

Psyttalk

Newsletter of the Department of Psychology, Kansas State University

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Meet the New Professors (in their own words)



Gary Brase (gbrase@ksu.edu) found himself in the peculiar position of ringing in the new year of 1994 in a monastery's makeshift disco. His students at Babes Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania, had convinced Gary and his wife, Sandra, to join them for a short ski trip at a "small resort" in the Carpathian Mountains. After three trains and a white-knuckled bus ride up the side of a mountain,

the Brases discovered that there wasn't actually a resort or any skiing. They were, however, welcomed by the monks to stay for a few days in the monastery's rustic dormitories. It was a good time for Gary to reflect on how he came to that place.

Growing up on a farm in central California was uneventful, so Gary immediately moved away to attend California State University, Fresno, where he met his future wife. He then went to graduate school at the University of California, Santa Barbara. It was during graduate school that Gary and his wife spent a year teaching psychology in Romania. Upon graduating, Gary moved with his wife and new son Alex to teach at the University of North Florida, and it was in Jacksonville, Florida that his daughter Emma was born. Gary then accepted a senior lectureship at the University of Sunderland, England. The Brase family enjoyed many mini-breaks around England, Scotland, France and the Netherlands, but discovered living abroad is quite different while trying to balance two careers and raising young children. Desiring to get back to the states, Gary accepted a teaching position at the University of Missouri-Columbia. He is now pleased to join the psychology department at Kansas State in the Human Factors/Cognition area.

Gary's main research focus is on human judgment and decision-making, although his interests cover a wide range of social reasoning and inference topics. His theoretical expertise in evolutionary approaches to psychological phenomena has led to research topics ranging from the theoretical role of the prefrontal cortex to sex differences in jealousy. Current research projects include the role of different numerical formats on judgments under uncertainty, how different numerical formats influence subjective assessments of quantity, reason-

ing about specific social domains, and continued dabbling in social relationships and decision making. Gary is looking forward to working with the undergraduates and graduate students at K-State on research in these areas.

It is with some amazement that Gary and Sandra find their children are now 11 and 9 years old, but the math does appear to check out. In his spare time, Gary enjoys cooking, traveling, and home renovation.



Matthew Palmatier was born in Salinas, California, which is known as the "Salad Bowl of the World" because of the many salad ingredients grown there. After a brief stint in Salinas, his family moved to Mexico City, Encinitas, Fresno, and Rancho Bernardo, all before he reached the age of 3 years. Those early years are kind of a blur, but may explain his love

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of spicy foods, soccer, and just about anything that's wrapped in a tortilla.

Matt spent the bulk of his formative years in a suburb of San Diego called Escondido, which means "hidden" in Spanish. In high school he realized that his astute lack of agility was not very well complemented by his lack of speed on land, so he didn't play many sports. Growing up near the beach made him into kind of a fish, so he earned varsity letters in swimming and water polo. After high school he joined the Army Reserve, went to boot camp, and got a tough-looking tattoo. People who know him are often surprised to hear about his military experience; this fact, he thinks, tells more about his personality than the fact that he actually joined, or qualified as a sharpshooter with an M16.

As an undergraduate Matt attended California State University, Fresno, because of their renowned physical therapy program. He decided to drop his Pre-Physical Therapy major after hearing some of his peers in the dorms planning to secretly administer a large dose of laxative to another student before an anatomy exam. Apparently this student had performed too well on previous exams and was throwing off the curve. This was much too competitive for his taste, but Matt didn't really know where to go from there. He considered English because he thought he could write something and find himself. He considered Clinical Psychology because he thought he could learn something and explain himself. Then he realized what doing those things for a living would mean: he would have to keep finding himself or keep diagnosing himself for the rest of his life. So he gave up on the romantic and focused on topics that he wanted to think about every day. He still liked biology and loved the basic process courses he took in Psychology, so behavioral neuroscience was a great fit.

The rest, as they say, is history. Matt received his Ph. D. from the University of Nebraska. While there, he fell in love with college football and a girl named Sara (who is a moderate K-State fan because she likes purple better than red). Matt, however, became a rabid Husker fan, defended his dissertation, got engaged, moved to Pittsburgh, and got married, in that order. When he says that he is a 'rabid' fan it's not an exaggeration. Last year he made an 18-month old baby cry after Nebraska pulled ahead of Texas in the last 5 minutes of the 4th quarter. He didn't do anything to the baby; he was just celebrating, apparently much too vigorously for 18-month old babies. Matt spent the past three years in Pittsburgh (PA) as a post-doc, working on an animal model of nicotine addiction and upsetting small children in his spare time. He is really excited to be back in the Midwest and starting his own research program and teaching courses in the Psychology Department at K-State. He and his wife look forward to watching KSU-Nebraska football games each fall with all of the 'rabid' K-State fans (ages 5 and up).



Satoris (Tori) Youngcourt has recently joined the faculty in the area of I/O Psychology. Tori earned her B.S. in psychology and public relations (double major) from the University of Central Missouri (formerly Central Missouri State University) in Warrensburg, MO. She then earned her M.S. in I/O Psychology from Missouri State University (formerly Southwest Missouri State University) in

Springfield, MO, completing a thesis focusing on expanding the purposes of performance appraisals to include a role definition purpose. After Springfield, she moved to College Station, TX, where she earned her doctorate in I/O Psychology from Texas A&M University, completing her dissertation examining supervisor assessments of employee work-life conflict, supervisor support, and subsequent outcomes.

While in graduate school, Tori gained applied experience by working as a facilitator for the Productivity Measurement and Enhancement System (ProMES). Additionally, she has conducted numerous job analyses, done climate assessments, and evaluated performance evaluation systems. Near the end of her time at Texas A&M, Tori moved to Chicago, IL and became a consultant for Personnel Decisions International (PDI), where she was actively involved in leading selection and development assessments for individuals at multiple levels within organizations across client industries, consulting on multi-rater feedback processes, and conducting and delivering training and development workshops. Her primary emphasis while at PDI was on employee and organizational development, specializing in creating feedback and development tools and processes to aid organizational and individual growth and improve bottom-line results.

