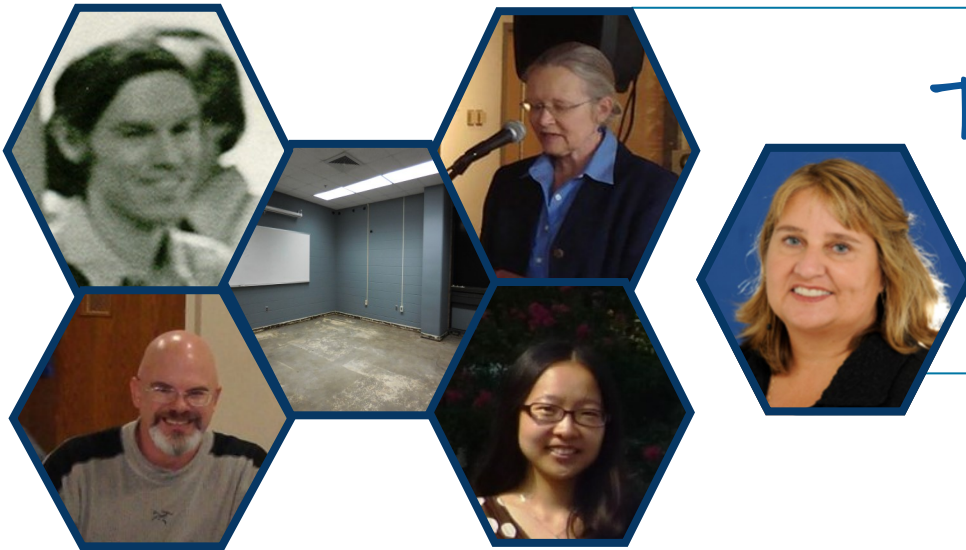


OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY

**PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT
SPRING 2019**



Transitions

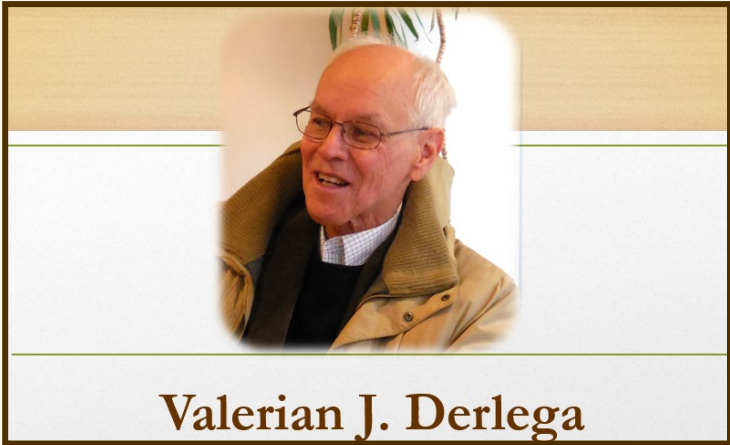
Michelle Kelley, Chair

Heraclitus, a pre-Socratic Greek philosopher, was famous for his insistence on ever-present change as being the essence of the universe. In fact, he argued that “The only thing that is constant is change.” I can say unequivocally that the last year has been a year of transition for our department. As we expected, several senior faculty members have retired in recent years, including Val Derlega (Dec, 2018) and Barbara Winstead (this May). Although these transitions were expected, Drs. James Bliss and Xiaoxiao Xu will also leave in May, and last May two other faculty central to our department and mission, left the department. Naturally, when our colleagues leave, many of us, including me, hate to see them go. This reticence is only normal as these colleagues have fulfilled key roles in our department, but more importantly, they are friends and colleagues that we have counted on and with whom we feel a connection. In fact, I think of our department as a large extended family. When I walk into a meeting and see colleagues that I have been working with closely for weeks or even months on a project or initiative, I will occasionally greet them with “Hello, family.” Truthfully, they often feel like family. And to be perfectly honest, there are times in the middle of a semester, when I wonder if I have spent more time with them than I have my own family. So naturally, while we wish our retiring and departing colleagues the best, it is hard to see them go.

At the same time, change presents opportunities. We have hired three new wonderful colleagues, Drs. Krystall Dunaway, Cassie Glenn, and Erin Moore, that you will learn more about in the fall. As I sit in my office, I can sometimes overhear one colleague ask another what they think of one of our incoming faculty, and it’s always the same, “They will be terrific.” So, rest assured that we have much to be excited about in the department. As for the colleagues we will hire in the next couple of years and the changes we will make, I realize change can be disquieting. To paraphrase Marilyn Ferguson, we feel like Linus without his blanket; however, I do believe we are like-minded about the types of faculty that we would like to hire, we have a strong hiring team who represent all of our programs/concentrations, and we have a clear plan with which to begin the next round of hiring. I have every belief that we will continue to hire excellent faculty who support our mission for strong undergraduate and graduate education, excellence in research, and have a strong commitment to service. During this transition time, I fully intend to do all that I can to help our department run as smoothly as possible and to listen and support faculty through these changes and opportunities. Moreover, to support us, Dr. Mark Scerbo has agreed to step up as Associate Chair this month. Given his many years of experience and considerable departmental, college, and university committee service, I know Mark is ideal to serve in this role.

Please enjoy the newsletter and the many accomplishments of our students and faculty!

Val joined the faculty of Old Dominion University in 1971 and retired after 47 years. He was appointed Faculty Emeritus in 2018.



A retirement celebration reception was held on January 17th for Val at Borjo's Coffeehouse in the University Village. Friends, faculty and former graduate students attended the event.

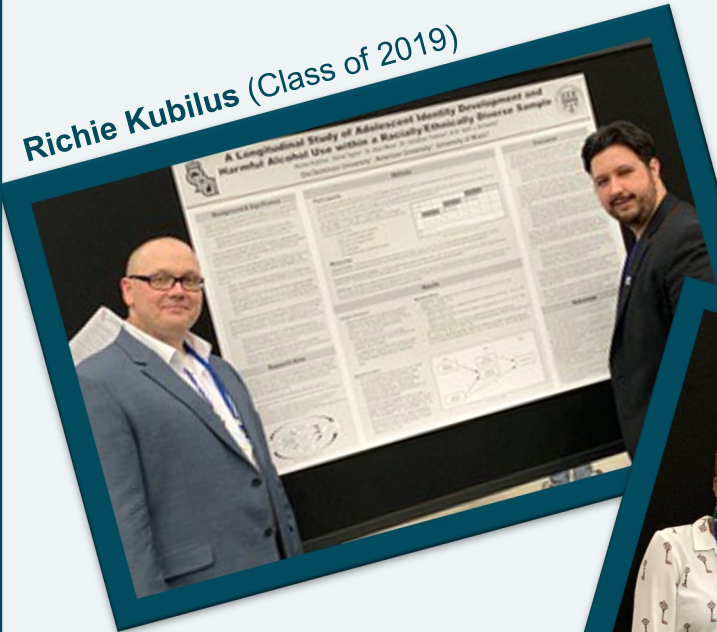
Saying farewell to Barbara, Jim, and Xiaoxiao
at Borjo's Coffeehouse in the University Village - April 24, 2019



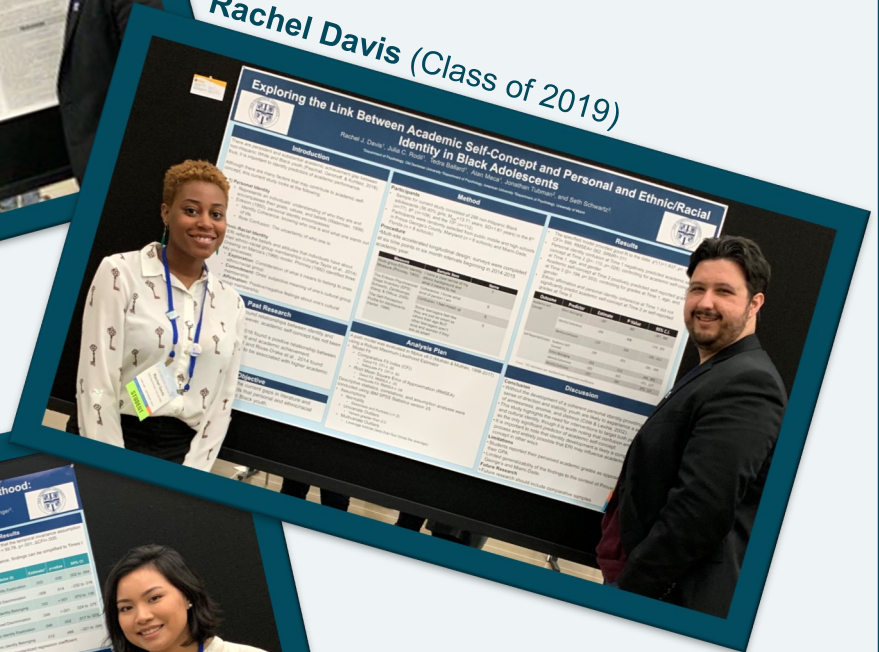
UNDERGRADUTE RESEARCH

Dr. Meca and members of his TARDIS lab attended the Society for Research in Child Development in Baltimore.

Richie Kubilus (Class of 2019)



Rachel Davis (Class of 2019)



Dariel Taylor (Class of 2019)



Julie Rodil
(MS Candidate in Psychology)






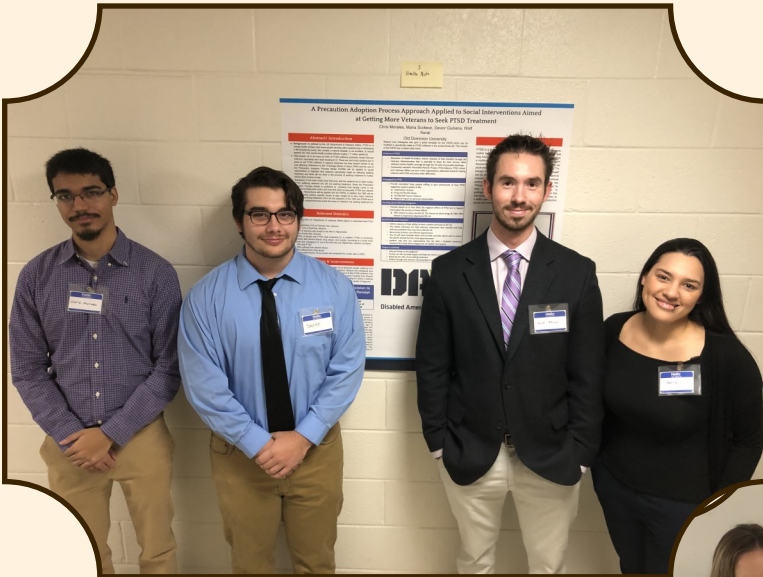
The Fall 2018 Perry Honors College Research and Creativity Grant Awarded to Richie Kubilus



Richie Kubilus is a recipient of the Fall 2018 Perry Honors College Research and Creativity Grant. Richie is a current ODU senior and a Research Assistant in Dr. Alan Meca's Team on Acculturation, Risk, and the Development of Identity and Self (TARDIS) lab. The Research and Creativity Grant affords members of the Honors College the opportunity to pursue original research, scholarship, or creative work under the mentorship of a full-time faculty member. Richie plans to graduate this spring, with a major in Psychology and a minor in Addiction Treatment and Prevention. He then intends to pursue his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and combine his passion for teaching others with his desire to create a legacy of change in society's current understanding of addiction. Richie's original research, under the mentorship of Dr. Meca, is entitled "*A Longitudinal Study of Adolescent Identity Development and Harmful Alcohol Use within a Racially/Ethnically Diverse Sample.*" This research is examining the role of identity development in psychosocial outcomes and the link between identity development, alcohol expectancies, and alcohol use/abuse among adolescents.



UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH



Health Psychology

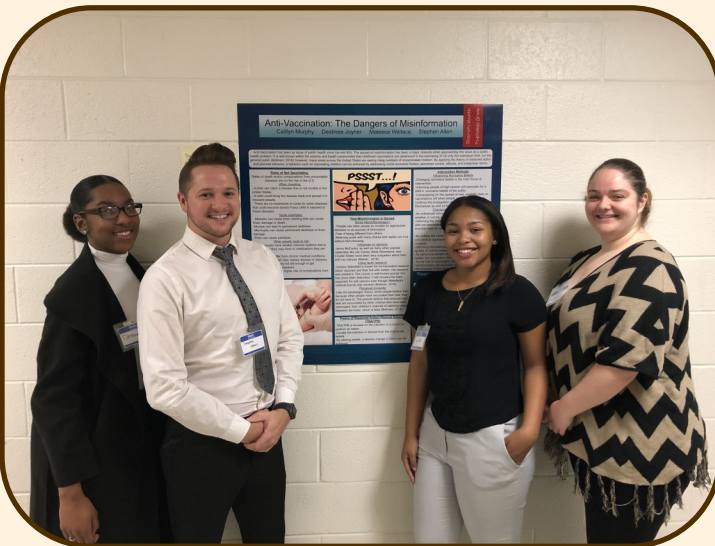
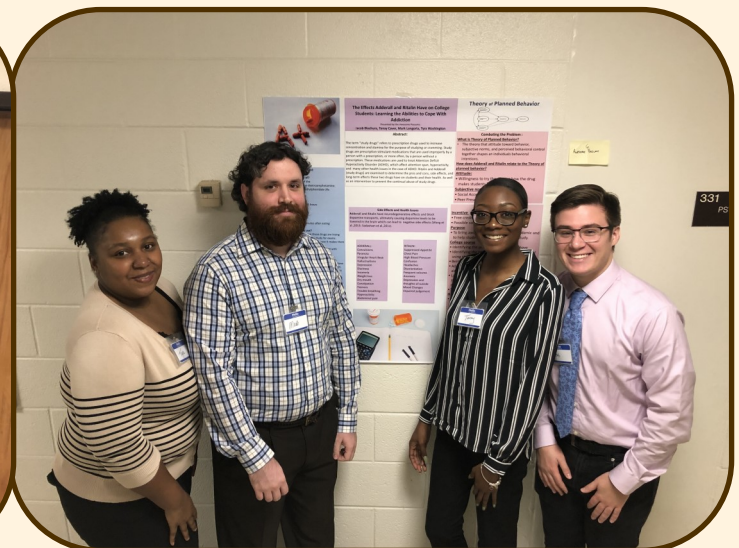


Intervention Design Studies



Undergraduates enrolled in PSYC 306, Health Psychology with Dr. Rachel Phillips, gained real world experience working with peers to develop a theory based empirical health intervention study. This aspect of the course culminated in students presenting their designs to test health outcomes.

Health Psychology Intervention Design (continued)



Poster Session



Undergraduate Psychology Students Exhibit their Research on ODU Undergraduate Research Day February 2, 2019

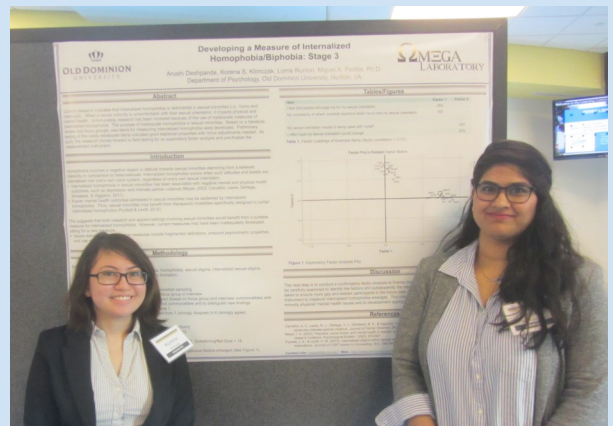
Top left: Korena Klimczak

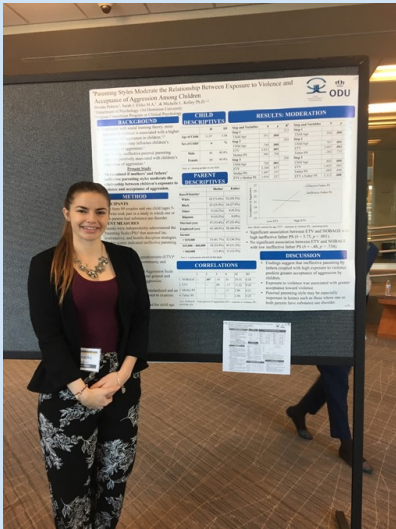
Top right: Arushi Deshpande

Bottom left: Brooke Puharic

Bottom right: Sidney Scott-Sharoni

Korena Klimczak and **Arushi Deshpande**, Undergraduate research assistants from the ODU Omega Lab, presented research on developing a measurement instrument of Internalized Homophobia/Biphobia at the *ODU 10th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium* on February 2nd, 2019. The research was a direct result of Dr. Miguel Padilla, the Omega Lab Director, noticing sexual minority researcher's dissatisfaction with current measurement instruments of internalized homophobia. Conference attendees from a variety of disciplines had positive reactions to the instrument, expressing appreciation for how it will help build a solid foundation for future LBGT research. Some attendees were particularly interested in the clinical implications of the instrument, as it would allow therapists to better assess one form of sexual minority stress. Many faculty members also showed interest in the progression of the instrument, asking to be kept updated. As a quantitative methodology lab, the Omega Lab aims to provide a valid instrument that can properly capture this important construct.

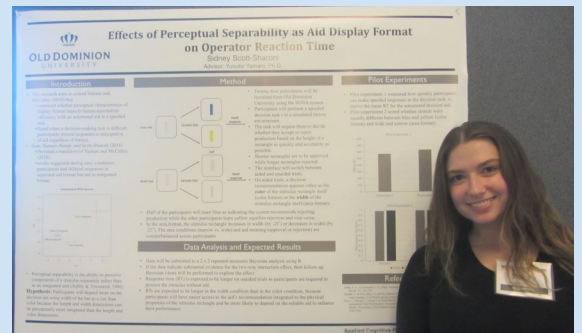




Brooke Puharic (a double major in Psychology and Criminal justice) recently presented a poster at the *ODU Undergraduate Research Day*. Brooke's research examined the influence parenting styles have on the association between children's exposure to violence and acceptance of aggression. Data were examined from a community sample of parents and children. One or both parents were diagnosed with a substance use disorder. Fathers' reports of ineffective parenting styles (i.e., inconsistency and over-reactivity) strengthened, that is, increased the relationship between the child's exposure to violence and acceptance of aggression. Mothers' parenting styles did not influence the association between children's exposure to violence and acceptance of aggression.

Brooke is currently completing her honors thesis in psychology under the direction of Dr. Michelle Kelley. In her thesis research, she is examining whether bystander efficacy, that is, one's beliefs about their ability to effectively intervene, mediate the association of between previous adverse childhood experiences (e.g., child maltreatment, interparental violence) and one's intention to intervene in hypothetical intimate partner violence scenarios. Brooke is scheduled to defend her thesis in April, and will begin the Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology this fall.

Sidney Scott-Sharoni is an undergraduate honor's student majoring Psychology and minoring in Communication at Old Dominion University and an undergraduate research assistant at Applied Cognitive Performance Laboratory directed by Dr. Yamani. Sidney is currently working on her undergraduate honor's thesis that examines how different display formats impact users' response speed in a time-critical cognitive task while interacting with an imperfect automated decision aid. She successfully presented her preliminary data and the current direction of her research at *Perry Honors College 2019 Undergraduate Research Symposium* on February 2, 2019. Congratulations, Sidney.



The Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology

Clinical Internship Placements



Peter Preonas

Edward Hines, Jr. VA Hospital

Sean Flannery

VA Medical Center - Salem

Charles Freligh

College of William and Mary

Lydia Qualls

Virginia Tech / Thomas E. Cook
Counseling Center

Dominique Blanchette

CorrectCare
South Florida State Hospital

Alexander Shappie

University of Washington
Counseling Center

Allison Battles

VA Medical Center - Minneapolis

Bilgé Yilmaz

Los Angeles County Psych
Internship in Corrections

College of Sciences Award Ceremony

April 30, 2019

College of Sciences Awards:

Early Career Distinguished Research Award

Kristin Heron, Ph.D.

Distinguished Teaching Award—Adjunct Faculty

Shanda Jenkins, MS

Distinguished Teaching Award—Tenure Track Faculty

Konstantin Cigularov, Ph.D.

Outstanding Undergraduate Research Mentor of the Year

Michelle Kelley, Ph.D.

Lee Entsminger Outstanding Ph.D. Dissertation Award

Dante Myers

Outstanding Graduate Student Poster Presentation Award

Shelby Long

Psychology Awards:

Alan Chaiken Undergraduate Honors Thesis Award

Hannah C. Hamrick

Elizabeth Guy Outstanding Academic Award

Samantha Mundt

Elizabeth Guy Outstanding Service Award

Nicollette Dwyer

Outstanding Psychology Graduate Student Instructor of Record

Amy Stamates

Outstanding Psychology Graduate Student Teaching Assistant

James Unverricht

Outstanding Psychology Graduate Student Service Award

Sarah Ehlike

Alumni News:

Dr. Jermaine Jones

Written by Michelle Kelley

In a recent interview, I was able to catch up with Dr. Jermaine Jones. Dr. Jones was born in Henderson, Texas and attended college at the University of Virginia, where he majored in Psychology and Biology. After finishing his undergraduate degree, he completed the M.S. Program in Psychology at Old Dominion University, where he studied under Dr. Perry Duncan and focused his training on biological psychology. He believes several aspects of the M.S. program were especially important to his doctoral work and current research career. First, the M.S. program provided excellent quantitative and methodological training, which have been helpful throughout his doctoral education, postdoctoral training, and his career. Second, he was able to conduct pre-clinical research and write an empirical thesis. He believes both the quantitative and methodological training and the ability to write a thesis provided excellent preparation for doctoral work and made writing a dissertation much less daunting. He also believes the M.S. program allowed doctoral programs with his concentration focus to see that he was a committed student who was eager and prepared for doctoral work. He believes a M.S. program may be an excellent transition for some students.

Dr. Jones is currently an Associate Professor at the Columbia University Irving Medical Center and Research Scientist at the NYC Psychiatric Center. His research lab conducts Phase II Clinical Trials treating opioid abuse. His long-term aspiration is to understand how genetic and epigenetic factors affect substance use initiation and to integrate information on genetic and epigenetic factors to inform clinical trials and more effectively treat substance use disorder.



Share your good news with the department.

Alumni News can be e-mailed to pkinard@odu.edu

Featuring Alumnus: **Richard A. Gray, Esq.**

WHY PSYCHOLOGY WAS A GOOD BACKGROUND FOR WHAT I DO TODAY:

I am a graduate of Old Dominion University, class of 1973, the same year that the Vietnam War ended and within a decade of the assassination of President Kennedy, Martin Luther King and Robert F. Kennedy. These monumental events had a profound influence on why I went to college and what I hoped my education at ODU would allow me to accomplish once I left the University and started to make my way in the world. The Vietnam War was something that brought to the forefront of my consciousness the injustice of an undeclared war against a population of a far-off land for what I saw as specious reasons including the prevention of the “domino effect” (the theory advanced by our government was that if Vietnam fell to the Communists, Thailand, Laos and the entire Asian continent was sure to follow). The assassinations of our greatest leaders of a generation made me cynical that anyone with a great vision and the determination and bravery could succeed and carry through on that vision.



When it came time to go to college I did not know how these events that were shaping my generation would play out on the college campus or frankly, what I wanted to study. We were all caught up in the maelstrom of unfolding and undecipherable world events. The Baby Boomers – off to college and to change the world, or so we all thought. I was idealistic, and I went in thinking I’d study politics and political sciences and perhaps sociology, but I soon found that a fundamental basis for understanding human thought, actions, interactions, and even war, was based on how we interact with each other – the psychology of mankind if you will. I therefore decided that if I studied human behavior from its most basic instincts (Pavlovian responses) to its need to procreate (natural selection) to the human species seemingly inability to love each other as a people, race, ethnicity, creed or culture; then I might be able to do something with this knowledge to benefit mankind in some small way. After all, when we leave this world, I think we want to have left some measure of ourselves behind that says not only “I was here” but “I made a difference.”

After I graduated college with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology, I went on to earn a Master of Arts in Psychology from George Mason University. I was still refining what I wanted to become in life. After graduate school I had to find a job and work to pay off student loans and make a living. For a few years my ultimate objective and career path was still murky to me. I had always liked the “why” of things and had a strong sense of moral justice emanating from those formative events where world leaders were cut down in their prime and their dreams left unfulfilled. I had demonstrated against the war and even marched on Washington in the early 70s to protest the Vietnam War. But what did this activism actually accomplish?

So, still idealistic, at the age of 33 I entered law school. When I graduated in 1987 I knew I was meant to be a public service attorney and, so I worked as a public defender for the next dozen years. When I opened my own law practice, family law became a cornerstone along with criminal defense, representing the downtrodden and those least able to defend themselves. My family law clients often were in distress and needed a strong advocate to represent their interests as to custody of their children, equitable division of their assets and future well-being. The overriding question I was always asked by both criminal and family law clients was “Am I going to be all right when this is over?” The realization that I had people’s lives, those of their families and children in my hands was a great motivator. However, the need to understand what motivated people to commit crimes, to end their marriages, to commit acts of family abuse and a myriad of other Shakespearian dramas that routinely occurred in my law practice kept bringing me full-circle back to psychology: Why do we do the things we do and what is the best path forward to resolving disputes? I do not think you can adequately tackle this task without a fundamental understanding of psychology.

My legal career would not have been possible without the basic education that I received in college studying psychology, sociology and the liberal arts. So, when I answer the question “Why was Psychology a good background for what I do today,” my answer is that there was no better path I could have chosen to try to make a difference in the world, one person and one client, one family and one case at a time. Psychology gave me the fundamentals. I don’t know that I’ve made any huge impact on the world, but I feel good about the cases I’ve handled over 30 years of practicing law. Without psychology as a foundation I doubt I would have had the success I’ve enjoyed in the practice of law or been able to help the people I have to date.

Richard A. Gray, Esq.
ODU, class of 1973

PH.D. GRADUATES:



Ashley Cain, Ph.D.
Human Factors
December 10, 2018



Molly Liechty, Ph.D.
February 18, 2019
Human Factors

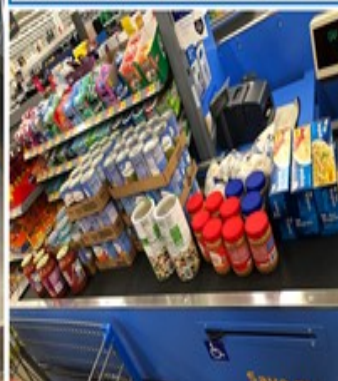
HFES & IOPSA Cosponsored Food Drive

Together, we donated 259
pounds of food or 216 meals!



Leading the effort to eliminate
hunger in our community

Thank you all for your
donations!



Community Service

**Thank you all for donating to the
HFES & IOPSA Cosponsored
Food Drive this year!**

Together, we were able to raise 259
pounds of food to donate to the
Foodbank of Southeastern Virginia
and the Eastern Shore, which
amounts to about 216 meals for
people in our community.

Best,
Seterra B.

THANK YOU for your continuing interest in the Psychology Department. Your contributions to the Psychology Department go to support research and teaching activities.

The Psychology Department has several funds for student awards, scholarships and general purposes. These include:

Alan L. Chaikin Psychology Honors Thesis Award is given to the undergraduate student with the most outstanding honors thesis.

Elizabeth C. Guy Outstanding Psychology Student Awards are given to the graduating senior with the most outstanding service to the department and the most outstanding academic accomplishments.

David L. Pancoast Memorial Dissertation Prize is given to the clinical Ph.D. student with the most outstanding dissertation.

Department of Psychology Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award recognizes a graduate teaching assistant in the Department of Psychology who has demonstrated exceptional instructional quality as evidenced by students and faculty.

Department of Psychology Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor of Record Award recognizes a graduate student instructor of record in the Department of Psychology who has demonstrated exceptional instructional quality as evidenced by students and faculty.

Your contribution can support any of these awards or the **General Gift Fund** that is used where the need is greatest:

YOUR GIFT: \$25 _____ \$50 _____ \$100 _____ other \$ _____

GIFT DESIGNATION:

- _____ Psychology General Gift Fund
- _____ Chaikin Psychology Honors Thesis Award
- _____ Guy Outstanding Psychology Student Award
- _____ Pancoast Memorial Dissertation Prize
- _____ Department of Psychology Outstanding Graduate Teaching Assistant Award
- _____ Department of Psychology Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor of Record Award

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