Letter from the Chair

The start of a new academic year is always exciting. We look forward to meeting the entering class of 14 doctoral students. This year’s anticipation is heightened by the changes in the university and department over this last year. The new dorm located just Northwest of Jabara Hall will be filled with 750+ students many of whom were recruited through a new university marketing campaign which seeks to increase student enrollment from roughly 14,000 to 20,000+ students over the next decade. In addition, we will begin to see evidence of the first phase in construction associated with the Innovation Campus on the east side of campus which marks the next step in the transformation of WSU as envisioned by President Bardo.

In the department, we welcome Dr. Steven Huprich who is to assume the duties of Director of Clinical Training (DCT) from Dr. Darwin “Deac” Dorr who will return to regular faculty duties. Dr. Huprich comes to WSU from Eastern Michigan University where he received the 2013 Theodore Millon Award in Personality Psychology in recognition for his contributions to advances in the science of personality psychology. In addition to these personnel changes, we look forward to making an important addition to the clinical program by hiring a new clinical psychology assistant professor this year. The projected growth of the university will have a direct and immediate impact on the department due to growth in the number of students majoring in psychology and popularity of psychology classes with non-psychology majors. The demand will also likely increase due to changes in the MCAT’s (Medical College Admission Test) which now have an entire section devoted to psychological, social and biological foundations of behavior. This is belated recognition of the relevance of psychology to understanding medical conditions as well as the adoption and maintenance of healthy behaviors. These changes present an opportunity to continue to spread the word about how psychology can enhance the understanding of issues confronting individuals or communities.

Recently, we welcomed two of our colleagues - Drs. Rui Ni and Evan Palmer into the ranks of tenured faculty after successfully navigating the uncertain territory of pre-tenure.

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This is an important accomplishment for both of them and the department, and I look forward to working with them, the rest of the faculty, and students to continue to enhance the quality of the educational experience we provide to our students.

Finally, I want to thank Dr. Dorr for his continued commitment to the department and the clinical program. Dr. Dorr served as DCT for 21 years. Under his leadership, the clinical program was accredited by the APA and was recently cited as one of the top three programs in the country for its success in placing students in clinical internships. The clinical program’s success is a reflection of your dedication and hard work. Thank you!

Clinical Program

During the past 2013-2014 academic year, three of our students (Callie Brockman, EJ VonDran and Ron Partridge) successfully completed their clinical internships and defended their dissertations. Callie will begin her career as an Air Force Captain at Barksdale AFB in Shreveport, LA. Her main duty will be to manage the substance abuse and suicide prevention programs on base. EJ will begin his career as an Air Force Captain at Offutt AFB in Omaha, NE. He will serve as second in command for an outpatient mental health clinic on base. Ron has been serving as a Post-Doctoral Fellow at the North West Missouri Psychiatric Rehabilitation Center.

Six of our students have matched with APA clinical internships. Nakisha Carrasquillo matched with the North Florida/South Georgia VA Health System. Samantha Eskridge matched with the Nebraska Internship Consortium-Munroe/Meyer Institute. Angie Hardage-Bundy matched with the University of Colorado-Boulder. Amanda Runyan matched with Heritage Clinic/Center for Aging Resource in Pasadena, CA. Ryan Sinclair matched with the Tulsa (OK) Center for Child Psychology. Sydney Walsh matched with the Wichita Collaborative-Prairie View in Newton, KS. Many congratulations to all.

We are pleased to introduce our incoming class: Anna Chinnes (Francis Marion University), Lucas Cylke (University of Oregon), Jamie Quattlebaum (WSU) and Kyle Rexer (Saginaw Valley University).

We are pleased to announce that Steven Huprich has assumed the position of Director of Clinical Training. Dr. Huprich has been Professor of Psychology at Eastern Michigan University and had recently been chosen to be the Editor-in-Chief of the Journal of Personality Assessment. Dr. Dorr will continue to serve on the CC faculty.

Recent Graduates

Dr. Snyder was recognized by Child Start as a “Children’s Champion” for his 35 years of work on the behalf of children served by Head Start and Early Head Start. During that time, he has served as a consultant and trainer for Family Educators and Classroom Teachers, in program development and evaluation, and research on the efficacy of teacher training programs.
The Community Psychology Doctoral program is considered one of the top community psychology programs in the country, and this academic year was particularly outstanding with the awarding of three PhDs to Mike Lemke, Kyrah Brown and Chi Connie Park. These exceptional graduates have secured outstanding postdocs and jobs in excellent universities and organizations teaching, conducting research and practicing community psychology.

While awarding 20 PhDs in the last four years is an outstanding accomplishment for any graduate psychology program in the country, and especially at WSU, that achievement does not rival the quality and accomplishment of these fine graduates.

The prominence of the WSU Community Psychology Doctoral Program stood out at our national Biennial Community Psychology conference held in Miami in June, 2013 (Division 27, American Psychological Association). There were more faculty, students and alumni at the 14th Biennial Conference on Community Research and Action (SCRA) from WSU than any Community Psychology program nationally or internationally. The research and the work in communities of those WSU Community Psychology representatives highlighted the program in terms of presentations, symposiums, innovative sessions and posters. One of the organizers of the SCRA Conference commented that; “Wichita State brought the very spirit of Community Psychology to our Conference”.

