

Psych Matters

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Editor, Jennifer Mailloux, Associate Professor of Psychology

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Dr. Mindy Erchull Receives Psi Chi Award

By Lauren Hartwell and Alexandra Zelin, Psi Chi Co-presidents, '10-'11



The 2011 Southeastern Regional Psi Chi Advisor Award was given to Dr. Mindy Erchull for her service to the organization, which is the National Honor Society in Psychology. Dr. Erchull was nominated by Lauren Hartwell and Alexandra Zelin, who were Co-presidents of the UMW Psi Chi chapter during the '10-'11 academic year. The letter of nomination they wrote is printed below.

Clearly, Lauren and Alex did a wonderful

job summarizing Dr. Erchull's myriad accomplishments!

The award is given to the advisor who best achieves Psi Chi's purpose, which is to promote excellence in psychological and general scholarship and to advance psychology as a science. Lauren and Alex announced Dr. Erchull's receipt of the award at the spring 2011 induction of new Psi Chi members. Congratulations, Dr. Erchull!

Dr. Mindy Erchull, Associate Professor, was inducted into Psi Chi in the spring of 1996, and has remained active in the organization to this day. She became faculty advisor to the Psi Chi chapter at the University of Mary Washington (UMW) in the fall of 2006. Two years later, she received a faculty advisor research grant from Psi Chi, and she is currently serving as a faculty consultant. As our faculty advisor, Dr. Erchull runs a number of Psi Chi-sponsored events that benefit UMW psychology majors. For example, she conducts a prep session for the GRE Psychology subject test each semester, informing students how to study for and successfully complete the exam. Dr. Erchull also runs personal statement and curriculum vitae writing workshops, where she helps psychology majors prepare these items for their graduate school applications. She also does a great deal of individual consulting with students about their statements and curricula vitae outside of these workshops. Moreover, Dr. Erchull participates in our chapter's annual graduate school forum, where a panel of professors advises psychology majors about various graduate school programs and answers any questions they may have about graduate school and the application process.

In addition to these contributions to our chapter for which Dr. Erchull is personally responsible, she also works actively with the Psi Chi officers every year to coordinate a wide array of other activities. These include weekly officer meetings,

monthly all-member meetings, fall and spring semester inductions of new members, multiple service projects, multiple fundraisers and a career forum to help our majors learn about career options, with and without graduate training, in psychology and related fields. Furthermore, Dr. Erchull began our chapter's tradition of donating \$100 to charity each year. Dr. Erchull is also particularly excited by the success of recent fundraising efforts that have allowed our chapter to start a small conference travel scholarship program, which will benefit both our Psi Chi chapter members and UMW psychology majors.

Finally, Dr. Erchull oversees the organization of the UMW psychology department's annual Psi Chi Symposium each spring. The symposium is a two-day event in which psychology majors from various courses and research teams present their work to faculty and peers through both paper and poster presentations. Dr. Erchull works with students to coordinate scheduling, judging for the student awards, the design of student awards, and refreshments. She also secures a keynote speaker from another institution for the conference every year.

However, Dr. Erchull's contributions to the field of psychology are certainly not limited to Psi Chi events or to UMW. Dr. Erchull has been the faculty advisor for a number of student research teams, and she has consistently taken those teams to both local and national conferences, and has mentored her students through the process of publishing their work. In August of 2010, Dr. Erchull's excellence in teaching was recognized when she received the Mary Roth Walsh Teaching the Psychology of Women Award from Division 35 of the American Psychological Association. This award recognizes a young faculty member who is devoted to promoting the psychology of women. The winner of the award must have devised a creative approach for addressing issues of diversity when teaching the psychology of women. Dr. Erchull, whose psychology of women course employs class discussion, community-service learning, and individual research is incredibly deserving of this prestigious award.

Dr. Erchull is an active member of many organizations in addition to Psi Chi. She is a member of the board of directors of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research, a member of the executive committee of the Society for the Psychology of Women division of the APA, and co-coordinator

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of the Researchers' Caucus of the Association for Women in Psychology. She is also chairing a task force on teaching and curriculum change for the Society for General Psychology division of the APA. In addition to these specific roles, Dr. Erchull has been an avid reviewer for grant proposals, conference submissions, student awards, and multiple scholarly journals, including the Psi Chi Journal of Undergraduate Research.

