

Special points of interest:

- The Department of Psychology's new home is East Hall
- April 6 from 7-9 PM Daniel Fisher will speak on *Recovery From Mental Illness*
- May 4 end of the year awards picnic

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Brainwaves

Department of Psychology
University of Hartford

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Inaugural Issue!!

by Dr. Caryn Christensen

Welcome Back!! That is, welcome back to the world of psychology newsletters. We are delighted to present the inaugural issue of **Brainwaves**, a newsletter for the students, staff, and friends of the Psychology Department at the University of Hartford. It's been several years since we've published a newsletter. During that time, we've been growing, changing, and even moving our location. One very positive change is the recent addition of (soon-to-be Dr.) Jerri Lynn Hogg to our department. You will read more about Jerri Lynn later in this issue, but I do wish to thank our "Editor-in-Chief" for all of the hard work and enthusiasm that went into getting our first edition up and running. Please feel free to send us suggestions for columns, updates on your activities, or any other interesting material you may come across. This newsletter will likely evolve along with our department.



Caryn Christensen

The most obvious change we have all experienced over the past year has been our move from Dana Hall to East Hall. With a growing undergraduate program and four different masters programs, we were bursting at the seams in Dana Hall. Therefore, the prospect of more space is a very exciting one. The space that we currently inhabit in East Hall is temporary (and a tight fit) and the building is intended to undergo further renovations over the next two years. The final product will be a facility with numerous computer classrooms, observational labs, testing and mock therapy suites, as well as expanded office spaces and lounges. Our potential to learn and to teach will be enhanced and opportunities for innovation will be created.

That isn't to say that our move to interim space has gone off without a hitch. We are still sorting through items, stepping over boxes, and occasionally forgetting "secret codes" that unlock our new "locknetics" doors. And I know that one faculty member, having dreamt for years of an office with a window, could not have imagined that the window (in a space slated to be used as part of an observational lab in the future) would allow her to look on as our office coordinators worked busily in the room next door. Still, psychologists know that change always comes with challenge. Hopefully, **Brainwaves** will help to inform, intrigue, and even amuse us all a bit more as we move through the very exciting, and challenging, years ahead. Great job, Jerri Lynn!!

How many psychologists does it take to change a light bulb?
Only one, but the light bulb has to want to change.



Mala Matacin

Undergraduate Program

by Dr. Mala Matacin

Greetings! My name is Dr. Mala Matacin and I am the Associate Chair of the Undergraduate Program in Psychology here at the University of Hartford. We are in the second semester of our digs in East Hall which is slowly becoming our new home. We also have two new people in our department.

Dr. William Neace is a Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology who is beginning his first year at the University of Hartford. Dr. Neace comes to us from the University of Louisville, by way of the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation. He is a skilled researcher in the area of judgment and decision making who clearly loves to teach and mentor students. Dr. Neace teaches a variety of courses, including Introductory Psychology and Cognitive Processes. But, his expertise in and love of the research process and statistics has made him an outstanding instructor in the undergraduate and graduate research sequences. I have heard sounds of laughter coming out of his statistics courses—now *that's* an accomplishment! He is a wonderful addition to the department. His office is located in East Hall 218 A.



William Neace

With over 200 majors, Psychology is one of the largest majors in the College of Arts and Sciences, if not the entire university. In our efforts to maintain a high-quality experience both in and out of the classroom, we have made another magnificent addition to our department. Jerri Lynn Hogg joins us this year as our Coordinator of Academic Studies. Along with her teaching, Jerri Lynn serves as a Dialogue advisor for both our new majors and students who have not declared a major yet. Along with Dr. Davison, she advises Psi Chi, the National Honors Society in Psychology. Also, she now coordinates the undergraduate internship/practicum courses which had been directed by Dr. Schloss for years. As a website expert, she will be coordinating changes to our department's site. And, thanks to her, we have the first newsletter in the department for some time! She is currently a doctoral candidate at the Fielding Graduate Institute where she is getting her Ph.D. in Media Psychology. If you have not yet met her, please stop by her office in East Hall 221 to say hello.

