Greetings from the Psychology Department

Dr. Michelle Kelley, Chair

Welcome to the fall 2019 edition of our newsletter which gives you a quick glance at some of the many activities going on in our department and highlights some of our previous graduates. As you can see, we are committed to exceptional education and preparing students for a wide range of career opportunities.

At the undergraduate we provide a strong educational background including traditional psychology courses as well as timely and important new courses: Approaches to Suicide Prevention, Psychology of the Zombie Apocalypse, and Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Moreover, in the spring, Suzanne Morrow will be teaching a Health Psychology Study Abroad course. As part of this course, students will be taking a 10-day trip to Italy. The first stop will be Sardinia. Sardinia is home to the oldest people in the world. Why do people live so long in Sardinia? Sign up for Suzanne’s course and find out!

Another emphasis in our department is our commitment to scientific discovery. Our faculty and students have a wide range of interests including trust in semi-autonomous vehicles, cybersecurity, simulation in healthcare, organizational leadership and culture as related to employee motivation and health, STEM career selection, etiology and treatment of mental health and substance use disorders, suicide prevention, cultural stressors and adaptation, and faculty well-being and motivation. Toward this end we invite our students to be part of our many research labs. That’s where we need your help. March 19th is ODU’s Day of Giving. We have a goal of raising $5,000 to send undergraduate students to present research at national, regional, or state conferences. Please help us give our undergraduate psychology students this important opportunity by clicking on the link below.

https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=1c0e01&allocation=College%20of%20Sciences&other1=Psychology

We appreciate your support of our students and our department. As always, we would love to hear what our alumni are doing.

Sincerely,
Michelle
"As an undergraduate, going to a conference allowed me to strengthen my skills in communicating my research experiences/interests with other professionals. Attending helpful seminars and workshops allowed me to build my network with faculty and other students with similar research and career interests."

Kelsey Ellis ’16

Your Help Can Support Monarch Undergraduates at Conferences in 2020!

Your contribution will support the continued initiative to fund undergraduate students for state, regional and national conferences.

Please give generously at:

https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=1c0e01&allocation=College%20of%20Sciences&other1=Psychology
Kenacia Goings is an undergraduate student majoring in Psychology and minoring in Human Services and Criminal Justice at Old Dominion University. She is an undergraduate research assistant in Dr. Lau-Barraco’s lab and is also an M-MARC trainee. The M-MARC program supports underrepresented students' academic and research activities while they train to enter Ph.D. programs. This summer, as part of the M-MARC program, Kenacia had a wonderful opportunity to carry out research at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri. She was a part of Dr. Barch’s Cognitive Control & Psychopathology Lab where she learned about the impairments of motivation and pleasure in everyday life for individuals with schizophrenia. The summer program at Washington University prepared Kenacia with new research skills and gave her more exposure to what life as a graduate student would be like. She was able to present her research about amotivation in social and occupational settings in individuals with schizophrenia, bipolar disorder and depression at the university’s Summer Research Symposium and again at the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students this November. Kenacia plans to graduate from ODU in spring 2020. Her future career goals are to pursue a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. She is specifically interested in examining and assessing psychopathy and related behaviors, as well as substance use in the forensic setting.
Undergraduate Alumni: Philip C. Kendall, Ph.D., ABPP

Philip C. Kendall, Ph.D., ABPP ’72
Distinguished University Professor of Psychology
received a LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT Award from
the Association For Behavioral And Cognitive Therapies on November 22, 2019.

“I met my wife of 45 years in
Dr. Fred Freeman’s
class on physiological psychology.”

When I was a student at ODU “Dr. Pete Mikulka was a new professor (straight from Rutgers) when I met him and had him for statistics. He was my "connection" to the department and to research in psychology...and my first publication.”
My name is Bri Haislip and I am an ODU alumni with a bachelor’s degree in Psychology and Human Services. I am now working as a social worker at Eastern State Hospital in Williamsburg, which provides inpatient psychiatric treatment to adults in the Hampton Roads area. Eastern State was built in 1773 and was the first public psychiatric hospital in the United States. Inpatient psychiatric treatment at Eastern State can include civil commitment, criminal emergency treatment, restoration to competency treatment, NGRI gradual release program, and outpatient evaluations.

My job title is TDO Specialist Social Worker - I work with civil patients who have been “temporarily detained” from the community due to likeliness to harm themselves or others, or inability to care for themselves due to a mental illness. When someone is detained from the community, an assessment is completed by a local Community Services Board representative who will make a recommendation if they believe the individual meets criteria for inpatient psychiatric treatment. They will then seek out a bed at a local or state facility and the patient will be transferred there to be seen in court. When a patient goes to court, the two possible outcomes are commitment for up to 30 days or dismissal of the petition for involuntary treatment. Part of my job is to plan any discharges from court to help patients transition back to community safely and to hopefully prevent any further crises by setting up supports (like appointments with psychiatrists and therapists), sending them with medications, and linking them with other needed community resources.