It is important to note that Dr. Erchull has done all of this while consistently undertaking her own research, often in collaboration with undergraduate students. She has presented at countless conferences across the country and has consistently published her work in peer-reviewed publications, often several in a given year, again, typically with student co-authors.

Dr. Erchull is a distinguished researcher, she is involved in both psychology and Psi Chi at the national, regional, and state levels, and she is a fantastic faculty advisor. We believe Dr. Mindy J. Erchull truly deserves this award for all of her contributions to the UMW Psi Chi chapter and to the field of psychology in general.

Psychology Department Research is Alive and Well

By Debra Steckler, Chair and Associate Professor of Psychology

Once again, the Psychology Department is experiencing an active year with respect to research collaborations between faculty and students. This year there are 11 faculty and 31 students involved in the year-long course, Psychology 491 – Individual Research. These faculty and students will conduct their research this year then, in April, they will all go to the Virginia Psychological Association (VPA)

meeting to present it. Quite regularly, a research team from UWM wins the VPA Frederick Rowe Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Research. Our Psychology 491 research teams will present at the annual, in-house Psi Chi Research Symposium as well, and many will present at UMW's Research and Creativity Day.

The research questions being investigated this year are innovative and intriguing. Dr. Steve Hampton (Associate Professor of Psychology) and his team of students are investigating whether there are different parts of the brain that process male and female faces. Dr. Chris Kilmartin (Professor of Psychology) and his team are wondering if getting males to role play non-sexist behaviors makes them less sexist. Drs. Holly Schiffrin and Miriam Liss (Associate Professors of Psychology) are joining forces this year; their team will examine the impact of "intensive mothering" beliefs on mother and child experiences. Dr. Dave MacEwen (Professor of Psychology) and his team are contemplating the evidence for extrasensory perception, scrutinizing previous studies for methodological flaws. Dr. Virginia Mackintosh (Assistant Professor of Psychology) and her team are analyzing the effectiveness of a horticultural therapy program offered in Prince William County, VA.

Dr. Chris McBride (Professor of Psychology) and her team are examining how stress appraisals, guilt, and cognitive load affect eating behavior. Dr. Denis Nissim-Sabat (Professor of Psychology) and his team plan to study emotional intelligence. Dr. David Rettinger (Associate Professor of Psychology) and his team are examining whether one's decision to cheat is influenced by seeing other people cheat. Our newest faculty member, Dr. Hilary Stebbins (Assistant Professor of Psychology), and her team are using an attentional-blink paradigm to examine how different emotional facial expressions demand different levels of attentional processing. Last, but not least, my team and I are investigating how three generations of parenting practices may have influenced the development of the emerging adulthood

stage of development.

As many alumni remember, the Psychology 491 research team experience not only allows for the application of knowledge of the content of psychology and statistics and research methods skills gathered throughout completion of the major, but also an opportunity to experience what experimental psychology is like out in the real world. Furthermore, the Psychology 491 research team experience allows our majors to add yet another presentation to their resume – a presentation at a respected regional conference no less!

When added to Research Methods and Experimental Psychology course presentations given at our Psi Chi Symposium, it is clear that the Psychology 491 research team experience provides a strong foundation for graduate school or a career in psychology. And, of course, those of you who have been on a research team surely remember not only the challenges, but also the sense of accomplishment completing original work provides. And, you'll never forget how much fun you had at the VPA conference!

In addition to attending the VPA conference in the spring, many of our research teams present their research at national conferences such as the American Psychological Association and the Association for Psychological Science. Our faculty and their research students also present regularly at regional conferences such as the Southeastern Psychological Association and the Eastern Psychological Association.

If you are at a psychology conference where a UMW psychology student is presenting, please attend their session. You will be impressed by what you see! Everyone is welcome to attend our annual Psi Chi Research Symposium on April 19 and 20, 2012, as well as UMW's Research and Creativity Day on April 17, 2012. If you are in Norfolk, VA, next April, check out the VPA conference on Thursday, April 26, 2012. It would be great to see you there!

Psychology in Europe was “The Best Learning Experience of My Life!”