Although she found her time with PDI to be rewarding and fun, Tori's passion is in teaching and conducting research, so she left Chicago and took a one-year teaching position at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Currently Tori is enjoying her time at K-State and is excited to be teaching two classes per semester (rather than five per semester, like at UW-River Falls) so she has time to pursue her research.

Tori's current research interests are diverse, including work-life issues, performance appraisal and feedback, and individual differences, though recent projects and collaborations have pulled her into the areas of leadership, interviews, and psychological contracts. Tori consistently presents her research at national conferences (APA, SIOP, AOM), and has published in such journals as *Journal of Applied Psychology*, *Human Performance*, *Educational and Psychological Measurement*, and *Military Psychology*. If you are interested in collaborating with Tori on a project or have access to organizational samples that you are able to share (possibly in return for consulting services), you can contact Tori at toriy@ksu.edu.

The Department of Psychology Establishes an Advisory Council

The Advisory Council is a new venture for our department. The first session of the Council members is scheduled for October 19 and 20, 2007, with an on-campus meeting Friday, October 19 and special events on Saturday, October 20.

The Department of Psychology Advisory Council is a group of business, government, academic and professional leaders who are interested in the vitality of the Department of Psychology at Kansas State University. The council advises



Alum Dr. Terry Gaylord, Prof. Ron Downey, and grad students Dianne Whitney, Andrew Wefald, and Michael Smith at the SIOP meeting in New York City, April 2007.

the department on ways to strengthen its instructional and research programs, improve its facilities, expand its base of support, and serve its alumni. The council will normally meet in the fall of each academic year. In addition to the regular meeting held each year, special meetings of the council and of its committees may be organized by the chair. The council normally acts as a committee of the whole, but committees may be appointed by the chair to undertake specific assignments.

Members of Advisory Council will assist in the following ways: helping the Department establish mutually beneficial partnerships with individuals, corporations and foundations; participating in the Department's fund-raising efforts; advising the department head in an ongoing assessment of the current and future environment; representing the Department to the Kansas State University community; and advising academic programs in the Department on occupational and career trends.

We will keep you posted on the outcomes from the first Advisory Council meeting. If you have questions, please contact Ron Downey (785 532-5475 or downey@ksu.edu).

—Ronald Downey

Calling All Alumni with Graduate Degrees

As part of our remake of the department's homepage, we want to add a section with the names and contact information for all of our MS and PhD graduates. If you would like to participate by having your information added, please do the following:

Send an e-mail with your full name, degree, year of graduation, place of employment, title, and e-mail address to psych@ksu.edu, or;

Mail the above information to Kansas State University, Department of Psychology, 492 Bluemont Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506—Attention Ila Axton.

If your name has changed, please include both names.

If you wish to not include any of the above information other than name, please let us know.

Please encourage others to participate in this process.

If you have any questions, please email Ron Downey at downey@ksu.edu or call him 785 532-5475. Thank you.

Department Head's Column



It is my pleasure to report to you that three outstanding people have joined our faculty this year: Gary Brase, Matthew Palmatier, and Satoris Youngcourt. Profiles of each of them appear above in this newsletter. We have also commenced searches for a faculty member in behavioral neuroscience and another in personality/health psychology.

On the other hand, this past year Dr. John Uhlarik retired and Dr. Rupert Klein resigned his faculty position in July to return to Canada. The departure of both are losses to our department.

Counting Drs. Mary Cain, Les Loschky, and Don Saucier, who joined us in August 2004, the three people we hired this year, and the two new people we will hire for next year, over half of our faculty will have been here 4 years or less by the time you receive our next newsletter in Fall 2008.

As I reported to you last year, the faculty identified two overarching priorities for the department that build on our cur-

rent strengths. These two priorities are Personal and Occupational Health Psychology and Applied Cognitive Science. These are not meant to be new programs or areas; rather they will overlay our four existing areas (Behavioral Neuroscience/Animal Learning, Cognitive/Human Factors Psychology, Industrial/Organizational Psychology, and Social/Personality Psychology). This organizational structure will allow us to continue to offer training and experience in these traditional areas and at the same time focus on research related to our two priorities. That we have been allowed to hire so many people in such a short period of time is an indication of our Dean's support for our department and his confidence that we are indeed leveraging our strengths to move our department to the next level.

We have also been upgrading the facilities in our department. In January we opened a computer teaching laboratory classroom on the fifth floor of Bluemont Hall. With 20 work stations and a projector hooked to the instructor's computer, students in a wide variety of our classes can have hands-on experiences while being taught how to use software programs for both data analysis and simulations of course content. This classroom will greatly improve our ability to teach our students. Over the summer we installed a computer and projector into room 449 so that we no longer have to wheel in a laptop and projector on a cart whenever the instructor wants to use

PowerPoint or provide a demonstration on a computer. We were able to do both with some assistance from the College of Arts and Sciences, the Office of the President, and contributions to our department's developmental account from people like you.

In addition to such infrastructure improvements, donations to our department help us support faculty development and student scholarships. We could not do these things without the financial support of our alumni and friends. Given the number of alumni we have, if each of you donated even a small amount every year, we would be able to fund even more student scholarships and do even more to enhance the educational experiences of all of our students.

This fall our Alumni Advisory Council will have its inaugural meeting. The Alumni Advisory Council will be composed of a cross section of our alumni to advise us in a number of ways. You can learn more about the Alumni Advisory Council on page 3.

Finally, when you have a few minutes, check out our new website. Dr. Les Loschky deserves credit for overseeing the design and implementation of the new site. Let him know what you think. His e-mail address is loschky@ksu.edu.

We always look forward to hearing from you about what you are doing. Tell us, and we will share your news.

—Jerry Frieman (frieman@k-state.edu)

Faculty News

Mark Barnett and his students continue to conduct research on social-emotional development in children. Recent studies have focused on children's perceptions of and experiences with antisocial and prosocial teasing. Mark's daughter, Megan, was married to John Brennan in Minneapolis, Minnesota in March 2007. Megan is an attorney for a law firm in Minneapolis, and John will be completing his law degree and MBA from the University of Minnesota in May, 2008. Mark's son, Neil, is pursuing his master's degree in health education at the University of Kansas, where he serves as a graduate research assistant on two grants focusing on health issues in children and adolescents.