THINGS TO KNOW:

1. Did you know that the department prints booklets each year on "Your Psychology Career: A Handbook for Psychology Majors"? It is a helpful book that indicates what you need for your major, a description of all our courses, what to do if you are thinking about going to graduate school, etc. If you don't have one, please see your advisor, me, or Jerri Lynn, Coordinator of Academic Studies for a copy.
2. All undergraduate students are eligible for student membership in professional organizations like the New England Psychological Society (NEPA) or the American Psychological Association (APA)? Joining such organizations is a good idea if you are planning on graduate study or a professional career in the field.
3. If you are planning to graduate in May, you should have applied for graduation with Tina Pesola. Tina is the Evaluator for the College of Arts and Sciences and is located in Hillyer 228.
4. Most Saturday courses during the fall and spring semesters may only be taken by part-time students. If you want to take a Saturday course, make sure that it is open to full-time undergraduate students.
5. Summerterm courses are now on the University of Hartford's website. If you need another psychology class, see what we're offering this summer!
6. The Psychology Department offers four master's degrees: Clinical Practices, General-Experimental Psychology, Organizational Behavior, and School Psychology.
7. Summer interns are wanted to fill several positions in Yale's Cognition and Development lab. If you are graduate school bound and do not yet have any research experience, this is an excellent opportunity. Interested candidates should contact Esther Schlegel at cogdevlab@yale.edu or visit their website at www.yale.edu/cogdevlab/



Jerri Lynn Hogg

Sex on Campus: Teaching the Human Sexuality Course

by Dr. Janell Carroll

On October 15, 2004, I presented at the 10th Annual Northeast Conference for Teachers of Psychology (NECTOP) at Rhode Island College in Providence, RI. NECTOP was a preconference to The New England Psychological Association Convention (NEPA). I hosted a plenary session entitled *Sex on Campus: Teaching the Human Sexuality Course*. In my presentation I discussed the changing nature of sexual behavior on college

campuses, communication difficulties, and practices such as "hooking up." Throughout the presentation I discussed my research about college sexuality.

Using these events as a springboard for a discussion about how to best teach college students in this changing environment, I explored the nature of teaching the human sexuality course, course activities and requirements, the use of humor in reducing discomfort and anxiety, and provided samples

of lecture and video resources.

Junior Psychology major, Lisa Belval, was my student assistant and helped in the NECTOP presentation and conference. Later this semester I will travel to Syracuse University and Mowawk Valley Community College to discuss AIDS in the African-American community.

*Dr. Janell Carroll teaches as an Adjunct Faculty Member in the Department of Psychology at the University of Hartford.



Janell Carroll

School Psych Notes

by Dr. Natalie Politikos

This has been an eventful year for the School Psychology Program at the University of Hartford. Our program recently received approval from the State Department of Education to grant the Sixth-Year Certificate in School Psychology. To be granted following the Master of Science Degree, this certificate acknowledges the high level of training already required of our graduates- the program is recognized as a Post-Master's Specialist Program- and brings the program

into alignment with its peer group. This is a great achievement for our Department and of course for our students.

We would also like to congratulate a number of School Psychology graduate students for representing the University and our Department at regional and national conventions. Specifically, congratulations to Deanna Menario and Catherine Farris who were part of a presentation led by Dr. Len Milling at the New England Psychological Association's Annual Meeting in Providence, RI, in October

2004. Furthermore, congratulations to Amy Gustafson and Nicole Fernandes who will be presenting a poster with Dr. Natalie Politikos at the National Association of School Psychologists in Atlanta, GA, in March 2005. Well done students!

As the Spring semester runs its course, our program looks forward to celebrating another graduation with our students. Let the party begin!



Natalie Politikos

Spring Dialogue

by Jamie Graves, B.A. '04

Wouldn't it be nice if one of your classes this coming semester was like a friendly gathering taught by a graduate student? We agree! That's why the psychology department is offering new one credit freshman dialogue classes that will allow you to meet new people, get to know more about what the University of Hartford has to offer you and get yourself on the right track for the major you wish to pursue. This class is like no other class you have taken before!

*Spring dialogue mixes a bit of academic counseling, career counseling and event exploration to provide an additional springboard into the college experience. Graduate Assistants like Jamie Graves, who work in the department part-time while pursuing a masters degree, are an integral part of our program. For example, their efforts leading spring dialogue have helped link students, faculty, and programs throughout the university.



Jamie Graves



Jack Powell

General Experimental Psychology and Organizational Behavior

by Dr. Jack Powell

Greetings from the Masters Programs in General Experimental Psychology and Organizational Behavior! Many students and alumni of the Psychology Department may not be aware of the significant changes that have taken place in these two programs during the past few years, so this is a chance to provide an update.

The big change in the General Experimental Psychology program is that Professor Dick Brayer is no longer its Director. Dr. Brayer retired in 2002 after teaching in the Department for 41 years and running the General Experimental Program for 32 of those years! You can imagine the program is just not the same without him. Nevertheless, the program continues to serve both full-time and part-time students who want to apply the skills and knowledge they gain from their education in the marketplace or who want a strong foundation to continue on for the doctorate. One change we have recently proposed, and are hoping to gain approval for, is an Accelerated Master's Program in General Experimental Psychology. This program will give superior undergraduate psychology majors the opportunity to take graduate courses their senior year and during the following summer, thereby allowing them to graduate with their Master's in General Experimental Psychology only one year after receiving their B.A. in Psychology.

