Mingcheng Yu.



2017 Fall James E. Spoor Scholarship Recipients & Honors in Psychology

The Honors Program, coordinated in 2017 by Professor **Daniel Simons**, is a three-semester sequence of courses designed to offer outstanding undergraduates an opportunity to do sustained scholarly work on a specific research project, culminating in the preparation of an undergraduate Bachelor's thesis, and a poster presentation at the Honors Program Fair. Students who complete the program graduate with "Honors in Psychology." Twelve students presented their research at the Honors Program Fair on May 2, 2017.

Front Row (L-R): Professor Daniel Simons, Yi "Violet" Zhao, Qingrou "JoJo" Gu, Kelsey Howard, Justin Lien, Yuri Kim, Ryan Hubbard (graduate TA)

Back Row (L-R): Martin Schatz, Katherine Nameth, Madeline Reinecke, Colin Harmony, Jacqueline Beck, Daniel Szoke, Yueyang Chen

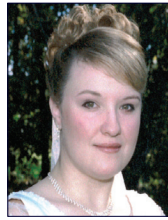


James E. Spoor is a distinguished alumnus of the Department of Psychology and the University of Illinois (BS, '58). The scholarships are a gift by his wife, Mrs. Nancy Spoor, to honor her husband and help worthy undergraduate students. Spoor had a very successful career that covered more than 25 years in human resources, line management and global HR operations with several respected Fortune 500 corporations in the energy, high tech, and food processing industries. During his career, Spoor earned a reputation as a respected visionary, pioneer, and innovator who focused on exploiting technology to address strategic business issues.

In 1984, Spoor founded SPECTRUM Human Resources Systems Corporation. With his passion for HR and technology, SPECTRUM established itself as a leading provider of HR, benefits administration, talent acquisition, and training and development systems to high expectation mid-market organizations.

In recognition of his achievements, the department presented Spoor with a Distinguished Alumni Award at the department's awards ceremony on May 13, 2007.

Julie Sutton-Osgood Psychology Award



The *Julie Sutton-Osgood Award in Psychology* was established in 2008 by family and friends in memory of **Julie Sutton-Osgood** whose career goal was to become a practicing physician. Sutton-Osgood trained as an emergency medical technician (EMT) and worked summers for an ambulance company

while enrolled as a psychology student at Illinois.

After graduation she completed a paramedic course and worked for Superior Ambulance Company and became their EMS coordinator through Christ Hospital and Hope Children's Hospital. A few years later she attended physician assistant school while she continued to work full-time. Sutton-Osgood fulfilled her goal to become a licensed Physician's Assistant.



The *Julie Sutton-Osgood Award in Psychology* is intended to help students realize their dream of becoming either a physician or another type of medical practitioner.

The 2017 *Julie Sutton-Osgood Award in Psychology* was awarded to **Qingrou Gu** who entered Boston Medical School this fall.

Janet Tritsch Memorial Award



The *Janet Tritsch Memorial Award* was established in 1975 in memory of Janet Tritsch, who as an undergraduate student was active in psychology research. The 2017 award was presented to **Justin Lien** for his senior honors thesis, "*Traumatic Brain Injury, But Not Genetic Risk for Schizophrenia, Predicts*

Positive Schizotypal Traits in Youth." Lien's research advisor was Assistant Professor Jaime Derringer.

DISTINCTION IN PSYCHOLOGY

Graduating with Distinction in Psychology requires significant research and academic effort by undergraduate students. For Distinction, a student must work for two semesters on a research project with a faculty member, and then prepare an undergraduate bachelor's thesis.

- Sarah Carlisle
- Robert Micheal Clark
- Logan Dodd
- Megan Dwyer
- Jefferson Fu
- Tugsbilegt Gongor
- Mahima Goel
- Xiao 'Nicole' Han
- Chitra Iyer
- Sangyun Joung
- Sophie Leib
- Felix So
- Myrna Sobhy
- Brianna Velazquez
- Jennifer Lee
- Muxuan Lyu
- Mecca Maynard

CAPSTONE RESEARCH



(L-R): Associate Professor Justin Rhodes, Myrna Sobhy, Sophie Leib, Micheal Robert Clark, Felix So, Mahima Goel, Jefferson Fu, Mecca Maynard, Xiao "Nicole" Han, Kristy Du (graduate TA)

The Capstone Undergraduate Research program, coordinated in 2016 by Associate Professor Justin Rhodes, ideally taken for two-semester, is a course designed for advanced students who have arranged to do a research project in the laboratory of a faculty member.

