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Greetings from the department head



Michael Young, professor and head, Department of Psychological Sciences

Last year when I wrote my greeting, the university was facing some significant financial challenges. Unfortunately, this landscape has not changed much, but there are signs of hope. The state of Kansas is providing more support for education, and K-State's new budget model should help ensure the best distribution of our limited resources. Although this new model is creating a lot of uncertainty at all levels during the transition, it is facilitating important conversations regarding what we truly value as an institution.

Recently, we held a retirement party for Dr. Clive Fullagar, and in August there were just seven remaining departmental faculty who were present when I arrived seven years ago; they have been joined by seven new faculty hired during that span. Furthermore, the entire

professional staff in the department and all of the deans and associate deans have turned over during my tenure. Needless to say, the topic that has been dominating my thoughts of late is change.

When change is gradual, it is easy to miss its significance. This spring, a student who graduated in 2016 and entered a doctoral program in Boston returned to visit. She was pleasantly surprised and excited by the large changes she observed in the department over three short years: the behavioral neuroscience facilities have undergone a major upgrade thanks to our COBRE-funded Center for Cognitive and Neurobiological Approaches to Plasticity, known as CNAP; we created a new EEG-research suite that is now supported by CNAP; research activity has increased in level and quality and is visibly evident; and five new members have joined the faculty since her departure. Although I am certainly aware of these changes, I lack the perspective of someone who had not experienced them and who took great pride in the obvious improvements at her alma mater.

Transitions present both opportunities and challenges. My transition from faculty member at Southern Illinois University to department head at K-State has resulted in considerable personal growth and a new palette of challenges and frustrations. Running a department has given me a deep appreciation for my predecessors like Drs. Jerry Frieman, Steve Kiefer, Skip Saal and Jerry Phares. However, administrative duties also have changed over the decades — Dr. Phares wouldn't recognize the new challenges of fundraising, the more regimented faculty evaluation and tenure processes, the tracking of student metrics, the documenting of department activities for accreditation, managing the department's website, and the increased legal issues that have to be navigated by modern administrators.

My reflections have also made me appreciate that I am not the only one dealing with change. Critically, students find themselves in a world of transitions that can be especially difficult without a wealth of experience to draw upon. Every semester presents new classes and sometimes a new major, each year may bring new friends or roommates, and just when they think they've mastered a topic, a professor forces them to take it to an entirely new level. As if this need for constant adjustment wasn't enough, students also have to navigate changing relationships with family, old friends, employers and co-workers, not to mention political shifts, climate change, a diversity of cultures and globalization.

As you read this newsletter, I hope you take pride in the department's history of adapting and thriving in the face of change while holding true to its tradition of commitment to students. A department is composed of people — faculty, staff and students — who make up this wonderfully dynamic and adaptive family that we call the Department of Psychological Sciences. My colleagues and students have helped drive necessary change and made the frustrations worthwhile. Seeing the success, gratitude and pride of our alumni reminds us why we do what we do.

With K-State Pride,

— Mike Young

Cognitive and Neurobiological Approaches to Plasticity (CNAP) Center

The CNAP Center just finished its second year with a great year of productivity. We held our site visit June 4-5, during which we were visited by our mentors and advisors from across the country. The center supported over \$2 million in junior investigator grants and infrastructure investments this year. We had our first two junior investigators secure extramural grants. Dr. Thomas Mueller, K-State biology research assistant professor, won a \$1.3 million Human Frontiers grant for his research on the neurobiology of learning in zebrafish. Dr. Yulan Xiong, K-State anatomy and physiology assistant professor, received a \$300,000 Junior Faculty Award from the

Parkinson's Foundation. Both awards were funded this year on pilot grants that directly supported their extramural awards. Our center also partnered with the University of Kansas on a new SHARP HUB grant, which is a \$2.2 million National Institutes of Health award to facilitate technology transfer and partnership with industry. We also have nearly completed work on the \$1 million renovation of the behavioral neuroscience labs. We have many exciting plans for year three coming up, including a starting a new electroencephalography core and funding several new junior investigator grants.

— Kim Kirkpatrick

Recent Award Winners

The Department of Psychological Sciences is pleased to announce this year's departmental award winners. These undergraduate and graduate students were honored at an event April 27.