WSU Alumni played a major role in a number of ways. Dina Elias-Rodes was on the organizing committee of the Conference in her faculty role at the University of Miami, the host of the Conference. Mildred Edwards, who serves on the Kansas Board of Regents, attended the conference providing insights about the education of community psychologists. Alumni Oli Dziadkowiec, currently at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, presented research on the Prevention and Reduction of Tobacco, Emily Grant with the University of Wyoming presented on a pilot study on development of policy regarding human trafficking, and Crystal Reinhart currently at the University of Illinois provided results of a social norms initiative to reduce binge drinking. Sharon Hakim and Chris Kirk both working at Atlantic Health had a number of roles and presentations at the SCRA Conference including helping facilitate the Community Psychology Practice Summit, presenting research on empowering schools for marginalized students, improving health literacy, and organizing a roundtable on Practice Careers for Community Psychologists. Two alumni that continue their research at WSU generated much interest. Karen Countryman-Roswurm, Assistant Professor of Social Work and Tara Gregory, Director of Research at the WSU Center for Community Support & Research organized an innovative and provocative Roundtable Session on “Unintended Empowerment: Using Qualitative Methods with Marginalized Youth. Karen and Dina Elias-Rodes organized a symposium on Multi-Disciplinary Collaboratives for Communities Free of Human Trafficking which also generated much interest particularly around the innovative policy work being done in Kansas. WSU Faculty and students also had a number of presentations and posters at the SCRA Conference.

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One of the highlights of the Conference was the special innovative sessions organized by WSU faculty, alumni and students. Greg Meissen, outgoing Co-Chair of the SCRA Community Psychology Practice Council worked with incoming Co-Chair, Sharon Hakim and other WSU representatives Mike Lemke, Kyrah Brown, Jasmine Douglas and other Community Psychologists on a pre-conference Community Psychology Practice Summit attended by 75 community psychologists. President of SCRA, Fabricio Balcazar, commented that the Practice Summit “kicked off the conference with the kind of energy that buzzed for the next 3 days”. A Special Report on the Summit with lead author Jasmine Douglas, was published in the spring Community Psychologist that provides an overview and some of the ongoing initiatives that came from the Summit.

Rhonda Lewis organized a pre-conference session of the Council of Community Psychology Education Programs and a special “Town Hall Meeting” that focused on the newly adopted Competencies for Community Psychology. This “Town Hall Meeting” was one of the highlights of the Conference and has already generated three work groups focused on creating a Community Psychology Summer Institute, a Community Psychology Practitioner Talent Pool available to graduate programs nationally and internationally, and a Community Psychology Graduate Program “Self-Examination” Initiative designed to encourage programs to collaboratively work with their students to build the 18 Competencies of Community Psychology into their curriculums. This initiative is actually modeled after what the WSU Community Psychology Program has done over the last two years in addressing the Community Psychology Competencies.

This work parallels WSU overall effort at student-community engagement and is consistent with President John Bardo’s vision for WSU. The specific goals of this new chapter are:

1. to connect undergraduate and graduate students interested in community psychology practice, research, and social justice,
2. to undertake one research project per year that investigates issues of social justice on campus or in the community,
3. to prepare undergraduates for the rigors of graduate school and bolster graduate student experience as well as enhance marketable job skills for both, and
4. to propagate the essential ideals central to community psychology, including collaboration, empowerment, prevention, diversity, and ecology.

The organization is actively seeking new members. If you have any questions or concerns before the first meeting, you can contact the leadership team at CPsyA.WSU@gmail.com. We look forward to seeing you!

Community Program Outlook

The WSU Community Psychology Program has reviewed how well we are addressing the 18 Community Psychology Competencies that involved a survey of WSU students and alumni conducted by Charlie Burdsal and his research group including Chris Voegeli, Hannah Krieg, Kate Witsman, and Laura Herpolsheimer. Helpful in this process was an onsite consultation and Colloquium by Dr. Meredith Minkler. Lou Medvene developed an academic-community planning group that brought in Dr. Minkler, arguably the most prominent Community-Based Participatory Researcher in the United States, to share her groundbreaking work conducted at the University of California, Berkeley. She interacted with faculty, students and community partners to acknowledge and promote this approach to research and action which is the dominant method in Community Psychology nationally and at WSU. This fall the work continues with proposed changes in the program being considered by the Liberal Arts and Sciences and WSU Curriculum Committees with anticipated adoption in Fall, 2015 which will provide the most contemporary Community Psychology Educational in the country.

Students and faculty will also be working toward two important conferences that will be occurring in the spring of 2015. The 15th Community Psychology Research and Action Biennial

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Conference will mark the 50th anniversary of the field of Community Psychology to be held near its “birthplace” of the Swampscott Conference outside of Boston at Lowell University. Typical of all national Community Psychology Biennial Conferences, WSU will have a strong presence and is represented on the committee working on the 50th Anniversary of Community Psychology. Through the tireless work of Drs. Charlie & Jeanne Burdsal, the Southwest Psychological Association’s (SWPA) annual conference will be held in Wichita on April 9-11, 2015 which is a major accomplishment for Wichita and WSU. The Community Psychology Program and the Department of Psychology will be active participants in this Conference which will bring much positive attention to the Department and WSU.

“We are involved in a decade of great promise for community based research and intervention” which former Kansas Governor and Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius, has called “a time for a greatly enhanced community and public health”. This is an important decade for community psychology nationally and at Wichita State University.

**Recent Graduates**

**Kyrah Brown** accepted a joint appointment at the University of Kansas School of Medicine and the Sedgwick County Health Department as a postdoctoral research associate working with Dr. Tracie Collins, Chair of the Preventive Medicine & Public Health Department and other faculty at KU. She will be working on a series of community-based health promotion research projects and developing preventive interventions. Kyrah will also be developing a research and evaluation workshop series for the Health Department staff. She will join a number of our alumni working at KU Medicine Wichita including Ruth Wetta, Elizabeth Ablah, Kari Schmidt, Lisette Jacobson and Felicia Lee.

**Mike Lemke** accepted a post-doctoral research position at Texas A&M working with an internationally recognized research group on the health promotion and wellness in high-risk occupations with a focus on those working in the transportation industry. Mike will be working with Dr. Yorghos Apostolopoulos, not only on occupational health, but on social epidemiology and health demography grounded in systems-science thinking and methodologies. This research examines the ways in which the interaction of social structure with meso and micro domains influences health outcomes, with a particular emphasis on occupational health disparities using qualitative and quantitative designs, methodologies, and analytical tools that incorporate surveys, audit instruments, risk assessments, ethnographies, biometry, textual analysis, multivariate statistics, social network analysis, and system-dynamics modeling. Additionally, Mike will be teaching at Georgia State this fall as a visiting lecturer.