Many readers may be less familiar with the Department's "new" Master of Science (MS) program in Organizational Behavior (OB). We affectionately refer to it as the MSOB program! In fact, the program is quite old, thriving for over 25 years in the Barney School of Business. In the fall of 2002, the MSOB program moved to the Department of Psychology, where it continues to be a popular degree. Some students are full-time, but many are part-timers who are already employed in the Hartford area, but who want to develop their leadership, communication, and facilitation skills. Although the MSOB Program has been in the Department of Psychology for less than three years, we have already graduated four students with many more to come. One of those graduates, Kate Wall, recently presented a paper at an international conference; based on research she conducted for her Organizational Behavior thesis.



We encourage you to visit the Department's website to learn more about these programs and to keep up-to-date with their many activities.

Psi Chi

by Jerri Lynn Hogg

Psi Chi is a national honor society for psychology. With a current membership of over 30 students, new members will be added soon with inductions right around the corner.

It has been a busy spring semester, with Psi Chi sponsoring several guest speakers. In February our own faculty member, Dr. Len Milling presented *Applying to Grad School: A conversation with Dr. Milling*. It was well attended with many lingering to hear more sage advice from Dr. Milling. Daniel Fisher, M.D., Ph.D., a psychiatrist and executive director of NEC, will be presenting in April *Recovery From Mental Illness and Becoming a Commissioner*. Dr. Fisher struggled for several years to recover from schizophrenia before going on to receive his M.D. from George Washington University and complete his residency at Harvard Medical School.

Psi Chi is actively involved with community and fundraising programs with bake sales and various clothing/food drives. The group is also in process of arranging a psychology student panel to go into local high schools to answer questions about majoring in psychology.

Spotlight on...Industrial-Organizational Psychology

by Dr. Kristl Davison

So, you have heard the term “I/O Psychology” and are wondering what it’s all about. It is not “I owe psychology my entire paycheck,” though many of us may feel like this after we get out of grad school and start adding up the student loans we took out. Nor are we simply clinical psychologists working in an organizational setting and providing psychological or career counseling to employees. Such work would be undertaken by clinical or counseling psychologists--I/O psychologists are typically not trained in these areas.

So what is it that we do? I/O psychologists apply psychological principles and knowledge to workplace issues, and to the betterment of employees’ work lives. We are involved in a variety of workplace functions such as personnel selection, training, performance management, job satisfaction, teamwork, and leadership, to name a few. We draw from various areas in psychology, including social, personality, cognitive, quantitative, and human factors, as well as from other disciplines such as sociology, economics, communication, and management science. Consider how psychological principles can be turned to the following issues:

- Hiring more productive employees, by developing valid intelligence and personality testing systems
- Evaluating the effectiveness of a training program, by applying the principles of experimental design and statistical analysis
- Managing employees’ performance, by understanding individual differences in communication and learning styles
- Improving employees’ job satisfaction and commitment, by providing rewards and reinforcements
- Enhancing team functioning, by training team members on problems groups encounter, such as conformity, group polarization and groupthink
- Facilitating more effective leadership, by understanding how a leader’s personality and the situation interact

I/O psychologists work in various settings, including management consulting firms, organizational settings, government, and military, as well as colleges and universities. This allows for a lot of flexibility, and it is not uncommon for professors in I/O to consult on the side. They are truly engaging in the scientist-practitioner model! Within organizations, I/O psychologists typically work in Human Resources departments, although some do work in marketing, consumer behavior, human factors or management.

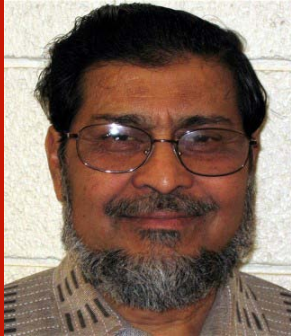
To become an I/O psychologist, you usually seek a Ph.D., although there are a growing number of Master’s programs in I/O. It is certainly possible to work in many areas of I/O with only a Master’s degree. Additionally, licensure is not typically required for I/O practitioners, although in many states a license is required to use the title “psychologist.” (Often, the title used by I/O practitioners is internal or external consultant.)

