From the (Acting) Chair

Greetings from Gettysburg to all of our Psychology Alumni! I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying cooler weather and the beautiful colors of the fall! I’m back in the chair position for just a semester while Kathy Cain is in Denmark on sabbatical, and we’re all missing her sunny presence, most especially me! She and Steve Siviy were both recognized for their 25 years of teaching at the first faculty meeting of this year, and I know I speak for the whole department when I say that we are all truly grateful for their commitment to the department and to our students. We’re also very proud of Nathalie Goubet, who was promoted to the rank of professor last spring! I think we got just about the whole department in last year’s yearbook picture (except for Brian Meier!), so let me start by listing names in this picture from left to right (standing then sitting) in case you haven’t seen how all of us are aging (well, most of us!) – Kathy Cain, Kevin Wilson, Kathy Delaney, Carolyn Tuckey, Steve Siviy, Dan McCall, Chris Barlett, Richard Russell, Nathalie Goubet, Bob D’Agostino, Kathy Berenson, Sahana Mukherjee, Nina Tarner, and me – Becca Fincher-Kiefer!

I think you’ll be pleased to know that Psychology is once again the largest major on campus with currently 184 declared majors. Health Sciences is not far behind at 173 majors, followed by Organization and Management Studies with 159. We can handle the ever-increasing number of majors thanks to our 12 full-time tenure track faculty members, as well as our full-time lecturer, Kathy Delaney, and the help of very talented adjunct faculty, Nina Turner, Natalie Barlett, and Erin Clark (a ‘99 psychology and education alum). This year we also welcome Christine Castillo to the department as adjunct faculty. Christine has her Ph.D. in School Psychology with an emphasis in neuropsychology at Texas A&M University and is a licensed specialist in school psychology as well as a board certified clinical neuropsychologist. Christine had been doing clinical work as a pediatric neuropsychologist in Dallas until she and her family decided to relocate to the York area to be closer to family. We are lucky to have her teaching a couple sections of Intro and our Personality course this semester, and her presence is another opportunity for students to learn more about applied career tracks in psychology.

We had a banner year this past academic year for student successes in their research endeavors, their graduate school acceptances, and in exciting career opportunities. We had 17 students present or co-present their work at professional conferences; and, as you’ll see below, our graduates were placed in impressive graduation programs, with 6 in Ph.D. programs and at least 8 in master’s programs. Others landed wonderful jobs that will challenge and enrich them. Our research-heavy major is paying off for our students as not only are graduate programs attracted to strong science-minded psychology undergrads, but even employers want to see that students have passed the test of a rigorous empirical background in psychology. If you get a chance to visit, check out students’ posters describing their advanced laboratory or independent research for our undergraduate research colloquium, Celebration ’15, held in May. They are still hanging on the walls on the third floor of McCreary for anyone who’d like to take a look – maybe during Homecoming Weekend!

Speaking of Homecoming, our invited speaker this year is Abi (Reaser) Levrini ’02. Please read on for all of Abi’s impressive accomplishments since graduating more than a decade ago – and we’d love to see you at her talk if you can make it!

In much sadder news, we are so sorry to report that we lost one of our favorite benefactors and brilliant alums, Paul Muchinsky, ’69, on September 8th of this year. Paul was a student of Sam Mudd’s and was so appreciative of Sam’s mentoring that he established our Samuel A. Mudd Psychology Award given annually to a graduating senior. Paul was a very impressive industrial/organizational psychologist that wrote the most widely used textbook in the history of industrial psychology, Psychology Applied to Work. He received an honorary doctorate from Gettysburg, the Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) in 2008, and was currently the Joseph M. Bryan Distinguished Professor of Business at University of North Carolina at Greensboro. We will miss Paul’s sharp sense of humor that he brought to his return trips to the department, where he would profess his love of the college but most especially the mentoring he received here in the psychology department.

We’d love to hear what you’re doing. This is partly because we miss you and want to hear from you, and partly because we want to brag about you. So many prospective students on campus tours stop by and look at our alumni bulletin board, and visiting families always ask what our graduates are doing. Your stories are wonderful, and they really help us to continue to
recruit outstanding students. They also help our current students think about career ideas. If you haven’t been in touch with us in a few years—or even if you have—please send a message to Carolyn Tuckey (ctuckey@gettysburg.edu) and tell her what you’re up to. This goes for recent grads as well as those who graduated years ago.

Warmest good wishes to all of you. Please stay in touch!

