Practicum Experiences Help Students Make the Leap from Classes to Careers

Did anyone ever ask you, “What can you do with a degree in psychology?” Maybe your friends and parents asked you that question when you declared your major. Or maybe even you weren’t sure what you would do with your degree. While psychology is one of the top majors for undergraduates nationally, for most students, it does not lead to careers in mental health. Only 25% of students go on to graduate study in psychology (4-6% doctoral level, 20-22% master’s level) (Grocer and Kohout, 1997). Most go into other fields, such as marketing, case management, sales, advertising, labor relations, rehabilitation services, real estate, social work, child care, writing, probation/parole, and career counseling (Halonen, 2011).

For over 10 years, the WSU Psychology Department has been preparing its students to use their degrees after graduation through a service-learning course. The Undergraduate Practicum in Psychology (Psych 445) course pairs students with agencies and businesses in the area—WSU campus, Pullman, Moscow, Colfax, Lewiston, and sometimes beyond—to expose them to careers that employ concepts, principles, and techniques they have only read about in psychology textbooks.

Practical experience is essential for students who plan to apply to competitive graduate programs in clinical or counseling psychology. It also helps students learn whether they would like to work in a certain career or with a certain population and how to apply their psychology and liberal arts skills in “real life” situations. Amy Shackles (’11 B.S. psychology) volunteered at WSU’s International Peer Mentoring Program and said “Psych 445 taught me to better appreciate other cultures and to problem-solve situations I wouldn’t have otherwise come into contact with.”
Message from the Chair

Dear Alumni,

The 2011-12 academic year brings many changes to WSU and the College of Liberal Arts, in which the Psychology Department resides. One significant change is the merging of the College of Liberal Arts with the College of Sciences into the new College of Arts and Sciences. Although the integration officially occurs on July 1, 2012, faculty and staff in both colleges have spent considerable time this year proposing policies and procedures by which we can best function as WSU’s “super-college.” The Psychology Department will continue to stand out even in the new larger college, both qualitatively and quantitatively. First, psychology has a larger number of undergraduate majors than almost all other WSU departments; statewide, there are currently over 500 certified majors and in Pullman alone we advise approximately 750 undergraduate majors interested in psychology courses for the fall 2011 semester alone! As for quality, within our interaction and engagement with all students, even in our very largest lecture courses. Among other things, your financial support provides grants for undergraduate research and conference travel, as well as performance and travel awards for graduate students. We aim for excellence in all that we do, and we deeply appreciate your help in achieving this goal.

This year we also embarked on developing the new undergraduate general education scheme, “UCORE.” Thus far, PSYCH 105 has been approved as a “SSCI” (inquiry in the social sciences) general education requirement. We will develop several more UCore courses in the coming year, so that both psychology majors and non-majors can continue to explore their interests in psychology while meeting their general education requirements. To further increase flexibility for both on-campus and distance students, we also are developing an online psychology bachelor’s degree. We expect this degree program to be fully available to students everywhere in Washington State (and the world!) by next year.

In closing, I thank all of you, our faithful Cougar alumni, for continued support of your alma mater. Despite ever-waning financial support from the Washington State Legislature, we strive to offer high-quality educational experiences to all students interested in psychology—and your continued generous support enables us to do so. Although the days of small undergraduate psychology courses (in Pullman) are probably gone forever, we increasingly apply modern technology and pedagogical methods to increase our interaction and engagement with all students, even in our very largest lecture courses. Among other things, your financial support provides grants for undergraduate research and conference travel, as well as performance and travel awards for graduate students. We aim for excellence in all that we do, and we deeply appreciate your help in achieving this goal.

—Rebecca Craft, Professor and Chair

We Would like to Hear from You

We are very interested in hearing from our alumni. You can find us at www.wsu.edu/psychology. Just click on the Alumni and Friends link. This site provides information relevant to alumni. You may view the alumni newsletter online, submit your news for future newsletters, and obtain information about how to make a financial contribution to the Department of Psychology or the College of Liberal Arts. Please take a moment to visit us online at www.wsu.edu/psychology. We look forward to hearing from you.
Honors and Acknowledgements

Len Burns (professor) was elected a fellow in Division 5, Measurement, Evaluation, and Statistics, of the American Psychological Association.

Len Burns (professor) received the College of Liberal Arts Excellence in Graduate Teaching and Mentoring Award for 2012.

Rebecca Craft (professor and department chair) was honored with the 2011 Samuel H. Smith Leadership Award from the WSU Association for Faculty Women (AFW).

Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe (professor) was named an Edward R. Meyer Distinguished Professor (2011–2014).

Brendan Walker (assistant professor) received the 2011 Young Investigator Award from the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the 2011 Early Career Investigator Award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse, and the College of Liberal Arts Early Achievement in Scholarship Award. Brendan was also promoted to associate professor, effective August 2012.

Jay Wright (professor) was appointed as senior editor-in-chief of the International Journal of Proteins and Peptides, a new online journal that presented its first issue in January 2012.

Grants

Art Blume (professor, WSU Vancouver) received a grant titled “Relationship of Racial-Ethnic Microaggressions, Mental Health Variables, and Academic Outcomes Among Students of Color” from the WSU Vancouver Faculty Grant Program.

Len Burns (professor) and his colleague Mateu Servera (University of the Balearic Islands) were awarded a three-year research grant from the Spanish Ministry of Science and Education to conduct a longitudinal study with children in Madrid and Majorca titled “Using Sluggish Cognitive Tempo Symptoms and a Longitudinal Design to Improve our Understanding of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder.”

Dennis Dyck (professor and vice chancellor for research, WSU Spokane) received funds from the Health Sciences and Services Authority of Spokane County to support writing a business plan for a multidisciplinary health care clinic for underserved populations on or near the Riverpoint campus. The facility would provide a new place for people with little or no insurance to get health care while offering interprofessional training and research opportunities for students and faculty in roughly a dozen health sciences programs on the Riverpoint campus.

Lisa Fournier (professor; director of experimental training), Masha Gartstein (associate professor), and Elizabeth Soliday (associate professor, WSU Vancouver) were each awarded External Mentor Grants by WSU ADVANCE, an NSF-supported initiative for creating opportunities for women in the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) disciplines. These grants will support the pursuit of possible research collaborations with individuals at other institutions. Lisa will work with Dr. Gordon Logan at Vanderbilt University, Masha will work with Dr. Martha Ann Bell at Virginia Tech University, and Elizabeth will work with Dr. Janine Janoskey at the Austen Bioinnovation Institute.

Masha Gartstein (associate professor) was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation titled “Application of EEG Techniques with Young Children: Enhancing Temperament Research at WSU.” Martha Ann Bell (Virginia Tech) is a co-principal investigator on this grant.

John Hinson (professor), Paul Whitney (professor; associate dean for research, College of Liberal Arts), and Hans Van Dongen (research professor; assistant director of the Sleep and Performance Research Center, WSU Spokane) were awarded a two-year National Institute of Health R21 grant titled “Information Throughput in Risky Decision Making Underlying Self-Regulation.”

Mike Morgan (professor, WSU Vancouver) was awarded a grant from the WSU Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Program titled “Contribution of the Periaqueductal Gray to Morphine Withdrawal.”

Tahira Probst (professor, WSU Vancouver) was awarded a grant from the Society for Human Resource Management titled “Organizational Safety Climate and Supervisor Safety Enforcement: Multi-level Explorations of the Causes of Accident Under-Reporting.” Tahira also received a Meyer Project Award from the College of Liberal Arts for her project titled “Organizational Safety Climate and Supervisor Safety Enforcement: Multi-level Explorations of the Causes of Accident Under-Reporting.”

Paul Strand (associate professor, WSU Tri-Cities) received a John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation Models for Change grant titled “Promoting Sustainability in Truancy and Juvenile Justice Reform.” This grant will support work with Spokane Juvenile Court Services to replicate a model in five county school districts which was previously successful in Spokane’s West Valley School District in decreasing truancy, an early warning sign of delinquent activity, social isolation, and educational failure. Co-principal investigators of this grant include Nicholas Lovrich (Regent’s Professor emeritus, political science) and Christina Sanders (western Washington project manager, DGSS). Paul received another grant, along with Scott Grewe, from the Carson Kolzig Foundation titled “Training Program for Advanced Ph.D. Students in Clinical Child Psychology.” A portion of these funds will be administered through the Tri-Cities Neuropsychology Clinic. Finally, Paul received a Research Faculty Travel Grant from the College of Liberal Arts. Paul will use this grant to travel to Ireland to collaborate with researchers at the National University of Ireland. He will translate verbal and relational training procedures to the Head Start setting to improve the IQ scores of preschoolers at risk for school failure.

Sarah Tragesser (assistant professor, WSU Tri-Cities) was awarded a grant from the WSU Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Program titled “Borderline Personality Disorder Features and Risk for Prescription Opioid Use Disorders in a Pain Patient Sample.”