If you are interested in the field, you can get more information from the SIOP (Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology) website, www.siop.org. SIOP is Division 14 of the American Psychological Association. The site also has resources for organizations wishing to locate consultants with particular expertise. For more information about how I/O psychology is helping organizations, the journal *Human Resource Management* recently published a special issue on “The Contributions of Psychological Research to Human Resource Management” (Vol. 43, Issue 4, Winter 2004).

*We currently have a Master of Science in Organizational Behavior (MSOB). See Dr. Powell’s article to the left to learn more about it.



Kristl Davison



Abdul Khaleque



"Should turtle's reach exceed his grasp or what's a heaven for?"

-Walt the turtle climbing up the wall!

Parental Love and Human Development

by Dr. Abdul Khaleque

Dr. Abdul Khaleque teaches as an Adjunct Faculty member in the Department of Psychology at the University of Hartford mainly in the area of developmental psychology including courses on child, adolescent, and adult development. He also works as a Senior Scientist in the Ronald and Nancy Rohner Center for the Study of Parental Acceptance and Rejection at the University of Connecticut. In the Rohner Center, he has been involved in a number of research projects about the impacts of parental love on lifespan human development based on the assumptions of Parental Acceptance and Rejection Theory.

Parental Acceptance and Rejection Theory (PAR Theory) is a theory of socialization and lifespan development proposed by Rohner (Rohner, 1986; Rohner & Khaleque, 2005). The PAR theory attempts to predict and explain worldwide causes, consequences, and correlates of parental acceptance-rejection. One of major predictions of the PAR Theory is that parental rejection has consistent negative effects on personality development, psychological adjustment and behavioral functioning of both children and adults worldwide (Rohner, Khaleque & Cournoyer, 2003). To test this prediction, they did meta-analyses on 94 worldwide cross-cultural studies conducted in about 40 countries in five continents on about 15 thousands respondents. Results revealed that parental acceptance-rejection accounted for approximately 25% of the variability in personality development and psychological adjustment of children and adults almost universally, regardless of culture, ethnicity, gender, and geographical boundaries (Khaleque & Rohner, 2002a, 2002b).

Khaleque, A. & Rohner, R. P. (2002a). Perceived parental acceptance-rejection and psychological adjustment: A meta-analysis of cross-cultural and intracultural studies. *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 64, 54-64.

Khaleque, A. & Rohner, R. P. (2002b). Reliability of measures assessing the pancultural association between perceived parental acceptance-rejection and psychological adjustment: A meta-analysis of cross-cultural and intracultural studies. *Journal of Cross-Cultural Psychology*, 33, 87-99.

Rohner, R.P. (1986). *The Warmth Dimension: Foundations of Parental Acceptance-Rejection Theory*. Beverly Hills, CA: Sage Publications, Inc.

Rohner, R.P. & Khaleque, A. (2005). *Handbook for the Study of Parental Acceptance and Rejection*. Rohner Research, Storrs, CT, USA.

Rohner, R. P., Khaleque, A. & Cournoyer, D. E. (2003). Cross-national perspectives on parental acceptance-rejection theory. *Marriage and Family Review*, 35, 85-105.

Name the Newsletter Contest – We have a winner!

by Jerri Lynn Hogg

Thank you to all that participated. The decision was tough. We had a tie for first place but the winner triumphed with votes cast for second choice. Below are just a few of the great suggestions:

Brainwaves
Hartford Psychology Herald
The Operant Observer
The Retina Review Pulling habits out of rats
Inner Voice
Perspectives
Physiology above the collar
Psychobabble
Shrink Rap
The Cognitive Chronicles
The Freudian Slip

The winner is Dr. Kristl Davison for suggesting Brainwaves. When asked how she came up with the name Brainwaves, she said, "It just popped into my head while I was brain storming." Mmmm, it must be a *brain* thing. Dr. Davison admits to loving word puzzles, puns, and brain-

teasers. She often is the one to answer the mysterious riddle left on the EH 202 white board.

This has been a tough winter for the native southerner. Educated at Tulane University Dr. Davison received both her M.S. and her Ph.D. in Industrial-Organizational Psychology from this New Orleans school. Transitioning to the New England climate has been a challenge. She is still working on making friends with the white stuff falling from the sky. As she says, "You can find me in my down parka from October to May."

Dr. Davison lives with her husband, also an Industrial-Organizational psychologist, her turtle Walter, and Walter's two brothers – the cats. Walt is quite the little turtle (see picture to left). He comes to campus every week and adds an interesting perspective to navigating the hallways. Dr. Davison's favorite pastimes include talking about statistics with her husband over dinner and watching the "Monk" detective series.

Dr. Davison's picture can be found on page 5