

Psycho Philes

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

Issue 2004:1

Spring 2004

Reminders

 **Psyc Undergraduates! Sign up for listserv!** Get important academic news. Forms available in Academic Office in 124

 **Feb 17:** Last day to drop a course or withdraw without receiving a grade.

 **Mar 15-20:** Spring Break.

 **Mar 17:** St. Patrick's Day

 **Mar 31:** Last day for undergraduates to submit an application for the Callicutt Scholarship. Applications are available in the Academic Office, 124 Heyne.

 **Apr 4:** Daylight Savings Time begins.

 **Apr 6:** Last day to drop a course or withdraw.

 **May 3:** Deadline for submitting signed approved original and two copies of a thesis or dissertation for binding.

 **May 14:** University and tentatively college/department commencements.

News and Notes

❖ Happy Birthday Department!

We are celebrating our 65th birthday this year! The Department of Psychology here was founded in 1939, just four years after the University of Houston became a four-year institution. We awarded our first Ph.D. in Psychology in 1953, and have consistently continued as a doctoral-granting department. We currently have approximately 1500 undergraduate majors, 350 undergraduate minors, 110 graduate students, and over 6000 students who take Psychology courses through our department each semester. Our faculty longevity prize goes to **Dr. Richard Evans**, who began here as an assistant professor in 1950. He is currently a distinguished professor. And **Ms. Gwen Moore** is our longest-running staff member, beginning here in 1973 as the secretary to the director of clinical training. She is currently the program coordinator at our Psychological Research and Services Center. Many thanks to both Dr. Evans and Ms. Moore for their dedication and happy birthday to the Department!

❖ Upcoming Colloquia

The following colloquia will be offered by the Department at 4:00pm in Heyne 135. A reception follows each of the presentations.

Feb 17, Ms. Julie Patock-Peckham, Arizona State University, "Piercing illusions of invulnerability to risk: A symbolic experience perspective."

Feb 19, Dr. Osvaldo Morera, University of Illinois -- Champaign, "Evaluating a community-based self-help smoking cessation intervention."

Feb 23, Dr. Rhonda Kowalchuk, University of Wisconsin -- Milwaukee, "The analysis of repeated measurements: Robust and powerful alternatives to the usual approach"

Feb 24, Mr. Tarçan Kumkale, University of Florida, "Persistence of persuasion: Organization of attitude-relevant memories"

Feb 26, Dr. J. Leigh Leasure, Salk Institute, "Forced vs. voluntary exercise: Ramifications for learning, neurogenesis and recovery of function"

Mar 1, Dr. Barry Giesbrecht, University of California -- Davis, Title to be announced.

❖ Psychology Pre-Major Approved

The Department's request to establish a Pre-Major has been approved by the University's Undergraduate Council. Beginning Fall 2004, all students who wish to major in Psychology must hold a status of Pre-Major until they have completed PSYC 1300 (Introduction to Psychology), PSYC 2301 (Research Methods), and PSYC 3301 (Statistics) with a grade of "C" or above in each course. This will help the Department to better manage its large number of undergraduates by distinguishing between our beginning and more advanced students.



A Word from New Faces

Assistant Professor Dr. Peter Norton

I received my Bachelor of Arts degree in 1995 from the University of Winnipeg, a Master of Science degree in sport psychology from the University of Western Australia in 1997, and from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln a Master of Arts in clinical psychology in 2000 and Ph.D. in clinical psychology in 2003. My main interests include understanding and treating anxiety disorders, and exploring the role of psychological variables in physical health conditions such as chronic pain.

Editor's Note. Dr. Norton joined the faculty here in Fall 2003.

Program Manager Robin Raborn

Military brat, so I really have no "home," but spent most of my highschool years in New Braunfels. I have lived in NY, CA, FL, NC, SC, Canada, Okinawa-Japan, the Phillipines. I have no kids, but 2 lovely cats -- Mom calls them her grandcats! Attended Baylor University and East Texas State University. BFA - Illustration/Painting from ETSU, 1991. MEd - Counseling from UH, 2001. Worked for 10+ years at HCCS-Northeast for the Dean of Academics. I love to run, draw, and camp. *Editor's Note. Ms. Raborn has working with Dr. Julia Hannay since March 2002.*

What's New in Research

The students in **Dr. Julia Babcock's** Emotions in Marriage Lab have been very busy and productive. Dr. Babcock's students, **Chuck Green, Daniela Costa, Sarah (Miller) Webb, Brittany Canady,** and

Ashley Senior have co-authored several papers recently accepted for publication and second year students, Ashley Senior and Brittany Canady, co-presented their first talk at a national conference. Check the Publications, Presentations, and Workshops section below to see some of their work!