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Dr. Rhonda Lewis was awarded the WSU Alumni Recognition Award. There is little that is more meaningful than receiving this special lifetime honor. Think of how many WSU alumni there are, and all are eligible for this Award. Her well-deserved selection for the Alumni reflects the level of commitment and leadership that she brings to each community activity, research project and class, and that enthusiasm is contagious. Rhonda is a consummate community psychologist dedicated to her community, profession and students through research, teaching and a level of community involvement that is unmatched at WSU.

Dr. Louis Medvene received funding from the Lattner Family Foundation and from a private donor – Don Barry – to fund a research project entitled: “Promoting Computer Use To Improve Quality of Life in Independent Living”. Dr. Medvene is collaborating with Presbyterian Manors of Mid-America to provide access and computer training to independent living residents at two Presbyterian Manor campuses. Presbyterian Manors is covering the computer expenses as their in-kind contribution. Working with Dr. Medvene are community psychology doctoral students – Kari Nilsen, Rachel Smith and Samuel Ofei-Dodoo – and human factors doctoral students – Sarah Fouquet and Andrew Miranda. This project started in June, 2014 and is scheduled for completion by July 31, 2015.

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Chi Connie Park has a Research Associate position at James Bell Associates, a nationally recognized research institute located in Washington, DC conducting state of the art program evaluation, applied research and technical assistance with public and non-profit organizations across the United States. She is one of their experts in applied social science research design, program evaluation, and capacity building in areas of child welfare, mental health, community and organizational development, and program evaluation. Connie provides evaluation and technical assistance on a number of projects including an evaluation of family connection and support, providing consultation and technical support on a multi-site healthy marriage and responsible fatherhood initiative. Connie's responsibilities on these and a number of other projects include cost analysis, social network analysis, qualitative and multivariate data analysis, evaluation design, measuring outcomes, and evaluation reporting.

Human Factors Program

Dr. Barbara Chaparro, Coordinator of the Human Factors Program

Last year was very busy for the Human Factors program. Our faculty and students continue to develop their research, teaching, and service to WSU, the community, and industry. Three students are doing internships this summer. Jo Jardina is interning at Dell, Mikki Phan is interning at Google, and Samantha Jansen is interning at Basic Commerce and Industries, Inc.

Here is an update on what is going on in our research labs:

The Software Usability Research Lab (SURL), directed by Dr. Barbara Chaparro, was pleased to hire alumna Dr. Amanda Smith as a full-time SURL employee in the new Applied Psychology Research Institute. Dr. Smith has been instrumental in many SURL industry contracts including Shipworks, Coca-Cola, Optek Music, Inc., Benchmark Brands, and Honeywell.

SURL also provided usability services to the Kansas Infant Death & SIDS Network, Inc. website and to Children's Mercy Hospital. SURL continues to investigate eye movements on websites and mobile apps, user performance with different mobile device input methods, and the use and usability of e-Textbooks on iPads in the classroom, along with usability testing techniques for mobile devices.

Lab members Mikki Phan, Jennifer Teves, and Jo Jardina are working on their dissertation research on measures of gaming satisfaction, dashboard design for diabetes patients and health care providers, and e-Textbook usability, respectively. Christina Siu completed her 2nd year project on eye movements on Windows 8 search result pages, and Chrystal Haskins is exploring alternative input devices including gesture and eye-gaze based technologies. SURL welcomes new student Erin Gannon in the Fall. Undergraduates Kirsten Turner and Aston Pfannenstiel won WSU Research Awards for the investigation of smart watches and fitness trackers. Dr. Chaparro was also appointed the chair of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) Accreditation Committee which oversees all HF graduate school accreditation.

The Human Automation Interaction Lab (HAIL), directed by Dr. Jibo He, has been focusing on research in driver safety and human computer interaction. The HAIL lab develops technologies to detect driver fatigue and evaluate driver distraction. The smartphone-based fatigue detection technology has resulted in the filing of three patents in United States and 27 European countries. Dr. He has also employed Google Glass to monitor operator fatigue. Dr. Jibo He is applying these technologies to monitor driver and pilot fatigue. The HAIL lab (Dr. He, Will Choi, and Jake Ellis) has recently published its work in the journal of Accident Analysis and Prevention, and Human Factors. Dr. He is working closely with State Farm Insurance Company and University of Michigan on driving behaviors. Dr. He was awarded a grant from Award for Research/Creative project from Wichita State University, the John See Award, and the Technology Innovation Award. Dr. He's work is reported by local and national wide media, including APA monitor, Bloomberg News, Kansas City Star. Dr. He also advised grad students Jake Ellis and Christina Siu to second and fourth places in the Shocker Business Competition. HAIL welcomes new lab member Christina Knopp.

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The Training Research and Applied Cognitive Engineering (TRACE) laboratory, under the supervision of Dr. Joseph Keebler, has had an excellent year.

We welcome our new graduate students Paul Misasi and Anthony Baker. Dustin Smith recently completed his second year project aimed at developing an effective combat identification training using a two-alternative forced choice paradigm, while first year Brady Patzer has been diligently working on a meta-analysis to better understand medical handoffs.

TRACE lab has published proceedings and journal articles in a multitude of outlets during 2013-2014, including the proceedings of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society, posters at the Human Factors Healthcare Symposium, and journal articles in Ergonomics, Frontiers in Psychology, British Medical Journal: Quality and Safety, and Human Factors. Further, TRACE has continued collaborating with Optek and Fretlight guitars, and alongside SURL, has conducted some excellent work to further understand how individuals interact with this unique learning device. 2014-2015 will be an exciting year for TRACE as we continue working on a book in collaboration with Sedgwick County EMS and University of Kansas Medical School entitled “The Human Factors and Ergonomics of Pre-hospital Emergency Medicine”. This volume is aimed at providing practitioners with relevant knowledge about applications of HF/E to the extreme pressures of EMS and disaster response.