Brendan Walker (assistant professor) was awarded a grant from the Hope for Depression Research Foundation for his project “Role of Central Kappa-Opioid Receptors in Altered Ultrasonic Vocalizations as a Measure of Depressive Affect Induced by Addictive Drugs.”

Paul Whitney (professor; associate dean for research, College of Liberal Arts) was awarded a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for “A Community-Based Cycle of Sustained Arts Education.” The grant will expand the Arts for Children’s Enrichment (ACE) project from six Washington counties to eight and support additional learning outcomes assessment.

Jay Wright (regents professor) and Joe Harding (professor, VCAPP) were awarded a Michael J. Fox Foundation grant titled “Development of Small Molecule Hepatocyte Growth Factor Mimetics for the Treatment of Parkinson’s Disease.” This is the first Michael J. Fox Foundation grant received by WSU. It will focus on the use of a newly developed orally active drug that promotes brain neurogenesis and synaptogenesis.
Presentations and Publications

Celestina Barbosa-Leiker (assistant professor, WSU Spokane), Bruce Wright (clinical associate professor), Len Burns (professor), Craig Parks (professor), and Paul Strand (associate professor, WSU Tri-Cities) published a paper titled “Longitudinal measurement of the Metabolic Syndrome: Is the assessment of the Metabolic Syndrome stable over time?” in the journal *Annuals of Epidemiology*. Celestina also presented a paper titled “Comparing frequently used missing data strategies to maximum likelihood in the context of repeated measures with clinical CTN data” at the 119th annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C. This paper was coauthored by Sterling McPherson (assistant research professor, WSU Spokane), Len Burns (professor), John Roll (associate dean of nursing, WSU Spokane), and D.N. Howell.

Stephanie Bauman (associate professor, WSU Tri-Cities), with coauthors M. Acker-Hoevear and D. Talbot, presented “Who am I? What place is this? A multiple discipline model for understanding school to college transition” at the National Council of Professors of Educational Administration in Portland, Oregon. Stephanie also presented a poster titled “Making connections: A cross-disciplinary, strengths-based exploration of belonging and sense making of diverse college students” at the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C.


Art Blume (professor, WSU Vancouver), along with coauthors K.B. Schimanda and M.L. Russell, published a paper in *Military Psychology* titled “Intimate partner violence and relationship dissolution among reserve soldiers.” Art published another paper titled “Alan Marlatt, Additive Behaviors editorial board member, will be missed” in the journal *Addictive Behaviors*. Finally, Art delivered presentations at the National NIDA American Indian/Alaska Native Mentorship Program annual meeting in Portland, Oregon (“Grant writing/proposal development”) and the Society of Indian Psychologists National Conference, Student Organization in Logan, Utah (“Being Indian, working in academia, and how you can use that work to help Native people”).


Rebecca Craft (professor, department chair), Alexa Wakley (doctoral student), Kimberly Tsutsumi (’10 M.S. psychology), and Jillian Laggart (’09 B.S. psychology) published “Sex differences in CB, versus CB2 receptor-selective antagonism of antinociception produced by Δ9-tetrahydronannabinol and CP55,940 in the rat” in the *Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics*.

Armando Estrada (associate professor, WSU Vancouver), Tahira Probst (professor, WSU Vancouver), Jeremiah Brown (’03 B.S. psychology, ’07 M.S. psychology), and Maja Graso (’11 Ph.D. psychology) published “Evaluating the psychometric and measurement characteristics of a measure of sexual orientation harassment” in the journal *Military Psychology*.

Paul Kwon (associate professor) and Z. Tollman presented a paper titled “Rumination about stressful life events: A longitudinal study of depression” at the 119th Annual Conference of the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C.

Steve Lakatos (associate professor, WSU Vancouver) presented two papers at the International Conference on the Teaching of Psychology in Vancouver, Canada. The first was titled “Transforming research methods training through a problem-based learning laboratory” and was coauthored by J.P. Walthers and G.L. Gabbert. The second was titled “Increasing knowledge retention in undergraduate statistics through the incorporation of problem-based learning projects,” coauthored by G.L. Gabbert.