Dr. Bruno Breitmeyer is featured in the sixth edition of *Sensation and perception* by S. Cohen, L. Ward, and J. Enns (2004). This textbook highlights Dr. Breitmeyer in a biography box noting that "he has done more than any other modern vision researcher to advance our understanding of visual masking". Dr. Breitmeyer has recently revised his classic 1984 book, *Visual masking: An integrative approach*, and reviews have been extremely positive.

At the August 2003 annual state conference of the Brain Injury Association of Texas, held in Austin TX, **Dr. H. Julia Hannay** received a Lifetime Achievement Award.

In Fall 2003, **Dr. Dale L Johnson**, was interviewed for the Society for Research on Child Development Oral History Project. **Dr. Richard Rozelle**, was the interviewer.

Clinical graduate student, **Poorna Kushalnagar**, was recently elected to the Board of Directors of the American Medical Professionals with Hearing Losses for a three-year term from 2003-2006. She also recently delivered an invited guest lecture at Lamar University's Department of Communication, entitled, "Neuropsychological Issues in Deaf Children".

Dr. Clayton Neighbors recently had an R01 funded, as principal investigator, on the first submission. The project is on Social Norms and Alcohol Prevention (SNAP)" with total direct costs of 1.2 million dollars. He is also a co-PI on two other recently funded projects titled "Indicated Prevention of Problem Gambling" and "Alcohol Research Collaborative: Peer Programs". Dr. Neighbors, now at North Dakota State University, is a former student of the social psychology Ph.D. program who worked primarily with **Dr. Chip Knee**.

Dr. Heather Patrick recently received the Mead-Johnson Unrestricted Nutrition Award as principal investigator for a grant on "*Getting kids to eat their vegetables: The importance of choice*" which will involve an intervention based on self-determination theory for increasing healthy eating among children. Dr. Patrick, now at Baylor College of Medicine, is a former student of the social psychology Ph.D. program who worked primarily with **Dr. Chip Knee**.

Dr. Gordon L. Paul, Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen Distinguished Professor, presented an invited

address, entitled '[A Technical Gain Differing Kind?](#)' at the 37th Annual Convention of the Association for the Advancement of Behavior Therapy in Boston, MA, November 22, 2003. He highlighted the [Computerized TSBC/SRIC Planned-Access Observational Information System](#), developed by Dr Paul and his students and colleagues in the clinical-research program for ongoing assessment and monitoring of client, staff, and program functioning in residential and inpatient mental health facilities.

Dr. Kirsten Poehlmann was an invited speaker at the Bellaire High School Career Seminar Series. She also served as a judge for the 2004 Graduate Poster Award at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in January.

Melissa Raymundo, former undergraduate honors thesis student, and current social graduate student, received an award for Outstanding Senior Honors Thesis, along with \$250. The title was "The Effects of Print Media on the Body Esteem and Bulimic Tendencies of College-Aged Women".

Dr. Suzanne Kieffer was the Chair and **Drs. Kirsten Poehlmann** and **Cynthia Freeland** (Philosophy) served as committee members. Ms. Raymundo is now advised by **Dr. Richard Evans** and is an active member of his research group.

Dr. Lynn Rehm, Fellow in Divisions 12, 29, and 52 of the American Psychological Association (APA), and former President of the Texas Psychological Association has been selected as the 2004 recipient of the *Florence Halpern Award for Distinguished Professional Contributions in Clinical Psychology*. The award, given annually by APA's Division 12 (Clinical Psychology), will be presented to Dr. Rehm at this year's APA Convention in Honolulu, where he will also give an invited address as part of the Division 12 program.

1988 I/O doctoral program graduate, **Dr. Philip L. Roth** was named a fellow by both the American Psychological Society and the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology in 2003. Dr. Roth won the award for his research exploring various aspects of organizational psychology involving personnel selection and the economic impact of employment tests. He has been a faculty member at Clemson University since 1991. When at UH as a graduate student, Dr. Roth was advised by former faculty member, **Dr. Robert Pritchard**.

Be sure to check out the new and improved website for the **Health Psychology Research Group** (www.psychology.uh.edu/hprg). This website describes research opportunities for either online or paper/pencil participation to investigate quality of life issues for middle-aged and older women who are

either breast cancer survivors or who have not suffered from any life-threatening illness.

NEW RESEARCH AWARDS

Babcock, Julia. "Emotional Reactivity of Intimate Partner Abusers." B-Start, National Institute of Mental Health, \$74,250.