Chi-Leigh Warren, a senior from Shawnee, and **Shaylene Rees**, a senior from Topeka, received the John C. Peterson Undergraduate Scholarship Prize for outstanding graduating senior. Warren is a member of the K-State Psi Chi Honor Society, was the external vice president of the Entrepreneurship Club, and conducted research in Dr. Chris Lake's lab. After graduation, she will be a doctoral student in our own department specializing in industrial/organizational psychology. Rees was president of the Psi Chi Honorary Society this year, conducted research on persuasion in Dr. Laura Brannon's lab, served as a College of Arts and Sciences ambassador and was a sorority leader.



Shaylene Rees receives the Peterson Prize.



Jaylee York receives the Phares Research Award.

Following graduation, she plans to attend a clinical doctoral program with an emphasis in public and community mental health.

Christopher Vitols, a junior from Bradenton, Florida, is the winner of the Curtis Lee and JB Gee Psychological Sciences Scholarship. This award is

based on a combination of academic achievement and financial need. Vitols is the president of the K-State Veterans Student Organization.

Carrie Aponte, a junior from Garden City; **Jameson Brehm**, a junior from Perry; and **Emilia Meza**, a junior from Prairie Village, are this year's recipients of the Doreen Shanteau Undergraduate Research Awards. The award provides funds to enable these students to conduct research with their faculty mentors during the following academic year. Aponte, working with Dr. Don Saucier, will investigate the influence of masculine honor beliefs, gender and publicity on perceptions of aggression. Working with Drs. Heather Bailey and Barbara Pitts, Brehm will analyze the effects of PTSD on event segmentation and attention to detail. Meza, working with Dr. Saucier, will investigate perceptions of the usage of Native American mascots and whether the usage is socially acceptable.



Emilia Meza receives the Shanteau Research Award.



Frances Guffy receives the Rappoport Scholarship.

Frances Guffy, a junior from Dalhart, Texas, received the Dr. Leon Rappoport Psychology Undergraduate Scholarship. This scholarship honors the memory of a former faculty member in our department and is targeted at a nontraditional, high-achieving student. Guffy is a first-generation college student, mother of five and is in the process of joining the Army National Guard.



Syndi Huxman receives the Sewell Research Scholarship.

The Sewell Undergraduate Research Scholarship was awarded to **Syndi Huxman**, a senior from South Hutchinson. This new scholarship recognizes undergraduates conducting research psychology and is intended for first-generation and transfer students. Huxman conducted research in Dr. Gary Brase's lab on the evolutionary development

and modern use of extradyadic relationships: backup mates and infidelity. She served as president of the College of Arts and Sciences Ambassadors, as a KAWSE ambassador and on the CSI Student Advisory Council. Huxman received an honorable mention for the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship and earned several K-State awards.

The Dunlap Fellowship in Industrial Psychology was awarded to **Cassandra Chlevin-Thiele**, Downers Grove, Illinois. The fellowship is awarded to a second-year student in our industrial and organizational psychology doctoral program who is doing well in assistantships, demonstrating productive research activity and is making strong progress toward his or her degree.



Cassandra Chlevin-Thiele receives the Dunlap Fellowship in Industrial Psychology.

The Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award was presented to **Catherine Steele**, Katy, Texas; **Conor O'Dea**, Manhattan; and **Tucker Jones**, Alamosa, Colorado. Steele taught General Psychology, Health Psychology and the Experimental Methods Lab. O'Dea taught General Psychology, Lifespan Personality Development, Social Psychology and Experimental Methods



The Outstanding Graduate Instructor Award was presented to Catherine Steele, Conor O'Dea and Tucker Jones.

Lab. Jones taught General Psychology, Psychology of Childhood and Adolescence, Lifespan Personality Development, and Experimental Methods Lab. They all received a monetary award thanks to the Nobuko S. Nicholson Opportunity Fund for Psychological Sciences.

The Outstanding Graduate Research Award/Harry Helson Memorial Scholarship had two recipients this year, **Amanda Martens**, Shelby, Iowa, and **Evelyn Stratmoen**, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Both have published multiple research papers in leading social psychology journals with the same advisor, Dr. Don Saucier.



Evelyn Stratmoen and Amanda Martens receive the Outstanding Graduate Research Award/Harry Helson Memorial Scholarship.

Finally, the department gave the Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award to **Kimberly Newberry**, Hazlet, New Jersey. She was nominated for her work with the Psychology of Aging class taught by Dr. Heather Bailey, but Newberry has a long history of strong performance in her teaching assistantships. Her award was funded by the department's Graduate Teaching Assistant Support Fund that has been generously supported by many of our alumni.

The faculty of the Department of Psychological Sciences is proud of the many achievements of our outstanding students.