By Jay Hess, Psychology Major, '11



Attendees of the Psychology in Europe Trip, 2011: Joel Bassam, Tina Castillo, Dr. Denis Nissim-Sabat, Katy Taylor, Kima Johnson, Kristina Rader, Jay Hess, Amy Newcomb, Lauren Kearns, Caroline Isaacson, and Christopher (Braden) Vernet

For two weeks last May, ten students, including myself, traveled through Europe for an unforgettable experience of the history of psychology. Dr. Denis Nissim-Sabat, Professor of Psychology, and his wife, Mary Lou, led the group. This was the fifth Psychology in Europe trip for Dr. Nissim-Sabat, Mary Lou, and a group of students. Dr. Nissim-Sabat is already planning the sixth trip which will take place next May.

The trip began in London where we visited Sigmund Freud's house, the Anna Freud Center, and Charles Darwin's house. The second stop was Amsterdam. There, we saw the Anne Frank House and the Van Gogh Museum. The next two stops, both in Germany, were Wurzburg and Munich. In Wurzburg, we visited the Center for the History of Psychology; in Munich, we visited the Dachau Concentration Camp. The final stop was Vienna. There, we went on walking tours of Old Vienna and Jewish Vienna, we visited the home of Sigmund Freud before the Nazi invasion, and we visited the Viktor Frankl Center.

Of all the sites on the itinerary, the Dachau Concentration Camp was the most memorable. According to Lauren Kearns, another student in the group, Dachau was memorable because, “it was incredible to walk through the gas chambers and other parts of the concentration camp, the same places where so many people suffered and lost their lives.” I agree with Lauren completely; it was a mind-blowing experience I would not trade for anything.

Another great part of the trip was the free time. Our first day in London was a free day, which helped us get to know the city and see anything we wanted to see while we were there. The last day in Vienna was a free day also. Even if we did not have a full day of free time in a particular city, there was

plenty of time to explore. Between sightseeing during free time and seeing the sites on the itinerary, we were always learning something new. This trip was hands down the best learning experience of my life!

The trip counts as learning experience, too. Students earn three interdisciplinary course credits and the trip fulfills the Global Inquiry General Education requirement. Before we left for the trip, we completed a few readings and watched a couple movies. During the trip, we had discussions about the readings and movies, so we could apply them at the relevant location. After the trip, we had to answer questions about the sites, the readings, and the movies.

Next year, a new group of students will visit the same cities, although Dr. Nissim-Sabat has tweaked the itinerary a bit. During the London visit, the group will hear a talk about attention deficit hyperactivity disorder in Europe. In addition, the group will attend the Vienna State Opera, and Dr. Nissim-Sabat is trying to arrange a visit to the Alfred Adler Institute in Vienna. Last, Dr. Nissim-Sabat is requiring students visit a certain number of museums or castles during the trip.

In sum, the trip not only provides structured, yet “out of the classroom,” learning experiences, but also plenty of informal opportunities to learn about European history and culture. If you have any questions or would like to see a working itinerary for next year's trip, please contact Dr. Nissim-Sabat at dnissim@umw.edu.

Career Forum Panelists Assure Students Graduate Study is Not the Only Option

By Lisa Feeley, Psychology Student Representative, '10-'11

Typically, senior year is filled with fun and excitement; however, senior year can also be a time of pure panic! At the end of their stay at UMW, seniors must decide what to do after they graduate. Luckily, the UMW Psi Chi chapter organizes a career forum for psychology majors every spring. Psi Chi invites college graduates who have successful careers in the field of psychology to describe their job and the path they took to get their job.

Last spring, four individuals shared their experiences with psychology majors. The panelists were **Laura Gordon-Craig, Jenny Argueta, Lois Siler, and Diana Weigel**. Laura Gordon-Craig is a legal advocate for the Rappahannock Council Against Domestic Violence. Jenny Argueta is a lead in-home specialist who works for Matthew's Center for Visual Learning, an organization that supports children with autism and related disabilities. Lois Siler

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Laura Gordon-Craig, Jenny Argueta, Lois Siler, and Diana Weigel

works with autistic children as well; she works for Dominion Day Services. Last, Diana Weigel was employed in the Office of Human Resources at UMW last spring.

Last semester's forum was packed with anxious students. Many students expressed their fear of finding a job in the current economy, as well as concern about paying for graduate study in tight economic times. It was reassuring that the take home message of the career forum was that there are career options for students with a bachelor's degree only. Many careers utilize the skills obtained during undergraduate study of psychology, but do not require an advanced degree. According to the panelists, many employers are not necessarily looking for advanced degrees, but they are looking for experience. Specifically, most employers are looking for a least one year of experience that is somehow relevant to the position.

Students asked, "How can we get this experience?" The panelists suggested that a great way to gather experience is to complete volunteer work, an internship, community service, or gain research experience if one wants to work in a laboratory setting. Luckily, psychology majors complete either an internship, community service, and/or gain research experience as part of their major. Students should realize that these accomplishments can be used to sell oneself to a potential employer by highlighting these accomplishments on a resume.

The panelists stressed the importance of being able to sell oneself. When trying to find a job, modesty is not your friend!

They recommended thinking about the skills gained as a psychology major, such as critical thinking skills, knowledge of statistics, data analysis capabilities, the ability to work in groups, the ability to present one's work both orally and in writing, experience working on research projects, experience working with exceptional individuals, like autistic children, etc.

Also, the panelists recommended students try different jobs to gain experience, and to help figure out what kind of job one enjoys and why kind of job one does not enjoy. The panelists agreed that the right job is often one that a person feels passionate about, and feeling passionate about what one does will feed one's success. Last, the panelists assured students that it is alright to change jobs a few or even many times in an effort to find the right fit. The change is usually worth it.

The career forum is held every year in the spring semester. Each year a different set of panelists is invited to share their experiences, so join us next semester at 5:00 pm on February 23, 2012 for the next career forum. The panelists and location are to be determined, but save the date!

The Topher Bill Auction Went Online

by Noah Tucker, Psychology Student Representative '10-'11

Every spring, students, faculty, and staff in the Psychology Department hold an auction to honor and celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. J. Christopher "Topher" Bill. Dr. Bill was a Distinguished Psychology Professor at UMW from 1972-2001. Dr. Bill was known for the love and respect he gave to his students and colleagues, in addition to his ability to challenge them and the high expectations he had for them.

After Dr. Bill passed away suddenly in 2001, a scholarship was set up in his name. The Topher Bill Scholarship is typically awarded to one or two rising seniors who are academically outstanding, especially with respect to

statistics and research methods courses, which Dr. Bill taught. In addition, scholarship winners typically exhibit a passion and dedication to the study of psychology by being involved in research-oriented activities as well as other activities sponsored by the department. In sum, the scholarship is given to students who exhibit love, respect, passion, and dedication, like Dr. Bill.

In the past, students, faculty, and staff gathered for a live auction; however, last semester's auction was held online in an effort to reach individuals unable to attend a live auction. Dr. Dave MacEwen, Professor of Psychology, and Amanda Halliburton ('11), psychology major and student aide, worked tirelessly to set up an online auction that lasted from March 14 to April 1, 2011. Holding the auction online allowed not only current students, faculty, and staff to take part in the auction, but also alumni, parents, and the greater community the opportunity to bid on items that caught their eye.

Items up for bid ranged from dinner with professors (who wouldn't want to dine with the McKolar's at their home?!), sweet baked goods (Mary Lou Nissim-Sabat's mouth-watering baklava), weekend getaways (a rejuvenating stay at the Mt. Washington Bed and Breakfast in New Hampshire offered by alumna Mary Ann Mayer ('83)), and many more intriguing offers. After two weeks of bidding, \$1574 was raised to be awarded in Dr. Bill's honor.

The psychology department would like to thank all the individuals who donated items to be auctioned. Your generosity is appreciated. Furthermore, the department is grateful to Dr. Dave MacEwen and Amanda Halliburton ('11) for bringing the auction online, and to last year's psychology department representatives, Lisa Feeley ('11), Stephanie Lichiello ('11), Noah Tucker ('11), and Rachael Wonderlin ('11), who helped plan the auction. Last, a special thanks to Jean Bennett, Psychology Department Office Manager, for collecting and organizing the items to be auctioned.

Drs. Mindy Erchull and Holly Schiffrin Receive Promotions

Congratulations to Drs. Mindy Erchull and Holly Schiffrin who are both serving their first year as Associate Professor with tenure at UMW. Dr. Erchull is a Social Psychologist who teaches General Psychology, Research Methods, Social Psychology, Health Psychology and Psychology of Women. Dr. Erchull's research interests are in the areas of feminist identity, objectification of women, and women's health. In addition to advising our chapter of Psi Chi, Dr. Erchull is currently a member of the Women's and Gender Studies Major Advisory committee and a member of the Society for Menstrual Cycle Research Board of Directors.

Dr. Schiffrin is a Developmental Psychologist who teaches Developmental Psychology – The Infant and Child; Psychology of Exceptional Children and Youth; Introductory and Advanced Statistics; and an occasional positive psychology seminar. Dr. Schiffrin's research interests are in the areas of risk factors for developmental disabilities, the media's influence on development, parent coaching, and positive psychology. Currently, Dr. Schiffrin is president of the Virginia Academy of Academic Psychologists (a division of the Virginia Psychological Association), she serves as Chair of the UMW Institutional Review Board, and she serves as outcomes assessment coordinator in the psychology department.



Lab Aides: Dr. David Rettinger (Advisor), Hanna Lehnen, Erica Christian, Robert Meissner, and Kasi Hunnicutt



Student Representatives: Robert Meissner, Clifton Wise, Dr. Debra Steckler (Advisor), Courtney Lynn, and Kate Boggs

New Student Representatives and Lab Aides for '11-'12

Last spring, **Kate Boggs, Courtney Lynn, Robert Meissner, and Clifton Wise** were elected by their peers to serve as psychology department student representatives. The representatives have been busy organizing events like the Majors Meeting and the Fall Picnic this semester. Also, they contributed to this newsletter!

Four students were selected by their peers to serve as lab aides. Returning from last year are **Kasi Hunnicutt** and **Robert Meissner**. They will be joined by **Erica Christian** and **Hanna Lehnan**. The lab aides oversee the computers labs in Chandler Hall which serve all psychology and business majors.

On behalf of the psychology departments, thank you to the psychology representatives and the lab aides for the services you provide.

Psi Chi Inducts New Members and Elects New Officers

In the spring of 2011, a number of psychology majors were welcomed into the UMW chapter of Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology. The inductees were: **John Ackley, Trevor Benante, Tina Brehm, Erin Burdwood, Katherine Geary, Megan Heitman, Rachel Hirst, Lindsay Howe, Courtney Lynn, and Dorothy Sandridge**.

Also, the Psi Chi chapter elected new officers last semester. **Stephanie Martin** and **Kathryn Rizzo** will serve as Co-presidents, **Tina Brehm** will serve as Secretary, and **Lindsay Howe** will serve as Treasurer. Also, **Katherine Geary** will serve as Historian and **Taryn Tashner** will serve as Fundraising Chair.

Psi Chi Symposium Presenters Given Awards for Outstanding Research



Dr. Alexandra Rutherford

her research with Dr. Mindy Erchull (Associate Professor). Congratulations to our award winners and to all the Psi Chi Symposium presenters!

These awards were presented following a keynote address by Dr. Alexandra Rutherford, Associate Professor of Psychology at York University in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Her address was titled, *Science, social change, and psychology: Why history matters*.

At the Psi Chi Symposium, outstanding research was recognized in three categories: Methods Course Research, Laboratory Course Research, and Independent Study Research. **Joynee' Carter, Ellen Higinbotham, and Sharon VanNiel** were given the award for best Methods Course Research. Their project was titled, *The effectiveness of relaxation techniques on test anxiety*. They completed this project in Dr. Christine McBride's (Professor) Research Methods class. **Logan Cheshire, Alyssa Dembrowski, Rachel Hirst, and Robert Meissner** were given the award for best Laboratory Course Research. Their project was titled, *Physiological and emotional effects of videogame violence*. They completed this project in Dr. Hilary Stebbins' Physiological Psychology course. Last, **Lauren Hartwell** was given the award for best Independent Study Research. Her project was titled, *Young women going all the way: What predicts hook ups and casual sex in college?* Lauren completed

Students Named Scholarship and Award Winners

A number of students were awarded scholarships for the '11-'12 academic year. Two *Topher Bill Scholarships* were awarded to **Frank Knizer** and **Kathryn Rizzo** for their outstanding performance, particularly in statistics and research methods. *The Burney Lynch Parkinson Scholarship*, for a student who intends to make education a career, was awarded to **Brittany Byrd**. *Minnie Rob Phaup Scholarships*, named in honor of a former faculty member, were awarded to **Katherine Geary, Courtney Lynn, Robert Meissner** and **Dorothy Sandridge**. Last, the *Outstanding Senior Award* was given to **Lauren Hartwell**.

Students Awarded Honors in Psychology

Honors are awarded to academically outstanding psychology majors who complete a theoretical paper or an empirical investigation either independently or as part of the work of a research team. In addition, these students present their work to an honor's project committee for evaluation. **Lauren Hartwell, Stephanie Lichiello, and Alexandra Zelin** were awarded honors for the '10-'11 academic year. Congratulations!

Lauren Hartwell ('11) Receives Writing Center Recognition

Lauren Hartwell was recognized in the 2010 Writing Center Contest. Her winning paper was titled, "Sexual dysfunction in women: A sociological perspective." Lauren wrote the paper for Psychology of Women, taught by Dr. Mindy Erchull, Associate Professor. Congratulations, Lauren.

Alexandra Zelin ('11) Receives Recognition for Her Research

Alexandra Zelin received two awards for the research she completed last year as a member of Dr. Mindy Erchull's (Associate Professor) research team. Her research titled, "Is everybody doing

it? Sex in the college freshmen female population,” was voted the most outstanding work at the 2011 Forum on Undergraduate Research in Women’s Studies, and was voted the best undergraduate paper at the spring 2011 meeting of the Virginia Psychological Association. Congratulations, Alex!

Psychology Majors Invited to Join Phi Beta Kappa

The following psychology majors were invited to join the UMW Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa: **Erin Burdwood, Karen Ellrod, Lindsay Howe, Lilly King, Frank Knizer, Dorothy Sandridge, and Neil Thorne.**

Phi Beta Kappa, founded in 1776, is well-known for being the oldest undergraduate honors association in the United States. Its mission is to foster and recognize excellence in the liberal arts and sciences.

Psychology Majors Join Mortar Board

The following psychology majors were inducted into the UMW Chapter of Mortar Board: **Tina Brehm, Sara Hunt, and Kathryn Rizzo.**

Mortar Board, established in 1918, is a national honor society that recognizes college seniors for excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership and service. Mortar Board members represent the top scholars and leaders on their campuses.

Where Are They Now?

Tia Bach ('11) began the masters in social work program at Virginia Commonwealth University this fall. Also, Tia will continue to run a monthly support group for lesbians of all ages in Fredericksburg.

William Burner ('10) got a temporary position working for Dominion VA Power. Will will work during an outage, which occurs when a nuclear fission reactor is taken offline for maintenance. Will hopes to continue working outages at the power station in North Anna, and at other local power stations.

Wendy Carlson ('00) was recently promoted to Associate Professor of Psychology at Shenandoah University in Winchester, VA. Primarily, Wendy teaches courses in developmental psychology, but she also teaches courses in educational psychology and statistical analysis. Wendy’s research interests are in the emotional and behavioral correlates of adolescent peer relationships. When she’s not at the office, Wendy enjoys hiking and camping.

A. C. Cosby ('11) began the masters in social work program at Virginia Commonwealth University this fall.

Kathryn (Amey) Degnan ('00) is currently a Research Assistant Professor in the Department of Human Development’s Child Development Lab at the University of Maryland. Her work focuses on the continuity and discontinuity of temperament over time and the environmental factors that influence those developmental trajectories. Recently, Kate published two papers, ‘Longitudinal stability of temperamental exuberance and social-emotional outcomes in early childhood’ in *Developmental Psychology*, and ‘Temperament and the environment in the etiology of

childhood anxiety’ in *The Journal of Child Psychology and Psychiatry*. Kate lives in Falls Church, VA, with her husband, Matt, their 3-year-old son, Ryan, and the newest addition to their family, daughter Rebecca, born last February.

Ashley DuVal ('11) began the masters program in Forensic Psychology at Marymount University this fall.

Karen Ellrod ('11) began the masters in social work program at George Mason University this fall.

Lauren Fuller ('09) was awarded the Unger-Frieze prize for the best student poster presentation at the Association for Women in Psychology meeting last March. Her winning poster was titled, ‘The effects of perfectionism and eating attitudes on career decision making self-efficacy’. Currently, Lauren is doctoral student in Counseling Psychology at the University of North Dakota.

Amanda Halliburton ('11) began the doctoral program in Clinical Psychology at Virginia Tech this fall.

Rachel Jobe ('10) began the doctoral program in Cognitive Psychology at Lehigh University this fall.

Marie LePage ('05) received her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Kent State University, following completion of her internship at the Medical University of South Carolina. This fall, Marie began a postdoctoral fellowship in the department of behavioral medicine at Virginia Commonwealth University’s Medical Center.

Autumn (Brown) Kujawa ('06) received the Stony Brook University Department of Psychology award for second-

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year research in 2010. Her second-year project is titled, 'Attentional biases for emotional faces in young children of mothers with chronic or recurrent depression'. Also, Autumn received a National Research Service Award, a pre-doctoral fellowship, to study neural markers of emotional reactivity in youth depression and anxiety. She is working on her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Stony Brook University.

Emily (Hill) Lilley ('03) is currently the administrator of the Mid-Atlantic Twin Registry at Virginia Commonwealth University. In this position, she oversees behavioral, genetic, and health-related research with twins and their families. In addition, she was married to her husband, Travis, last April.

Ashley Maynard ('11) began the masters in elementary education program at UMW this fall.

Bethany Mastrorilli ('10) began the masters in social work program at Boston College this fall.

Samantha Michaud ('05) is working on an online masters program in Criminal Justice from Michigan State University. She is focusing on law enforcement intelligence and analysis.

Paul Murray ('09) began the doctoral program in Sociology at the University of Arizona this fall.

Debbie Paley ('11) is currently a Personnel Supervisor at Care Advantage in Charlottesville, VA. Care Advantage provides in-home care for all ages. Debbie's job includes recruiting, hiring and training new caregivers, in addition to maintaining files for over 90 employees.

Jennifer Price ('11) began the masters in elementary education

program at UMW this fall.

Laura Ramsey ('06) received her doctorate in Social Psychology from the University of Michigan, and accepted a tenure-track assistant professor of psychology position at Bridgewater State University.

Sonia Roschelli ('10) began the masters in social work program at George Mason University this fall.

Jenna Shevlin ('11) began the masters in elementary education program at UMW this fall.

Sarah Spangler ('11) began the masters in public policy program at the Johns Hopkins Institute for Policy Studies this fall. After completing her masters degree, Sarah intends to go law school.

Megan (Martinez) Thoen ('07) was married to her husband, Eric, last May. Megan is working on her doctorate in Counseling Psychology at Texas Tech University which she expects to receive in spring 2013. Her husband is a police officer in Lubbock, TX where the couple resides currently.

Neil Thorne ('10) was accepted into AmeriCorps. He relocated to Nebraska for the position.

Zachary Tillet ('11) will complete training to become a paramedic in January and, afterwards, plans to seek employment with a fire department in Northern Virginia.

Riplee Royster ('11) began the masters program in Forensic Psychology at Marymount University this fall.

Alexandra Zelin ('11) began the doctoral program in Industrial/Organizational Psychology at the University of Akron this fall.

Announcements

Keep in touch with your psychology department and fellow graduates. Join the **UMW Department of Psychology Alumni Group** on Facebook!

The department encourages visitors to the psychology department website. (psycumwchandler.net) You will find information about obtaining an advanced degree in psychology, careers in psychology, opportunities for research and internships in psychology, activities sponsored by our chapter of Psi Chi, and more!

Fall Picnic

This year's Fall Picnic took place on a sunny day in early October at St. Clair Brooks Park. Students and faculty enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs, some faculty-made side dishes, and cake. Volleyball and softball games kept folks busy. A fun time was had by all!





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