Richard Harris continues to do research in two areas: Psycholinguistics and Autobiographical Memory for Media. With graduate student Bernie de la Garza, they have collected data on comprehension of mixed-language speech in bilinguals in South Texas. With Manpreet Rai, Nicole Peck, and Prof. Les Loschky he is studying working memory and stress in Spanish language learners. With Chris Barlett and Chris Rodeheffer, he is studying effects of violent video games. Finally, he studies people's memory for watching movies, including their learning of health-related messages and the social quoting of movie lines in conversation. A lot of time this past year was also spent chairing the Applied Cognitive Search Committee, which ended most successfully and happily with the hiring of Prof. Gary Brase.

On the home front, Richard's wife Caprice Becker began a new job working two mornings a week in the coumadin

(blood-thinning drug) clinic in a local doctor's office. Their older son Clint graduated from Manhattan High School and is now a freshman at Bethel College in N. Newton KS. Siblings Natalie and Grady are juniors at Manhattan High.

Pat Knight's son Malachi (Mac) was married in July 2007. Mac teaches music and directs the band at Eudora High School and Middle School in Eudora KS, while his wife teaches in DeSoto KS.

Lester Loschky and his students have been actively researching how people recognize the overall meaning, or gist, of visual scenes. This research can be applied to designing artificial intelligence systems capable of recognizing the categories of scenes, and more generally explores the interface between perception and cognition—a problem that has proved extremely challenging to workers in both artificial intelligence and cognitive psychology. Dr. Loschky was interviewed about this research in the K-State Collegian in March (3/2/07). His undergraduate students, Elise Matz (BS in Psych, 2007) and Scott Smerchek, together with his graduate student Adam Larson, presented a talk on this research at the Great Plains Psychology Conference in March 2007, and won 2nd Place in their session. Dr. Loschky also presented a poster at the Vision Sciences Society in May on that same research. Two articles discussing this research have recently been accepted for publication, one to appear in the next issue of *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception & Performance*, including 3 student co-authors: Tejaswi Pydimarri (MS in CIS, 2006), Daniel Ochs, and Jeremy Corbeille (BS in Psych,



Prof. Stephen Kiefer and wife Nancy at the tribute party in June 2007 to honor his Department Head tenure 1996–2006.

2006). The other article, coauthored with graduate student Adam Larson, will appear in the *Journal of Vision*. More information on this research can be found on Dr. Loschky's laboratory website at: http://www.k-state.edu/psych/vcl/basic_research/basic_research_topic_1.html, which includes interactive demonstrations that will allow you to experience the perceptual phenomena they are studying.

Dr. Loschky has also been actively coordinating the redesigning of the Psychology Department website, which was recently unveiled. The goal in redesigning the website has been to make it more informative, more attractive, to help potential graduate students learn more about the department, and to help alumni keep in touch with the department. (The Alumni section is still under construction.) Past issues of *PsyTalk* will also be archived on the new website, in the Alumni section.

On the personal front, his wife Miki is now pursuing a doctorate at KSU in Education, with an emphasis on ESL. Their daughters both graduated in 2007, Althea from the University of Virginia and Sophie from Manhattan High School. Althea is now working in Boston and Sophie is beginning studies at the University of Kansas.

James Shanteau has given a variety of research presentations on the psychology of expertise this past summer. In May, he gave the Keynote Presentation at the Medical Decision Making Roundtable at the University of Stirling in Scotland. He then went to Padua, Italy to participate in a conference honoring his major professor, Norman Anderson. Later, he gave a paper and contributed to a workshop at the International Conference on Naturalistic Decision Making in Pacific Grove, CA.

For the coming year, Jim will be President of the University Distinguished Professors group at K-State. He will be responsible for organizing meetings, inviting guest speakers, and coordinating high-level visitors to campus, such as Nobel Prize winners and National Academy of Science members.

Jim's latest teaching effort involves developing a new course on Forensic Psychology. While most students start out thinking they want to become profilers, they quickly learn that the real opportunities for psychologists are quite different, e.g., advising on child custody cases.

Jim and his wife Doreen are settling into their new home in Meadowlark Hills Retirement Community. He is not ready to retire yet. But says that making the move now is a lot easier than waiting. They enjoy spending time with their three children, who now live in Columbia, MO, Tampa, FL, and Washington, DC. They also dote on their three grandchildren—two grandsons and one granddaughter.



Prof. Gary Brase shares a quiet moment with daughter Emma.

Memorable Moments in Teaching

Do you have a really pivotal memory from your education as a psychology major at KSU? Please share a brief memory from inside or outside the classroom that made a difference in your life, or just something that was a highly

amusing moment. Send your memories to Richard Harris (rjharris@ksu.edu) and we'll published the best of them in next year's *PsyTalk*.

—Richard Harris

Congratulations to Our Students

At the **Great Plains Psychology Convention** in March, Neena Gopalan, Maura Mills, and Michael Smith (all graduate students) presented a poster that took first place in their poster session. Christopher Vowels, graduate student, presented a talk that took first place in his session. Elise Matz, senior, and Adam Larson, graduate student, presented a talk that took second place in their session.

Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest academic honor society in America. Only about 50 students were elected this Spring from the entire student body. These included Psychology majors Anne Martin, Jamie Travis, and Xio Bin Zhang. Last year (2006) psychology majors Jericho Hockett, Molly McCue, Alyssa McElwain, Tiffany Miller, Anne Neises, Amanda Petrik, and Megan Tripp were inducted.

Golden Key recognizes and encourages scholastic achievement and excellence in all undergraduate fields of study. Membership is by invitation only and eligibility is limited to the top 15 percent of junior and senior students. New Golden Key members at K-State include: Angela Connell, Lindsay Cook, Kelsey Jo Dorshorst, Elise Matz, Mary McGivern, and Jenna Newsum

Phi Kappa Phi is the nation's oldest, largest and most selective all-discipline honor society. To be eligible for election, juniors must have completed at least 72 credit hours and rank in the top 7.5 percent of their class. Seniors and graduate students must rank in the top 10 percent of their class. K-State's new Phi Kappa Phi members include: Lisa Bruna, Angela Connell, Jenna Newsum, and Joyce Mary Ray

In terms of Premier Scholarships, **Putnam Scholarships** were awarded to Kelsey Jo Dorshorst and Elise Matz.

Foundation Scholarships were awarded to Amber Axelton, Nicole Bosch, Katherine Heavilin, Molly McCue, Mary McGivern, Jamie Nittler, John Richards, and Jamie Travis.

The **Downey Awards for Outstanding Dissertation Proposals** went to Cheryl Comer and Kelley Watson.

E. J. Phares Prize for Outstanding Undergraduate Research went to Jericho Hockett. Jericho has done research in Dr. Saucier's lab for 6 semesters. She has been involved in

all aspects of the research from study design to presentations at national conferences and co-authoring manuscripts. She is the second author on an article in press and has four conference presentations, three as first author. She recently joined our graduate program this fall.

The **Peterson Prize for the Outstanding Graduating Senior in Psychology** was awarded to Katherine Brewton, from Wichita, outstanding student, participant in Teaching Practicum twice, participant in Research with Drs. Barnett (2 years) and Loschky, presenter at Research Convocation 2006 and 2007, and Psi Chi officer 2005–06. Katie recently began the Ph.D. program in Family Science at U of Minnesota.

—Jerry Frieman



Dixie Lopez presents her research with mentor Prof. Stephen Kiefer.

Graduate Certificate in Occupational Health Psychology Now All On-Line

The emerging field of Occupational Health Psychology (OHP) emphasizes the role of psychology in research and practice aimed at the prevention of occupational stress, illness, and injury. The field covers a wide range of topics, including organizational risk factors for stress, illness, and injury at work. OHP concerns the application of psychology to improve the quality of work life, protect and promote the safety, health and wellbeing of workers, and study how changing organizational structures and processes influence the health and well-being of workers and their families.

The graduate certificate is offered totally on-line and in an asynchronous format. There are four courses in the program. More details on the program and courses can be found

at: http://www.k-state.edu/psych/graduate_health.htm.
Details on admission and enrollment can be found at:
<http://www.dce.ksu.edu/occupationalhealthpsych>. Please feel free to share this with your co-workers.

This is an excellent way to improve your credentials and open new opportunities. If you are currently in a position such as employee assistance, human resource management, occupation counseling, or other similar areas, this will allow you to expand your knowledge and skill set. If you are in a teaching position in higher education, this is also a way for you to develop a new niche. If you have questions please contact Ron Downey at 785 532-5475 or downey@ksu.edu.

TELEFUND for The Psychology Department Gains Momentum

Each year many of you receive a telephone call from current students asking you to support scholarships for psychology students: the TELEFUND. While we have been doing this for many years, it has recently become a critical part of our efforts to improve scholarships for our undergraduate students.

In 2004 we raised less than \$1,000. In 2005 we almost doubled that. For 2006 we set a target of \$5,000. We thought this was doable, since the English Department raises almost \$10,000 each year. **The great news is that our alumni pledged more than \$12,000!**

We will be calling each of you in early 2008 to ask for your help with raising scholarship money for psychology students. If you request the Psychology Department, all of

your contributions go only to the department for scholarships.

Please think hard about what you are able to give. If you have just graduated, it may only be a small amount, but every little bit helps. If you have been out for a while, hopefully you are in a financial position to give a larger contribution.

With your help and support, we can move towards raising the bar to \$20,000 for the spring of 2008. Please answer the call and help us reach this goal. While this is a large number, we have a big pool of psychology alumni and if each of you gives what you can, it is more than obtainable. Thank you for your past support!

—Ronald Downey

Graduate Association of Psychology Students (GAPS)



Grad students Disha Rupayana and Michael Smith share an “aha” moment in the computer lab.

Over the past year, the Graduate Association of Psychology Students (GAPS) has been in a transitional period. With the change of presidents mid-year, GAPS has become less of a social outlet and more of a vehicle for academic change and a voice to the faculty. GAPS strove to make important changes in conjunction with the faculty in regard to the department. First year projects will no longer be attached to the statistics courses, and students will be able to present any research that they are significantly involved in for their presentation. Also, the ethics course is now recommended for all students to take their first semester of graduate school instead of later on so that new students can be aware of this important information from the start of their graduate career. In addition, this past year was the first time that the department and GAPS worked out a system to award graduate travel grants for conference travel within our own department.

Besides course work, another area of interest for GAPS has been to improve the poor quality of the graduate student computer lab. GAPS has worked with the department to buy a new printer for the computer lab that can withstand a sizeable printing load. This year, the goal of GAPS is to update all of the old computers with any funds that can be raised.

GAPS members were also busy volunteering for the K-State Telefund and the Graduate Student Council ice cream socials. GAPS also found time to have some fun with social activities including orientation week, a Halloween costume party, a holiday pot-luck dinner, and a faculty/staff-student BBQ.

—Natalie Brown



Grad students socialize at the Fall 2007 picnic.

Psi Chi (Undergraduate Honorary Society in Psychology)

Psi Chi has another successful year under the leadership of Heather Hilgenkamp (President), Mary Ray (Webmaster), Tim Burrell (Vice-President), Amber Axelton (Treasurer), and Jericho Hockett (Secretary). Traditional activities like training rats for KSU Open House and initiation pizza parties were again very popular. We hosted two field trips, to the Glore Psychiatric Museum in the fall and Ellsworth Correctional Facility in the spring. This year's spring banquet was held in conjunction with the first meeting of the new Alumni Advisory Council planning committee, and several alums attended the banquet. One was our speaker William Deeds, Vice-President at Morningside College. Psi Chi also hosted a pub crawl this year for the first time. Officers for 2007–08 are Mari Gutierrez (President), Kelly Hesse and Lindsay Cook (Vice-Presidents), James Fullagar (Secretary) and Karlie Mann (Treasurer).

—Richard Harris (rjharris@k-state.edu)



Research assistants Mari Gutierrez and Darlene Gilbert with their mentor Prof. Mary Cain.