Further, Dr. Keebler is proud to announce that he has been appointed as a track co-chair for the Human Factors Healthcare Symposium. As track chair, Dr. Keebler will help to develop a program for the symposium that brings leaders in the field to Baltimore in early 2015 to discuss application of HF/E to enhance patient safety in the medical community. Further, Dr. Keebler is serving his 2nd term as the Program Chair for the Training Technical Group for the Human Factors Society.

The Aging Perception and Performance Laboratory (APPL) under the direction of Dr. Alex Chaparro has been conducting a series of investigations exploring audiovisual speech perception and factors that predict the ability of listeners to use visual cues to understand spoken speech in noise. Currently, they are also investigating the effects of texting on driving performance and whether speech-based texting is less risky than handheld texting. Much of this work is being conducted in collaboration with Drs. He, B. Chaparro and Ni along with grad students David Libby, Joe Crandall, and undergraduate Colton Turner, who won a WSU Undergraduate Research Award for this work.

The Aviation HF Laboratory continues its work on the design of operator’s station for unmanned aircraft. The project is staffed by alumna Dr. Traci Hart and graduate students Mike Castaneda, Neethan Siva, Jennifer Teves, and Christina Siu. They recently received another four years of grant support allowing them to continue their work on the program that began in 2006!

The Visual Perception & Cognition (VPC) Laboratory directed by Dr. Rui Ni submitted a COBRE grant proposal to NIH with another four colleagues at K-State in Spring, 2014. The proposal is based on his current research on neuronal plasticity among aged population, collaborating with Derby Senior Center. He has been exploring different training procedures to improve driving-related visual functions for older drivers and made great progress.

Dr. Ni is continuing his collaboration work with researchers in China investigating the neural mechanisms underlying depth perception from binocular and monocular information using neuronal recording techniques. Two undergraduate research assistants in Dr. Ni’s VPC lab, Charles Hayes and Kelly Ha, won two undergraduate research awards in Spring, 2014, among 12 others across the WSU campus. Two graduate students gave presentations at international conferences (Vision Sciences Society) in 2014. Bobby Nguyen presented on the correlation between steering control and 3D motion perception. JP Plummer presented on the effect of contrast on divided attention. Currently, Bobby Nguyen is working on his dissertation research. Joel Persinger passed the qualify exam, and is looking forward to his dissertation proposal. John Plummer and Brad Weber finished their 2nd year projects. Five undergraduate students are working in the VPC lab on a variety of research projects under the supervision of Dr. Ni. The VPC lab will continue to collaborate with independent living facilities in Wichita to study driving behaviors and aging.
Dr. Evan Palmer and the Laboratory of Applied Visual Attention (LAVA) continued their research into gamification, visual search, data visualization, and human factors in healthcare.

Members of LAVA published three journal articles, three conference proceedings papers, presented 15 posters, and won six small grants in the last year. In addition to Sarah Fouquet and Andrew Miranda (5th year), Neethan Siva (4th year), and Duy Nguyen (3rd), LAVA is excited to welcome Tiffany Leverenz who will begin her 1st year in Fall, 2014.

Andrew and Duy are studying gamification and visual search, including the psychophysiological correlates of value-driven attentional capture. Neethan is continuing his work on data visualization in aviation displays, particularly with regard to visual search of “glyph” icons. Sarah and Tiffany study human factors in health care on topics such as patient handoffs, electronic medical record (EMR) usability, and task interruptions. Evan is involved in all of the above research in addition to editing the website and supplementary materials for Sensation & Perception, 4th edition and supervising the lab’s contract work on such topics as restaurant menu perception.

Dr. Elizabeth Lazzara continues to collaborate with various departments within WSU (e.g., College of Nursing) and KU Wichita (e.g., Internal Medicine) as well as the community (e.g., Sedgwick County Emergency Medical Services, Wesley Medical Center and Via Christi Health).

Throughout this past year, she published articles related to teamwork and training within the medical context and presented her work on telemedicine at the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Healthcare Symposium. In addition, she also won a grant with Dr. Deborah Diaz Granados of Virginia Commonwealth University investigating patient safety attitudes and perceptions about error reporting across health professionals.

Congratulations!!

Dr. Barbara Chaparro was presented with the John R. Barrier Distinguished Teaching Award for her exceptional performance as a professor. This award is given to an outstanding faculty member within the Fairmount College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and is awarded during the LAS commencement exercises each May.

Human Factors Interns

Samantha Jansen interned at Basic Commerce and Industries (BCI), Inc. Dahlgren Division in Colonial Beach, VA. Within the company, Samantha worked for the Human Systems Integration team under the supervision of John Winters, Human Systems Integration Program Director. At BCI, Samantha had a variety of responsibilities. “I worked with a team of human factors engineers, operational SMEs, software developers, and system engineers to ensure the usability, effectiveness, and efficiency of various warfighting systems for customers such as the Navy and Marine Corps. A few of the projects that I specifically supported involve the development and evaluation of infantry field communications systems and the development and implementation of a warfare system trouble-reports database.” When not at BCI, Samantha used her free time to visit the beaches of Virginia, eat amazing seafood, and go running.

Jo Jardina worked at Dell in Austin, TX. Jo worked for the Enterprise Design Group under the direction of Rob Nerhood and Jennifer Ross. At Dell, Jo utilized many of the skills she learned working SURL. “I did user testing, wire framing, and research design, among other things. Specifically, I did testing on element managers, which is software that runs server hardware.” When she was not busy, Jo “rode [her] bike (Austin is a great place for that), played with [her] cats, and explored the city.”

Mikki Phan started her internship in late May at Google in Mountain View, CA. Specifically, she worked for the Analytics teams under the guidance of Dr. Justin Owens, a WSU HF alumni. While working for Google, Mikki worked on many projects.
“I conducted different user research studies to provide more insights into Google Analytics products and to help provide answers to some of the research questions from different stakeholders.” Outside of work, Mikki’s idea of fun was to attend intern events in the Bay Area, hang out with other interns, try different foods the Bay Area had to offer, and generally explore her new surroundings.

Additionally, Dr. Smith notes that, “the space is large and recently renovated, which creates an impressive and welcoming atmosphere to accommodate the study participants and visitors from sponsoring corporations and community partners. We have an impressive list of sponsors ranging from industry to government agencies and local non-profit organizations.”

This is only the first year for APRI. What else does Dr. Chaparro and the rest of the psychology have in mind for the institute? “According to Dr. Chaparro, “growth! Over the last six months faculty have received about $1.6 million dollars in grants and contracts for work being conducted at APRI. In addition, we are awaiting funding decisions on three additional grants. APRI will be a very busy place this year! We expect this trend to continue and I would love to see the department outgrow the physical space at APRI as soon as possible.” For more information about APRI contact Dr. Alex Chaparro (Phone: 316-218-3162; email: alex.chaparro@wichita.edu) or call the APRI main-office number at 316-978-3807.

**Congratulations!!**

The Human Factors Student Chapter earned GOLD status for the sixth consecutive year from the national HFES organization. They will be honored with the award at the HFES conference in Chicago in October.

The group is actively involved with the university and local community throughout the year. Recently the group has added members from the Industrial Engineering department as well as undergraduates. In total, the group has 36 members across students and faculty.

*WSU’s HFES Student Chapter*
Alumni Interviews

Robin Heinrichs earned her PhD in 2007 in the Clinical program under the supervision of Dr. Deac Dorr. During her graduate education, Robin focused on “psychometric properties of the MMPI-2 and the MCMI-III in psychiatric inpatients. My dissertation was a factor analysis of the MMPI-2 clinical scales. This was right before Ben-Porath used factor analysis to create and publish the MMPI-2 restructured scales.”

After receiving her PhD, Robin was able to secure employment at the University of Kansas School of Medicine Wichita “KUSM-W is the Wichita campus of KU’s medical school. On this campus we have medical students, pharmacy students, residents training in multiple specialties, and psychology interns and fellows.”

Currently, Dr. Heinrichs is an Assistant Professor, the Director of Neuropsychology Training, and the Director of Neuropsychology Laboratory. “I am a Clinical Neuropsychologist who conducts neuropsychological evaluations with patients in our KUSM outpatient clinic and with patients in Via Christi hospitals. Also with Via Christi, I work with the Epilepsy Clinic, conducting evaluations with patients on an Epilepsy Monitoring Unit and mapping language, motor and sensory localization during Wada procedures and intraoperative mapping. In addition to these clinical responsibilities, I coordinate the pre and post doctoral (internship & fellowship) training of psychology trainees who are specializing in neuropsychology. As a faculty member of KUSM, I am also involved in training the psychiatry residents and medical students who are trained on this campus.”

“I am proud to be training Interns and Fellows who go on to become proficient Neuropsychologists. After 5 years I am now seeing former trainees on the faculties of hospitals, medical schools and universities all over the country. Seeing them care for patients and train future neuropsychologists is like watching the time and effort I spent training them multiply to serve more people and communities than I could possibly reach on my own.”

While in graduate school, there were many lessons learned in research that transferred to her current career. “During graduate therapy and intervention focused on the behavioral and cognitive theoretical orientations. This served as the ideal foundation for neuropsychology training.

During her career, Dr. Heinrichs has learned several very important skills necessary to her job. “The ability to reason through information about each patient and come to an appropriate conclusion/diagnosis. There are few right/wrong answers in neuropsychology. Because our work often goes to court, we must know the path to the conclusions we made to be defensible. We are not responsible to know everything about a patient. But we must defend why we concluded what we did. We must use good clinical judgment based on data and facts and seek the best answers for each patient. Each person is unique in their premorbid abilities (strengths, weaknesses), in their family dynamics, in their health history, cultural background, etc. The ability to consider all aspects of a person and his/her environment is imperative to providing the best care possible.”

When not working, Dr. Heinrichs enjoys spending quality time with her husband and four children ranging from 12 to 21 years old.

Ashlee Lien earned her PhD in 2013 in the Community program under the supervision of Dr. Greg Meissen. “When I began my graduate education, I worked as a research assistant at the Center for Community Support & Research (CCSR), where I worked with Consumer-Run Organizations and peer support among individuals in the mental health system. After earning my M.A., I became a teaching assistant and transitioned out of CCSR. My new research focused on race-based choices and perceptions of progress toward racial equality. My practice interests continued to be focused in the community. I worked with organizations for strategic planning, grant writing, and community development initiatives.”

After obtaining her PhD, Ashlee was able to gain employment at State University of New York College at Old Westbury in Old Westbury, NY. “Located on Long Island near New York City, SUNY College at Old Westbury is a 4-year comprehensive college that is part of the New York public education system. The college strongly values the mission of social justice and community engagement, and integrates it into teaching and service. SUNY College at Old Westbury also places a strong emphasis on the value of diversity, and is ranked 4th among U.S. liberal arts colleges in campus diversity.”

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Currently, Dr. Lien is an Assistant Professor at SUNY. “As an assistant professor, my job requires teaching, research, and service. The most important aspect of my job is teaching. Many of our students are first-generation to college students who are from low-income families, and are often underprepared for college education. Thus, it is important to be flexible in the classroom to adapt to the students and teach using a variety of techniques. There is also a high need for working with students one-on-one with coursework, advising, and helping students identify realistic career paths.”

“My research is currently focused on first-generation to college students. I am collecting qualitative data about their experiences, specifically challenges and successes related to higher education. I received a small SUNY grant to assist in this research, and plan to continue expanding upon my work. Ultimately, I hope to identify key elements of environments that are supportive for these non-traditional students and hope to implement a pilot program to enhance the supportive environments for first-generation to college students. In addition to this line of research, I hope to continue building upon my research from WSU.”

“At a small liberal arts college, service is a significant expectation. During my first year I served the department and campus in formal and informal capacities. I represented the Psychology Department at the Faculty Senate, served on hiring subcommittees, coordinated the internships for all senior psychology majors, served on an advisory board, and facilitated trainings on asset-based community development for the first-year program. I participated in many other less formal service activities for the department and the college, and will be adding two new committees to my service contributions for next year. This level of service is unique to my campus, which reflects the mission of the college and the size of the campus.”

Within her first year as a post-doc graduate, Dr. Lien has already achieved several great accomplishments. “Honestly, I am most proud of my ability to adapt and thrive in a new environment. I am now recognized as one of the promising members of the faculty, and have been sought out to participate in different campus initiatives. I attribute this to the ability to navigate communities and the flexibility I learned working with community groups.”

“I am also proud of the assistance I have been able to provide my students. I have provided encouragement and support to several students who have been accepted to graduate programs for the upcoming year. Several of these students had never considered applying as they did not realize they had the potential to succeed. My students are the most rewarding aspect of my job, and I am happy that I can provide them with some support.”

There were many lessons Dr. Lien learned during her time in graduate school that transferred to her current position. “I have been able to use many of the skills I learned at WSU. The most important, of course, was teaching. The amount of teaching I did at WSU helped me to learn skills to manage a classroom, but also taught me how to manage my time between many important demands. Other skills that have been incredibly valuable are those of working with communities, facilitating, and mediating groups. In a highly political setting, I have found myself at an advantage by being able to apply skills I learned working with community groups to my own career setting. Of course, the research skills I learned at WSU have been incredibly valuable. I have continued to use many of the skills from setting up new research lines to preparing manuscripts and presenting at conferences.”

For those seeking a career in academia, Dr. Lien offers a few pieces of advice. “For a career at a liberal arts college, teaching is the most important skill. Not only is it important to gain experience in a classroom, but it is important to learn techniques beyond a basic lecture format. With the high amount of work in academia, other important skills include time management and the ability to adapt to changing demands. Many other skills are important, but the most important are the ability to network, and work collaboratively while at the same time being self-directed.”

Of course, Dr. Lien doesn’t spend all of her time in the classroom, she also enjoys other hobbies. “Oh my! My hobby is my work! In my spare time I hang out with my dogs. I enjoy cooking and escaping through books (and movies)! I recently started volunteering with the Coastal Research Education Society of Long Island, assisting with whale watching tours and educating individuals about coastal life.”

Doug Fox earned his PhD in 2011 in the Human Factor program under the supervision of Dr. Barbara Chaparro. As a student in the Software Usability Research Lab (SURL), his research focused on human computer interaction, as well as many other projects. “My personal research focused on improving the the legibility of on screen typefaces and helping
people make better decisions when choosing a typeface.” In SURL, he was able to lead many usability studies for companies like Motorola and Dell.

After earning his PhD, Doug was able to secure employment at Google in Mountain View, CA. “I currently work at a place that is well known to most and impacts our lives on a daily occurrence. Google has offices worldwide and has a wide range of products & services that anyone with a computer or mobile device has probably used. Over the past few years Google has definitely transformed from a one hit wonder with its invaluable search product to diverse technology company that has developed and brought to market products like self-driving cars, computer wearables, smartphones, and more!”

Currently, Dr. Fox is a Senior User Experience Researcher for Google. “My main job is to learn as much as I can about people that use Google products & services, and [then] infuse that knowledge back to business and product development teams so that they can make more informed decisions. In particular, I work on Google Fiber which is an Internet and TV service provider currently being offered in the markets of Kansas City and Provo, Utah. To learn about Fiber customers, I employ a wide range research techniques (surveys, usability studies, interviews, contextual inquiries, etc.) to answer how people are using our Internet/TV service. The knowledge we gain from this research is then used to help inform design changes for Fiber products and business strategies for how we position the product before it goes to market. Thus, I work very closely with our designers, product/business managers, engineers, and marketers.”

When asked which accomplishment he was most proud, he humbly replied, “Wow! That is a tough question. Accomplishment can be defined in many ways. To be honest, I’m just proud that I have been working 3+ years at Google. It’s a very intimidating place to work. You feel like everyone is smarter than you, and you somehow tricked them when being interviewed. At the end of the day though, I’m most proud of the reach and impact my research has had on the billions of users that use Google products. To think that a change in our design has potentially enriched the lives of our users is what keeps me wanting to do this job. Well, that and the free food!”

There were many lessons that Dr. Fox learned during his time in graduate school that transferred with him to his current career. “I still remember Dr. Barbara Chaparro always telling me you need multiple tools in your tool belt to be an effective researcher. Not only learning, but applying multiple research methods has been a major asset to my career. It provides me unique ways of solving problems, and not being scared to venture outside the box by adapting a method which can provide us better insights. Another skill that I exercise daily is using our investigative techniques to learn more about a topic. This commonly comes in the form of reading scholarly articles in grad school, but in the tech industry it may be as simple as reading tech news, reading internal reports from other Google researchers, and attending conferences. In the end though, it’s the same thirst for knowledge that helps me not only stay informed but ahead of the curve.”

For those seeking employment in a similar industry, Dr. Fox says there are three key skills a person should have: the Ability to interpret complex data into informed insights, effective and digestible communication, and creatuvuty to increase engagement.

