

PSYCHOLOGY NEWS

The Florida State University



Fall 2015

Message From the Chair



Dr. Jeanette Taylor

There are many exciting things to report since our spring 2015 newsletter. Our graduate students are conducting attention-grabbing research (see Spotlight on page 3) and benefitting from

generous department benefactors. Speaking of which, a new award has been established through a gift to the department that will honor an outstanding staff member, specialized faculty member, or adjunct faculty member (see Spotlight on page 1). Faculty have brought in around \$2 million in new grants, and they have garnered various awards and honors. Graduate students have also gotten awards, honors, and grants, and we had two finalists in the university-wide Three Minute Thesis contest. As in the spring semester, one of our exceptional undergraduate students was honored with the Marion Jewell Hay Award for top graduate at FSU this semester (see p. 2. Please continue reading for more highlights from FSU's Psychology Department.

Jeanette Taylor

In the Spotlight

The Stan and Paula Warmath Service Award has been established through an endowed gift to the FSU Foundation. This Award recognizes the outstanding service and contributions that Stan and Paula Warmath have made to the FSU Psychology Department over many years.

An annual award of approximately \$1,000 will be made to a person for dedicated service to the Psychology Department. Staff, specialized faculty, and adjunct faculty who have been in service for five or more years will be eligible for the Award. The nomination and selection process will be determined soon. The first Award will be made in the spring semester of 2016.

Alumni News

Edward Cokely has taken a position as a Presidential Research Professor and Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Oklahoma. Ed received his Ph.D. in cognitive psychology in 2007 under the mentorship of Colleen Kelley.

Christie Fowler, Assistant Professor in the Department of Neurobiology and Behavior at UC Irvine, received the Avenir Award from the National Institute on Drug Abuse for her project, "Circulating miRNAs and epigenetic regulation in nicotine addiction." This distinguished award supports outstanding early career researchers investigating the genetics or epigenetics of substance abuse and comes with up to \$300,000 per year for five years. Christie received her Ph.D. in neuroscience in 2004 under the mentorship of Zuoxin Wang.

Lili Sahakyan is now an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Illinois. Lili received her Ph.D. in cognitive psychology in 2002 under the mentorship of Colleen Kelley.

Faculty Awards and Honors

Roy Baumeister was awarded the 2015 Scientific Impact Award by the Society for Experimental Social Psychology, along with co-author Mark Leary of Wake Forest University, for their 1995 paper, "The need to belong." It has been cited over nine thousand times in the scientific literature.

Don Compton was invited to participate on a panel on Learning Disabilities, Universal Design for Learning, and Assistive Technology at the October 2015 meeting of the Committee on the Science and Practice of Learning. This committee was appointed by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to revise and extend the 2000 report, "How people learn: Brain, mind, experience, and school."

Paul Conway was awarded the 2015 Best Working Paper Award by the Association for Consumer Research for the paper, "Amplifying the effects of ideology on environmentally-sustainable consumption and conservation: The role of individual differences in commitment to beliefs." His co-authors are Matthew Maxwell-Smith and James Olson.

Thomas Joiner is the recipient of several awards: (1) Thomas was invited to be a 2016 American Psychological Association (APA) Distinguished Scientist Lecturer. The program was developed by the APA's Board of Scientific Affairs as part of its ongoing mission to promote scientific psychology and sponsor recipients to present at three regional psychological association meetings; (2) he received the Charles T. Ruby Award, given annually by the Catholic Charities to one individual who has made substantial contributions to the welfare of those bereaved by suicide; and (3) Thomas will be the recipient of the American Association for Suicidology's Dublin Award for Lifetime Contributions to Suicide Research in April 2016 at their conference in Chicago. This award is the association's single highest honor.

Chris Patrick and **Rick Wagner** were named 2015 Fellows of the Association for Psychological Science as well as the American Psychological Association.

Faculty Grants

Wally Boot and **Neil Charness** were awarded \$52,505 by the Florida Department of Transportation to study a novel traffic signal in the project, "The flashing right turn signal with pedestrian indication: Human factors studies to understand the potential of a new signal to increase awareness of and attention to crossing pedestrians."

Neil Charness, Wally Boot, Mike Kaschak, and co-investigators from the College of Communication and Information (Laura Arpan, Juliann Cortese, Russell Clayton) were awarded a \$215,000 contract from the Florida Department of Transportation for the project, "Human factors guidelines to develop educational tip cards for aging road users."