Increased Interest in MIOP Program

The Distance Masters in Industrial and Organizational Psychology (MIOP) program, administered in conjunction with the Division of Continuing Education, continues to thrive. The program offers working adults a unique distance-based approach to furthering their education. As opposed to the more research-focused on-campus graduate degree programs, the MIOP program makes use of the students' applied backgrounds, and offers a more practically-oriented approach to education. Students are often able to bring real-life examples and problems into the classroom, and are encouraged to work with their employing organization for their final practicum project.



MIOP Student Administrator Maura J. Mills.

This year, applications to the program have continued to increase in both quantity and quality, with a record number of applications for the MIOP entering class of 2007. Twelve new students were accepted into this year's MIOP class, and in July we welcomed these 12 new students, in addition to 11 returning students, to Manhattan in order to fulfill the on-campus requirement of the program. During this time students are able to become part of the K-State community, and are also able to experience face-to-face interaction with their classmates and instructors, an important element not offered by many distance programs.

After developing these connections with K-State, it is our hope that once the students leave K-State's campus they will bring the Wildcat spirit back to their respective hometowns across the nation. MIOP students hail from all over the United States, from Florida to California, and are on campus for the last 2 weeks of July each year. Most students complete the program in two and a half years.

—Maura J. Mills

Psychology Department Trivia ("What-Are-the-Chances-of-That" Department)

Two of our three new professors (Gary Brase and Matt Palmatier) this fall have their undergraduate degrees from California State University Fresno. This is also the home of Robert Hand (see Class of 1971 news below), who was the first chapter President for K-State's Psi Chi Honorary.

Current Psychology major Jared Richards is the grandson of long-time Department Head E. Jerry Phares (Jared's mother is Jerry's daughter Lisa).

Not a single KSU Psychology Professor is a native Kansan (though all moved here willingly). Three are native Californians, two are from Illinois, and others grew up in NY, MA, PA, MD, OH, MO, ND, MI, TX, and South Africa.

Two current KSU professors, Don Saucier and Mary Cain, first met in their first-semester graduate statistics class at the University of Vermont. They began dating and later married.

Three of the last 4 Presidents of the K-State chapter of Psi Chi have, upon graduation, entered the Cognitive Human Factors Psychology graduate program at KSU (Christopher Barlett 2003-04, Kristen Geri 2004-05, and Heather Hilgenkamp 2006-07).

Prof. Mark Barnett's son Neil recently took a course from KSU Psych grad Mark Thompson (B.S., 1985), who is now on the faculty at the University of Kansas, where Neil is a grad student in Health Communication.

Eerie coincidences or not? You decide.

Obituaries

William Bevan (Psychology Department Head 1959–1962) died in Durham, NC on February 19, 2007. Bill also served as Dean of Arts and Sciences and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Kansas State University before moving to Johns Hopkins, where he served as Vice President and Provost. He also served as Provost at Duke University 1979–83 before becoming Vice President and Director of the Health Program at the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. He retired in 1991. He is survived by his wife Dorothy C. Bevan and three sons.

Edward Silver (Ph.D., 1986) died on January 6, 2007 in Atlanta after a long bout with a neurological illness. He had worked at AT & T Bell Labs.

ALUMNI NEWS (compiled by Richard Harris)

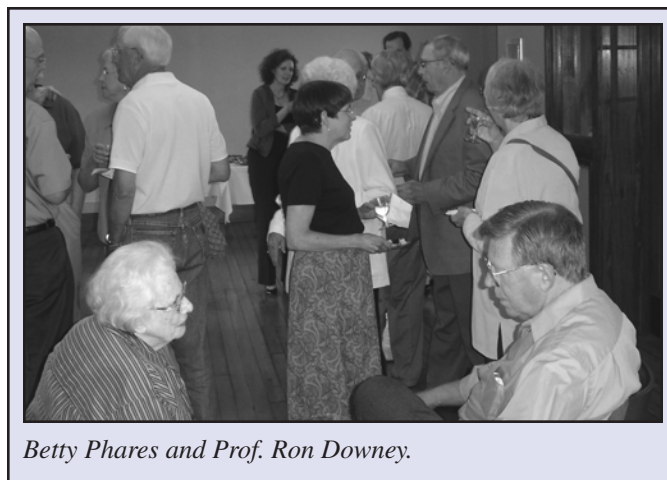
The news below comes from numerous alumni from our undergraduate and graduate programs across several decades. It is always so interesting and gratifying to hear that majoring in psychology can prepare students for an extremely wide variety of careers. While some of our graduates are actively pursuing careers doing exactly what they prepared for at KSU, many others are using their psychology in ways they probably never dreamed of when they were here. Please continue to send us news and pictures for future newsletters. Here is this year's news, by order of graduation years. Note that news is alphabetized by last name within graduation year.

1967

Dumont Schmidt (M.S.) continues working as a Clinical Psychologist at Prairie View Mental Health Center in Newton KS. He was in Manhattan in June to participate in the annual Flint Hills Triathlon. He and his wife Barbara live in rural Whitewater, KS. They have two grown children and three grandchildren.

1968

Robert S. Shelor (B.A.) lives in Ojai, CA and is self-employed with RSS Development Services.



Betty Phares and Prof. Ron Downey.

1971

Robert J. Hand (B.S.) was the first president of the KSU Chapter of Psi Chi and is now the Executive Director of the Center for Independent Living-Fresno in Fresno, CA. He also began in spring 2007 working on his master's degree in Rehabilitation Counseling at CSU Fresno. Bob is also one of three people (including the Chair of the Rehabilitation Counseling Department) who are the founding members of an advisory council to start a Rehabilitation Counseling Institute at CSU-Fresno. It will provide a unique combination of education, research and direct community services.

1976

Linda L. Dunlap (B.S.), long-time Professor of Psychology at Marist College, recently published a textbook *Psychological Testing Across the Life Span*, co-authored with William Van Ornum and Milton Shore and published by Pearson/Prentice-Hall.

Robert Hancock (Ph.D.) continues on the faculty at Lincoln University in Jefferson City, MO in the Department of Social and Behavioral Sciences.