Dr. Kim Kirkpatrick named one of five new university distinguished professors



Kim Kirkpatrick, university distinguished professor

University distinguished professor is the highest honor K-State bestows on its faculty members. UDPs are appointed following a universitywide nomination and evaluation process conducted by the provost.

"We are excited to appoint these five individuals as our newest university distinguished professors, which recognizes those making outstanding contributions to teaching, research and service to their professions and communities," said Charles Taber, university provost and executive vice president. "The rank of distinguished professor is the highest honor bestowed

by our university and will be well-represented by these five individuals."

Regina Crowell one of three College of Arts and Sciences University Support Staff Employees of the Year

Recipients were nominated by an individual in their department and selected for their outstanding merit by a collegewide review committee. Staff members selected for this award must demonstrate exemplary contributions to their department and the College of Arts and Sciences, furthering the mission of the university.

MIOP

The MIOP — Master of Science in Psychology with an emphasis in Industrial-Organizational Psychology — program entered its 20th year in July 2019. Through the fall 2018 semester, 212 students enrolled in the program, with a graduation rate of 83%. As of fall 2019, there are 41 active students, with 12 scheduled to graduate in December. Over the course of its history, 64% of MIOP students have been women and 21% have identified as other than white. Seventy-five percent of the students have come from outside of Kansas, with 12% from the military.

This past year witnessed a milestone of another type in the MIOP program as Dr. Clive Fullagar retired. Dr. Fullagar was a founder and the first director of the program. We all wish him well as he embarks on the next phase of life.

If you are interested in learning more about the MIOP program, please visit global.k-state.edu/artsci/miop or email miopsych@k-state.edu

— Patrick Knight

Psi Chi

The K-State chapter of Psi Chi had another productive year under the leadership of **Shaylene Rees**, president; **Janet Matos**, vice president; **Willow Willingham**, secretary; **Mallory Line**, treasurer; **Jaylee York**, ambassador; **Taylor Beashore**, social media voice; and **Dr. Heather Bailey**, faculty advisor. Once again, we were selected as one of the 50 model chapters of Psi Chi.

This year's activities included a panel on applying for grad school, a hot chocolate fundraiser for the Sunflower CASA Project and a used clothing drive. Psi Chi also hosted its annual awards brunch at a new location: the Bluemont Hotel. It was a fun and well-attended event that honored all of the wonderful, award-winning students in our department! The incoming officers for 2019-20 are **Justine Fiscus**, president; **Lindsay Chassay**, vice president; **Carrie Aponte**, secretary; **Sarah Harrod**, treasurer; **Katherine Kolze**, social media voice; and **Haley Richards**, ambassador.

— Heather Bailey



Psi Chi officers, from left: Haley Richards, incoming ambassador; Sarah Harrod, incoming treasurer; Carry Aponte, incoming secretary; Jaylee York, outgoing ambassador; Katherine Kolze, incoming social media/webmaster; Janet Matos, outgoing vice president; Justine Fiscus, incoming president; Mallory Line, outgoing treasurer; Lindsay Chassay, incoming vice president; and Shaylene Rees, outgoing president. Not pictured are Willow Willingham, outgoing secretary, and Taylor Beashore, outgoing social media/webmaster.

Alumni Advisory Council

The 12th annual meeting of the Alumni Advisory Council was Sept. 28, 2018. Members present included Mitch Brigell, Lindsey Firebaugh Bock, Susan Burns, Michelle Coker, William Conaway, Bill Deeds, Joel DiGirolamo, Richard Felton, Janet Gee, Sandi McCoy Kramos, Doug Peterson, Kenneth Sewell and Jeanne Tomiser. New faculty members Dr. Matt Wisniewski, assistant professor in cognitive, and Dr. Ali Zakrzewski, assistant research professor, introduced themselves.

Department Head Dr. Michael Young and Advisor Jason Walls updated members on the marketing of the major and efforts to feature alumni on the department's webpage. This was followed by a presentation by Dr. Kim Kirkpatrick, director, on the activities of the Cognitive and Neurobiological Approaches to Plasticity Center. Tracy Robinson, KSU Foundation, provided an update on the university and department's fundraising successes.

Dr. Young reported on departmental activities and challenges. He highlighted awards received by students, staff and faculty over the past year, the dramatic increase in grant success, the large increase in the number of master's degrees conferred over the past five years, and the implications of the new university budget model. Resource challenges were also discussed in light of the fifth straight year of budget cuts — an additional 4.5% in spring 2018. He closed with an update on progress toward the department's 2025 goals, with all of the 2015 short-term goals met and nine of the 11 2020 goals met.