Sterling McPherson (assistant research professor, WSU Spokane) and Craig Parks (professor) published a paper titled “Intergroup and interindividual resource competition escalating into conflict: The elimination option” in the journal *Group Dynamics: Theory, Research, and Practice*. Sterling also presented a paper at the 119th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C., titled “A comparison of two common missing data strategies to multiple imputation with clinical CTN data.” It was coauthored by Celestina Barbodasa-Leiker (assistant professor, WSU Spokane), Len Burns (professor), D.N. Howell, and John Roll (associate dean of nursing, WSU Spokane).


Elizabeth Soliday (associate professor, WSU Vancouver) released her new book, *Childbirth in a Technocratic Age: The Documentation of Woman’s Expectations and Experiences*. You can read about it at cambriapress.com/cambriapress.cfm?template=4&bid=501. Elizabeth also presented a paper titled “Maternal medical patients’ rights, autonomy, and contemporary obstetric care” and coauthored a second titled “Symposium on a maternal autonomy, technology, and childbirth” at the Central Division Meeting of the American Philosophical Association in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Finally, she authored an entry in *The Multimedia Encyclopedia of Women in Today’s World* titled “Prenatal Care.”

Paul Strand (associate professor, WSU Tri-Cities), Kacy Pula (doctoral student), Craig Parks (professor), and S. Cerna published “Exploring the time-dependent relationship between shyness and receptive language skills development in a linguistically diverse sample of at-risk preschoolers” in the *Journal of Applied Developmental Psychology*. Paul also presented a paper titled “PLCs and developmentally appropriate practice: What can preschool and elementary teams learn from each other?” at the Washington State Educational Services District 123 RtI/PLC Institute and coauthored another titled “Transitions of truants: Community truancy board as a turning point in the lives of adolescents” presented at the annual meeting of the American Society of Criminology in Washington, D.C.

Sarah Trageser (assistant professor, WSU Tri-Cities) presented a paper titled “Associations between Borderline Personality Disorder features and pain complaints” at the XIlth International Congress, International Society for the Study of Personality Disorders in Melbourne, Australia. She coauthored a paper published in *Journal of Abnormal Psychology* titled “Distinguishing general and specific personality disorder features and implications for substance dependence comorbidity.”

Brendan Walker (assistant professor) delivered two invited presentations, titled “Behavioral neurobiology of escalated alcohol self-administration and negative affect induced by dependence” and “Targeting dynorphin/kappa-opioid receptor systems to treat alcohol abuse and dependence” at the 2011 Alcoholism and Stress: A Framework for Future Treatment Strategies conference in Volterra, Italy. Brendan’s research was featured in the February issue of Alaska Airlines’ magazine and in the winter 2011-12 issue of the WSU Honor’s College Excellence newsletter.

Lauren Warren (clinical assistant professor) published papers in *Alzheimer’s and Dementia* (“Operationalizing diagnostic criteria for Alzheimer’s disease and other age-related cognitive impairment- Part I” coauthored by R. Mayeux, C. Reitz, A. Brickman, M. Haan, M., J.J. Manly, M.
Faculty News


Jay Wright (professor) and Joe Harding (professor, VCAP) published “Brain renin-angiotensin—a new look at an old system” in the journal Progress in Neurobiology. Jay coauthored additional papers in The Journal of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics (“Facilitation of hippocampal synaptogenesis and spatial memory by C-terminal truncated Nle1-angiotensin IV analogs” coauthored by C.C. Benoist, M. Zhe, S. Appleyard, G.A. Wayman, and Joe Harding and “Mimics of the dimerization domain of hepatocyte growth factor exhibit anti-Met and anticancer activity” coauthored by L. Kawas, B.J. Yamamoto, and Joe Harding), Pharmacology, Biochemistry and Behavior (“Nicotine-induced conditioned place preference in adolescent rats” coauthored by R. Natarajan and Joe Harding and “Nicotine-induced conditioned place preference in adolescent female rats” coauthored by R. Natarajan and Joe Harding), the Journal of Biomedicine and Biotechnology (“Placental leucineaminopeptidase- and aminopeptidase A-deficient mice offer insight concerning the mechanisms underlying preterm labor and preeclampsia” coauthored by S. Mitzutani and H. Kobayashi), and Life Sciences (“A new approach regarding the treatment of preeclampsia and preterm labor” coauthored by S. Mitzutani, and H. Kobayashi). Finally, Jay’s book titled The Wright Teaching Tips was published by McGraw-Hill. This text contains strategies and techniques for beginning college and university instructors.

Student News

Undergraduate

Regan Atwood (junior, psychology) and Kelsey McNabb (junior, psychology) each received the Evelyn Hacker scholarship from the College of Liberal Arts for 2012-2013.

