THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCES
AWARD CEREMONY
PSYCHOLOGY
AWARD WINNERS
May 2019
Welcome to the 2019 Summer Department of Psychology newsletter. We are excited about the accomplishments of our students and faculty in the last couple of months. We also hope that you will get to know some of our faculty and their hidden talents. In this newsletter, we draw attention to the photography skills of Dr. James Paulson, Associate Professor of Psychology. As you can see from Page 1, we also had a slew of College of Sciences award winners this past spring. We hope that the newsletter will give you an idea of some of the exciting things that are happening here in the department.

As many of you know, we offer the full undergraduate major at the main Norfolk campus, at the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center, and online. Moreover, we provide many opportunities for our undergraduate students to be involved in research and we support undergraduate students to present their research at regional conferences. In addition, we offer internship placements in local organizations. In fact, this past spring, we developed several new internships for students who ultimately would like to use their psychology degrees in business settings. We also have an entrepreneurship course, an honors club and a psychology club, study abroad, and we are part of the Monarch LeADERS program. Don’t forget that we offer undergraduate students the opportunity to graduate with Honors in Psychology. We also support many research and internship experiences for our graduate students and support graduate students to present their work at professional conferences. We also offer many awards for undergraduate and graduate students.

As you know, our Department cannot grow without your critical support. You help us provide these opportunities for our students. It is because of your commitment that we can enhance our students’ experiences. We appreciate any gift, large or small.

And please keep us updated on your current activities. Although you may not in the area any longer, you will always be a Monarch!

Sincerely,
Michelle
Simply Amazing Photographs!

Dr. James Paulson has taken on the role as Graduate Program Director for the Health, Human Factors, Industrial/Organizational, and Master’s programs starting this summer. James mentors and works with the health psychology Ph.D. students and also the clinical Ph.D. students in the Virginia Consortium program in Clinical Psychology. In his spare time he enjoys photography as a hobby, but says he still has a ton to learn on the subject. He was happy to share some of the cool things he has captured along the way. We think he has a good eye for taking some amazing photos, what do you think?
Recently the Human Factors faculty gave demonstrations of their research to seventeen high school students in the EVMS Youth Engagement Program, along with Eastern Virginia Medical School faculty and staff. Also participating were ten mentors who were ODU undergraduate students.

The coordinators for the EVMS Youth Engagement Program are faculty, staff and students from the Pediatrics Division of Community Health Research at Eastern Virginia Medical School. The teens in attendance were males and females between the ages of 14 – 16 in good academic standing and who are from underserved communities in Norfolk. The planned interactive experiences brought the high school students to ODU for STEM experiences and to explore different career paths. These events also function as an opportunity to expose both undergraduate and medical students to collaborative research and to engage with the community.
Undergraduate Research

Emily Russell presents at the Perry Honors College Dedication Ceremony to the Old Dominion University Board of Visitors

By Emily Russell

During the academic year of Fall 2018 – Spring 2019 I was a research assistant in Dr. Ash’s Human Creativity and Cognition Lab studying Insight Problem Solving and the use of Think-Aloud Protocols through an assessment of interrater reliability. To study this, the lab investigated the Information Processing Framework for Insight problem solving (below) and focused on where people got stuck, or impasse. The study included 54 ODU undergraduate students who read, they were videorecorded and data were coded by three separate research assistants. From there, I analyzed how reliable the measures were by using Cohen’s Kappa to see the agreement among research assistants, or raters. Unfortunately, the agreement between raters was poor. Future research will be studying to see if Insight Problem Solving is better studied through eye-tracking.
Congratulations Tedra Ballard!

Tedra won the Perry Honors College Undergraduate Research and Creativity Grant for Summer 2019. Her mentor is Dr. Alan Meca.

**Undergraduate Student Awards**
- Michael Greenspan Travel Abroad Scholarship - Layonna Brown
- Honor's Thesis Award - Hannah Hammerick

**Graduate Student –Department Awards**
- Graduate Student Service Award - Sarah Ehlke
- Graduate Student Outstanding Instructor of Record - Amy Stamates
- Graduate Student Outstanding GTA - James Unverricht

**Jing Chen, Ph.D.**
Received a 2019-20 award for the Faculty Proposal Preparation Program (FP3).

**Faculty Awards – Department Awards**
- Teaching - Alan Meca
- Service - Matt Henson
- Research - Cathy Lau Barraco

**Virginia Academy of Science winners for the Raymond H. Kirby Award for Best Student Presentation in the Psychology Section**

**Paper:**
**Kelly A. Romero**, Department of Psychology and the Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology, Old Dominion University. “*Gender and racial differences in patterns of disordered eating behavior and alcohol misuse among young adults: A mixed model.*” Kelley’s co-author is Dr. Kristin Heron.

**Poster:**
**Jennise Higgins**, Department of Psychology, Old Dominion University. “*Social support as a moderator of the negative effects of moral injury among veterans.*” Jennise’s co-author is Dr. Alan Meca.
Meet the newest addition to the Psychology department: “GERTRUDE”
The new conference poster printer.