The combination of working intensively in a research laboratory and meeting weekly as a group to present and discuss each student's research project, together with formal instruction on research ethics, scientific writing, and making presentations, will provide in-depth background knowledge of research psychology, and will teach students to make effective oral and written presentations of their findings.

DIVISION AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Your generous gifts to the *Partnership for Psychology Fund* bolsters our funding of awards for outstanding undergraduate research and academic accomplishments.

Behavioral Neuroscience

Donald O. Hebb Award:
Jennie Gardner (left)



Karl Lashley Award:
Qingrou Gu

Cognitive Neuroscience

Michael Coles Award:
Laura Pritschet (not shown)



Manny Donchin Award:
Stephanie Kern

Clinical/Community

Community Action Award:
Ann-Kathleen Dieudonne Ndinga (not shown)

Outstanding Clinical-Community Science Undergraduate Student Award: Justin Lien



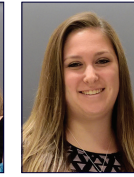
Cognitive

Charles Osgood Award:
Mahima Goel



Developmental

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award:
(L-R) Kelsey Howard, Danielle Paradise, and Madeline Reinecke



Social-Personality-Organizational

Harry Triandis Award:
Colin Harmony (not shown)



Ed Diener Award:
Robert Micheal Clark

Visual Cognition & Human Performance

Charles Eriksen Award:
Sophie Leib (left)



Christopher Wickens Award:
Yi Zhao

View pictures of all the 2017 award recipients at: www.psychology.illinois.edu/alumni/news/gallery

LINCOLN SCHOLAR



Jada Hampton was one of twelve College of LAS students to receive a scholarship from the Lincoln Scholars Initiative. She graduated May 2017 and departed for London to pursue a master's degree in Creative and Cultural Entrepreneurship from

Goldsmiths University.

Hampton said she would not have been able to attend Illinois without the Lincoln Scholar Initiative.

www.las.illinois.edu/news/article/?id=22032&/news//news/2017/lincolnscholargrads17

CLASS OF 2017: SENIOR 100 HONORARY



Senior 100 Honorary, sponsored by the University of Illinois Alumni Association (UIAA) and Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAA), recognize 100 graduating seniors for their notable achievements as students as well as their future commitment to the university. Interested seniors from all of the Colleges across the campus have their applications reviewed by the UIAA and SAA.

The honorees are active campus leaders who have developed leadership skills and demonstrate University loyalty through their past campus involvement as well as their future plans.

The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce that nine psychology students were selected for this honor.

- Bailey Burns, Psychology
- Rabia Ilyas, Psychology
- Chitra Iyer, Molecular & Cellular Biology; Psychology
- Justin Lien, Molecular & Cellular Biology; Psychology
- Evan Lorenz, Psychology
- Madeline Reinecke, Psychology; Philosophy
- Toral Shastri, Molecular & Cellular Biology; Psychology
- Ashley Wehrheim, Molecular & Cellular Biology; Psychology
- Nicholetti White, Psychology; Gender & Women's Studies

www.las.illinois.edu/news/article/?id=21710&%2Fnews%2F%2Fnews%2F2017%2Fsenior10017%2F

Fulbright Summer Institute Scholarship



Amber Winters received a *Fulbright Summer Institute Scholarship* to study at the University of Dundee in Scotland. Winters is a sophomore majoring in Psychology and French. She is one of four U.S. students selected for the three-week cultural and academic summer program

titled, "Scotland: Identity, Society and the New Enlightenment." A first-generation college student, Winters aspires to a career as a clinical psychologist to help those with mental health concerns.

2017 GRADUATION

Photos by to GradImages



STUDENT AND STAFF AWARDS

The following students and staff were recognized for excellence during the past year. All recipients receive certificates and have their names inscribed on award plaques that are kept on permanent display in the Psychology Building.

Ed Scheiderer Memorial Research Award



Sarah Sperry received the award for her first-authored paper entitled, "What can daily life tell us about the bipolar spectrum" that was published in *Psychiatry Research* (Spetty & Kwapil 2017). Dr. Thomas Kwapil, Sarah's recommender stated, "Simply put, Ms. Sperry is a remarkably accomplished young scholar who completed a sophisticated research project in 2016 that has thus far resulted in one published article and two additional manuscript submissions. Her research addresses important conceptual issues in the field (classification and understanding of the nature of psychopathology) and employs sophisticated research methods."

Herman Eisen Award



Dr. Thomas Kwapil nominated **Mike Niznikiewicz** "because his clinical skills, his devotion to patients and the community, and his service to his colleagues and the institution seem to embody the essence of the Eisen Award. Further Mike has distinguished himself as an outstanding clinician, a motivated coordinator in the Psychological Services Center, and wonderful liaison for patients and the community. Mike's commitment to the community exemplifies the principles of the Eisen Award."

NSF Graduate Fellowships



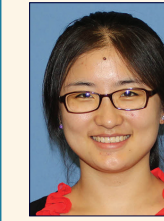
Katherine Wood (Visual Cognition & Human Performance Division) was one of twelve students in the College of LAS to receive an *NSF Graduate Research Fellowship*. "We are extremely proud of the recipients of this year's NSF Graduate Research Fellowships," said Feng Sheng Hu, Harry E.

Preble Dean of the College of LAS. "Our graduate students are critical contributors to research in the college, and these fellowships will help us advance knowledge in several areas of study."

www.las.illinois.edu/news/article/?id=21628&/news/news/2017/nsfgraduatefellowships17

Psychology Diversity Award

The *Department of Psychology Diversity Award* was established to recognize outstanding graduate students engaged in research that contributes to better understanding of psychological topics related to diversity, broadly defined.



Chelsea Song received the award for her research entitled, "*Diversity Shrinkage: Cross-Validating Pareto-Optimal Weights to Enhance Diversity Via Hiring Practices.*" The research was conducted in collaboration with Serena Wee (PhD, '10), Assistant Professor at Singapore Management University, and Professor Daniel Newman.



Sandra Goss Lucas Award for Excellence in Teaching Introductory Psychology

The award was established in 2008 in honor of **Sandra Goss Lucas**, who served as the director of the Introductory Psychology course for 11 years.



Michael Perino (Developmental) and **Daniel Storage** (received the award for her outstanding contributions as an instructor in Psych 100.

Graduate College Travel Award



Jessie Fitts was awarded the *Graduate College Travel Award* to continue her work in Sierra Leone on local perspectives and priorities in mental health. With a recent history of civil war and Ebola epidemic, Sierra Leone has a limited healthcare system and nearly no formal system of mental health care.

The current research is a continuation of work begun in Sierra Leone to understand the local context of mental health. It will identify locally-defined syndromes of psychosocial distress, existing structures of support and intervention, and community conceptualizations of mental illness. Jessie will work with collaborators at Njala University in Sierra Leone and will engage other community partners to inform future intervention-focused work.

STUDY ABROAD



Alessandra Lanier

Last year, I decided to study abroad in Barcelona for the spring semester. It was not a difficult choice for me to make because I have always been intrigued by Spanish culture and I wanted to practice Spanish with native speakers. Also, I am minoring in Spanish and even though the program I participated in was not directly related to the Spanish minor it

helped me become more comfortable with the language. My coursework in Barcelona consisted of two globalization classes, one history class, and a neuroscience class. Out of all my classes, the neuroscience class helped me the most regarding my major because it elaborated on concepts such as neuronal firing, pruning, and vision. Despite this, I still learned a lot from my other classes. For instance, my two globalization classes helped me understand how the world is connected through technology, economics, and politics. However, not all my learning took place in a classroom.

During my semester abroad, I visited six different countries and eleven different cities. It was an eye-opening experience because for once I truly understood that there is more to the world besides America. It is one thing to hear about different cultures and cities in the media and quite another to experience them. For instance, I learned how to make *paella* while I was visiting Seville and watched the changing of the guard in Athens. If I were to write all the stories from my weekend trips, this article would be about ten pages long, but I can say that I learned something different about people and culture in every city that I visited. Therefore, my recommendations for other students who are studying abroad in Europe are to visit Florence on a Monday because it is calm, spend only two days in Rome since that is all the time one needs to see all the tourist sites, go on the *Sound of Music* tour in Salzburg, take a trip to Versailles, spend a long weekend in Seville, and watch the sunset from Mount Lycabettus in Athens.

Though I did have a good time traveling and studying abroad, I did think a lot about my career goals. When I left for Barcelona, I was strongly convinced that I was going to get my PhD in clinical psychology at a top grad school in America. While I still want to get my PhD in clinical psychology, I am considering going to graduate school abroad since Cambridge, Oxford, and University of Amsterdam have esteemed clinical psychology PhD programs. Now, I am applying to labs to get more research experience and become a more competitive graduate school applicant. In summary, studying abroad helped me learn about the world inside and outside of the classroom and opened new avenues to achieve my career goals.

(continued from page 1)

increase awareness about early identification of the disorder, we will be partnering with local daycare providers to increase awareness about early red flags in ASD.

On campus, we hope to increase services and supports for our undergraduate students with the disorder. As so many bright, young people with ASD will increasingly be entering college (and hopefully choose the University of Illinois!), we hope to address some of the inherent social and sensory obstacles of the disorder that can make this transition an overwhelming one. For example, did you know that the U of I Undergraduate Library has Respite Rooms and Tranquility Kits that can be checked out? They come complete with rocking chairs, white noise machines, and adjustable lighting among other items with a sensory focus.

