



December 2013

# Psychology News

## CHAIR'S SUMMARY

Since our last newsletter in August, six faculty members and two graduate students were awarded \$1.96 million dollars in new research contracts and grants. Four faculty members received honors and recognition in their fields, including an American Psychological Association Fellow award, which is considered a "prestigious award" by the National Research Council. Three faculty members had their work publicized in national media outlets, including *The Wall Street Journal*. Eleven faculty members and graduate students shared news of publications, including two faculty-led papers that appear in outlets that are among the most competitive and prestigious in the world: *Science* and *Nature Neuroscience*. A faculty member received a competitive three-year award from the College. The Department's Grants Analyst staff continues to increase their skill and value, with one of the team being accepted into a competitive business administration program at FSU. Finally, graduate student alumni are making their mark in the profession with high-profile job placements, grants, and awards. Please read on for details about many of the impressive things that have happened in Psychology over the past few months.

## In the Spotlight

**Jim McNulty's** research was published in the November 29th issue of *Science*. His study involved the assessment of automatic versus conscious attitudes in newlyweds toward their spouses. While newlyweds were not consciously aware of attitudes pertinent to long-term marital satisfaction, their automatic implicit attitudes accurately predicted changes in satisfaction over the course of the four-year longitudinal study.

McNulty, J. K., Olson, M. A., Meltzer, A. L., & Shaffer, M. D. (2013). Though they may be unaware, newlyweds implicitly know whether their marriage will be satisfying. *Science*. Nov 29;342 (6162):1119-20.

## FACULTY GRANTS

**Neil Charness** and **Walter Boot** are part of the consortium that was awarded a Tier 1 University Transportation Center by the U.S. Department of Transportation. The center is focused on Safe and Accessible Transportation for an Aging Population. Neil will be one of the Associate Directors for the Center, which is shared with FSU, FAMU, and UNF. At FSU, the participating units are the College of Engineering, Urban & Regional Planning, Geography, and the Psychology Department. The award is ~\$1.4 Million for 2 years.

## Research in the News...

**Anders Ericsson's** research on expertise and practice was featured in *Time Magazine* and *The Wall Street Journal*:

Gregory, S. (2013). Practice, made perfect? An amateur's golf quest sheds light on how we learn. *Time Magazine*. April 15, page 56-57.

<http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2140225,00.html>

Shermer, M. (2013). Born in first place: Practice may make perfect, but genetics determine athletic success. *The Wall Street Journal Online*. July 27, page C7.

<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424127887324448104578613503497501158.html>

Lipman, J. (2013). Why tough teachers get good results. *The Wall Street Journal Online*. September 27.

<http://online.wsj.com/news/articles/SB10001424052702304213904579095303368899132>

**Jon Maner and Jim McNulty's** 2013 research on women's testosterone responses to the scent of female ovulation was featured by the *Huffington Post* and *Discovery News*:

Cooper-White, M. (2013). Women can smell fertility of ovulating female rivals, new study suggests. *The Huffington Post*. September 26.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/26/women-smell-fertility-female-rivals\\_n\\_3989876.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/09/26/women-smell-fertility-female-rivals_n_3989876.html)

**Jesse Cougle** (PI) and **Brad Schmidt** (co-I) received a \$200,000 award from the Military Suicide Research Consortium for the proposal, "Controlled Evaluation of a Computerized Anger-reduction Treatment for Suicide Prevention."

**Jon Maner** (PI) and **Lisa Eckel** (co-PI) received funding (\$250,000) from the National Science Foundation for their project entitled, "Grounding the Behavioral Immune System in Mental and Physiological Processes."

**Brad Schmidt** received a Distinguished Investigator grant from the American Foundation for Suicide Research.

## FACULTY AWARDS AND HONORS

**Jon Bailey**, Professor Emeritus of Psychology and Director of the Applied Behavior Analysis Program at FSU Panama City, received a lifetime achievement award at the annual conference of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis.

**Jesse Cogle** received the President's New Researcher Award from the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies.

**Jon Maner** was named a Fellow of the American Psychological Association.

**Amy Polick**, a faculty member at FSU Panama City, is the President-Elect of the Florida Association for Behavior Analysis.

### In the Spotlight

**Carlos Bolanos** received the Nancy Marcus Professorship. The Marcus Professorship recognizes a faculty member within the College of Arts and Sciences who demonstrates excellence in research and is committed to serving and mentoring students from underrepresented groups in math and science. His appointment begins on January 1st, 2014 and lasts for three years.

## GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS, AWARDS AND HONORS

**Tiffany Brown**, a doctoral student in the Clinical program (Major Professor: Pam Keel) received an 18-month fellowship from the Global Foundation for Eating Disorders for approximately \$50,000 for her research entitled, "A Dissonance Based Eating Disorder Prevention Program for Men."

**Kristina Korte**, a doctoral student in the Clinical program (Major Professor: Brad Schmidt), received a 2-year \$68,014 Ruth Kirschstein National Service Research Award from the National Institute of Mental Health for her research entitled, "Transdiagnostic Preventative Intervention for Subclinical Anxiety."

## STAFF NEWS

**Alex Santos** was accepted into the 2013-2014 Partnership Program hosted by FSU's University Business Administrators. The program is limited to 18 participants from across campus and provides a 9-month professional development series.