Linda Forchas will be the one to operate “Gertrude”, and make your conference posters. Please direct all inquiries and posters to Linda.

Alan Meca, Ph.D., Jing Chen, Ph.D., undergraduate Korena Klimczak, Matt Judah, Ph.D. and Tony Perez, Ph.D. participated in a panel discussion about graduate school on April 16, 2018.
Clinical Dissertation Defenses

Dominique Blanchette defended her dissertation on June 18, 2019 – “The 23: Racial and Other Demographic Differences in the Assignment of Risk Factors for Individuals Found Not Guilty By Reason of Insanity in Virginia.” Dominique’s internship will be at CorrectCare, South Florida State Hospital.

Alexander Shappie defended his dissertation on June 11, 2019 – “A Multi-Dimensional Model of Sexual Stigma and Relationship Satisfaction among Female Same-Sex Couples: The Self-Fulfilling Prophecy of Rejection Sensitivity.” Alex’s internship will be at the University of Washington’s Counseling Center.

Allison Battles defended her dissertation on July 24, 2019 – “Morally Injurious Experiences, Trauma-related Guilt, And Substance Use Among Iraq and Afghanistan Combat Veterans.” Allison’s internship will be at the VA Medical Center, Minneapolis.
Industrial/Organizational Ph.D. student Will Jimenez has had a busy summer. He attended the Association for Psychological Science in May 2019 in Washington, D.C. where he presented his poster. He also worked at his internship at NASA Headquarters in D.C.

Undergraduate Iayonna Brown and Dr. Michael Greenspan in England. Iayonna was the Fall 2018 recipient of the Michael Greenspan Study Abroad Award.

Seterra Burleson, Bilgé Yilmaz, Shelby Long presented at Graduate Research Day in Webb Center.
Lindsay Howard and Rachel MacIntyre attended the Biannual Meeting of the Society of Ambulatory Assessment in Syracuse, NY.

Virginia Academy of Science
Mary Doberneck, Abby Braitman, Ph.D., Monae Porter, Helen Smith, and Anthony Ladikos

Hannah Hammerick presenting at the Association for Psychological Science.

Caught in the rain going to dinner after a conference: Research Society on Alcoholism in Minneapolis in June: Sarah Ehlke, Amy Stamates, Robin Lewis (back row) Abby Braitman, and Cathy Lau-Barraco (front row).

Ellery sporting her new lab shirt. The shirt was a gift from the graduate students in mom Kristin Heron’s Habit Lab.

A random moment in nature:

A goose took a moment to rest from his flight and enjoy the view from MGB’s roof top before taking off again.
Spring is filled with graduations and happy photos. Here are a few:

**May and August 2019 Graduates**

**Amy Stamates, Ph.D.** - June 10, 2019

Amy is Psychology’s 155th Ph.D. graduate.

**Julia Thompson, Ph.D.** – July 3, 2019

**Master’s**

Daroon Jalil  
Cody Raeder  
William Lehman

**Clinical 2018-19 Graduates:**

Willie McBride – December 23, 2018  
Kris Park – December 23, 2018  
Jessica Block – December 23, 2018

Eva Panigrahi and Tiren Parker  
August 2019 graduates.
May 11, 2019 Graduates
Happy Undergraduates

Submitted by:
Beverly A. George, Psychology Lecturer, who served as a Commencement Marshal for the 6th consecutive year (2014-2019).

Tiffanie Vargas, who excelled in four of Beverly George’s psychology courses, proudly holds her well-earned degree. Tiffanie has served as a Research Assistant at ODU’s Health, Behavior, and Technologies Clinical Health Laboratory.

Richie Kubius, one of Ms. George’s recent Positive Psychology students, was the recipient of Perry Honors College Research & Creativity Grant (Fall, 2018). Richie has been serving a Senior Research Assistant for TARDIS at ODU since August, 2017.

Sydney Ciardiello who took two courses from Ms. George, proudly received her psychology degree.

Mia Wainwright, a former student in Adolescent Psychology and Positive Psychology, looks very pleased moments after receiving her degree.

Sidney Trout, a recent student in Ms. George’s Positive Psychology course, is all smiles at Commencement.

Did you know ODU offers our undergraduate major at the Virginia Beach Higher Education Center (VBHEC). Beverly George, who is a full-time lecturer at the VBHEC, shared a few photos from students in her courses at VBHEC.
We watched these two young ladies grow up over the years: Dr. Michelle Kelley’s daughter Alex and Dr. Mark Scerbo’s daughter Anna. Congratulations on your College and High School graduations.

Alex graduated from the University of Virginia this spring. Her dog Oliver enjoyed studying with her at coffee shops. She is attending the Marshall-Wythe School of Law at the College of William & Mary this fall. Hobbies are cross-fit, hosting board game nights, and hanging out at coffee shops.

Anna Scerbo graduated from the Science and Medicine Academy at Deep Creek High School in Chesapeake. She will be attending the College of William & Mary in the fall.
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:

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**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

Please make checks payable to **ODU Education Foundation**, and mail to:

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