

# Psycho Philes

University of Houston Department of Psychology  
A Newsletter for Faculty, Students, and Staff

Issue 97:9

October 1997

## Reminders

-  **Oct. 2:** Core course review deadline for academic office.
  -  **Oct. 3:** Deadline for submissions to the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects.
  -  **Oct. 8:** Faculty meeting, 3:00 pm, room 135 Heyne.
  -  **Oct. 14:** Submission deadline to OSP for Research Initiation Grant (RIG) Program proposals.
  -  **Oct. 17:** Deadline to file for fall graduation.
  -  **Nov. 5:** Faculty meeting, 3:00 pm, room 135 Heyne.
  -  **Nov. 6:** Deadline for submitting Minority Graduate Fellowships.
  -  **Nov. 10:** Last day to drop with a grade.
  -  **Nov. 26:** Deadline for submitting thesis/dissertation.
-  The fall department directory has been distributed. Additional copies are available from the main office.

## ❖ Social Sciences CQI Training

## News and Notes

### ❖ Networked Fax Machine Now Available

Just in case you didn't notice, the department has a new fax machine, the JetFax M5. We are currently researching software that will allow us to send faxes directly from our desktops. Here's what the company's web site had to say:

The JetFax M5 integrates a dynamic combination of office tools specifically designed to fit the document management needs of a small workgroup or even a large department. The JetFax M5 combines a full-featured plain paper fax machine, a fast and powerful office copier, a laser-quality LED printer, a 300 dpi PC scanner, and a PC fax modem, for all of your document management needs.

As a fax machine, the JetFax M5 offers advanced standard features like a 14.4 Kps modem, 72 page memory, 3 second scan speed, battery-protected memory, collated output, 200 speed dials and a 50 page document feeder. Unique options such as simultaneous two line faxing offer the send and receive power of two separate fax machines within one single device. Featuring Class 2 fax emulation, the JetFax M5 can also be used to send and receive faxes directly from your PC applications using your preferred fax software.

Look for the JetFax to be accessible from your desktop sometime later this month or early November.

### ❖ Travel Updates

#### NEW STUFF

- Atlas Airfare is no longer a contracted travel agency. Approved agencies are Super Travel and All Seasons Travel. Contact either Ashraf or Yolizma for their phone numbers. Remember, use of a "matched" airfare on a non-contract airline is NOT an allowable exception.
- The governor's signature is no longer needed for international travel. All international travel requests now require President Smith's signature.
- Per diem lodging maximum within the state of Texas has been increased from \$55.00 to \$70.00 a night.

#### REMINDERS

- To receive a reimbursement, state contracted hotels MUST BE USED. Contact Yolizma or Ashraf for a new listing of state contracted hotels.
- Retain all airline ticket stubs and itineraries at all times. No reimbursements will be given without these items.
- If you are taking a trip and do not expect any reimbursement from the department, a travel request must be filed BEFORE the trip takes place. Mark the box that indicates that the request is for insurance purposes only.

The College of Social Sciences is offering a series of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) training

session to all interested persons. The goal of the training is to impart to participants actual CQI skills and techniques that can be used to improve their service and effectiveness. A fall series beginning in October is already scheduled. A February series is planned. Contact the college at 3-4000 for further information.

#### ❖ **New Computer Vendor-Computize, Inc.**

Computize, Inc., located at the University Center in Cougar Byte, has been awarded a contract for the maintenance and servicing of university owned computers. We haven't used them yet, but word on the street is that they are price competitive. We have no information of timeliness or quality of product. Please give us your feedback.

## From the Academic Office

#### 📁 **Graduate Student Handbook**

Don't despair, the handbook is almost ready. New information is still being added and a few revisions are still needed. Look for it later this month with the companion employee handbook.

#### 📁 **Job Opportunity Postings**

In the hallway outside the academic office are two bulletin boards that have both job opportunities and pre-doctoral internships. Lately we have received many mailers, so don't forget to take a look.

#### 📁 **Submitting Thesis/Dissertation**

The deadline for submitting thesis/dissertation is Wednesday, November 26. The publication information about submitting are available in the academic office. If you need an extension, file a general petition with the Dean's office.

#### 📁 **Fall Graduation Deadline Extended**

The deadline to file an application for Fall 1997 graduation has been extended to Friday, October 17, 1997. Students do not need any special approval to apply during this extended period. They will be accessed a late fee during this time. Applications may be obtained in Rm 108 E. Cullen.

#### 📁 **Emergency Cash Advances for Students**

Emergency cash advances up to \$300 can be requested from the office of Dean of Students (this service was formally offered by Student Financial Services). Students must provide two forms of identification and must bring documentation showing need (e.g., bills).

📁 Congratulations to **Lauren Manning** on the completion of his Master's degree in August. The thesis title is "The Impact of Mentor-Protege Similarity on Protege Outcomes." The chair of her committee is **Dr. Lois Tetrick**.

mkuffel@bayou.uh.edu, or directed to the main office. All submissions are subject to editing for space and content.