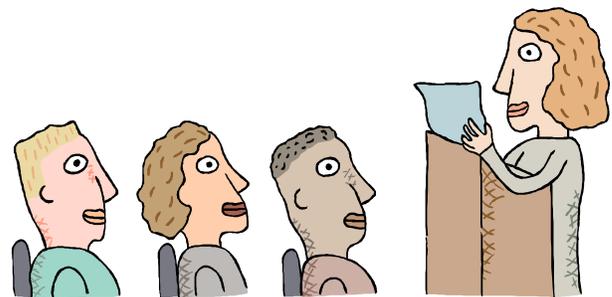
Babcock, Julia. "Testing a Typology of Domestically Violent Couples." UH Small Grant, \$3,000.

Naus, Mary. "An Investigation of the Emotional and Physical Well-Being of Middle-Aged and Older African American Women." UH Small Grant, \$2,900.

Spitzmüller, Christiane. "Profiling Survey Nonrespondents: A Field Experiment." UH Small Grant, \$3,000.

Spitzmüller, Christiane. "Investigating Situational Constraints as Moderators of the Satisfaction-Performance Relationship." UH New Faculty Research Program Award, \$6,000.

Vincent, John. "Graduate Student Placements in UTHSC's Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences." \$17,142.87



PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND WORKSHOPS

Anthony, J. L., & Lonigan, C. J. (in press). The nature of phonological sensitivity: Converging evidence from four studies of preschool and early grade-school children. *Journal of Educational Psychology*.

Anthony, J. L., Lonigan, C. J., Driscoll, K., Phillips, B. M., & Burgess, S. R. (in press). Phonological Sensitivity: A quasi-parallel progression of word structure units and cognitive operations. *Reading Research Quarterly*.

Babcock, J. C., Canady, B, Senior, A., & Eckhardt, C. I. (in press). Applying the Transtheoretical Model to Female and Male Perpetrators of Intimate Partner Violence: Gender Differences in Stages and Processes of Change. *Violence and Victims*.

Babcock, J. C., Costa, D. M., Green, C. E., & Eckhardt, C. I. (in press). What Situations Induce Intimate Partner Violence?: A Reliability and Validity Study of the *Proximal Antecedents to Violent*

Episodes Scale (PAVE). Journal of Family Psychology.

Babcock, J. C., Green, C. E., & Robie, C. (in press). Does batterers' treatment work?: A meta-analytic review of domestic violence treatment outcome research. *Clinical Psychology Review.*

Babcock, J. C., Green, C. E., Webb, S. A., & Graham, K. H. (2003). Brief Report: A Second Failure to Replicate the Gottman et al. (1995) Typology...and Possible Reasons Why. *Journal of Family Psychology.*

Babcock, J. C., Miller, S. A., & Siard, C. (2003). Towards a typology of abusive women: Differences between partner-only and generally violent women in the use of violence. *Psychology of Women Quarterly, 27,* 153-161.

Baker, S.H. & Davis, S.E. (2004). Grade aid with practice tests for Bee and Boyd *The Developing Child*, 10th edition. Boston: Pearson.

Barry, E., Naus, M.J. and Rehm, L.P. (in press). Depression and implicit memory: Understanding mood congruent memory bias. *Cognitive Therapy and Research.*

Burleson, M. H., Poehlmann, K. M., Hawkey, L. C., Ernst, J. M., Berntson, G. G., Malarkey, W. B., Kiecolt-Glaser, J. K., Glaser, R., & Cacioppo, J. T. (2003). Neuroendocrine and cardiovascular reactivity to stress in mid-aged and older women: Long-term temporal consistency of individual differences. *Psychophysiology, 40,* 358-369.

Bussell, V., Naus, M.J. (2004, March). Causal attributions for breast cancer and perceived control over cancer outcome: Associations with distress-linked coping. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Behavioral Medicine.

Bussell, V.A., Naus, M.J., & Knee, C.R. (2004, January). Realistic and unrealistic control beliefs: Divergent associations with coping for chronic illness. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.

Cirino, P.T., & Israelian, M., Morris, M., & Morris, R. (2004). Exploration of the Double Deficit Hypothesis in adults with developmental reading disorder. In Press, *Journal of Learning Disabilities.*

Cirino, P.T. (2003, June). Learning Disabilities. Invited presentation to the Department of Psychology, Sam Houston State University, Huntsville, TX.

Cirino, P.T., Carlson, C.D., Francis, D.J., & Fletcher, J.M. (2004, February). Phonological Processing and Calculation Skills in Spanish Speaking English Language Learners. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Baltimore, MD.