The other part of my job is to attempt to transfer patients who are committed civilly at our hospital to other, smaller, private hospitals in an attempt to move them back to their communities and allow them to be treated in a “less restrictive” environment. These patients are in what’s called a “safety net bed” or a “bed of last resort.” The state hospital is always working to get patients back into their communities so that they are closer with their families and providers, and so they can create space for another patient in need of a “bed of last resort” at the state facility. In addition to these larger responsibilities, some of my daily tasks include, completing notes on patient discharge plans and progress, attending court, and coordinating with community and private providers, families, patients, and hospital staff.

Working for the state hospital as a social worker has been an extremely rewarding, challenging, and eye-opening experience. There are many wonderful people working to make the lives of our patients better, but there is still a lot of work to be done in the world of mental health. My experience has allowed me to better understand the need for advocacy and I am excited to contribute to the changing paradigm of mental health.
My endeavor into the athletic world began as a sort of “gift” to a close friend who was an avid triathlete.

Teresa had always wanted me to run with her. Every time she asked me to run, I politely responded with “Are you crazy?” After she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer, I decided to run one half marathon as if to say, “If you can fight cancer, I can run.” That half marathon was five years ago this month. By then the bug had bit. I absolutely loved running and the thrill of racing.

Next, she urged me to do a triathlon with her. Unbeknownst to her, I couldn’t swim very well. I certainly couldn’t swim the near mile distance that most triathlons cover. I swallowed my fear, hired a coach, and learned to swim. Again, if she could fight cancer, I could swim.

We made a promise to each other that we would do a half Ironman (1.2-mile swim, 56-mile bike, and 13.2-mile run). Unfortunately, she wouldn’t live long enough to fulfill her end of the promise. Before she died, she challenged me to not only do the half Ironman, but also do a full Ironman (2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bike, and 26.2-mile run). This past May I completed my first half Ironman in Chattanooga, TN with a finish time of just over six hours. It was an awesome feeling to cross the finish line for her. I’m fairly certain I cried for at least the last mile of the race. Next October I’ll fulfill her final wish for me, and complete Ironman Louisville with goal time of 13 hours.

Teresa’s spirit and determination lives on in me. When the hours get long and my legs get tired, she pushes me to finish. When I want to give up on the swim, I hear her say, “Just keep swimming” as she said so many times before. I’m happy to be able to be out there doing the things that others can’t do and to be able to do it for them. Teresa forever changed my life. I’ll run in her memory till I physically can’t run anymore.
THE HUMAN FACTORS PROGRAM
HUMAN FACTORS LABS

Dr. Jeremiah Still
Psychology of Design (PoD) Lab
Stephen Vera, Lauren Tiller, Paige Duplantis, Janine Mator

Dr. Yusuke Yamani
Applied Cognitive Performance Lab
Tetsuya Sato, Sarah Yahoodik, Shelby Long, Nick Millner, James Unverricht

Dr. Mark Scerbo
SURF Lab
Kimberly Perry, Brandon Fluegel, Matthew Pacailler

Dr. Jing Chen
Human Automation Collaboration (HAC) Lab
Cody Jeffcoat, Scott Mishler
POSTER PRESENTATIONS

**APA Technology, Mind, and Society Conference**
October 2019 in Washington, D.C.

**Southern Management Association Annual Conference 2019 Norfolk, VA**
SMA Spotlight Session: Veteran Onboarding and Inclusion: Developing Theory and Practice to Respond to Transition Challenges

Adelle Bish
North Carolina Agricultural & Technical State University

Phillip Dillulio
Old Dominion University

**Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Conference (October 2019)**

Wyatt McManus, Scott Mishler, Sarah Leibner, Cody Jeffcoat

The award being accepted by Scott as president of the ODU HFES student chapter.

The ODU HFES student chapter won the “Gold Award”, once again demonstrating their continued research and activities in promoting Human Factors.
Andrew Collmus, I/O Ph.D. Program, welcomes a new addition, baby Quynn.

Adrian Bravo, Ph.D. began a tenure track Assistant Professor position in the Department of Psychology at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg.

Email your news to pkinard@odu.edu for the next newsletter; and please write Newsletter in the subject line and include your name and graduation date.

Clinical Ph.D. students sharing dinner with their mentors.

August and December Graduates

Master’s Degrees Awarded August and December

Clinical Ph.D. Program
Nathan Hager

Health Psychology Ph.D. Program
John DelosReyes

Human Factors Ph.D. Program
Kimberly Perry, James Unverricht, Sarah Powers

Master’s Program
Caitlin Turner, Wyatt McManus

Adrian Bravo, Ph.D. began a tenure track Assistant Professor position in the Department of Psychology at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg.