

Psych Matters

Fall 2012

Editor, Jennifer Mailloux, Associate Professor of Psychology

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The Newsletter of the University of Mary Washington Department of Psychology

Dr. W. David Stahlman Joins the Psychology Faculty

By Katherine Dubrowski and Courtney Lynn, Psychology Department Representatives, '13



Dr. Dave Stahlman and One of His Subjects

Dr. W. David Stahlman began his first year as a tenure-track Assistant Professor of Psychology this fall. In 2004, Dr. Stahlman received his B.A. in biological psychology with a focus on neuroscience from Franklin and Marshall College in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. Then, he traded snow boots for sunglasses and moved to the west coast to attend the University of California, Los Angeles. At UCLA, Dr.

Stahlman received his M.A. in 2006 and his Ph.D. in 2009, both in Psychology. The major focus of his doctoral training was learning and behavior, and his minor focus was cognitive neuroscience.

After being awarded his doctorate, Dr. Stahlman was hired as a Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology at UCLA. As a Visiting Assistant Professor, he taught many different courses, including an introductory psychology course, courses on learning, a comparative psychology course, and a course on free will called Perspectives on Freedom and Determinism. Also, Dr. Stahlman worked with student researchers often. Many of these collaborations yielded presentations and publications with student co-authors.

Dr. Stahlman's research interests are rooted in the psychological and neurobiological processes underlying learning and behavior. Specifically, he has focused on the ways animals modify and fine-tune their behavior to solve problems. He is first author on a chapter to be published next year in a new book, *The Neuroscience of Creativity*, in which he contends that creative behavior in both humans and nonhumans may be the result of simple learning processes common to most animals.

Dr. Stahlman has studied these processes in a number of

animal species, including rats, pigeons, hermit crabs (yes, hermit crabs!), squirrel monkeys, and capuchin monkeys. Capuchin monkeys are a favorite of Dr. Stahlman's, but he warned that they can be aggressive. Once, a capuchin monkey hit Dr. Stahlman on the head, and it was a pretty good blow! Of course, that did not stop his work with animals...it was just par for the course.

Although he enjoyed being able to work with a variety of animal species at UCLA, a large school, Dr. Stahlman missed the close-knit environment he had experienced as an undergraduate at Franklin and Marshall College. When he hit the job market, he focused his search on smaller colleges and universities, especially ones that encourage faculty-student research collaborations while maintaining an emphasis on teaching and learning in the classroom. In addition, Dr. Stahlman's aversion to traffic and pollution of various kinds prompted him to focus his search outside of the LA area!

A reduction in traffic and pollution was not the only thing the University of Mary Washington had going for it...UMW fit the bill as a smaller university that not only emphasizes teaching and learning, but also values research, especially research that fully involves undergraduates.

UMW not only fit the bill for Dr. Stahlman, but he fit the bill for UMW's Psychology Department. The truly irreplaceable Dr. David MacEwen retired last year, leaving the department in need of an "animal learning and behavior guy." The fit is obvious! Some of the courses Dr. Stahlman will teach overlap with those Dr. MacEwen offered.

This fall, Dr. Stahlman is teaching two sections of Cognitive Neuroscience and one section of Research Methods in Psychology with laboratory. Next semester, he will teach three sections of Fundamentals of Learning and Motivation as well as one section of Research Seminar in Cognition, Perception, and Learning. In the future, Dr. Stahlman hopes to teach a First-year Seminar on the topic of free will, a modified version of the Perspectives on Freedom and Determinism course he taught at UCLA.

In addition to his teaching and research responsibilities, Dr. Stahlman will assume Dr. MacEwen's former role as

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supervisor of our animal facility. To that end, Dr. Stahlman has been and will be very busy not only acquiring and setting up equipment to use in the animal facility, but also working with UMW administrators and architects to ensure that our animal facilities of the future are

learning using active exploration of objects with one's hands. This collaboration has benefited from Dr. Stahlman's expertise in learning.

When we first asked Dr. Stahlman what he does in his free time, he responded, "What free time?!" Upon further questioning, we discovered



Dr. Dave Stahlman with the "Nationals"

well-designed. These facilities include not only the animal facility in the temporary space to which the Psychology Department is scheduled to move at the end of this year, but especially the animal facility in our future, permanent home in a remodeled Mercer Hall.

Currently, Dr. Stahlman is planning to organize his laboratory to be able to study the behavior of rats recorded using computer touch-screen monitors. The use of this new technology will allow for precise data collection and will give him a lot of flexibility to run many different types of experiments.

Dr. Stahlman is excited to work with his own research team in the future. For now, he is meeting regularly with the research team of Dr. Jennifer Mailloux (Associate Professor of Psychology). Although the team is not working with animals, their project is examining

that he has quite an array of interests and hobbies. He is a huge Chicago Cubs fan and played baseball as a pitcher throughout his college career. Dr. Stahlman also enjoys brewing his own beer and playing poker. He is an impressive ping-pong player and plays golf, too. He enjoys music by Rush and Alice Cooper. Although he is well-traveled and even lived in Saudi Arabia as a child, he has difficulty forming cognitive spatial maps and still gets lost on his way home!

Dr. Stahlman is engaged to be married, so planning a wedding is on his to-do list as well. His fiancée, Emilie Paczkowski, Ph.D., is a clinical child psychologist currently practicing in Fredericksburg. Congratulations to Drs. Stahlman and Paczkowski on your upcoming nuptials! The department is glad to have you as a member, Dr. Stahlman, and we hope you and Emilie enjoy life in Fredericksburg. Ψ

The Many Directions of Psychology Research

By Jennifer Mailloux, Associate Professor of Psychology

A large part of the mission of the psychology department, as stated in the Psychology Department Brochure, is to provide students with a broad background in academic psychology along with rigorous training in research techniques, statistics, and experimental psychology, which students apply to their own research projects. Ultimately, the goal is to have students present their work at local, regional, and national conferences, and publish their work, if possible.

Students work closely with each other and with faculty members to complete original research projects. Formally, this experience is known as the Psychology 491 and 492 courses, which are taken in the fall and spring semesters, respectively. The participating faculty and students will conduct their research then, in April, all the students will present their research at the departmental Psi Chi Symposium; students may present their research at the campus-wide Research and Creativity Day as well. Furthermore, all students will present their research at the Virginia Psychological Association (VPA) meeting which will be held in Richmond this year, and some students will present their research with their faculty advisor at national conferences of professional associations such as the American Psychological Association or the Association for Psychological Science.

The research topics being investigated this year are diverse. Drs. Miriam Liss (Associate Professor) and Mindy Erchull (Associate Professor) are continuing their work on self-

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objectification and self-sexualization in women with their students. Self-objectification is looking at one's body as other's may see it, as if it were an object, and self-sexualization is soliciting the sexualized gaze of others. Dr. Steve Hampton (Associate Professor) and his students are investigating the effects of adaptation, which is reduced responding to a stimulus following its repeated presentation, on the identification of faces as male or female. Analyzing adaptation effects may contribute to understanding which areas of the brain are important for processing particular types of faces.

Dr. Dave Kolar (Associate Professor) and his students are wondering how individuals develop attitudes promoting concern for and conservation of the environment. Ideally, knowledge of the development of a "green" attitude could be applied to encourage "green" behaviors. Dr. Chris McBride (Professor) is continuing her research on stress-related eating. Whether or not college-age individuals eat sweet, fatty foods when faced with a stressful event may depend on whether the individual feels threatened by the event or not. This year, Dr. McBride and her students are wondering whether similar findings can be observed in children.

Dr. Denis Nissim-Sabat (Professor) and his team are studying the psychology of the current presidential election, perhaps focusing on the roles argumentation, contradiction, and emotion play in voter decision making. Dr. Larry Penwell (Professor) and his team are studying individual, group, and/or intergroup dynamics in the workplace. Dr. Hilary Stebbins (Assistant Professor) is continuing her research on the processing of emotional faces. Last year, Dr. Stebbins and her former students tested college-age individuals; this year, she and her students hope to test a normal, aging population.

Dr. Debra Steckler (Associate Professor) has studied the relatively recently characterized developmental stage of emerging adulthood, occurring between adolescence and adulthood, for several years. This year, Dr. Steckler and her students will examine whether a difference in parenting style between the parents and grandparents of today's emerging adults influenced the development of emerging adulthood. Last, my students, Dr. Dave Stahlman (Assistant Professor), and I (Dr. Jennifer Mailloux, Associate Professor) are studying haptics, which is active touch. Active touch not only includes what we feel when we interact with an object or a person in our environment, but also what we think and what we do as a result of that interaction.

The combination of interesting topics and talented teams of researchers promises to produce research that is informative and interesting. As mentioned, all students will present their research at the departmental Psi Chi Research Symposium. This year, the symposium will take place on April 18 and 19 in Chandler Hall, Room 102. It is open to the public, so please attend. The refreshments never disappoint! The university-wide Research and Creativity Day is open to the public also, and will take place in April. Last, check out our students' presentations at the VPA meeting, April 24-26, if you are in attendance. It would be wonderful to see you there! Ψ

From UMW to Europe: Psychology Abroad

By Carol Quinn, Psychology Major, '13

For the fifth consecutive year, the psychology department offered students the unique opportunity to explore sites and participate in experiences important in the development of modern psychology as well as a variety of European cultures. In just two weeks, a group of nine students traveled through five cities under the guidance of Dr. Dave Kolar (Associate Professor).



The Psychology in Europe Group in Front of the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam

Beginning in London, the group attended a lecture by researchers at the Anna Freud Center, stood within feet of Sigmund Freud's acclaimed psychoanalytic couch, and toured the home and gardens where Charles Darwin conducted his groundbreaking experiments. A free day in the city allowed students to explore their own interests, including the 2012 Olympic Village, and to become familiar with public transportation!

Two days in Amsterdam included self-guided tours of the Van Gogh Museum and the Anne Frank Museum. Würzburg, Germany was a breath of fresh air between the metropolitan bustle of the other cities. Students were treated to

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The Group at the Camden Lock Market in London: Vincent Nguyen, Audrey McAvoy, Victoria Bennett, Anapaula Ojeda, Kate Vennergrund, Becca McKeithen, Rachael Juhan, Carol Quinn, and Kayleen Higgins

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an interactive exhibit of psychological instruments led by a professor at the University of Würzburg.

Home to great pretzels and even better beer, Munich was the group's next stop. The students traveled to Dachau for a moving visit to the former concentration camp. Without a formal tour, students were able to take in the experience at their own pace and walk through the camp's front gate, barracks, and crematorium.

Traveling to Vienna by train provided stunning views of the Alps. On the first full day in the city, the group toured the apartment where Sigmund Freud spent the majority of his life before fleeing to London, and took a walking tour of Vienna's historic sites. At the Viktor Frankl Center, the grandson of the psychiatrist and a Holocaust survivor presented a lecture on Frankl's development of logotherapy, which focuses on the belief that striving for meaning in one's life is the most powerful influence on the human experience. Between a performance at the Volksoper theatre and dinner at a local microbrewery, the group visited the Schönbrunn Palace, the massive summer residence of the Hapsburg family.

Psychology in Europe is a summer

course which will be offered again next year. To fulfill course requirements, this year's group completed assignments and engaged in discussions relevant to each stop on the itinerary. We read books and saw films such as Frankl's *Mans Search for Meaning* and *Schindler's List*.

The course is open to students of all majors who earn three interdisciplinary course credits upon completion of the trip and its assignments. Completion of General Psychology is the only prerequisite. Furthermore, the trip can fulfill the Global Inquiry General Education requirement.

Next year, Dr. Denis Nissim-Sabat (Professor) will provide guidance on the trip, although has tweaked the itinerary a bit. The group will visit four cities: London, Paris, Würzburg, and Vienna. Sites include the Freud Museum in London, Charles Darwin's House, The Anna Freud Centre, Musée Dupuytren, The Centre for the History of Psychology, Mauthausen Concentration Camp, the Viktor Frankl Institute, and Freud's House in Vienna. In addition, the group will attend the Vienna State Opera.

If you are interested in the trip, check out the program website: <http://idis.umwblogs.org>. If you would like to see a working itinerary for next year's trip or have any questions, please contact Dr. Nissim-Sabat at dnissim@umw.edu. Ψ

Career Forum Panelists Agree Openness to New Experiences is a Key to Success

By Robert Meissner and Clifton Wise, Psychology Student Representatives, '11-'12

Throughout their college career, students enjoy meeting new people and embracing new activities. Variety is the spice of their lives! As seniors, however, students may come to believe that they must focus on certain people and activities to be successful following graduation. There is a lot of pressure to make the right decisions, especially with respect their careers.

To ease the stress of making decisions about their careers, the UMW Psi Chi chapter organizes an annual Career Forum for psychology students. Psi Chi invites individuals who work in the field of psychology to speak with students about the paths they took to their present occupations.

The paths these speakers have taken are usually not singular or straight! In fact, they agree that, to achieve success following graduation, students should continue to meet new people and try new activities – a couple of the things students enjoy so much about college!

Last year's Career Forum took place on February 23, 2012. Two licensed clinical social workers, **Libby Wasem** and **Beth Parker**, came to speak with the students. **Dr. Mindy Erchull**, Associate Professor, completed the panel. The panelists described their educational and professional histories, and Dr. Erchull discussed opportunities at non-profit organizations and government agencies.

In addition to describing their personal, post-baccalaureate experiences, the panel answered students' questions. The question and answer session was fruitful. One

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student asked, "What would you suggest for graduating seniors who don't know exactly what they want to do?" Beth Parker offered advice; she said, "Find something that grabs your interest. Look at what is available in the community and get experience...try it all!" Libby Wasem agreed.



The Career Forum Panel (Libby Wasem, Beth Parker, and Dr. Mindy Erchull) and Attendees

After hearing concerns about how many entry-level jobs require at least one year of relevant experience, the panelists suggested students volunteer to get that experience. Volunteer positions truly reflect a student's interest and passion; therefore, they are particularly revealing when included on a resume.

Regardless of whether a student enters a paid or unpaid position, the panelists felt it was important for students to be proactive in their search. For example, requesting a volunteer position at an organization that does not have a formal volunteer program can show initiative and open doors. According to Beth Parker, volunteering at or working for a mental hospital is a valuable experience because students may work with a very dynamic and diverse clinical population, gaining experience with a wide range of client symptomology and circumstances.

Dr. Erchull emphasized the opportunities available for UMW

students at non-profit organizations and government agencies. These opportunities abound locally and regionally, given the university's location in the city of Fredericksburg, as well as the university's close proximity to Richmond and Washington, D.C. Dr. Erchull suggested these organizations

and agencies can be sources of entry-level, research-oriented positions that provide valuable experience for students who want to attend graduate school.

Toward the end of the forum, the panelists offered specific advice about completing applications and attending interviews. The panelists told students that they should be careful not to

undersell their skills and experiences. Having acquired a UMW psychology degree, students possess strong writing, oral presentation, and critical thinking skills as well as the ability to perform and evaluate behavioral research and data analysis.

Furthermore, each psychology major will have completed an out-of-class experience, either an independent research project, an internship, or community service. These are all important additions to students' resumes, which Dr. Erchull advised students should continually revise.

Students left the forum with knowledge that they have a variety of educational and occupational paths to choose to follow. For most students, there is no one correct path. Students should let their interests guide them to new and interesting experiences.

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 on February 21, 2012 at 5:00 pm for the next Career Forum. The panelists and location are to be determined, but save the date! Ψ

Psi Chi Inducts New Members and Elects New Officers

In the spring of 2012, a number of psychology majors were welcomed into the UMW chapter of Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology. The inductees were: **Tabitha Ball, Brittany Byrd, Ann Carroll, Erica Christian, Rachel Eiker, Abbey Gellene, Amy Gerrard, Claire Growney, Linda McKenna, Alyssa Mellman, Jenna Petrucelli, Rebecca Smith, Elizabeth Storey, and Katherine Vennergrund.**

Also, the Psi Chi chapter elected new officers last semester. **Tabitha Ball** and **Courtney Lynn** will serve as Co-presidents, **Rebecca Smith** will serve as Secretary, and **Ann Carroll** will serve as Treasurer. Also, **Erica Christian** will serve as Historian and **Abbey Gellene** will serve as Fundraising Chair. Ψ

New Student Representatives and Lab Aides for '12-'13

Last spring, **Kate Dubrowski**, **Abbey Gellene**, **Michelle Gnoleba**, and **Courtney Lynn** 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 **Erica Christian** and **Hanna Lehnan**. They will be joined by **Emily Farnsworth** and **Charlotte Hagerman**. The lab aides oversee the computers labs in Chandler Hall which serve all psychology and business majors. The lab aides are advised by Dr. David Rettinger, Associate Professor.

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



Student Representatives:
Courtney Lynn, Kate Dubrowski,
Dr. Debra Steckler (Advisor), Michelle
Gnoleba, and Abbey Gellene



Lab Aides:
Charlotte Hagerman,
Emily Farnsworth,
Hanna Lehnan,
Erica Christian, and
Dr. David Rettinger
(Advisor)

New Look and New Address for the Psychology Department Website

The psychology department website has a new address and a new look! Thanks to **Luke Ruth** ('12), Psychology and Computer Science major, and **Dr. David Rettinger** (Associate Professor), we have a website that can be easily located at <http://cas.umw.edu/psychology> or by searching for "Psychology" on the university homepage.

The new website contains a "For Students" section where current students can find course requirements for the major, psychology course descriptions, and information about statistics tutoring. The "Psi Chi" section includes information about membership requirements and the annual Psi Chi-sponsored research symposium. Under "Experiential Learning," current students can find information about research, internship, and community service learning opportunities. The "Planning for the Future" section is where information about careers and graduate study in psychology can be found.

The "Faculty" section allows current and former students to become acquainted with the psychology faculty. Last, the "Alumni" section allows alumni to keep in touch by entering an update after clicking, "Where Are They Now?," as well as become informed about upcoming department events they may be interested in attending.

So, what are you waiting for? Let us know where you are now, and check out where we are now! Ψ

Students Named Scholarship and Award Winners

A number of students were awarded scholarships for the '12-'13 academic year. The *Topher Bill Scholarship* was awarded to **Courtney Lynn** for her outstanding performance, particularly in statistics and research methods. Two *Burney Lynch Parkinson Scholarships*, for students who intend to make education a career, were awarded to **Brittany Byrd** and **Emily Farnsworth**. The *Minnie Rob Phaup Scholarship*, named in honor of a former faculty member, was awarded to **Rebecca Smith**. Last, the *Outstanding Senior Award* was given to two students, **Erin Burdwood** and **Katie Geary**.

This year, the psychology department was tasked with choosing a student recipient of the *C. Jarrett and Hazel Small Wilkins Scholarship in Social Sciences*. This scholarship is awarded largely on the basis of academic achievement and involvement in community service. The department selected **Jesse Vanous** as the recipient. Ψ

Student 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. **Erin Burdwood** was awarded honors for the '11-'12 academic year. Congratulations! Ψ

Katie Geary ('12) Receives Writing Center Recognition

Katie Geary was recognized in the 2011 Writing Center Contest. Her winning paper was titled, "Preferences in human mate selection explained from a social role perspective and an evolutionary perspective." Katie wrote the paper for Psychology of Women, taught by Dr. Miriam Liss, Associate Professor. Congratulations, Katie! Ψ

Kathryn Rizzo ('12) Receives Recognition from the Virginia Psychological Association

Kathryn Rizzo was given the Frederick B. Rowe Award for the Best Undergraduate Paper presented at last spring's annual meeting of the Virginia Psychological Association. Her presentation was titled, "Intensive mothering outcomes for women." Kathryn completed the project under the supervision of Dr. Miriam Liss, Associate Professor, and Dr. Holly Schiffrin, Associate Professor. Congratulations, Kathryn! Ψ

Psychology Majors Invited to Join Phi Beta Kappa

The following psychology majors were invited to join the UMW Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa: **John Ackley, Ann Carroll, Shaun Mayer, Amy Newcomb, and Lucas Ruth.**

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. Ψ

Psychology Majors Join Mortar Board

The following psychology majors were inducted into the UMW Chapter of Mortar Board: **Erica Christian, Katherine Dubrowski, Hanna Lehnen, Courtney Lynn, and Amy Newcomb.**

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 Ψ

Psi Chi Symposium Presenters Given Awards for Outstanding Research



Dr. Ted Dumas

At the Psi Chi Symposium, outstanding research was recognized in three categories: Methods Course Research, Laboratory Course Research, and Independent Study Research. **Meagan Cohee, Jessie Davis-Lee, Lauren Fawcett, and Christine Sentlinger** were given the award for best Methods Course Research. Their project was titled, *Authority, responsibility, and the bystander effect*. They completed this project in Dr. David Rettinger's Research Methods class.

Alexandra Bergman, Sarah Findley, David Levin, Chelsea Mageland, and Julia Moran were given the award for best Laboratory Course Research. Their project was titled, *Does manipulation of sweet taste perception influence ingestion analgesia?* They completed this project in Dr. Jennifer Mailloux's Sensation and Perception course.

Last, **Caitlin Brady, Megan Hess, Frank Knizer, and Caroline Lupsha** were given the award for best Independent Study Research. Their project was titled, *The benefits of a guilty conscience: Implications for academic integrity*. They completed this project with Dr. David Rettinger. Congratulations to our award winners and to all the Psi Chi Symposium presenters!

These awards were presented following a keynote address by Dr. Ted Dumas, Assistant Professor of Molecular Neuroscience and research affiliate of the Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study at George Mason University. His address was titled, *Boundaries: When one stops and another begins*. Ψ

Where Are They Now?

Corinne Allen ('05) received her doctorate in Cognitive Neuroscience from Rice University last spring. Subsequently, she began a postdoctoral position at Johns Hopkins University in the Department of Neurology.

Jane Ballard ('12) began the masters in counseling program at Regent University. She is completing a dual track in school and community counseling.

Erin Burdwood ('12) began the doctoral program in Clinical Psychology at the University of Delaware this fall.

Tina Brehm ('12) began the doctor of veterinary medicine program at the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine this fall.

Cathy Cooke ('83) received her doctoral degree from The Virginia Consortium Program in Clinical Psychology and passed the licensing exam last fall. Her postdoctoral work was performed at Eastern Virginia Medical School, where she performed research on behavioral interventions for children on the autism spectrum with disruptive behavior problems.

Elizabeth Cranford ('07) began a master's in education program in School Counseling at James Madison University last summer.

Alyssa Dembrowski ('12) began an internship with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, a campus ministry, at The College of New Jersey this fall.

Anna Edelman ('09) began the master's in counseling program, with a focus on clinical mental health, at Loyola University in New Orleans this fall.

Rebecca Groman ('10) will begin the online master's in social work program at Boston University in January.

Sarah Hunt ('12) began the master's in counselor education program at Virginia Commonwealth University's School of Education this fall.

Frank Knizer ('12) began law school at George Mason University this fall.

Autumn (Brown) Kujawa ('06) and her husband Eric welcomed a baby girl, Tea Elizabeth, last August.

Marie LePage ('05) is currently an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Converse College in Spartanburg, SC. At Converse College, she will teach undergraduate courses and conduct research involving undergraduate students. Also, Marie hopes to have a small private practice focused on the treatment of eating disorders. Prior to accepting this position, Marie completed a clinical psychology internship at the Medical University of South Carolina. She received her doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Kent State University.

Rosana Marzullo-Dove ('12) is currently completing her second year of the doctoral program in clinical psychology at Argosy University in Washington, D.C. As part of the program, she completed a study abroad experience in Spain last spring titled, *Issues in Treating and Assessing the Diversity Population*. In addition, Rosana began a year-long practicum as part of her training this fall. She is working at Williamsville Wellness, in Hanover, VA, a residential facility which specializes in the treatment of addiction, particularly gambling addiction, and impulse control disorders. Rosana is also teaching a course, *Principles of Psychology*, at Germanna Community College, and is a family educator with the Spotsylvania County Department of Social Services. Her two teenage girls keep her busy in her "free" time!

Lindsay Meredith ('11) is currently the Patient Care Coordinator for South River Compounding Pharmacy, working at their locations in Richmond and Midlothian, VA. Her duties include addressing patients' questions and concerns about their health. In addition, Lindsay facilitates communication between doctors' offices and the company's pharmacists, including receiving and referring laboratory work. Last, she helps update the company's online store.

Bonnie Moradi ('96) was awarded the Florence Denmark Distinguished Mentoring Award from the Association for Women in Psychology last March. The award is given to an inspiring individual who provides consistent feminist support to psychology students, including conference attendance encouragement, thesis advisement, and guidance in academic and professional settings. Currently, Dr. Moradi is a Professor of Psychology at the University of Florida.

Nani Moskal ('12) spent the summer in Wyoming working with 11-18 year old individuals who have learning disabilities, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and/or Asperger's syndrome. She worked for an organization called SOAR (Success Oriented Achievement Realized), an adventure-based program designed to help these individuals focus on activities (e.g., canoeing, horseback riding) during which they can develop generalizable coping strategies, building self-esteem and self-confidence along the way.

S. Katie Nelson ('08) and colleagues published a paper in *Psychological Science* titled, "In defense of parenthood: Children are associated with more joy than misery." Currently, Katie is completing a doctoral degree in Social Psychology at the University of California, Riverside.

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Kathryn Rizzo ('12) is currently employed as a research assistant at New York-Presbyterian hospital. She is coordinating a study on stroke rehabilitation outcomes.

Dorothy Sandridge ('12) began the masters in elementary education program at UMW this fall.

Neil Thorne ('10) began working for the Nebraska Department of Education Vocational Rehabilitation program. He helps individuals with different disabilities find a job, and serves as an advocate for the employment of individuals with disabilities in the Omaha area. Prior to obtaining this position, Neil served as an employee of AmeriCorps, also in the Omaha area.

Elinor Tuhy ('10) began the masters in social work program at the University of Kansas this fall.

Dixie Turner ('06) earned a doctoral degree in Counseling Psychology from Louisiana Tech University last fall. Currently, she is a postdoctoral resident in the Wellness Center at Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA. After completing her postdoctoral position next summer, Dixie will take the Examination for the Professional Practice of Psychology to earn licensure.

Kelsey Williams ('12) began the masters in elementary education program at UMW this fall.

Jan Winchell ('10) began medical school at Virginia Commonwealth University last year. She took a year off after graduating from UMW to work, travel, and relax. Last summer, she visited Ghana, West Africa, with some medical school classmates to see patients, conduct research, and teach local children about public health.

Susan Wismer ('10) began the masters in social work at George Mason University this fall.

Clifton Wise ('12) is currently the program director at the YMCA in Warsaw, VA. He supervises summer camp, youth sports, and several other programs.

Caitlyn Yantis ('10) began the doctoral program in Social Psychology at the University of Illinois at Chicago this fall. She completed a master's degree in Experimental Psychology at DePaul University last spring. Ψ



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

Announcements

Please consider recognizing the Department of Psychology with a monetary contribution. Please make checks payable to the **University of Mary Washington Foundation, and specify that the donation is for the Psychology Department.** Please send checks to the following address: University of Mary Washington Foundation, Jepson Alumni Executive Center, 1119 Hanover Street, Fredericksburg, VA 22401-5412. Your donation would be used to support student scholarships and student presentations at conferences. We would appreciate your support!



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