Neil Charness and **Wally Boot**, along with collaborators at Georgia Tech and the University of Miami, were once again funded by the National Institute on Aging to support the Center for Research and Education on Aging and Technology Enhancement (CREATE) for another five years. CREATE IV will fund \$1.5 million of research and dissemination activities at FSU. CREATE is a multidisciplinary and collaborative center dedicated to ensuring that the benefits of technology can be realized by older adults to support and enhance independence, productivity, health, safety, social connectedness and quality of life.

Rick Hyson and **Frank Johnson**, along with FSU colleagues Richard Bertram (Math) and Wei Wu (Statistics), were awarded a 3-year, \$520,621 grant from the National Science Foundation for their research entitled, "Parallel encoding of sequence and structure in a motor memory trace."



In the Spotlight

The 1st Florida Psycholinguistics Meeting was hosted by the Psychology Department on October 24th in an effort to bring together researchers from around the state who study psychological, computational and theoretical perspectives on how people learn, use, and understand language. **Arielle Borovsky** developed the idea for the meeting and organized it. The event drew researchers from the University of Florida, Florida Atlantic University, the University of Central Florida, and the University of Miami. The meeting also featured work from FSU faculty members **Arielle Borovsky, Rick Wagner, Chris Lonigan, Mike Kaschak**, and **Jonathan Folstein**, as well as the work of 13 graduate students and postdoctoral researchers in the department.

Undergraduate Awards and Honors

Nicole Gonzalez (advisor: Mike Kaschak) was the winner of the Fall 2015 Phi Beta Kappa Alpha Chapter of Florida, Marion Jewell Hay Award, recognizing the top student graduating from FSU in the fall term. The ceremony took place November 22nd.

Departmental News

Recently released news: The Department of Psychology ranked 8th in the university and 3rd in the College of Arts and Sciences for new contracts and grants in the academic year 2014-15 with \$6,933,445.

FSU Panama City's Applied Behavior Analysis program ranked 1st out of 106 colleges and universities worldwide in the Behavior Analyst Certification Board exam pass rates, with 100% of first time candidates passing.

Staff News



Wendy Rounds was welcomed to the main office in July when Earline Whitley retired after almost 23 years of service to the department.

In the Spotlight

Cary Stothart (major professor: Neil Charness), a doctoral candidate in cognitive psychology, has been cited in numerous media outlets for his paper, "The attentional cost of receiving a cell phone notification," which was published this year in the *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*. His co-authors were Ainsley Mitchum (a graduate of the cognitive program (major professor: Colleen Kelley) and a former postdoctoral fellow working with Neil Charness) and Courtney Yehnert (a former undergraduate and current project coordinator in Arielle Borovsky's lab). The study assessed the degree to which cell phone notifications distracted from performance on an attention-demanding task and found three times as many mistakes by distracted participants than by those who did not receive notifications. This study was covered by [The Huffington Post](#), [New York Magazine](#), [The Atlantic](#), [U.S. News & World Report](#), [Forbes](#), and [Time](#).

Graduate Student Grants, Awards, and Honors

Briana Carroll (major professor: Rick Hyson) was selected to be a FSU Program for Instructional Excellence Teaching Associate for the 2015-16 academic year.

Matt Michaels (major professor: Thomas Joiner) received a Military Suicide Research Consortium dissertation grant for \$2,000 to study risk factors for suicidal behavior in LGBTQ service members and veterans.

Matt Podlogar (major professor: Thomas Joiner) and **Mary Oglesby** (major professor: Brad Schmidt) were each awarded \$250 in research support from the FSU Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program to support undergraduate research for students they are mentoring.

Dustin Souders (major professor: Neil Charness) received the 2015 Dwight David Eisenhower Graduate Research Fellowship to conduct research in the Office of Operations Research and Development at the Federal Highway Administration Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center. The amount of the award is \$60,000.

Ian Stanley (major professors: Natalie Sachs-Ericsson and Thomas Joiner) and **Melanie Hom** (major professor: Thomas Joiner) received the Violet and Cyril Franks Scholarship from the American Psychological Foundation. This \$5,000 grant supports research to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness that can be a barrier to accessing treatment.

Bo Winegard and **Tania Reynolds** (major professor for both students: Roy Baumeister) were selected as 2015 winners of the Student Publication Award from the *Society for Personality and Social Psychology* for their 2014 article, "Grief functions as an honest indicator of commitment." The article was published in *Personality and Social Psychology Review* and their co-authors are Roy Baumeister, Ben Winegard, and Jon Maner.

Awards from Endowed Gifts to the Department

Chris Hagan (major professor: Thomas Joiner) received the department's Kellogg Dissertation Award for his study, "Hopelessness regarding thwarted belongingness and perceived burdensomeness: A test of the interpersonal theory of suicide." The award helps defray the costs incurred in a student's dissertation research.