Davina Fitzgibbon (senior, psychology; mentor Mike Morgan) was awarded an undergraduate research grant from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Program titled “Changes in the duration of antinociception following tolerance to morphine, fentanyl, and DAMGO microinjections into the PAG of the rat.”

Michelle Fox (senior, neuroscience; mentor Rebecca Craft) received an Undergraduate Research Grant from the Department of Psychology to conduct an independent research project titled “Hormone modulation of systemic THC-induced antinociception.”

Sabrina Gonzales (senior, psychology; mentor Lisa Fournier) received an Undergraduate Research Grant from the Department of Psychology to conduct an independent research project titled “Attentional bias and anxiety.”

Steven Kallio (senior, psychology; mentor Mike Morgan) was awarded an undergraduate research grant from the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Research Program titled “Analysis of sex differences in morphine withdrawal using a place conditioning paradigm.”

Louis Neira (senior, psychology; research mentor Brendan Walker) and Ram Kandasamy (senior, neuroscience; research mentor Rebecca Craft) were each awarded an Auivil Scholar Fellowship.

Daniel Reis (senior, psychology), Alexa Powell (‘11 B.S. psychology), Angela Williams (master’s student), and Brendan Walker (assistant professor) published “Physiological withdrawal signs and negative affective behavior during spontaneous withdrawal in alcohol- and opiate-dependent rats” in the Society for Neuroscience Abstracts. Daniel was also awarded a travel grant from the Department of Psychology to present his research at the Society for Neuroscience meeting in Washington, D.C.

Graduate

Congratulations to the following students who completed significant milestones in their graduate training in 2011-2012:

Defended master’s thesis:

Shervin Bazmi, Patrick Bertotti-Metoyer, Ekaterina Burdull, Girwan Khadka, Melissa Mehalick, Carolyn Parsey, Chad Sanders, Kimber Saville, and Kimberly Tremblay.

Passed preliminary examinations:

Wendi Benson, Patrick Bertotti-Metoyer, Scott Creamer, Dana Grip, Lixin Jiang, Christina Low, Kristin Onorati, Adriana Seelye, and Lora Wu.

Defended doctoral dissertations:

Carolyn Anderson, Michelle Cyr, Katherine Geiger, Jill Gjerde, Maja Graso, SoYean Lee, Kristine Olson, Jason Rogers, Francesca Shipp, Heather Swanson, Alexandra Terrill, and Lisa Tripp.

Megan Wilson (senior, neuroscience; research mentor Jay Wright) received an Undergraduate Research Grant from the Department of Psychology to conduct an independent research project.

Lawrence Behmer (graduate student) received the Burgess Brothers Memorial Scholarship for the 2012-2013 academic year. Walter, Edwin, Harland, and Howard Burgess attended Washington State College, graduating between 1910 and 1924. The scholarship was established by a trust from Edwin and Ruth Burgess to honor the four brothers and to recognize
students who demonstrate a strong commitment to learning and service. In addition, Lawrence and Lisa Fournier (associate professor) presented a paper titled “Stronger mu- and beta-desynchronization in low- vs. high-span individuals during action planning” at the 50th annual meeting of the Psychonomic Society in Seattle, Washington.

Patrick Bertotti-Motoyer (’11 M.S. psychology), Len Burns (professor), and J. Pastore presented “Alcohol use disorders: A confirmatory factor analysis and latent class analysis of the latent structure of alcohol use symptoms” at the 119th annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C.

Erin Bobeck (’04 B.S. psychology, ’10 M.S. psychology) received the Psychology Department’s Graduate Student Excellence Award.

Dana Grip (doctoral student) presented a paper titled “Translating ADHD animal models to human models using a computer game” at the annual convention of the Association for Behavior Analysis International in Denver, Colorado. This paper was coauthored by Paul Strand (associate professor, WSU Tri-Cities).

Girwan Khadka (’11 M.S. psychology) and Len Burns (professor) presented “Invariance of an ADHD-IN, ADHD-HI, ODD, academic, and social competence five-factor model across different samples of Thai Adolescents” at the 119th annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C.

Courtney McAlister (graduate student), Joyce Tam (graduate student), and Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe (professor) presented a paper titled “An ecologically valid assessment of executive function in healthy older adults: The day out task” at the National Academy of Neuropsychology at Marco Island, Florida. This paper was coauthored by Paul Strand (associate professor, WSU Tri-Cities).

Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe [professor] and Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe [professor], and Diane Cook [professor, engineering]. Finally, Carolyn was the recipient of the Frank and Irene Potter Memorial scholarship from the College of Liberal Arts.

Kacy Pula (’09 M.S. psychology) accepted a tenure-track position in psychology at St. Michael’s College in Vermont.

Chad Sanders (’07 B.S. psychology, ’08 B.A. sociology, ’11 M.S. psychology) presented a paper titled “Identifying the nature of impairment in planning ability with normal aging” at the National Academy of Neuropsychology at Marco Island, Florida. This paper was coauthored by M. Kovacs, B. Walton, and Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe (professor).

Joyce Tam (graduate student) presented a paper titled “Prospective memory and everyday memory lapses in individuals with mild cognitive impairment” at the National Academy of Neuropsychology at Marco Island, Florida. This paper was coauthored by Courtney McAlister (graduate student), and Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe (professor).

Kimberly Tsutsui (’10 M.S. psychology), R.I. Wood, and Rebecca Craft (professor, department chair) published “Anabolic-androgenic steroid effects on nociception and morphine antinociception in male rats” in Pharmacology, Biochemistry, & Behavior.

Alexa Wakley (doctoral student) was awarded a doctoral scholarship from the WSU Graduate School for outstanding research and scholarship among doctoral students at WSU. Alexa also received a travel award from the College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD) to present her dissertation research at their annual meeting (June 2012 in Palm Springs, California).

Alexa Wakley (doctoral student) and Rebecca Craft (professor, department chair) published “Antinociceptive and motoric effects of intracerebroventricular Δ⁹-tetrahydrocannabinol in female vs. male rats” in the journal Behavioural Brain Research and “Methadone-THC and naltrexone-THC interactions on discrimination, antinociception, and locomotion in rats” in the journal Behavioural Pharmacology.

Angela Williams (graduate student) presented a paper titled “Chronic intermittent ethanol vapor and pulsatile heroin produce dependence as measured by increased somatic signs and ultrasonic vocalizations during spontaneous withdrawal in Wistar rats” at the Anxiety and Depression: 21st Neuropharmacology Conference in Falls Church, Virginia. This paper was coauthored by Daniel Reis (senior, psychology), Alexa Powell (’11 B.S. psychology), and Brendan Walker (assistant professor).
And the experiences are varied. For example, students can volunteer in child care and education, child protective services, human resource departments, academic mentoring, law enforcement, assault and crime victim services, sexual health and reproductive services, and geriatric services. The staff at these agencies and businesses are willing (not obligated) to educate, supervise, and mentor our students. They provide a service to our students that a purely academic program cannot provide. In return, our students are providing a service to the community—answering hotline calls, educating their peers about healthy living, and providing structure and support to people recovering from serious mental illness, just to name a few.

Volunteering alone does not guarantee a good learning experience. Since fall 1999, under the instruction of Jennifer Luboski, Ph.D., approximately 625 students have participated in the practicum class. Students have enjoyed their experiences and commented that the class has helped them decide on future careers. The Department of Psychology wishes to thank all of the sites (listed below) that have generously offered placements to our students over the past 12 years. We could not do it without you.

Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse  
Aspen Park Healthcare  
Associated Industries  
Avalon Care Center  
Beyond Survival  
Bishop Place Senior Living  
C & R  
Care Net of the Palouse & WISH Medical  
Cedar Apartments  
Children’s Home Society  
Children’s NETT  
Clark House  
Coeur d’Alene Tribe Social Services  
Department  
Colfax High School  
Commencement Bay Rowing Club  
Community Action Center  
Dreamworks Residential  
Early Learning Services  
Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Enterprise for Progress in the Community—Head Start  
Family Home Care and Hospice  
First Steps to Parenting  
Franklin Elementary School  
Union Gospel Mission of Gray’s Harbor—Friendship House Women’s Shelter  
Gritman Medical Center  
Harvest House  
Head Start/ECEAP & Community Child Care Center  
Independent Psychologists  
The Learning Center  
Living Faith Fellowship  
Medical Lake Elementary School  
Milestone Decisions  
The Montessori School of Pullman  
Nez Perce County Court Services  
Northeast Washington Early Childhood Programs  
Northwest Children’s Home  
Oakesdale School District  
Palouse Discovery Science Center  
Palouse Recovery Center  
Palouse River Counseling  
Palouse Regional Crisis Line  
Phillips Agency  
Pioneer Square Social Services  
Planned Parenthood  
Pullman High School & Eclipse Alternative Program  
Pullman Parks & Recreation  
Pullman Regional Hospital  
Rainbow School  
Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories  
Sunnyside Elementary School  
Sunnyside Preschool & Childcare  
University of Idaho Human Resources  
WA Department of Social & Health Services/Department of Children & Family Services  
Whitman County Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)  
Whitman County Jail  
Whitman County Juvenile Court
That is why students also participate in the seminar portion of Psych 445. Students journal about their practical experiences; learn about and apply professional and ethical standards; learn how to manage working relationships, stress, and burnout; and explore career interests. A current student, Sabrina Gonzales (senior, psychology), who has volunteered at a Pullman agency through the class and on her own said, “Although I gained a lot out of the summer [volunteer experience], I like that these journal assignments orient me toward thinking about my experiences at Harvest House, and it’s a nice way to tie together the information I’m receiving through my other classes and internships.”