1977

Michael Troutman (Ph.D. 1977) retired from Eastman Kodak Company in 2006, where he was Director of Business Research. He is now Adjunct Professor at Rochester Institute of Technology teaching graduate courses in the Quality and Applied Statistics Department and the College of Business. He also consults with corporations about analyzing customer behavioral data and developing decision support systems. He lives in Rochester, NY with his wife Dee. (mtroutman@ix.netcom.com)



Professor Emeritus Franz Samelson chats with Dept. Head Jerry Frieman.

1979

Jeffrey G. Reed (Ph.D.) had a most interesting time on an exchange program serving as a Visiting Professor at Harlaxton College in Grantham, England in Fall 2006. While teaching three courses there, he also had the chance to visit widely in England, Scotland, and Ireland. Jeff was also promoted to Full Professor and Management at Marian College in Fond du Lac WI, where he has taught for many years. He is Director of the College Honors Program and Director of the Undergraduate Management Program. Jeff visited the KSU Psychology Department in June 2007 for the first time in many years. His wife Sylvia (whom he met while at KSU) also works at Marian College and son Daniel recently graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. (Jreed@mariancollege.edu).

1981

Bernie Carducci (Ph.D., 1981, Personality Psychology) is in his 28th year at Indiana University Southeast in New Albany IN (suburban Louisville). He continues to teach two of the large sections of introductory psychology each semester. He is the coauthor of *The Shyness Workbook for Teens* (Research Press, 2007). At the 2007 meeting of the American Psychological Association, Bernie delivered the Psi Chi-sponsored Ruth H. Cousins Distinguished Lecture. Ruth Cousins, who passed away recently, was the founder of Psi Chi. Rozana Carducci, Bernie's daughter, is completing her Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration at UCLA and is a coauthor of *Rethinking the "L" Word in Higher Education: The Revolution of Research on Leadership* (Jossey-Bass, 2006). She is also looking for a faculty position in higher education. (bcarducc@ius.edu)

1983

Scott Isensee (M.S., 1983) is a User Interface Architect with BMC Software, where he is responsible for defining the user interface style used by over 600 systems management products. He holds 51 US patents and is an author of the books: *The Art of Rapid Prototyping*, *User Centered Design*, *Designing for the User with OVID*, *Information Appliances and Beyond*, and *Constructing Superior Software*. Scott and his wife Dawn (also a K-State graduate) make their home in Austin, Texas.

1986

Kenneth Sewell (B.S.) has lived in Denton, TX since earning his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Kansas in 1991. Ken is Professor of Psychology and has been Director of Clinical Training at the University of North Texas since 1996. He recently took his first sabbatical ever in Spring 2007. His oldest son Nathan was married in 2006, his younger son Trevor attends UNT, and step-daughter Kailey is 11. (E-mail: sewell@unt.edu)

1989

Catherine B. Johnson (Ph.D.) is Director of the Test Development & Scoring Division of Applied Measurement Professionals, Inc. in Overland Park, KS. Her daughter Jackie recently began studies at KSU.

1990

Jerwen Jou (Ph.D.) and his wife Chian-hua became grandparents for the first time this past spring as their son and daughter-in-law in Princeton, NJ welcomed their daughter.

1991

David Allen (Ph.D.) is currently the Pacific Region Practice Leader for Right Management, a human resources consulting firm. He helps organizations develop systems to assess new hires, as well as select and develop managers. In addition, they conduct organizational surveys to identify how to better and engage and retain employees. Dave and his wife recently celebrated their 22nd wedding anniversary. Their youngest daughter, Courtney, born while Dave was attending K-State, just turned 18.

Stephani Johns-Hines (B.S.) teaches at Cowley County Community College in Arkansas City, KS. She and her husband Christopher Hines live in Mulvane, KS.

1993

Terri T. (McDonald) Reichert (B.S.) currently works as a Child Protective Services Policy Consultant in Raleigh, NC. She has previously worked as an advocate for persons with disabilities, a crisis mental health counselor, and a Certified Rehabilitation Provider. Her duties involve working with local departments of Social Services and reviewing federal and state legislation and prepare interpretive summaries. Her areas of emphasis are the legal aspects of child welfare, and the multi-jurisdictional issues that arise within the state and across state lines. Terri reports using her KSU psychology education in basic research and behavior modification frequently in her work.



Sharon Sterling (Psych office staff 1982–2002) and former Dept. Head Stephen Kiefer.



Emeritus Professors Fred Rohles and Leon Rappoport.

1996

Karen (Wessel) Hesse (B.S.) is a school psychologist with the Loess Hills Area Education Agency. She and her husband Brian Hesse (KSU '95) live in Clarinda, IA with their 18-month-old daughter Amelia.

Julia Pounds (Ph.D.) recently began a new position as a Research Psychologist for the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service (AOV) of the Federal Aviation Administration in Washington DC. Julia previously worked at the FAA training center in Oklahoma City, OK.

1998

Jeffrey A. Gibbons (Ph.D.) has now received tenure at Christopher Newport University in Newport News, VA and continues his research in applied memory. Jeff and his wife and three-year-old son live in Newport News, VA.

W. Richard Walker (Ph.D.) has now received tenure in the Psychology Department at Winston-Salem State University in Winston-Salem, NC. He has also recently been named editor of the *International Journal of Cognitive Technology*. Rich and his wife live in High Point, NC and operate a wild animal rescue facility where they nurse injured and lost animals back to health and then release them back into the wild.

1999

Rodney J. Vogl (Ph.D.) is Associate Professor of Psychology at Christian Brothers University in Memphis, TN.

2000

Kelly Burke (Ph.D.) has worked at Payless ShoeSource in Topeka, Kansas for the past 9 years. She is the Director of Organization Development. Kelly recently accepted an invitation to sit on the Advisory Council for the Department of Psychology. She lives in Topeka with her son Ryan and yellow lab Mia. Ryan began attending Kansas State University in August.

Steven Hoekstra (Ph.D.) received Kansas Wesleyan University's 2007 Exemplary Teacher Award. This award is sponsored jointly by the United Methodist Board of Higher Education and Ministry and the Pepsi-Cola Bottling Company. The Exemplary Teacher Award, presented at the fall Opening Convocation each year to a Kansas Wesleyan University faculty member who shows "excellence in teaching, is active in his/her profession and professional societies; provides exemplary service to the university and broader community; demonstrates cooperative and supportive attitudes towards colleagues, students and others; and is committed to value-centered education." Steve has been on the KWU faculty since 1999. He and his wife Anne live in Salina, KS.

John Mutschink (M.S.) is currently the Director of Global Surveys and Employee Research for Hewlett Packard in Texas. In this role, John oversees research on employee engagement, organizational effectiveness and standards of business conduct. John is currently focused on cross-cultural research on employee perceptions and attitudes regarding management and executive ethical behavior and support for standards of business conduct. He is also completing Ph.D. at KSU.

Taryn (Tapp) Ratner (B.S.) attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and received her Master's in Human Resources and Industrial Relations. She spent four years working in the Tampa-St. Petersburg, FL area and is now working at Raytheon in McKinney, Texas. Taryn is the Principal HR Generalist supporting the Information Solutions organization as well as Performance Development for the business.

2001

Nolan Rett Mickelson (B.S.) and his wife spent two years (2004–06) in Kazakhstan, where they taught English to secondary school students. They were expecting their first child in 2007. Rett also planned to begin graduate school in Education.

Jillyn (Peters) Schmidt (B.S.) is General Manager at Panera Bread in Manhattan, KS.

John D. Watt (Ph.D.) is an Associate Professor of Organizational Behavior and Human Resources in the Department of Management at the University of Central Arkansas in Conway, AR. He also serves as an Executive Editor of *The Journal of Psychology: Interdisciplinary and Applied*.

April D. West (B.S.) completed her Ph.D. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology from Alliant International University in November 2006. (E-mail: awest416@gmail.com)

2002

Matt Vogt (B.S.) recently completed his Doctor of Pharmacy degree at the KU School of Medicine in Kansas City, KS. He was married in 2003, and he and his wife have a 16-month-old daughter. (mattksu77@hotmail.com)

Kristi L. Wyatt (B.S.) received her M.S. in mental health counseling from Idaho State University in May of 2006 and started in Fall 2006 at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA in a doctoral program in counselor education. Her husband Casey got out of the army and graduated from Boise State and is working in an orthopedic surgery and sports medicine center. They have enjoyed living in Virginia and recently bought their first house!

2003

Frank M. Ferraro, III (Ph.D.) is on the faculty in the Department of Psychology at Nebraska Wesleyan College in Lincoln, NE.

Peter Shin (Ph.D.) was married to Jung Hwa in 2006 in South Korea.

Michael Tagler (Ph.D.) recently moved from Lincoln, NE to Muncie, IN, where he joined the faculty in the Psychology Department at Ball State University. He continues as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at KSU as well, working with the distance master's program.



Wedding of Peter Shin (Ph.D. 2003) and Jung Hwa in South Korea.

2004

Lindsey Firebaugh (B.S.) recently completed course requirements for her M.A. in Clinical Psychology at Washburn University and is now working as a neuropsychometrician at the KU Medical Center in Kansas City, KS. She was also married in June 2007.

Gareth Hampton (B.S.) is currently in the Radiologic Technology and Medical Diagnostic Imaging program at Fort Hays State University. In January 2008 he will be moving to Sterling, Colorado for a year to do his clinical placement. Gareth spent some time in 2004–05 studying to be a priest but discerned that was not the right course for him.

E. Peter Muenks (B.S.) will complete his M.A. in Clinical Psychology at Washburn University in May 2008.

Rickey Thomas (Ph.D.) is now teaching and doing decision making research in the Psychology Department at his undergraduate alma mater, the University of Oklahoma. Rick and his wife Lisa live in Norman, OK.

Tami Wirka (B.S.) recently completed a term working as a preschool teacher at Manhattan Day Care and Learning Center. She is continuing working in early childhood education.



Jennifer Bonds–Raacke (Ph.D., 2004) and John Raacke (Ph.D., 2005) and their daughters Callie (top) and Brooke.

2005

Chelsea Mueller Bartel (B.S.) will complete her M.A. in Clinical Psychology at Washburn University in 2008 and was just married to long-time boy friend Jonathan Bartel in Wichita on October 6, 2007. She hopes to begin work on a doctorate in School Psychology next year.

Jordan Brown (B.S.) is an Animal Behavior Specialist in the transgenic mouse facility at the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Amy McCabe Conner (Ph.D.) became the proud mother of 7 lb. 10 oz. Patrick, born on March 7, 2007. She also worked as a researcher for the K-State Foundation and as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at KSU, where she taught courses online in the Occupational Health Certification Program. She recently began a position as a Statistical Analyst with the CIMA Center at K-State.

Rosemary Ha (B.S.) was recently married to KSU Biology grad student Joe Coolon. Rose continues in graduate school in Animal Learning-Neuroscience in the Psychology Department at KSU.

Lindsay Johnson (B.S.) is in her last year of studies for her M.A. in Clinical Psychology at Washburn University.

Kelly (Landon) Michael (B.S.) is Assistant Director for Quality Litigation Services, a trial consulting company in Overland Park, KS.

John Raacke (Ph.D.) and **Jennifer Bonds-Raacke** (Ph.D., 2004) live in Laurinburg, NC with daughters Callie and Brooke. Both Jenn and John are on the faculty in psychology at the University of North Carolina-Pembroke. They are beginning to write an Experimental Methods textbook.

2006

Julie Blair (B.S.) is now studying for her Psy.D. at the University of Santa Rosa.

Ramon Chavez (B.S.) is beginning work on his master's degree in Clinical Psychology at Washburn University in Topeka, KS.

Janis Crow (Ph.D.) teaches in the Marketing Dept. at KSU.

Whitney Dawley Henley (B.S.) moved to Jacksonville, Florida, but later returned to Kansas. She was married last winter.

Peter Elgin (Ph.D.) works for HF International out of their Fairfield, IA office. He lives in Vinton, IA, where his wife Michelle Jahn is a physician.

Darlene Gilbert (B.A.) has moved to Hinesville, GA, where her husband is stationed at Fort Stewart and she works at Payless Shoes and studies on a second associates degree in Social Work.