“Ability to interpret complex data into informed insights: The best researchers are those that can recognize patterns of behavior and make informed recommendations back to their teams. Sometimes it’s a matter of seeing something that no one else sees: struggles that people aren’t even aware of, a more efficient way of doing the same task, etc. The best way to think of this is the popular quote from Henry Ford: “If I had asked people what they wanted, they would have said faster horses.” In essence, it’s not just as simple as asking people what they want, but a matter of learning from observing people, quantifying patterns of behavior, learning about the industry, and then using all of those pieces of information to solve problems for our users.”

“Effective and digestible communication: I know this one looks like it is straight from how to build a resume 101, but it’s true. As researchers, I think we have a tendency to want to tell people everything we know about a particular topic. However, we need to take into account the needs of who we are communicating to and how much they need to know to make an informed decision. In other words, sometimes less is more. It’s those 3-4 points that will have more of an impact than a full, exhaustive detail.”

“Creativity to increase engagement: At Google, I learned that people move and work fast. That means that sometimes getting them stop and listen to what you have to say can be a bit of a challenge. That is why I have taken pride in developing communications that will increase the likelihood that my work will be seen. This has included such things as comic strips to detail findings from a team task analysis, a film festival with popcorn to show highlight videos, and even art gallery type exhibits showcasing beautifully designed posters that reveal findings from our research.”

(continued on page 13)
When not hard at work, Dr. Fox enjoys many activates with his family. “I recently moved back to Kansas from our Mountain View, CA headquarters to be closer to my wife and stepson who currently reside in the Wichita area. In grad school, I was probably best known for being a high school wrestling coach and that has continued in my career. I have now coached in 2 different states. It is a truly rewarding and humbling experience to lead these young men and women, so that they may translate what they learn from sports to their daily challenges in life.”

Student Awards

During the year, several of our graduate and undergraduate students won a variety of awards through their hard work and dedication to research.

Dustin Smith won the 2013 Randall Chambers Award. He was the recipient of a $1000 award for his research titled “Learning a Dynamic Melody Through an Augmented Reality Guitar”. Dustin was one of five finalists, including Sarah Fouquet, Brady Patzer, Christina Siu, and Neethan Siva.

Jake Ellis, Christina Siu, and Dr. Jibo He competed in the Shocker New Venture Competition Innovation. Teams moved to the following rounds based on a two-page business summary. The group was then narrowed to 32 teams, who had to submit a 10-page business plan, including financial projections. Overall, the team of Jake, Christia and Dr. He placed 4th in the competition for their Angel Drive submission.

“Angel Drive provides mobile technology to improve driving safety. Its Fatigue Alert app detects drowsy drivers by monitoring visual indicators of drowsiness such as head nodding, head rotation, and eye blinks. If it detects drowsiness, the driver is alerted. The Fatigue Alert app has been developed for iPhone, Android, and Google Glass.”

Samantha Jansen and William Choi were both winners at the 11th Annual Capitol Graduate Research Summit. Samantha presented her study “Understanding Speech in Noisy Conditions.” Will presented his research on “Does more attention improve lane keeping performance?”

Finally, Kari Nilsen, Lukas Cylke, and Rondell Burge were all granted the departmental GRA award.

Graduate students were not our only winners this year. Ever year, the Honors College grants a number of students “up to $1000 each to support undergraduate student research and creative/performance projects in all disciplines in collaboration with WSU faculty. Grant proposals are reviewed by faculty committee from September through April.”

This year, of the 17 grant recipients, 8 were psychology students.

Colton Turner was one winner of a WSU research grant. “My project was titled, “Pedestrian Detection In a Night Time Driving and Texting Task”. We will be using the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center’s (KLETC) closed road course for this study. Basically participants will be riding along as passengers as an experimenter drives them through the course.”

Undergraduate Showcase: Save the Date

This year, the psychology department is putting on a Psychology Showcase targeted at undergraduate students. The showcase will feature an in-depth look at: applied learning and research opportunities, careers in psychology, the WSU Honors College, Psi Chi, and much more. The showcase will be held in Hubbard Hall (on the main campus) on Saturday, September 20, 2014 11 a.m. -12:30 p.m. Visit www.wichita.edu/eventrsvp to reserve your spot. If you have questions about the event or would like more information, please call 316-978-3085.

Psi Chi Gets a New Start

Psi Chi is the pre-eminent honors society in psychology for undergraduates, and provides networking, scholarships, and other opportunities for undergraduate students. Dr. Joe Keebler is the chapter’s faculty advisor with undergraduate psychology student Nicholas Flemming as the President. The chapter will be approved by the University once the school year officially begins later this August. According to Dr. Keebler, “benefits are that you are in the best honors society in psychology!” For further details about Psi Chi, email Dr. Keebler at joseph.keebler@wichita.edu, Nicholas at npfleming@wichita.edu or visit the Psi Chi webpage at www.wichita.edu/psichi.
Their task will be to identify several roadside pedestrians (who will also be experimenters). There will be two conditions: detection while texting and detection while not texting. The pedestrians will also be wearing different types of clothing. We hope to learn how texting while driving at night affects a driver’s ability to detect roadside pedestrians. We also hope to learn how clothing affects pedestrian detection at night.”

“This grant has allowed us to purchase materials we needed for the experiment.”

Kirsten Turner was another winner of a research grant. “The title of the project is called “Text Input and Reading Tasks on Small Screen Devices”. The goal of the project is to better understand the best methods of text input on small screen devices, specifically smart watches. Most smart watches do not come with a built in keyboard on the device, and usually rely on voice for texting needs. This is not always an appropriate way of input, especially in noisy areas or when the information is sensitive. An onscreen keyboard of some type should be developed for smart watches. The research with this project will allow us to gain a better understanding on the usability of different types of small screen keyboards.”

“The grant will allow us to purchase different types of smart watches as they come out this year. With the introduction of Google's Android Wear operating system for smart watches, many companies are planning the release of watches in 2014. The money will allow us to purchase the newest watches for studies.”