During the afternoon, Dr. Susan Burns, council member, presented "Life: A Journey Best Traveled with Psychology." Following the presentation, council members participated in events that let them mingle with psychology students, offered opportunities for questions and one-on-one discussion through a panel discussion, and a less-structured meet and greet. Finally, all members of the council were invited to tour the renovated research labs supported by the CNAP Center.

If you are interested in joining the alumni advisory council, contact Dr. Michael Young at [785-532-0602](tel:785-532-0602) or michaelyoung@k-state.edu. Provide a brief statement of interest and your current occupation/employer. A list of current council members can be found at k-state.edu/psych/alumni/advisorycouncil.

— Michael Young



Alumni Advisory Council Meeting.

Faculty News

New Faculty



Dr. Maria Diehl

DR. MARIA DIEHL

Dr. Maria Diehl received her doctorate in neuroscience from the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York, and was a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Dr. Gregory J. Quirk in the psychiatry and neurobiology, and anatomy departments at the University of Puerto Rico in San Juan. As a postdoc, she received a National Research Service Award from the National Institute for Mental Health for her studies on

the neural circuits of active avoidance using single unit recordings and optogenetic techniques. Currently, her research focuses on the neural circuits of fear and avoidance and their role in promoting resilience. She is very excited to continue this work in the Department of Psychological Sciences at K-State. In her free time, Dr. Diehl enjoys running, biking and spending time outdoors.

Individual Faculty News



The Bailey's new puppy, Ahsoka

DR. HEATHER BAILEY

Dr. Bailey continues to study age-related changes in memory. Her lab has grown with the addition of a new postdoctoral fellow, Dr. Barbara Pitts, and a new graduate student, Destiny Bell. Recently, the Bailey family adopted a new puppy, and Dr. Bailey's sons — Cooper, 8, and Cole, 4 — are thrilled to have the new addition!



Dr. Heather Bailey gave a talk about using tests as a learning tool at the 2019 SPOTLIGHT K-State event, which highlights innovative and creative teaching on campus.

DR. MARK BARNETT

Dr. Barnett, the most senior faculty member in the department, continues to be active in research, teaching and co-directing — with Dr. Don Saucier — the highly successful Teaching Apprenticeship Program for graduate students. Dr. Barnett's son, Neil, is an agent for Tru Insurance Services in Overland Park. His daughter and son-in-law, Megan and John Brennan, are both attorneys who live in Wayzata, Minnesota. His wife, Valerie, continues to work as an instructor in the Department of Management in the K-State College of Business Administration. The Barnetts treasure the time they get to spend with their rapidly growing grandchildren.

DR. LAURA BRANNON

Dr. Brannon continues her research related to topics designed to improve quality of life, including attitudes related to diet, sun exposure, responsible use of social media and prosocial communication. She enjoyed hooding her latest doctoral student, Aaron Entringer, at commencement. In her spare time, she has decided to pursue her love of music by resuming playing the trumpet and learning to play the saxophone and guitar. She was also pleased to do some stateside travel and be able to appreciate the musical talents of a wide variety of world-class musicians.



Aaron Entringer before his doctoral hooding by Dr. Laura Brannon.

DR. GARY BRASE



Dr. Gary Brase and lab members Jordann Brandner and Sydni Huxman, an undergraduate researcher, at HBES, the Human Behavior and Evolution Society annual meeting, in Amsterdam.

Dr. Brase taught this summer in Orvieto, Italy, with the K-State Italy education abroad program and, of course, continued his research. You can see more at his lab webpage, k-state.edu/psych/braselab. In family news: his son Alex continues his work as the digital media director for the Kansas Democratic Party;

daughter Emma was at the Medical University of South Carolina for a summer research internship; and his wife Sandra recently finished her Master of Liberal Arts.

DR. MARY CAIN

Dr. Cain continues to contribute to the department through teaching and research in the area of the neurobiological bases of drug abuse.

DR. CLIVE FULLAGAR

Dr. Fullagar, who earned his doctorate at the University of Witwatersrand in 1986, retired this year and is dropping the mic to pursue his art, spend time traveling and indulge his grandchildren.

DR. KIM KIRKPATRICK

Dr. Kirkpatrick continues to keep busy serving as the director of the Cognitive and Neurobiological Approaches to Plasticity Center and director of the behavioral neuroscience core. She had a big year this year as she was named a university distinguished professor and received K-State's Commerce Bank and W.T. Kemper Foundation Distinguished Graduate Faculty Award. When she's not busy with work, she enjoys spending time with her family and her two labradoodles.

DR. PATRICK KNIGHT

Dr. Knight has continued in his role as director of the MIOP program, overseeing the integration of new teaching faculty and filling future staffing needs as current faculty retire. Personally, he is enjoying his role as Grandpa Pat to his three grandchildren. He continues to photograph birds and wrestle with the saxophone.

DR. JIN LEE

Dr. Lee continues his research on occupational safety/health and has been collaborating with his colleagues at Drexel University for two projects funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency regarding the promotion of safety climate among firefighters and EMT personnel. He is excited about his first publication in the journal Social Science and Medicine with his graduate students, Stacy Stoffregen and Frank Giordano. As of spring 2019, his lab has a new name — Work Systems & Occupational Health Psychology Lab — and will pursue more systematic and organized efforts to involve students and experts within and outside K-State for advancing his program of research.

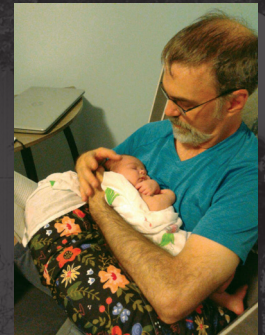


Drs. Jared Peterson and Ryan Ringer with their proud major professor Dr. Les Loschky.

DR. LES LOSCHKY

Dr. Loschky graduated three doctoral students last summer — Drs. John Hutson, Jared Peterson and Ryan Ringer — all of whom were quickly and happily employed. Since then, he has adjusted to a smaller lab with his two graduate students, Maverick Smith and Taylor Simonson, while

also serving as associate director of the CNAP Center, teaching — Engineering Psychology — and writing, including an invited paper on the scene perception and event comprehension theory. His family is doing well. He and his wife, Miki, spent time in Boston over the summer with their oldest daughter, Althea; son-in-law, Chris; and first grandchild, Amelie.



Proud grandfather, Dr. Les Loschky, with Amelie.

DR. CHIP PICKENS

Dr. Pickens continues contributing to the department through teaching and research examining the effects of neurological manipulations on cognitive functions and fear/anxiety.



Dr. Bethany Plakke with daughter Natalie and husband Eric.

DR. BETHANY PLAKKE

The Plakke lab has run several behavioral experiments examining cognitive flexibility and has found impairments in rodents that exhibit autism-like symptoms. This summer, undergraduates ran immunohistochemistry assays to examine neurobiological changes in the brain of treated rats and prepared to present work at conferences. Her husband, Eric, accepted a position at

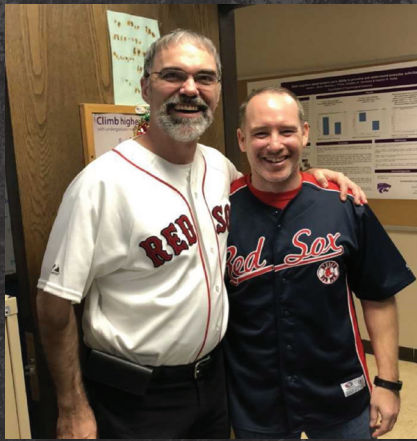
K-State, and her daughter, Natalie, loves learning about all animals, from birds to kinkajous.



Dr. Chris Lake and his students ready to celebrate Halloween.

DR. CHRIS LAKE

Dr. Lake has continued to pursue research into workplace satisfaction, commitment and decision-making. He received a K-State small research grant to support a project exploring the employability consequences for workers who frequently change jobs. The Work and Career Decisions Lab continues to grow and now consists of three graduate and five undergraduate students.



Drs. Loschky and Saucier celebrate the Red Sox World Series win!

DR. DON SAUCIER

This year, Dr. Saucier won the College of Arts and Sciences' Ronald N. Gaches Undergraduate Teaching Award and the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, APA Division 9, Teaching Resource Prize. He was selected as the sponsored speaker, representing the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, APA Division 8, at the 2020 National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology conference, and named a fellow of the Midwestern Psychological

Association. Dr. Saucier is happy to see several of his undergraduate research collaborators off to graduate school and two of his doctoral students — Conor O'Dea and Amanda Martens — off to academic jobs.

