

# Psycho Philes

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

Issue 99:5

May/June 1999

## Reminders

⌚ **June 11:** Deadline for applications to the Social Sciences Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects.

⌚ **June 11:** Staff meeting 10:00 a.m. in the conference room of 126 Heyne. Contact Rosy Mendoza for agenda items.

⌚ **June 14:** Last day for international graduate students to complete certification form for insurance.

⌚ **June 15:** Last day to drop a course or withdraw without receiving a grade for Summer Session I.

⌚ **June 22:** Last day to drop a course or withdraw without receiving a grade for Summer Sessions II and III.

⌚ **June 24:** Last day to drop a course or withdraw for Summer Session I.

⌚ **June 25:** Last day to file for Summer graduation.

**Big Thanks to Graduation Volunteers:** Many thanks to the volunteers at graduation: Tiffany Davis, Jenny Gay (+) her mom, Rosy Mendoza, Jo

## News and Notes

### ❖ Recent Department Appointments

**Dr. Thomas Power** has been named the new Associate Chairperson of the department and **Dr. Lynn Rehm** will be serving as the new Director of the Clinical Training Program. These positions were vacated when **Dr. John P. Vincent** became Department Chairperson on May 1, 1999.

### ❖ Texas Travel Taxes

You can no longer be reimbursed for state tax when traveling within the state of Texas unless the tax exempt form that is given by the state is not accepted at the hotel in which you are staying. Anyone traveling within the state of Texas must take a tax exempt form to the hotel so that they will not be charged the tax. If and only if the tax exempt form is not accepted by the hotel will the traveler be reimbursed for the state tax they will be charged. The state will only reimburse for 6 percent state tax and 7 percent city tax (no matter what, even if the hotel's state and city charge is over the 6 or 7 percent they will only reimburse the traveler up to the 6 or 7 percent). Remember that the traveler will only be reimbursed the 6 percent state tax if the tax exempt form is not accepted at the hotel. These rules do not apply to out-of-state travel. For out-of-state travel the traveler will be reimbursed for whatever rates and taxes that they actually pay. Questions? See Trasetta Jones in the department business office.

## From the Academic Office

**4<sup>th</sup> Day Class Rolls:** Monday, June 7th is the 4th day of classes for Summer, I,II, III 1999 and the class rolls are scheduled to be distributed during the second week of June. Please review the students enrolled in each section. If you have a student missing, please send them to 104 E-Cullen. If you have a student who should not be enrolled, please send them to the Academic Affairs Office 124-H. Sign the last page and return the rolls to Sherry Rivera. The middle (yellow) copy is the instructor's copy and the top and bottom copy must be returned to the Academic Affairs Office.

**Book Orders:** Book orders for Fall, 1999 must be turned in to the Academic Affairs Office (124 Heyne) no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Desk Copies:** Instructors and TAs who need desk copies, please come by the Academic Affairs Office to fill out the desk copy request form.

Paul, Allan Stoler, and Caroline Watkins (+) her niece, Jessica. We could not pull off the graduation starting on time without you all!

### **Special Problems Courses for Graduate**

**Students:** These courses are for research and a general petition must be filled out for registration. The general petition must include the description of the research being done and signed by a psychology faculty member (not adjunct). The signed forms must be turned in to the Academic Affairs Office.

### **Special Problems Courses for Undergraduate**

**Students:** These courses are for research or special assignments for undergraduates with a GPA=3.00 or higher and completion of PSYC 2301 Introduction to Methods. General petitions must be filled out for registration. The general petition must include the description of the work being done and signed by a psychology faculty member (not adjunct or a graduate student). The signed forms must be turned in to the Academic Affairs Office.

**Fulltime Status for Graduate Students:** As a reminder, the following Graduate Full-Time Status Policy is in effect for all Psychology graduate students. Students in the Clinical Psychology Program, are required to take 12 semester credit hours each long semester, and 9 semester credit hours during the summer for the first four years of graduate students. Thereafter, full-time status will be maintained by registering for the minimum number of hours required for full-time doctoral status at the University (9 semester credit hours for each long semester and 6 semester credit hours for summer). For students in the other three department doctoral programs, the full-time enrollment requirement is 12 semester credit hours during each long semester and 9 credit hours for summer for the first two years of graduate student or until the student has finished the departmental core courses. After completion of the core courses, full-time status will be maintained by registering for the minimum number of hours required for full-time doctoral status at the University (9 semester credit hours for each long semester and 6 semester credit hours for summer). A general petition initiates approval for the following full-time equivalency exceptions and certifies that a student has completed the requirements as stipulated above. General petitions are available through the department's academic affairs office.

#### Exceptions

- 1) Graduate students in their last semester and taking only dissertation hours may register for 3 credit hours.
- 2) Clinical graduate students engaged in full-time internships may register for 3 credit hours during their internship.
- 3) Other unusual situations detailed in a memo directed to the department chairperson from the appropriate program director.

Exceptions must be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the official 1<sup>st</sup> day of classes to ensure that approval at all levels has been granted. Students are responsible for understanding all UH and departmental policies. We will be checking graduate students' enrollment status in the coming week. All students not in compliance will be contacted. Non compliance may result in immediate termination of employment or there action.