Denton, C.A., Anthony, J.L., Parker, R., & Hasbrouck, J. (in press). Effects of two tutoring programs on the English reading development of Spanish-English bilingual students. *The Elementary School Journal, 104 (4).*

Eckhardt, C. I., Babcock, J. C., & Homack, S., (in press). Partner assaultive men and the stages and process of change. *Journal of Family Violence.*

Foorman, B.R., Seals, L., Anthony, J., & Durodola S. (in press). A Vocabulary Enrichment Program for Third and Fourth Grade African-American Students: Description, Implementation, and Impact. In B. Foorman (Ed.), *Preventing and Remediating Reading Difficulties: Bringing Science to Scale.* Timonium, MD: York Press.

Gregg, C.E., Lachman, R., Bonk, W.J., Houghton, B.F., Swanson, D.A. (in submission). Bombs or barriers? Perceptions of lava flow hazard mitigation measures at Kilauea volcano, Kapoho, Hawaii, 1960. *Nature.*

Hiscock, M., Inch, R., & Ewing, C.T. (2004, February). What stage of auditory processing produces the right-ear advantage? A signal-detection study. Poster presented at the meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Baltimore, MD.

Johnson, D.L. (2003, March). Better environments for people with schizophrenia. Presentation at the Meriden Conference, Stratford-On-Avon, United Kingdom.

Johnson, D. L. (2003, June). Training mental health professionals: An international perspective. Presentation at the NAMI convention, Minneapolis, MN.

Johnson, D. L. (2003, June). Why people with serious mental illness need a single payer health care system. Presentation at the NAMI convention, Minneapolis, MN.

Johnson, D. L. (2003, October). Family education or behavioral family psychoeducation: Making a choice. Presentation at the World Psychiatric

Association International Conference, Caracas, Venezuela.

Knee, C.R., & Cook, A. (January, 2004). Relationship-contingent self-esteem and the ups and downs of romantic relationships. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Social Psychologists in Texas, Corpus Christi, TX.

Knee, C.R., & Cook, A. (2004, January). Relationship-contingent self-esteem: When feeling that you complete me leaves me feeling incomplete. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.

Knee, C.R., Patrick, H., Vietor, N.A., & Neighbors, C. (in press). Implicit theories of relationships: Moderators of the link between conflict and commitment. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*.

Kushalnagar, P. & Kalback, S. (2003, July). Neuropsychological Assessment and Deaf Children: What Every Parent Should Know. Paper presented at the Convention of the American Society of Deaf Children, Austin, TX.

Kushalnagar, P., Harris, R., & Moreland, C. (2004, February). Deaf Academicians and Interpreters: Toward a Professional Partnership. Paper presented at the 2nd International Deaf Academics and Research Conference, Washington, D.C.

Lonsbary, C., & Knee, C.R., & Canevello, A. (2004, January). Autonomy in the self and the relationship: Does gender matter? Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.

Naus, M.J., Atkins, M.A., Sears, K.C., & Robinson, A. (2004, March). Perceived changes in memory and attention abilities before, during and after adjuvant chemotherapy in early stage breast cancer survivors. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Behavioral Medicine.

Naus, M.J., & Baker, S. (2003). Health psychology: A developmental perspective as a road to the future. Invited address at Southern Methodist University.

Neighbors, C., & Knee, C.R. (in press). Self-determination and the impact of social comparison information. *Journal of Research in Personality*.

Neighbors, C., Larimer, M.E., Geisner, I.M., & Knee, C.R. (in press). Feeling controlled and drinking motives among college students: Contingent self-esteem as a mediator. *Self and Identity*.

Patrick, H., Canevello, A., & Knee, C.R. (January, 2004). Trying to win the battle of the bulge: Self-determination and weight loss goal pursuits. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Social Psychologists in Texas, Corpus Christi, TX.

Patrick, H., Canevello, A., & Knee, C.R. (2004, January). When what you do isn't as important as why you do it: The benefits of a self-determined approach to weight loss. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Austin, TX.

Patrick, H., Neighbors, C., & Knee, C.R. (in press). Appearance-related social comparisons: The role of contingent self-esteem and self-perceptions of attractiveness. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*.

Poehlmann, K.M. (2004, January). Is social psychology worth a damn? Invited participant in a roundtable discussion at the annual meeting of Social Psychologists in Texas, Corpus Christi, TX.

Poehlmann, K.M. & McQueen, A. (2004, January). I may be dying, but at least I'm a good bagpipe player: Self-affirmation and acceptance of health risk information. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Social Psychologists in Texas, Corpus Christi, TX.