DR. MATT WISNIEWSKI

Dr. Wisniewski has been settling into his life in Kansas with a new house and new dog, Rocket (see picture). With the help of his colleague and spouse, Dr. Ali Zakrzewski, the Auditory Learning and Cognition Laboratory got up and running quickly, alclaboratory.com. Data is arriving on a number of projects, all of which are going more smoothly than his homeowner projects. In the lab, data is providing new insights into how ongoing brain-states impact perception, and how training regimen design impacts learning outcomes. Home projects have provided valuable information regarding the effects of poison ivy on immune response and groundwater on basement livability.



Dr. Matt Wisniewski and Rocket.

DR. MICHAEL YOUNG

This year was particularly busy and varied for Dr. Young. He gave multiple professional workshops, one at North Dakota State University on Bayesian data analysis, one for the K-State executive training program on big data, and three at the annual meeting of the Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology on faculty evaluation, graduate methodological training and fundraising —the latter as a result of his election to the council's board of directors. He also served as the editor of a special issue of the *Journal of the Experimental Analysis of Behavior* on the topic of modern statistical practices, so it was difficult for him to turn down the opportunity. On a personal front, Dr. Young became a grandfather for the third time this past year.



Dr. Michael Young's son, Nathan, and grandson, Gregory.

DR. ALI ZAKRZEWSKI

Dr. Zakrzewski has fallen in love with Manhattan and the K-State community! She has enjoyed her first year here, especially working in the lab. She is currently exploring the neural correlates of confidence and metacognition using EEG in the Auditory Learning and Cognition Lab,



Dr. Ali Zakrzewski and Rocket.

alclaboratory.com. This summer, she began work as the director of the EEG Core supported by the CNAP Center. Students Destiny Bell and Kelsey Wheeler are working in the EEG Core as well, helping upgrade the facility and assist researchers conducting their own EEG studies. Outside of the lab, she is learning the ins and outs of home ownership and enjoys exploring nearby parks and trails with her spouse and colleague, Dr. Matt Wisniewski, and their dogs, Snickers and Rocket.

GAPS

The 2018-2019 academic year was a prosperous one for the Graduate Association of Psychology Students at K-State. Our members continue their commitment to the success of our department and fellow graduate students.

GAPS hosted many professional development events, led by inspiring individuals both within and outside our department. Topics included preparing for academic and nonacademic careers, applying for grants, and dealing with discussions of difficult and controversial topics. GAPS also sponsored projects to improve the overall experience for graduate students, including the acquisition of new hardware for the graduate student computer lab and securing a graduate-level personality course for the coming academic year. In addition, we hosted and sponsored many fun department activities, including welcome week, a Halloween party, a chili cook-off/holiday party and the end-of-year banquet at the Bluemont Hotel.

We look forward to seeing a new group of excellent officers next year: Taylor Simonson, president; Svyatoslav "Slava" Prokhorets, vice president; Destiny Bell, treasurer; and Kelsey Panfil, mentor chair. We are excited for next year and thank the department for all its support and efforts to make these events possible.

— Tiffany Lawless, GAPS president



GAPS current officers, back row, from left: Evelyn Stratmoen, Tiffany Lawless, Nick Gallivan and Angela Rose. New officers, front row, from left: Kelsey Panfil, Taylor Simonson, Destiny Bell and Slava Prokhorets.

Obituaries

Nancy Perkins, widow of Charlie Perkins and an adjunct professor herself, died on Jan. 21, 2019, Martin Luther King Day. She was 98 and had been ailing since Christmas. Charlie Perkins died at age 98 in 2016.

Recent retirement

Reflections on retirement



I started at K-State in 1988, emigrating from South Africa where I received my doctorate from the University of the Witwatersrand. South Africa at that time was still under an apartheid regime (interestingly, Hendrik Verwoerd, regarded as the architect of apartheid, was a psychologist). My wife, Dorothy, and I realized that the future was looking bleak: Mandela was still in prison and there was no talk of free and democratic elections, even though these occurred just five years after we left. We had a young family and realized that if we did not move, there was a high likelihood that our children would.

My research was on labor organizations. Emerging labor unions were the only political voice available to black workers. However, if one was active in a union, you could be fired without cause, placed under house arrest, put into prison or assassinated by right-wing hit squads. Given these tremendous personal sacrifices, I was interested in why anyone would join a labor union. Doing research on unions was extremely difficult. Workers were largely illiterate and any survey had to be translated into at least three different languages. Black unions were highly suspicious of white researchers and wary of potential police informants, so gaining the trust of labor organizations was a long process.

I continued to study unions when I came to K-State, although my research question was flipped on its head — instead of asking why workers were joining unions, the question became why they were leaving. Studying unions in a right-to-work state like Kansas was rather like researching Kansas' maritime history. Similar to South Africa, there was a great deal of skepticism toward academics.