## What's New In Research

**Dr. Barbara Ellis** will give a colloquium on October 27 at 4:00 PM in room 135. Dr. Ellis is an Associate Professor in the Psychology Department at the University of Texas at El Paso where she directs the Center for Organizational Research. Her primary research interests are in the areas of applied psychological measurement, item response theory and differential item functioning, and the measurement of personality attributes, intellectual abilities, and attitudes across cultures. Her work has been widely published in both U. S. and international journals. The title of her talk is "Fairness in Testing Across Culture and Language."

**Prof. Dale L. Johnson** was elected vice president of the World Schizophrenia Fellowship (WSF) at the recent meeting of the board in Christchurch, New Zealand. The WSF board also met with experts in the field of family psychoeducation to make plans for world-wide dissemination of family psychoeducation procedures. Professor Johnson presented two papers at the meeting of the New Zealand Schizophrenia Fellowship: "Managed Care, An American Disaster", and "Steps Toward Recovery from Schizophrenia." Dr. Johnson was also appointed by **Dr. Steven Hyman**, Director of NIMH, to committees on Treatment and Services and Molecular Genetics (social policy member).

**Dr. Lois Tetrick**, I/O Psychology, was cited in the September issue of the *APA Monitor* in an article on the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA). NORA, introduced in 1996, was developed by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and their partners in the public and private sectors to provide a framework to guide occupational safety and health research for the next decade. It consists of 21 priority research areas. NIOSH will use NORA to guide its funding decisions and to encourage and stimulate other governmental agencies to include NORA priorities in their research programs. Teams have been formed to plan the implementation of NORA for each of the priority research areas. Professor Tetrick is a member of the Organization of Work team. Organization of work refers to the way work processes are structured and managed including such factors as job design, scheduling of work, interpersonal aspects of work, career concerns, management style, and organizational characteristics.

### PROJECT UPDATES

#### **Community Violence Project**

Psycho Philes is published the 1st week of each month. Submissions should be sent to Mani Kuffel at

The following is courtesy of Dr. Melanie Duckworth.

The Community Violence Project investigates the relationship between repeated violence exposure and psychological and physical well-being of children living in Houston area neighborhoods. Specifically, the research protocol examines the extent of interpersonal violence experienced by children and investigates the effects of interpersonal violence exposure on emotional adjustment and cardiovascular health in these children. Participants complete measures of direct and indirect violence exposure, emotional distress, and perceived social support and coping and undergo assessment of physiological reactivity while performing behavioral challenges. Participating middle schools are provided with site-specific profiles of exposure rates and summary information regarding the impact of violence exposure on students' psychological and physical well-being.

Our efforts are also directed towards the layout of a series of violence- and health-related newsletters. These newsletters are designed to address issues germane to the Community Violence Project and will include inserts that address child/adolescent issues suggested by parents, school administrators, counselors and teachers as important to the emotional and behavioral adjustment of children. Newsletter topics include: community, gang, family, and war violence; adolescent development; diet and exercise; eating disorders; and substance use/abuse. Insert topics include: parental divorce; chronic medical illnesses; and school success/failure.

Currently, the goal for our involvement is direct interaction with students around activities that will enhance emotional functioning, academic performance, and long-term academic and career planning. Planned activities include off-campus "career trips" to university campuses, medical facilities, media stations as well as other academic/business institutions in the Houston area. Such trips are proposed to increase student exposure to diverse and multiple employment opportunities.

## **PUBLICATIONS, INVITED PRESENTATIONS, & WORKSHOPS**

- Acitelli, L.K. (October, 1997). Thinking about relationships in life and research. Invited colloquium, Department of Psychology, Texas A&M University.
- Breitmeyer, B. (October, 1997). Role of Parallel Visual Pathways in Normal Vision and Visual Anomalies Associated with Reading, Attention and Neurological Disorders. Invited presentation

at the 57th Northeast Congress of Optometry, Oct. 5-6, Andover, MA.