Jeffrey Kleysteuber (B.S.) is in his second year of law school at Creighton University in Omaha, NE.

Beth Larabee (B.S.) hopes to begin working on a master's degree in Statistics at KSU. Her daughter Maya turns 2 in November.

April (Jacobs) Mick (B.S.) was married in summer 2006 and is now working on her master's degree in Family Therapy at Friends University in Lenexa, KS.

Anna Neises (B.S.) is now in the master's program in Applied Behavioral Analysis at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL.



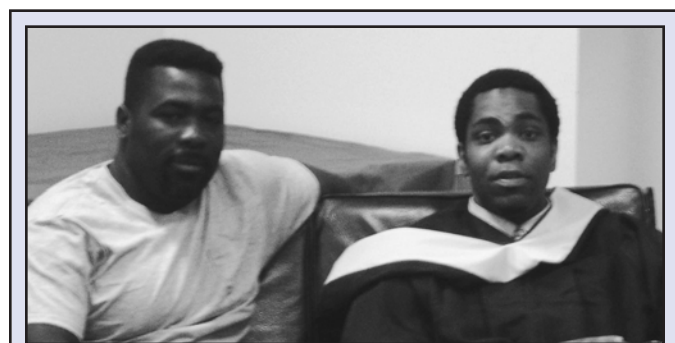
Prof. Mary Cain (left) and Rupert Klein (right) with Dec. 2006 graduates Whitney Dawley and Darlene Gilbert.

Meridith Pease Selden (Ph.D.) is on the faculty at Gallaudet University in Washington DC. She and her husband live in Falls Church, VA.

Tirza Shulman (Ph.D.) continues as Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Marinette in Marinette, WI.

Roya Taghizadeh (B.S.) changed career paths in Fall 2006. After beginning graduate school in I/O Psychology, she decided that was not right for her and decided to switch to nursing. She recently began study in the nursing program at Baker University, working on her R.N. degree. Roya was also married on May 16, 2007 to Michael Waggoner; they live in Topeka.

Lauren Wolf (B.A.) enjoyed herself working as a character (she's not allowed to say as whom) at Disneyland after graduating and is now beginning law school.



KSU Master's graduate Michael Smith and his brother at graduation May 2007.

2007

Amber Axelton (B.S.) is working in Manhattan

Christopher Barlett (B.S., 2004. M.S., 2007) is now in the doctoral program in Social Psychology at Iowa State University, where he is studying with Professor Craig Anderson, one of the world's leading researchers on video games. He is engaged to **Natalie Brown** (M.S., 2007); they will be married in Manhattan in June 2008.

Benjamin Bilyeu (B.S.) was married to Alyssa Smith on June 23 in Hutchinson KS.

Katie Gibb Brewton (B.S.) is now beginning work for her doctorate in Family Science at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities in Minneapolis, MN. Her husband Tyler manages a golf course.

Timothy Burrell (B.S.) is continuing at KSU for a second bachelor's degree in Biology.

Cheryl Comer (Ph.D.) recently began working for Kimberly-Clark in Atlanta, GA.

Angela Connell (B.S.) is taking graduate psychology courses as a special graduate student at KSU with an eye to joining the doctoral program in the future.

Brandon Fell (B.S.) recently began studies for his M.S. degree in Clinical Psychology at Washburn University.

Lauren Gruchala (B.S.) recently began studies for her M.S. in Industrial Psychology at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, KY.

Heather Hilgenkamp (B.S.) recently began graduate studies in Cognitive and Human Factors Psychology at KSU.

Jericho Hockett (B.S.) is beginning work on her Ph.D. in Social Psychology at KSU and is also a teaching assistant for the Department of Women's Studies. She was one of the editors for the KSU *Collegian* this past summer.

Amanda Mazouch (B.S.) is beginning studies for her master's degree in Marriage and Family Therapy in the Family Studies and Human Services Department at KSU.

Rebecca Millar (B.S.) is working in a Christian home for troubled youth in Branson, MO.

Deborah Murphy (B.S.) is beginning work on her master's degree in Educational Psychology in the College of Education at KSU.

J. Mary Ray (B.S.) is now in graduate school working on her M.S.W. in Clinical Social Work at Washburn University in Topeka, KS.

John Steele (M.S.) and his wife Emily celebrated the birth of their first child Jackson Avery Steele on September 11, 2007 in Manhattan. John continues in the I/O Psychology program at KSU, working on his Ph.D.

Adam Steiner (B.S.) is beginning studies for his Ph.D. in Neuroscience at the University of Minnesota in the Twin Cities. MN.

W. John Wallisch (B.S.) recently began medical school at the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, KS.

Abigail Werth (B.S.) is working on an internship in Human Factors Usability Testing at the Sprint Corporation in Overland Park, KS.



KSU McNair Scholar Mari Gutierrez and her mentor Dr. Rupert Klein.

Faculty Alumni

Thad Cowan (KSU c. 1970–2000) is retired and has moved to Champaign IL, where his wife Peg Wherry is working in Continuing Education at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Scott Hemenover (KSU 2000–2006) is beginning his second year as an Assistant Professor in the Psychology Department at Western Illinois University in Macomb, IL. (e-mail: SH-Hemenover@wiu.edu)

Keith Jones (KSU 1999–2003) continues on the faculty at Texas Tech University (keith.s.jones@ttu.edu)

Rupert Klein (KSU 2006–2007) recently resigned to accept a position in the Psychology Department at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, ON, his alma mater and home town.

Frank (Skip) Saal (KSU 1976–96) recently retired after five years as Provost/Vice-President for Academic Affairs at St. Bonaventure University in Olean, New York. All three of their children are married with children and all live with their families in Kansas. Skip and Cathie have seven grandchildren.

Renee Slick (KSU 2004–2006) is now affiliated with the Department of Civil Engineering at KSU.

Kip Smith (KSU 1998–2003) continues as Research Professor of Industrial Ergonomics at Linköping University, Sweden.

John Uhlarik (KSU 1970–2007) is now retired from KSU and living in Manhattan.

Contact Us

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