About 15 years ago, with the dwindling of labor organizations in the U.S. and the lack of interest among graduate students in researching unions, my research focus changed to understanding the experience of flow and the characteristics of work that increase intrinsic motivation. Looking back over my 38 years in academia, I feel very grateful that I had an occupation that has been extremely intrinsically motivating. There are not many professions where one can come up with an idea, develop a way of testing whether your idea is true, collect data, write up your findings and publish them. There are few jobs where one is involved in the work process from beginning to end and where there are tangible results for one's efforts.



The I/O faculty say goodbye to Dr. Fullagar at his retirement ceremony. He will be missed. From left are Drs. Lake, Fullagar, Knight and Lee.

But the most meaning I have had in my career has been in teaching and mentoring students. In contacting my graduate students about my retirement, I have been impressed with how successful they are — attaining high-level, executive positions in some of America's top companies. I would hope their graduate training at K-State had a role to play in their success. The MIOP program has graduated over 200 students and brought \$5 million into the department. I have visibly witnessed in these students how their graduate education has changed their lives.

I am not retiring because I am tired of the work. In the immortal words of Robert Frost, "The woods are lovely, dark and deep. But I have promises to keep, and miles to go before I sleep." I plan on putting my efforts into my art, a pastime that is as intrinsically motivating as research for the same reasons. I am blessed that my grandchildren live in Manhattan and grandparenthood is even better than it is cracked out to be.

— Clive Fullagar

Alumni News

News below comes from numerous alumni of our undergraduate and graduate programs across several decades. It is always interesting and gratifying to hear that majoring in psychology can prepare students for a variety of careers. Many of our graduates are pursuing careers they prepared for at K-State, and others are using their psychology education in ways they might not have dreamed. Please continue sending news and pictures for future newsletters to lbrannon@k-state.edu

1968

Royer Cook (Ph.D.) has very fond K-State memories of wonderful classes and relationships with Merrill Noble, his advisor, then chair of the department; Franz Samuelson; Jerry Phares; Don Trumbo; and Harry Helson. He was a co-winner of the Dunlap Fellowship with Bob Lamotte, Yale professor, and he did I/O summer internships at Grumman — Apollo program — and Dunlap. In 1978, Cook founded the ISA Group, a small behavioral science research firm. In the early years, they specialized in evaluation research for federal agencies — justice, defense, state and many others — but they gradually morphed into a behavioral health group, developing and testing innovative health interventions, supported through grants from the National Institutes of Health. Details on ISA are on available at isagroup.com and centerforworkforcehealth.com. Although Cook remains as president and senior scientist at ISA, he is semiretired, working half-time, which he considers the best of both worlds. He wishes to pass on his best wishes to all faculty and tell them that he considers himself incredibly fortunate to have received a superb education — and wonderful support — during his years at K-State.

1986



Beth and Ken Sewell at the 2017 K-State vs Baylor game.

Kenneth Sewell (B.S.) has been vice president for research at Oklahoma State University since 2015. His work life is hectic but good. He keeps accruing new “titles” — pronounced “headaches” — such as president of the OSU Research Foundation and executive committee member of the Council on Research at APLU. These things give his role a bit more reach but can make him feel spread even thinner than usual. OSU’s research is growing, even in the face of tough budget times; the university is modernizing its

infrastructure; and OSU is growing its reputation in the region and nationally. On the family front, Sewell and his wife, Beth, really enjoy empty nesterhood, OSU events, their little cabin at a nearby lake, and hosting/visiting their parents — who live 90 miles

away — and kids with grandkids, who live much farther away. His Marine pilot son, Trevor, his wife and three children, whom they collectively call the Sewelligans, moved coast to coast in June, as Trevor reassigned from North Carolina to sunny San Diego. Sewell and Beth got to be a part of the move, hosting them in Oklahoma for a bit and headed to San Diego with them. Sewell says he is very conscious of the ways in which his foundation in psychology at K-State undergird his professional actions and choices daily. Through his involvement on the Alumni Advisory Council, he can attest that K-State psych sciences students continue to be blessed with this same starting point for success. He loves having the opportunity to remain a part of it!

1991

Stephani Johns-Hines (B.S.) obtained her Master of Science in education at National University in January 2011 and her doctorate in higher education: leadership/administration in 2019. She is currently the vice president of Salina Area Technical College in Salina, Kansas.