![Photographs by Emily Smudde.](image)
Focus on Research

Theodore Beauchaine

Theodore “Ted” Beauchaine joined the Department of Psychology in July 2011. His research examines how biological predispositions toward impulsivity, trait anxiety, and negative affectivity interact with environmental experience to either amplify or mollify risk for numerous childhood and adolescent disorders, including ADHD, delinquency, depression, and self injury. Through the use of psychophysiological methods, including functional neuroimaging (fMRI), Ted explores how children’s brains respond to specific environmental stimuli. He is particularly interested in determining how the responses of children with ADHD, conduct problems, and depression differ from those of children without these conditions. In addition, Ted’s work explores how changes in family interaction quality can help children with these predispositions better regulate their own behavior. Ted’s research has been supported by grants from the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Science Foundation, the National Institute of Mental Health, and National Institute on Drug Abuse. To date, Ted’s prolific research career includes two books, more than 75 book chapters and journal articles, and nearly 70 conference presentations and invited lectures. He is currently the associate editor of the journal Psychophysiology and a consulting editor of the Journal of Abnormal Psychology and Psychological Science.

Ted earned his bachelor’s degree in psychology at Portland State University in 1993 before pursuing his master’s and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, degrees he completed in 1997 and 2000, respectively. Following his clinical internship at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine (1999-2000), Ted joined the faculty at the University of Washington (2000). He achieved tenure at UW in 2005 and was awarded the prestigious Robert Bolles and Yasuko Endo Endowed Professorship in 2006. He spent one year at Stony Brook University (2010-2011) as professor of psychology before joining WSU. Ted’s significant contributions to the field have been recognized with the American Psychological Association’s Distinguished Scientific Award for Early Career Contribution to Psychology (2006) and the Joseph Zubin Memorial Fund Award for Early Career Contributions to Research on Psychopathology (2009). While at the University of Washington, Ted was twice recognized for his skill as a mentor and teacher with the UW Postdoctoral Association Postdoctoral Mentor Award (2006) and the UW Davida Teller Distinguished Faculty Mentor Award (2010).

Staff News

Francis Benjamin (information systems coordinator) was an invited speaker for the Council of State Governments–West (CSG-WEST) 64th Annual Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, July 30-August 2. CSG-WEST serves the 13 western state legislatures. Francis’ talk was titled “Washington State Legislature: A Case Study in Civility and Politics.” Francis also published a book chapter (chapter 11) with Nicholas Lovrich (regents professor emeritus, political science) in Governing Washington: Politics and Government in the Evergreen State.

Heather Cochran joined the department in January 2011 as an undergraduate academic advisor. Heather has more than four years of advising experience and was previously an advisor for neuroscience. She earned her bachelor’s degree in organizational communications with an emphasis in political science at WSU in 1995. As an undergraduate student, Heather was the editor of the Daily Evergreen.

Heather Davison joined the department in August 2011 as our new office assistant. Heather was born and raised in Pullman. She graduated from WSU with a bachelor’s degree in social sciences in 2010.
David Marcus

David Marcus joined the Department of Psychology in August 2011 as a professor and the new director of clinical training. David’s research interests focus broadly on the topic of psychopathology. A significant portion of his work uses Meehl’s taxometric method to determine whether psychopathy is a unique diagnostic construct that differs qualitatively from other externalizing disorders (e.g., conduct disorder, antisocial personality disorder) or instead resides along a single continuum with these other conditions. David is also exploring the possible correlations between various behaviors associated with psychopathic personality traits. In addition, David uses David Kenny’s Social Relations Model to address how specific interpersonal factors may impact the efficacy of individual and group therapy. Finally, he is examining the role dysfunctional beliefs and a ruminative cognitive style may play in the manifestation of health related anxiety. David has published more than 60 journal articles and delivered nearly 70 presentations and invited talks. His research has been primarily funded by the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development. David is currently the president of the Society for Clinical and Social Psychology and the senior associate editor of the Journal of Social and Clinical Psychology.