- Brewer, V.R., Moore, B.D. III, & Hiscock, M. (1997). Learning disability subtypes in children with neurofibromatosis. *Journal of Learning Disabilities*, 30, 521-533.
- Brewer, V.R., Fletcher, J.M., & Hiscock, M. (1997). Attention processing in children with hydrocephalus and ADHD. International Neuropsychological Society, Orlando, Florida.
- Caroselli, J.S., Hiscock, M., & Roebuck, T. (1997). Webster's scattergram method: Usefulness for assessing the asymmetry of interference between concurrent tasks. *Journal of Clinical and Experimental Neuropsychology*, 19, 185-190.
- Caroselli, J.S., Hiscock, M., & Roebuck, T. (1997). Asymmetric interference between concurrent tasks: An evaluation of competing explanatory models. *Neuropsychologia*, 35, 457-469.
- Ehrenstein, A., Breitmeyer, B.G., Pritchard, K.K., Hiscock, M., & Crisan, J. (1997). Interruption of late visual processing causes an attentional blink. Twentieth European Conference on Visual Perception, Helsinki--Espoo, Finland.
- Hiscock, M., Inch, R., & Kinsbourne, M. (1997). Shifting attention in dichotic listening: Differential effects on the detection and localization of signals. International Neuropsychological Society, Orlando, Florida.
- Hiscock, M., Caroselli, J.S., & Kimball, L.E. (1997). Paced serial addition: A measure of general capacity or arithmetic skill? International Neuropsychological Society, Orlando, Florida.
- Hiscock, M., Perachio, N., & Inch, R. (1997). Is there a sex difference in the laterality of dual-task interference? International Neuropsychological Society, Orlando, Florida.
- Jouriles, E., McDonald, R., Norwood, W., Ware, H., Spiller, L., and Swank, P. (accepted for publ.). Knives, Guns, and Interparent Violence: Relations with Child Behavior Problems. *Journal of Family Psychology*
- Stephens, N., McDonald, C.R., Jouriles, E. (September, 1997). "Project Support: Effective Help for Families in Trouble" Invited workshop at the annual Family Preservation Conference, Corpus Christi, Texas.
- Strite, D., Massman, P. J., Cooke, N., & Doody, R. S. (1997). Neuropsychological asymmetry in Alzheimer's disease: Verbal versus visuoconstructional deficits across stages of dementia. *Journal of the International Neuropsychological Society*, 3, 420-427.
- Wood, S., Green, M.F., Hiscock, M., Breitmeyer, B., & Satz, P. (1997). A comparison of visual and auditory masking at similar stimulus onset asynchronies (SOAs): Evidence for a common

mechanism? International Neuropsychological Society, Bergen, Norway.

- Wood, S., Mortel, K.F., Hiscock, M., Breitmeyer, B.G., & Caroselli, J.S. (1997). Adaptive and maladaptive utilization of color by patients with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease. *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, 12, 483-489.
- Young, A. M. & Acitelli, L.K. (in press). Perceptions of partner as a function of marital status and attachment style. *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*.

## Get to Know . . .

*More personal "dirt" on our new graduates. They are a fun bunch with a great sense of humor*

**Edward Garrido** - - - Edward is a native Houstonian. He received his B.S. from the University of Houston. As a social psychology graduate student, he is conducting research under the direction of **Dr. Linda Acitelli** on self-concept, how it relates to how romantic couples interact with one another, and how satisfied they are with their relationship. Edward's hobbies include running, writing poetry, and eating Italian food.

**Nancy Jean Olson** - - - Born and raised in Seattle, WA, Nancy came to UH after receiving her M.A. in experimental psychology at Connecticut. Nancy enjoys research, road trips (she recommends Vermont in the fall), and her three year old niece, **Bryce**. Bryce's artwork is proudly displayed in Nancy's new apartment and Nancy would like to extend an invitation for everyone to come over and "see and admire." Nancy, a social psychology student, is working under the direction of **Dr. Ana Abraido-Lanza**.

**Allison Clark** - - - Allison a clinical student, is working under the direction of **Dr. Paul Massman**. She is from Atlanta, GA and attended Emory University. Allison doesn't have any children, but does boast having four LIVING plants (not bad). She enjoys running, basketball, and trashy talk shows.

**Kim Pruitt** - - - Like Allison, Kim has no children but she does have a cat (presumed living). Kim hails from McAllen, TX and comes to UH from the University of St. Thomas. She's a fan of basketball, dance, and the violin. Kim is a clinical student under the direction of **Dr. Kevin Krull**.

**Beth Peters** - - - Beth is from Modesto, CA. She is a clinical student working under the direction of **Dr. Ernest Jouriles**. Before coming to UH, she attended San Diego State University where she received her Master's and UC Santa Cruz where she received her Bachelor's. Beth also used to be a foster care social worker in Philadelphia, PA. Her interests include kayaking, rock climbing, and country dancing.

**Alex Lou** - - - Alex calls Bala Cynwyd, PA home. He's a former Penn State student who enjoys

martial arts and paintball (now there's an idea for the graduate picnic). Alex is an I/O student studying under the direction of **Dr. James Campion**.



Your eyes are not deceiving you, our Dean, **Richard Rozelle**, has been spotted in the building! Dick is looking well and has begun to return to work on a regular basis. Welcome back.

**Nicole Bui**, business office assistant, return to graduate school full-time September 1. She is much missed, but we are fortunate to have found an outstanding worker in **Kimberly Walters**, psychology undergraduate. Kim will provide support to both the business and academic offices until permanent replacements can be found. We plan to have a permanent position for her as Financial Assistant in the couple of weeks.

Starting the second week in October, **Tran Le**, Academic Advisor, will officially reduce her hours to 20 hours per week. Tran began her graduate studies in Health Administration this fall at Texas Women's University Medical Center and wants to devote more of her time to her studies. She will continue to work as an undergraduate advisor M-F mornings. Another advisor will be hired within the next 2-3 weeks to assist in the advising office.

The Dean's Business Office and the department would like to welcome **Kelly Le**, Dean's financial coordinator. Kelly's most recent assignment was in the Provost's Business Office. Her phone number and e-mail address are: Tel: 3-4006, e-mail: kle2@bayou.uh.edu).