1993



Rachelle Bartel at Port Lockroy, Antarctica.

Rachelle Bartel (B.A.) obtained her master’s in nursing and is utilizing both her degrees through work as a nurse practitioner in psychiatry at a local community mental health center. She recently spent her free time traveling and was able to visit Antarctica this year. Her goal is to set foot on all seven continents — she only has Africa left. She loves the quote, “I haven’t been everywhere, but it’s on my list.”

1999

Rebecca (Sourk) Suroff (B.A.) earned her Juris Doctor in 2004 and is working as an attorney on the staff of the Hon. Matt J. Whitworth, chief magistrate judge for the U.S. District Court in the Western District of Missouri. She is also an adjunct professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Law where she teaches second- and third-year law students Federal Trial Practice.

2003

Desirae Moreno (B.S.) conducts therapy and psychological testing in private practice in Wichita. She is an adjunct faculty member at Wichita State University and occasionally teaches classes there. In her free time, she has been a high school cheerleading coach — for nearly 20 years — and spends time with family.

Michael Tagler (Ph.D.) is an associate professor and director of graduate programs at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. Ball State has terminal master’s degrees in clinical psychology and cognitive and social processes. He is currently conducting research examining the predictors of sleep habits and is a member of the Alumni Advisory Council. His wife, Megan (K-State 2003 M.S. in family life education and consultation) is a case manager at The Children’s Bureau in Muncie. They have two daughters, Grace, 13, and Ann, 10.

2004



Jennifer Bonds-Raacke

Jennifer Bonds-Raacke (Ph.D.) is the new vice president for academic affairs at St. Norbert College.

2007

Chris Barlett (M.S.) and **Natalie (Brown) Barlett** (Ph.D., 2012) are living in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, with their two children: Eric, 6, and Jace, 2 1/2. Barlett recently received tenure at Gettysburg College and was awarded Outstanding Mentor in the Sciences through student nominations.

2010

Maggie Gill (Ph.D.) is an assistant professor at North Central College. Over the past five years, she's developed the college's neuroscience curriculum/major. She has also taken on service opportunities outside of North Central, serving as a counselor for the Chicago area society for neuroscience and as president-elect for Nu Rho Psi, the national neuroscience honor society. She is excited to join our advisory council next year.

2012

Natalie (Brown) Barlett (Ph.D.) and **Chris Barlett** (M.S., 2007) are currently living in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, with their two children, Eric, 6, and Jace, 2 1/2. Barlett is adjunct teaching for Gettysburg College and Elizabethtown College in Pennsylvania, and online for Kansas Wesleyan University. She serves as treasurer for the Gettysburg Child Care Corporation.

2015

Lora Adair (Ph.D.) will be moving to Brunel University in the United Kingdom this fall.



2016

Whitney Jeter (Ph.D.) is an assistant professor at Fort Hays State University. She married Brett Whitaker on June 21, 2018.

Whitney (Jeter) and Brett Whitaker marry on Anae'ohomalu Bay Beach in Kona, Hawaii, on June 21, 2018.



Drs. Heather Bailey and Richard Harris, emeritus, jointly supervised recent doctoral candidate Elena Knyshev's dissertation.



Provost Dr. Charles Taber, third from left, chats with Drs. Matt Wisniewski, Gary Brase and Les Loschky at the Graduate Research Convocation.



Second-year graduate students presented their first year projects. From left: Alicia Lensing, Cassandra Chlevin-Thiele, Nick Gallivan, Kelsey Panfil and Taylor Simonson.



The professor and director of the Center for Cognitive and Brain Health at Northeastern University, Dr. Art Kramer, presents a colloquium sponsored by CNAP.



Sarah Buchanan, academic advisor, and her husband, Bryce, welcomed Laekyn to the world on July 8, 2018. She was 7 pounds, 4 ounces and 19.5 inches. Her two older sisters, Braelynn and Aedyn, are thrilled with their new baby sister.



Contact Us

Psytalk editor: Laura Brannon

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To send us news for inclusion in next year's newsletter, please write, email — lbrannon@k-state.edu — or fax 785-532-5401 us and tell us what you are doing. Feel free to include professional and/or personal information, whatever you think would be of interest to fellow alums. You may also send photos, preferably digital, for possible use.

This newsletter is also distributed to potential undergraduate and graduate students in order to show them what is going on in the department. Please continue to send us information about what you are currently doing even if the update doesn't indicate a change from your previous status. The ongoing successes of our graduates are one of the biggest selling/bragging points for the department.

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