David earned his bachelor’s degree in psychology at the University of Chicago in 1983 and his master’s and doctoral degrees in clinical psychology at Clark University (in 1985 and 1989, respectively). He completed his clinical internship at Pennsylvania State University. David was a visiting assistant professor in the Department of Psychology at the College of the Holy Cross for one year before accepting a faculty position at Sam Houston State University (SHSU) in 1990. He was twice honored by SHSU with an Outstanding Research Award (2004, 2005). In 2005, David joined the faculty in the Department of Psychology at the University of Southern Mississippi where he remained until joining WSU in 2011.

In Memoriam

We are saddened by the passing of the following individuals who touched our lives both personally and professionally. They will be sincerely missed.

Reed B. Friedman ’78 psychology, 57, July 10, 2011, Spokane.
Dorothy Ann Johnson ’47 psychology, 87, October 25, 2011, Des Moines.
Jon Alan Kangas ’67 psychology, ’70 Ph.D. psychology, 68, September 5, 2011, San Jose.
Judith Lee McElvain ’69 Ph.D. psychology, 72, May 5, 2011, Spokane.
Alumni News

Jessica Bilimoria (‘11 B.S. psychology), Daniel Reis (psychology senior), Alexa Powell (‘11 B.S. psychology), D. G. Smith, and Brendan Walker (associate professor) published “Antagonism of k-opioid receptors in the central nucleus of the amygdala selectively attenuates dependence-induced escalation of alcohol self-administration” in Society for Neuroscience Abstracts.

David Bridgett (‘08 Ph.D. psychology) and Masha Gartstein (associate professor) published “Emerging effortful control in toddlerhood: The role of infant orienting/regulation, maternal effortful control, and maternal time spent in caregiving activities” in the journal Infant Behavior & Development. This paper was coauthored by S. Putnam, K. Lance, E. Iddins, R. Waits, J. Van Vleet, and L. Lee.

Matthew Canterbury (‘01 psychology, ’03 economics) and Elizabeth “Beth” Klewenlo (‘00 microbiology) were married on October 8, 2011. Their Cougar-themed wedding in Spokane featured the Cougar fight song at the wedding reception.

Kevin Feiszli (‘11 B.S. psychology) and Lisa Fournier (associate professor; director of experimental training) presented a paper titled “Variations in action sequence overlap and their effects on reaction time” at the 23rd annual convention of the Association for Psychological Science in Washington, D.C.

Daniel Hurley (‘10 Ph.D. psychology) and Paul Kwon (associate professor) presented a paper titled “Interactive effects of reminiscing and attributional style for positive events on positive outcomes” at the annual meeting of the American Psychological Association in Washington, D.C. Daniel passed the EPPP exam (i.e., the written exam for psychology licensure) and his jurisprudence exam to become a licensed psychologist in the state of Washington. He is currently serving as the assistant director of the Psychology Clinic for the WSU Department of Psychology.

Kathryn Nealey (‘10 B.S. psychology, B.A. foreign languages and cultures), Alex Smith (‘11 B.S. psychology), Seth Davis (doctoral student), and Brendan Walker (assistant professor) published “Kappa-opioid receptors are implicated in the increased potency of intra-accumbens nalmefene in ethanol-dependent rats” in the journal Neuropharmacology.

Shital Pavawalla (‘09 Ph.D. psychology), Maureen Schmitter-Edgecombe (professor), and R. Smith published “Prospective memory following moderate-to-severe traumatic brain injury: A formal multinomial modeling approach” in the journal Neuropsychology.

Emily Rucker (’96 Ad, ’04 psychology) is the search engine marketing manager for 451 Marketing. This Boston-based communications agency emphasizes new media technologies.

Alex Smith (‘11 B.S. psychology), Kathryn Nealey (10 B.S. psychology, B.A. foreign languages and cultures), Jay Wright (professor), and Brendan Walker (assistant professor) published “Plasticity associated with escalated operant ethanol self-administration during acute withdrawal in ethanol-dependent rats requires intact matrix metalloproteinase systems” in the journal Neurobiology of Learning and Memory.