Pruitt, K.G., & Hiscock, M. (2004, February). Explicit and implicit memory following dichotic listening. Poster presented at the meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society, Baltimore, MD.

Senior, A., Canady, B., & Babcock, J. C. (2003, July). Evaluating the Utility of the Proactive-Reactive Typology Model in Intimate Partner Violence. Presentation at the International Family Violence Research Conference, Portsmouth, NH.

Zuckerman, M., Knee, C.R., Kieffer, S.C., & Gagne, M. (in press). What people believe they can and cannot do: Explorations of realistic and unrealistic control beliefs. *Journal of Personality Assessment*.



  **Coffee Break**

Jazzercizing Faculty Member

One of our faculty, who will remain unnamed, was part of a half-time jazzercise show at a Houston Rockets game on February 6, 2004. This was a benefit for the Pink Ribbon Dancers who work to raise funds to provide mammograms for those who are unable to pay for such a test. Can you guess who our jazzercizer is?

Alex Botti Graduates

User support specialist, **Alex Botti**, graduated from UH's College of Technology in Summer 2003 with a major in Information Systems Technology and a minor in Management Information Systems. Way to go, Alex!

Social psychology graduate student, **Ms. Nancy Olson**, recently accepted a tenure-track position as an instructor of psychology at Mt. Hood Community College, Gresham, OR. She began there in January 2004. We wish her the best!

Dr. Jen Adams, clinical psychology program graduate and member of the Health Psychology Research Group, has received a post doctoral fellowship from M.D. Anderson Cancer Center for her work on psychological functioning in male breast cancer survivors.

Dr. Pam Williams, a graduate from the social psychology program, completed her post-doctoral fellowship with Dr. Peter Salovey at Yale University. She has accepted a job offer from the Research Triangle Institute in Raleigh, NC. Congratulations, Pam!

Wedding Bells for **Merrill Hiscock!**

On June 11, 2003, **Drs. Merrill Hiscock and Lynn Chapeski** were married in Houston. Dr. Hiscock is a Full Professor in the Department and Dr. Chapeski is an Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine. She is an adjunct faculty member here as well. Congrats to both!

Sharon West gets married!

Office coordinator, Sharon West, is now **Sharon Terrell**. She got married in Las Vegas on January 1, 2004. Congratulations!

Condolences to Michelle Kline

Our thoughts go out to clinical graduate student, **Michelle Kline**, who lost her mother during the Fall semester to a long battle with cancer. Our best to her and her family.

On the Lighter Side

Valuable Advice

Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way, when you criticize them you're a mile away and you have their shoes.
Author unknown.

Help in Writing a Journal Review By Dr. David Kenny

New investigators often need help in writing a journal review. Below is a one of my recent reviews that I often use. Please feel free to use it!

I found this paper to be interesting and potentially an important contribution to the literature. However, I have a few minor issues that I would urge the authors to consider in their revision. I offer these comments in a spirit of collegiality.

The theory has some potential, but needs some reworking. While there is a seed of a good idea, there is a bushel of rather pedestrian, soporific, and vacuous musings that reminds me more of flatulence than brilliance.

There are several critical papers that were not cited. Most important of these are several insightful papers written by David A. Kenny (see especially Kenny (1995; 1996a; 1996b; 1996c; 2001)). I am especially troubled that the central idea of this paper is alluded to in footnote 3 of Appendix C of the classic book by Kenny (2001) that is, sadly, now out of print. The other key idea in this paper was extensively discussed by the aforementioned Kenny in a 1994 meeting of the Alaska Association of Behavioral Scientists and Bartenders.

There were several problems in the data analysis and design. While it is useful to know that there is minimal skewness and kurtosis in the outcome measures, we really need to know about the fifth moment of the mean. The author is urged to consult work published in, I believe, the Archives of Trivial Statistical Issues, sometime in the 1960s. I think this paper was written by David A. Kenny. I also noted that there are 58 males and 57 females in the study. The author needs to justify this imbalance.

I found the paper to be very sloppy. There is numerous misspellings and grammatical errors. It's a tragedy that the English language is so butchered by someone whose so nonliterate. I always carefully read my papers and reviews before sending them to an editor.

Finally, there were several serious editorial problems that preclude publication. First, the right margin on page 12 is .13 centimeters too wide. Second, there is an extra space somewhere on page 15. Third, the abstract contains 153 words, 3 more than allowed.

I hope that the authors see these comments as friendly and helpful. However, I would advise the authors not to quit their night jobs.

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Submissions for *Psycho Philes* should be sent to Dr. Suzanne Kieffer at kieffer@uh.edu or directed to the business office (Room 126 Heyne). All submissions are subject to editing for space and content.