## RECENT GRADUATES

**Claudia Lieberwirth** is now an assistant professor in the Department of Biology at Utah Valley University. Claudia received her Ph.D. in Neuroscience in the spring of 2013 (Major Professor: Zuoxin Wang).

**Jenna McHenry** is now a postdoctoral fellow at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. A NIH Institutional Training Grant (T32) funds the fellowship. Jenna received her Ph.D. in Neuroscience in the fall of 2013 (Major Professor: Elaine Hull).

**Adam Smith** is now a postdoctoral fellow at the NIMH in Bethesda, Maryland. Adam received his Ph.D. in Neuroscience in the spring of 2013 (Major Professor: Zuoxin Wang).

## ALUMNI NEWS

**Brandon Aragona**, now an assistant professor at the University of Michigan, was the recipient of the 2013 Frank A. Beach Award from the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology. This award is made to investigators within 8 years of receiving their Ph.D. who display exceptional promise in the field of Behavioral Neuroendocrinology. Brandon received his Ph.D. in Neuroscience in 2004 (Major Professor: Zuoxin Wang).

**Edward Cokely**, now an associate professor at Michigan Tech, received an NSF CAREER award (5 years, \$451,566) for his work on numeracy and risk literacy. Ed received his Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology in 2007 (Major Professor: Colleen Kelley).

**Christie Fowler**, now a staff scientist at The Scripps Research Institute-Florida, has accepted a faculty position as an assistant professor in the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior at the University of California, Irvine. Christie received her Ph.D. in Neuroscience in 2004 (Major Professor: Zuoxin Wang).

**Matthew Rhodes**, now an associate professor at Colorado State University, became a Fellow of the American Psychological Association. Matt received his Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology in 2004 (Major Professor: Colleen Kelley).

## In the Spotlight

The Department of Psychology, in collaboration with FSU's Career Center, sponsored the second annual Career Exploration Event for undergraduate psychology majors on Monday, November 4th, 2013 from 3:00 to 5:00 PM.

Because psychology majors can pursue a wide variety of careers, the purpose of the event was to provide information about many different careers in a short period of time. The event was modeled after "speed dating." There were approximately 25 tables, and each table was headed by an expert in a particular field. Students sat at a table while the expert presented an overview of their career and answered questions during a 12-minute segment. Each segment was followed by a 3-minute break, during which students moved to a different career table.

## RECENT PUBLICATION HIGHLIGHTS

*Note: The names of students and postdoctoral fellows are underlined and the names of faculty are in bold.*

- Borovsky A.**, Burns E., Elman J.L., & Evans J.L. (2013). Lexical activation during sentence comprehension in adolescents with history of Specific Language Impairment. *J Commun Disord.* Sep 18.
- Dossat A.M., Diaz R., Gallo L., Panagos A., Kay K., & **Williams D.L.** (2013). Nucleus accumbens GLP-1 receptors influence meal size and palatability. *Am J Physiol Endocrinol Metab.* Jun 15;304(12):E1314-20.
- Kay K., Parise E.M., Lilly N., & **Williams D.L.** (2013). Hind-brain orexin 1 receptors influence palatable food intake, operant responding for food, and food-conditioned place preference in rats. *Psychopharmacology (Berl)*. Aug 27.
- Lieberwirth C., Wang Y., **Jia X.**, **Liu Y.**, & **Wang Z.** (2013). Fatherhood reduces the survival of adult-generated cells and affects various types of behavior in the prairie vole (*Microtus ochrogaster*). *Eur J Neurosci.* Nov;38(9):3345-55.
- McHenry J., Carrier, N., **Hull, E.**, Kabbaj, M. (in press). Sex differences in anxiety and depression: Role of testosterone. *Front Endocrinol.*
- Mullis K., Kay K., & **Williams D.L.** (2013). Oxytocin action in the ventral tegmental area affects sucrose intake. *Brain Res.* Jun 4;1513:85-91.
- Pan Y., Li M., Yi X., Zhao Q., Lieberwirth C., **Wang Z.**, & Zhang Z. (2013). Scatter hoarding and hippocampal cell proliferation in Siberian chipmunks. *Neuroscience.* Oct 9;255C:76-85.
- Quinn, J. M., & **Wagner, R. K.** (in press). Gender differences in reading impairment and in the identification of impaired readers: Results from a large-scale study of at-risk readers. *Journal of Learning Disabilities.*
- Smith A.S., Lei K., & **Wang Z.** (2013). Neurobiology of social attachment. In D.S. Charney, J.D. Buxbaum, P. Sklar, and E.J. Nestler (Eds.), *Neurobiology of Mental Illness*, 4<sup>th</sup> ed (pp. 1112-1126). Oxford University Press.
- Smith A.S. & **Wang Z.** (2013). Hypothalamic oxytocin mediates social buffering of the stress response. *Biol Psychiatry.* Sep 28.
- Wang H., Duclot F., **Liu Y.**, **Wang Z.**, & Kabbaj M. (2013). Histone deacetylase inhibitors facilitate partner preference formation in female prairie voles. *Nat Neurosci.* Jul;16(7):919-24.



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