**Homecoming Colloquium**

We are excited to welcome back Abigail (Reaser) Levrini, Ph.D. ’02 as our Annual Psychology Homecoming speaker. If you are in the area, we certainly hope you’ll join us for Abigail’s talk entitled, “Beyond Distraction: Exploring the Lesser Known symptoms, Outcomes, and Treatment World of Adult ADHD.” The lecture will be held in Bowen Auditorium, McCreary Hall room 115, Friday, October 16th @ 3:30 pm. [More...]

Abi graduated from Gettysburg College in 2002 with a BA in Psychology and completed her Ph.D. in Counseling and School Psychology from Florida State University in 2008. She is a licensed clinical psychologist, ADHD specialist, renowned speaker, and bestselling author. She has published numerous scientific articles on ADHD and presents her coaching model in professional settings throughout the country. Abi can be found throughout the media in The Washington Post, NAMI, APA, PsychCentral, and many other popular means of press. Her first book is an American Psychological Association (APA) bestseller, “Succeeding with Adult ADHD: Daily Strategies to Help you Achieve Your Goals and Manage Your Life”. Her second book was published in June of 2015, also with APA; “ADHD Coaching: A Guide for Mental Health Professionals”. Abigail also stars in the American Psychological Association's Therapy Video Series on Adult ADHD Treatment. Her ADHD focused practice, Psych Ed Connections, has locations throughout northern Virginia, Florida, Kentucky, and online worldwide. Just for fun we want to mention that Abi’s father, Joel Reaser ’62, was our Homecoming speaker in 1997.

**Samuel A. Mudd Psychology Award**

We are proud to announce Isabella Schiro as the recipient of the Samuel A. Mudd Psychology Award during Spring Honors Day this past May. This award, established by Paul M. Muchinsky ’69 in honor of his former mentor, Sam Mudd ’57, is presented to a graduating senior psychology major who has demonstrated a high level of personal integrity and outstanding scholarship.

Bella double majored in Psychology and Anthropology and graduated Phi Beta Kappa with psychology departmental honors. She served as a research assistant to Prof. Kathleen Cain, worked as a student assistant in the College Life Office, and also a Peer Learning Associate for Psychology Experimental Methods. She was a Camp Psych mentor, and volunteered with Head Start and Ge...ttysburg's Growing Place. Highlights as a psychology major include presenting research with Kathleen Cain at the Society for Research in Child Development (SRCD) conference and completing her psychology honors research project.

Currently, Bella is pursuing her MA in Mental Health Counseling with certification in Child and Family Mental Health and Wellness at the Lynch School of Education, Boston College. Her research interests include development of ethnic, religious, and racial identity; multiculturalism and cultural competency; impact of societal/cultural constructs and pressures on mental health.

Bella credits her psychology department research opportunities, academic experiences, and excellent faculty mentoring with helping her grow as an individual, preparing her for a rigorous graduate program and inspiring her to take her chosen path of helping others.

**Commencement ’15 - Prizes and Awards**

Congratulations to Colleen Boyle, Rebecca Divas, Samantha Gailey, Wesley Gregory, Kimberly Houston, Alexandra Kelly, Paige Ruland, Isabella Schiro, Alexandre Turano, Lindsey Westberg, and Zachary Witkower who graduated this past May with Psychology Department Honors. Graduating Phi Beta Kappa were Samantha Gailey, Paige Ruland, Isabella Schiro, and Kay Wang. Lindsay Westberg received the Psi Chi Junior Award. Samantha Gailey was awarded the John Edgar Baublitz Pi Lambda Sigma Award in Management. Kay Wang received the Computer Science Superior Scholarship Award. Danielle Hernandez was awarded the Karl J. Mattson Service Award and Emily Hall was the recipient of the Clair B., Mary E., and Constance Noerr (Baker) Memorial Award. Samantha Gailey was the Psychology Department banner carrier.

**Updates from Alums**

Wallace Kuligowski ’57 – and wife, Kate, are proud authors of their recently released book, “Our Most Treasured Tails: Sixty Years of Pet Rescue in New Mexico.” Their moving accounts have received four 5-star reviews, and subsequent chapters have been printed in Bosque Beast and Dog Writers of America Association’s “Ruff Drafts.”

Cathy (Knight) Ostermueller ’79 - is currently the director of the Metuchen, NJ Senior Center.

Phillip Smith ’01 – earned his PhD at Texas Tech University. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Psychology at the University of South Alabama in Mobile, AL since 2011.

Jonathan Hart ’04 – earned his PhD in Educational Psychology at Temple University this past spring. He was serving as the
Acting Assistant Superintendent of the Flemington-Raritan School District until this past July. He is now Assistant Director of Special Education programs.

Julia Centrella '12/05 - earned her PsyD in Clinical Psychology at Chestnut Hill. Works a variety of jobs, all with children.