In August 2017, I was excited to take on a new position as the Director of the Psychological Services Center (PSC). The PSC is where many of our graduate students in the department conduct their applied work, and it offers students a chance to be mentored by faculty with specific expertise while simultaneously providing affordable services on a sliding scale to members of our broader community. We are currently training students in evidence-based practices to work with adults with anxiety disorders (faculty supervisor: *Berenbaum*), treat children who have been experienced trauma or are living in adverse environments (*J Cohen*), lead mindfulness-based group therapy for expectant and postpartum women (*Laurent*), conduct inpatient adult assessment (*Kwapil*), perform neuropsychological assessment (*Heller*), and employ restorative justice practices in the broader community (*Lyubanksy*).



Amy Cohen is a Clinical Assistant Professor and serves as the Director of the Psychological Services Center and Director of the University of Illinois Autism Clinic. She is a licensed clinical psychologist in the Clinical/Community division at the University of Illinois,

Urbana-Champaign. Amy received her PhD in clinical psychology from Rutgers University, and completed her internship at the New York Presbyterian Hospital, Columbia University Medical Center in New York, specializing in children and adolescents. She completed her post-doctoral fellowship in Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. Amy has been working with individuals with ASD and their families for over 15 years, and brings expertise in the diagnosis of the disorder across the lifespan. Research interests broadly include supporting siblings of children diagnosed with the disorder, empirically-based intervention, prevalence of ASD, and symptom presentation in women and girls.

NEW STAFF



Brenda Reinhold

Business Office: Procurement Specialist
Reinhold joined the business office on August 7 and is responsible for the oversight of all purchase related activities for the department.



Langston McKinzie

Undergraduate Academic Advisor
McKinzie received his bachelor's degree in Recreation, Sport and Tourism from Illinois in May 2015, and earned a master's degree in Education Policy, Organization and Leadership December 2016.

ALUMNI NEWS

1970

Richard J. Harris (BS, '74) retired December 2016 after 42 years on the faculty at Kansas State University.

Timothy Urbin (BS, '76) was appointed to the Tennessee Board of Examiners in Psychology by Governor Bill Haslan for the period of 2014-18.

1980

Laura Faynor-Ciha (BS, '83) was installed as President of the Illinois Psychological Association (IPA) on July 1. The annual IPA Convention was scheduled November 2-4, 2017 at the Chicago Schaumburg Marriott Hotel. Faynor-Chia is a licensed clinical psychologist and has a private practice in Naperville, IL.

Blair Rowitz, MD (BS, '89), will serve as the first permanent associate dean for clinical affairs in the Carle Illinois College of Medicine. uofi.illinois.edu/blog/view/7540/527430

1990

William Olson (BS, '96) recently published his fourth novel, *Philadelphi*, under the pseudonym, Calumet, and it is available through Amazon.

2000

Cecilia Cheung (PhD, '13) received the Early Career Research Contributions Award from the Society for Research on Child Development (SRCD). Cheung's dissertation paper (Cheung, Pomerantz, Qu, & Wang (2016), *The Role of parent's control and autonomy support in the United States and*

China: Beyond children's reports, published in *Child Development*, received the American Educational Research Association (AERA) Division E Distinguished Research Award (Human Development).

www.srcd.org/meetings/biennal-meeting/2017-srcd-awardees

DIVERSITY IN PSYCHOLOGY



The members of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Department of Psychology are committed to fostering and supporting a climate of inclusion, celebrating human diversity in all its forms, and engaging in cutting edge diversity science. For more information about diversity research in psychology, diversity awards, and campus resources visit: www.psychology.illinois.edu/diversity

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Find us at "University of Illinois Psychology Department" and keep up-to-date on important news and events.

NETWORK ON LINKEDIN



Join Psychology's alumni networking group "University of Illinois Department of Psychology Networking" and expand your professional network.

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION

Update us on your latest news and current email address at www.psychology.illinois.edu/alumni

PSYCHOLOGY E-NEWSLETTER

You can find a link to the E-newsletter at: www.psychology.illinois.edu/enewsletter. Let us know if you would like to be added to our email list at: alumni@cyrus.psych.illinois.edu.

Invest in the Future of the Department

The Department of Psychology benefits from the generosity of friends, like you, who share in our commitment to excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. With your support, we will continue to transform the lives of our students. For more information visit: psychology.illinois.edu/giving.

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- Dr. William Greenough Memorial Fund (774289)
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