Colyn Jones was another winner of a research grant. “The project was titled, “The Relationship of the Personality Psychopathology Five scales of the MMPI-2-RF to the Grossman Facet scales of the MCMI-III.” Within the sub-field of psychological assessment, there is a growing interest in hierarchical assessment, which is assessing clients at multiple levels of breadth in order to ensure a clear clinical picture as well as assist in treatment planning. This study aimed to further this interest by exploring the relationship between the MMPI Psy-5 scales, which are used to measure broad dimensions of personality such as introversion, and the MCMI Grossman facet scales which are used to measure specific patterns of thinking and behaving such as interpersonal averseness. Factor analytic methods provided a clean picture of how the two sets of scales map on to one another, suggesting a degree of continuity between the MMPI-2 and the MCMI-III in terms of the psychological phenomena they measure. This is of vital importance to practicing clinicians during the diagnostic process.”

“I utilized the funding I received to travel to Washington D.C. in order to present my findings and represent Wichita State at the annual conference for the Society of Personality Assessment, a well-established national research conference centering around psychological assessment. In addition, I was able to make connections with other universities as well as respected professionals in my field of study.”

In addition to Colton, Kirsten, and Colyn, 5 other undergraduate psychology students were awarded grants for their research:

Maha Madi - “Reducing Medication Administration Errors in Emergency Medical Services through the Implementation of a Verbal Verification Method,”

Kelly Ha - “Exploring the Relationship between Eye-Hand Coordination and Interest in Sports”

Charles Hayes - “Assessment of Visual Discomfort of Stereoscopic Displays in a Movie Theater Environment,”

Ashton Pfannenstiel - “An Investigation of the Usability and Functionality of Health and Fitness-Tracking Devices,” and

Chelsea Williams - “Fatigue Detection Using Google Glass”

Congratulations to all of our student award winners for the 2013-2014 academic school year!

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Undergraduate student grant winners with their faculty mentors

New HF Undergrad Certificate

Fall of 2014 marks the beginning of a new era for students interested in Human Factors at Wichita State. The psychology department has established an undergraduate certificate in Human Factors that will give students the opportunity to work HF faculty and take classes vital to success in the field of human factors. Students receiving the certificate will take research methods and stats, cognitive and perceptual psychology, introduction to human factors, and also conduct at least one semester of research in one of WSU’s six HF labs.
**Letter from Dr. Ackerman**

What a year! Our men’s basketball team went 35 & simply-1-derful. A huge new student dormitory now fills what was the parking lot between Cessna Stadium and the clock tower. Shuttle-buses now course constantly between campus and the Metroplex parking lot. (Charlie Burdsal and I are regular riders).

Department wise, we received word from on high to plan for 800 additional undergraduate enrollments this fall. To respond to the anticipated onslaught Evan Palmer will begin teaching General Psychology this fall in a giant classroom with a quota of 375. For spring semesters, Alex Chaparro will cover the giant. Of course we will continue to offer the same large number of undergraduate classes taught by graduate students. In fact, the demand for instructors is so great that we may have to start calling some of you alums back from your careers to teach at WSU—just kidding.

Hope things are well with you all. The atmosphere at WSU is electric.

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**Donate to the Psychology Department**

Now you can donate to the Psychology Department ONLINE!

Follow the instructions below to get started:
1. Go to https://foundation.wichita.edu/give
2. Enter your donation amount
3. Select “Fairmount College of Liberal Arts & Sciences”
4. Click “Add donation”
5. In the Memorial/Tribute Information field, specify the Psychology department or a specific program (Community, Clinical, Human Factors, or Undergraduate).

Your gift will benefit current and future students.

Thank you!

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**A Warm Welcome to the New Graduate Students**

**Clinical:**
- Anna Chinnes
- Jamie Quattlebaum
- Kyle Rexer
- Lucas Cylke

**Community:**
- Anna Turesak
- Audrey Brown
- Debbie Ojeda
- Julia Siwierka

**Human Factors:**
- Anthony Baker
- Christina Knopp
- Dominic Canare
- Erin Gannon
- Paul Misasi
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<td>Chaparro, A.</td>
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<td>Chaparro, B.</td>
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<td>Usability Analysis of KanCare Application Website</td>
<td>Kansas Health Institute</td>
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<td>Chaparro, B.</td>
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<td>Effects of embodiment on musical learning using an augmented reality instrument</td>
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<td>Keebler, J.</td>
<td>Investigating the efficacy of augmented reality training for combat ID</td>
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<td>Lewis, R.</td>
<td>Gun Control Debate on College Campuses</td>
<td>Wichita State University</td>
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Dr. James Snyder was awarded a grant for his research “Preventing Military Post-Deployment Adjustment Problems: Key Family Processes”.

This research will develop and implement a behavior observation coding system of family interaction during post-deployment family reintegration of service personnel returning from Middle East conflicts. Two key patterns of family interaction are targeted in the coding system: reactivity-coercion, and withdrawal-avoidance. Military service personnel experience high rates of PTSD, depression, and drug and alcohol use on return from Middle East Conflicts. Their families are also challenged by deployment, with a realignment of family roles, co-parenting and other stressors, resulting in high rates of child and spouse adjustment problems. This will be a longitudinal-experimental design by examining whether changes in service and family members’ adjustment and in parenting and family problem solving engendered by PMTO-ADAPT are mediated by changes in the rates of reactivity-coercion and withdrawal-avoidance.
Recent Publications 2013 - present


Recent Book Chapters 2013 - present


Patents 2013 - present


Congratulations!!

Judy and Marci have spent a combined 50 years with the psychology office aiding faculty and students with help they need. The department could not function as smoothly as it does without them.

Contact them with updates at: Judith.Barnes@wichita.edu and Marsyl.Nelson@wichita.edu

JUMP ON THE BANDWAGON.

NAW, WE’VE GOT A TRAIN!

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2nd Year, HF