Andrew Naber '07 - received his PhD in I/O Psychology at Texas A & M this past August and works as an Associate Behavioral Social Scientist in the Global Research Talent Department at RAND Corporation.

Corinne (Gushue) Smith '07 - works at the National Academies (Nat’l Academy of Sciences, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Engineering in Washington, DC for the past 5 years as a Jr. HR Generalist.

Jennifer Logan '08 - received her MS in Speech Language Pathology at Loyola University, MD. She is currently a speech-language pathologist at the Hearing and Speech Agency in Baltimore, MD.

Laura Schoenfeld '09 - received her Master’s in Public Health at UNC and is a Registered Dietician. She has her own nutrition counseling and consulting business, working with patients via Skype and developing nutrition related programming for other healthcare companies.

Christina Martin ’13 – Post-Baccalaureate IRTA Fellow at the National Institute of Nursing Research. She does genetics research with Traumatic Brain Injury, PTSD, and fatigue.

Cara Dochat ’13 – serves as the Crisis Services Program Manager, Arkansas Crisis Center. Also works as a Research Assistant and Recruitment Specialist at the Arkansas Interdisciplinary Sciences Laboratory, University of Arkansas.

Riccardo Purita ’13 – enrolled in the Student Personnel in Higher Education program at the University of Florida and also works in a Conduct and Community Standards position in the Department of Housing and Residence Education.

Christine Lobosco ’14 – is now an Account Executive at AT&T.

Marcela Pallete ’14 – working an internship with Heart Capital in Cape Town, South Africa.

Kathryn Petto ’14 – working as a Mental Health Technician in the Adolescent Wing of the Carrier Clinic, Belle Mead, NJ.

Alexandra Feuer ’14 – also working as a Mental Health Technician at the Carrier Clinic, Belle Mead, NJ.

Scott Johnson ’14 – Executive Recruiter at National Recruiting Group, Greater NYC Area.

Malcolm Perry ’14 – began his Master’s in Kinesiology (Sports Psychology and Strength and Conditioning Track) program at California State University, Fullerton. He is also working as a Membership Consultant at True Fitness, a local gym in Fullerton.

Camille Black ’14 – pursuing a Master’s in Health and Regulatory Affairs at George Washington University.

Kayla Grieco ’14 – studying for an MA in Forensic Psychology at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, NYC.

Elizabeth Andresen ’14 – working with children with autism as an ABA Instructor at the IvyMount School, in Rockville, MD.

Anne Patterson ’14 – serving in the Peace Corps in Ethiopia in the Health Extension sector.

Class of 2015:


Benjamin Rodgers – pursuing an MS in Clinical and Counseling Psychology, Chestnut Hill College, Philadelphia, PA.

Samantha Poteste – studying for a Master’s in Social Work, University of Pittsburgh.

Kay Wang – working toward a Master’s in Management at ESSEC Business School, Paris, France.

Isabella Schiro – entering a Master’s in Mental Health Counseling program at Boston College.

Kimberly Houston – working as an ABA Instructor/TA in the autism Program at The IvyMount School, Rockville, MD.

Danielle Hernandez – attending Indiana University, Bloomington to pursue a PhD in School Psychology.

Zachary Witkower – studying for a PhD in Social /Personality Psychology at the University of British Columbia, Canada.

Alexandra Turano – pursuing a PhD in Behavioral Neuroscience at the University of Delaware, Newark, DE.

Lindsay Westberg – working toward a PhD in Human Development and Family Studies at the University of Connecticut.

Aimee Becker – attending Shippensburg University for a Master’s in Clinical Health Counseling.

Bridget Kenny – working with Pennsylvania College Advising Corps, Huntingdon County, PA.

Wesley Gregory – attending New School for Social Research for a Master’s in Psychology (Mental Health Track).

Colleen Boyle – pursuing a PhD in School Psychology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

Emily Hall – studying for a Master’s in Social Work at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Kellyann Walley – working as a Recruiter at Aerotek, Melville, NY.

Paige Ruland – Teach for America, North Carolina.


Lauren Losak – studying for a Master’s in Social Work at Catholic University.

Martin Caldwell – pursuing a Master’s in Social Work at the University of Baltimore School of Social Work.

Samantha Gailey – pursuing a PhD in Social Ecology at the University of California, Irvine.

Faculty News

This past February, Dan McCall presented a colloquium at Dickinson College where he summarized research on odor associations that was conducted over the past several years with Jamie Engelman ‘11, Danielle Willis ‘11, Cara Dochat ‘13, Brianna Hare ‘14, Selah Kwak ‘16, and Josh Rubinstein ’16. Dan, Brianna, Selah and Josh also presented some new research in May at the Association for Psychological Science meetings in New York.