## Congratulations Spring 1999 Graduates/Candidates

### MASTERS

**Rhonda Kidwell:** An Empirical Analysis of Litigation Outcomes and Critical Elements of a Content Validity Defense

**Kirk O'Brien:** Predicting Post-Treatment Drinking and Subsequent Drinking Patterns from Readiness to Change in Early Onset Alcoholics: A Latent Growth Modeling Approach

**Karen A. Owen:** Work Experiences of Employees with Mental Illness: Perceived Stressors and Preferred Accomodations

**Laurie E. Smith:** Social and Emotional Functioning in Adolescents with Epilepsy: The Importance of Peer Relationships

**Barton L. Weathington:** Benefits as Rights: Fringe Benefits from the Employee Perspective

**Michele L. Zbylut:** Organizational Discipline and Justice: The Situational Dependency of Observers' Justice Evaluations of Similar Punishments

### DOCTORATE

**Jill A. Anderson:** Hot Flashes or Power Surges? A Contextual Analysis of Menopause and its Meaning

**Jannette V. Cross:** Otitis Media with Effusion, Attention and the Development of Child Behavior Problems

**Amy D. Grubb:** The Effects of Tenure and Job Complexity in the Contributions of Task and Contextual Performance to Overall Performance

**Jennifer M. Hutcheson:** An Examination of Three Levels of Person-Environment Fit

**Patricia Klass:** An Exploratory Factor Analysis of the Rey-Osterrieth Complex Figure

**Shelley R. Reynolds:** Responses to Positive and Negative Discrepancies in a Multiple Goal Environment

**Lori C. Scovill:** Intervening in the Lives of Adolescents: A View from Their Side

**Barbara A. Sloboda:** Psychological Experiences of Contingent Workers and Their Work and Organizational Outcomes

## What's New In Research

### NEW RESEARCH AWARDS

**Dr. Barbara Ellis:** An Investigation of the Role of Job Lock in the Relationship between Organizational

Commitment and Intention to Leave, University of Houston - PEER, \$4,650

**Dr. Ernest Jouriles:** Community Children's Exposure to Domestic Violence: Feasibility and Pilot Data, University of Houston - PEER, \$5,000

**Dr. Kevin Krull:** Late Effect Attention Problems in Childhood Cancer Survivors, University of Houston - PEER, \$4,609

**Dr. Lois Tetrick:** Examination of The Impact of Positive and Negative Affectivity on The Relations Among Perceived Workplace Stressors, Experienced Stress, and Outcomes, University of Houston – PEER, \$4,763

**Drs. Lois Tetrick & Barbara Ellis:** Curriculum Development in Occupational Health Psychology, \$21,600. This is one of three training grants funded by the American Psychological Association and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health. The proposal provides funds for the development of a curriculum for a minor in OHP that will be open to graduate students from all areas of Psychology. Lois and Barbara will be contacting those of you who have already expressed an interest in this project over the summer and throughout next year. If there are others who have an interest in OHP and would like to contribute to the development of an OHP curriculum, please contact Lois or Barbara.

**Dr. Barbara Ellis** has been elected to serve on the Executive Board of the Texas Industrial/Organizational Psychologists (TIOP).

## Computing Notes

The department is currently waiting for the site licensing of McAfee Virus Scan for the University to be finalized and distributed. In the meantime, check out [www.mcafee.com](http://www.mcafee.com)'s free clinic. McAfee offers an online virus scanning tool that works with Internet Explorer 5.0. This will provide you a manual means to scan your files. Sign up and download the software. This free clinic offers some useful tools: Uninstaller Quick Clean and Year 2000 Analyzer for your data files. Contact User Support ([psychservice@uh.edu](mailto:psychservice@uh.edu)) if you have any questions or problems.



**Dr. Pamela Miller**, and her husband, Stephen, are pleased to announce the arrival of their daughter, Kathleen Bridget Miller. She was born on March 31, 1999, weighed 8 pounds 9 ounces, and was 20 inches long. Dr. Miller reports that she and her husband are quickly adjusting to parenthood!

## On The Lighter Side

*Burnout Prevention and Recovery, University of Houston Style:*

1. **Avoid Isolation.** Don't do everything alone! Develop or renew intimacies with friends and loved ones. Closeness not only brings new insights: but also is anathema to agitation and depression.
  - **UH View:** Shut your office door and lock it from the inside so no-one will distract you. They're just trying to hurt your productivity.
2. **Change Your Circumstances.** If your job, your relationships, a situation, or a person is dragging you under, try to alter your circumstances, or if necessary, leave.
  - **UH View:** If you feel something is dragging you down, suppress these thoughts. This is a weakness. Drink more coffee.
3. **Diminish Intensity In Your Life.** Pinpoint those areas or aspects which summon up the most concentrated intensity and work towards alleviating that pressure.
  - **UH View:** Increase intensity. Maximum intensity = maximum productivity. If you find yourself relaxed and with your mind wandering, you are probably having a detrimental effect on the department's budget.
4. **Stop Overnurturing.** If you routinely take on other people's problems and responsibilities, learn to gracefully disengage. Try to get some nurturing for yourself.
  - **UH View:** Always attempt to do everything. You ARE responsible for it all. Perhaps you haven't thoroughly read your job description.

PsychoPhiles is published monthly. Submissions should be sent to Suzanne Kieffer at [kieffer@uh.edu](mailto:kieffer@uh.edu) or directed to the business office (Room 126 Heyne). All submissions are subject to editing for space and content.