Christopher Barlett continues his research on aggression and cyberbullying. This past year he
published papers in several journals including \textit{Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin}, \textit{Personality and Individual Differences, Emerging Adulthood, Journal of Adolescence}, and \textit{Psychology of Popular Media Culture}. He was also asked to be a consulting editor for \textit{Aggressive Behavior}, the top peer reviewed journal specializing in the study of aggression. He is the only un-tenured editor. Several undergraduate students presented research conducted in Dr. Barlett’s lab at various conferences. Dorian Jones ’15, Wesley Gregory ’15, Hannah Olibphant ’15, Lindsay Westberg ’15, Zachary Witkower ’15, Colin Mancini ’16, and Nicole Garafola ’16 took research to the APS conference this May in New York. Finally, Chris and his wife, Natalie, welcomed their second son, Jace Alexander, on September 1, 2015. He and his older brother (Eric Christopher; born July 2012) are getting along well.

In March 2015, Kira Mason (‘16) and Nathalie Goubet presented a poster at the meeting for the Society for Research in Child Development in Philadelphia on their research on disgust in preschoolers (Shelby Leeds, ‘15 was also an author). Liz Andresen (’15) also attended the conference and presented with Nathalie Goubet and Dan McCall a poster on odor-shape cross-modal associations in children”. In May 2015, Kira Mason (‘16), Alexandra Kowker (‘16), Dan McCall and Nathalie Goubet presented a poster on odor-color associations in American adults at the meeting of the Association for Psychological Science in New York.

Within the past year, Sahana Mukherjee has organized a symposium titled ‘\textit{Revolutionary Pedagogies in Psychology: Toward Critical Consciousness}’ and presented a paper titled “Critical Approaches to Introductory Psychology: Implications for Social Justice” at the Race and Pedagogy Conference, Tacoma, WA. She has also published a paper with co-authors Phia S. Salter and Ludwin E. Molina, “\textit{Museum Spaces as Psychological Affordances: Representations of Immigration History and National Identity},” \textit{Frontiers in Psychology} 6.692 (2015) and had a busy summer, traveling to India to purchase history textbooks and meet with collaborators on a project that examines historical narratives and national identity. Specifically, this line of work focuses on the content of memories that Indian citizens recall (and forget), and how it is associated with perceptions of current-day events. Her travels continued to San Cristobal, Mexico where she presented a paper, “The Bi-Directional relationship Between Historical Representations and National identity: A Cultural Psychological Analysis” at the regional Conference of the International Association for Cross-Cultural Psychology. Most recently she and student assistants, Amy Violante ’17 and Samantha Lee ’16, traveled to NYC to collect data for a project that focuses on a cultural psychological analysis of national identity. They conducted short interviews with NYC residents to assess how understandings of national pride and glorification are associated with cultural events and phenomena.

It was another fun-filled summer in Steve Sivy’s Behavioral Neuroscience Lab as work moved into the final year of a 3-year NIMH-funded research project. This project continued to look at the inbred F344 rat to investigate the neurobehavioral mechanisms responsible for juvenile play behavior. Josh Rubinstein ’16, Rose Fogliano ’16, and Mary O’Mara ’16, worked on several projects that primarily addressed (1) the extent to which strain differences in oxytocin functioning might account for the dysfunctional play in the F344 rat and (2) the extent to which early maternal experiences could be modulating some of the strain differences as well. Additional funding for these summer projects was made available through a grant to Gettysburg College from the Howard Hughes Medical Institute through the Precollege and Undergraduate Science Education Program and the Eric E. Kolbe ‘65 Student-Faculty Research Fund. In addition to the 3 students on campus, Samantha Eck ’16 and Lana McDowell ’16 spent two months in the laboratories of Dr. Louk Vanderschuren and Dr. Heidi Lesscher at the University of Utrecht in the Netherlands. This research experience was funded by Steve’s NIMH grant and provided opportunities for these students to gain expertise in various techniques used in their labs by becoming involved in various ongoing research projects. Sam and Lana had the opportunity to work with several cutting-edge technologies for studying the brain, including a technique known as optogenetics which uses targeted light to activate genetically tagged neurons in a specific region of the brain.

\textbf{Supporting Psychology} 

Thanks for reading, everyone! We’re so proud of the department and all that both the faculty and the students are accomplishing – we hope you can now understand why! \textbf{If you are interested in supporting the department, gifts that are made through the Gettysburg Fund support the work we do indirectly as those funds are used across the college, but if your desire is to support the department directly, remember to note “Psychology Special Gifts Fund” when you give. We are so grateful for your support!}