Jamie Quinn (major professor: Rick Wagner), **Juliana French** (major professor: Andrea Meltzer), **Colleen Osborne** (major professor: Lisa Eckel), **Stacey Makhanova** (major professor: Jim McNulty), **Ian Stanley** (major professors: Natalie Sachs-Ericsson and Thomas Joiner), **Elia Soto** (major professor: Michael Kofler), and **Radhika Vaidyanathan** (major professor: Liz Hammock) were awarded a Jane West Fellowship, which provides support for a Psychology graduate student who has an interest in issues related to child development or family processes.

Brittany Morris (major professor: Thomas Joiner), **Leah Shulley** (major professor: Arielle Borovsky), **Colleen Osborne** (major professor: Lisa Eckel), **Shivali Sarawgi** (major professor: Jesse Cogle), and **Haley Stephens** (major professor: Janet Kistner) received the DeGraff Research Fund Scholarship. Awardees are Psychology students who intend to conduct research related to factors that influence the growth and development of youth or who intend to work professionally with youth and their problems.

Research in the News

Roy Baumeister was interviewed on National Public Radio in a segment called, "Think," about his recent *Scientific American* article entitled, "Conquer yourself, conquer the world."

Arielle Borovsky is getting media attention for her research on the development of children's vocabulary. Her work was recently published in the journal, *Developmental Science*. Arielle's findings suggest that children are better able to understand new words that are connected to words in their existing vocabularies. This line of research may help identify targets of intervention for children with language learning delays. A few of the outlets in which her work appeared include *FSU News*, *NPR-WFSU*, [Tallahassee Democrat](#), [Deseret News](#), [Medical Daily](#), [Science World Report](#), [Medical Xpress](#), and [Medical Research.com](#).

Anders Ericsson's work on the importance of practice and drive to achieving expertise was referenced in several articles, among them:

Voosen, P. (November 2015). Bringing up genius - Is every healthy child a potential prodigy? In [The Chronicle of Higher Education](#).

Steenbarger B. (October 2015). We want to succeed, but are we training for success? In [Forbes](#).

Hoffeld, D. (October 2015). 3 scientifically proven behaviors that lead to success, In [Fast Company](#).

Recent Publication Highlights

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

Baumeister, R. F., & Vonasch, A. J. (2015). Uses of self-regulation to facilitate and restrain addictive behavior. *Addictive Behaviors*, *44*, 3-8.

Borovsky, A., Ellis, E.M., Evans, J.L., & Elman, J.L. (in press). Semantic density interacts with lexical and sentence processing in infancy. *Child Development*.

Borovsky, A., Ellis, E.M., Evans, J.L., & Elman, J.L. (in press). Lexical leverage: Category knowledge boosts real-time novel word recognition in two-year-olds. *Developmental Science*.

Ellis, E.M., **Borovsky, A.**, Elman, J.L., & Evans, J.L. (in press). Novel Word Learning: An eye-tracking study. Are 18-month-old late talkers really different from their typical peers? *Journal of Communication Disorders*.

Ericsson, K. A. (2015). Acquisition and maintenance of medical expertise: A perspective from the expert-performance approach with deliberate practice. *Academic Medicine*, *90*, 1471-1486.

Fukushiro-Lopes D.F., Olivera A., **Liu Y.**, & **Wang, Z.X.** (2015). Neonatal exposure to amphetamine alters social affiliation and central dopamine activity in adult male prairie voles. *Neuroscience*, *307*, 109-116.

Gobrogge K.L., & **Wang Z.X.** (in press). Neuropeptidergic regulation of pair-bonding and stress buffering: Lessons from voles. *Hormones and Behavior*.

Gong, Y., **Ericsson, K. A.**, & Moxley, J. H. (2015). A refined technique for identifying chunk characteristics during recall of briefly presented chess positions and their relations to chess skill. *PLoS ONE*, *10*(3), e0118756.

Hashimoto, D. A., Sirimanna, P., Gomez, E. D., Beyer-Berjot, L., **Ericsson, K. A.**, Williams, N. N., Darzi, A., & Aggarwal, R. (2015). Deliberate practice enhances quality of laparoscopic surgical performance in a randomized controlled trial: From arrested development to expert performance. *Surgical Endoscopy*, *29*, 3154-3162.

Little, C.W., Barroso, C., & **Hart, S.A.** (in press). The Precision Education Initiative: Personalized education. In S. Bouregy, E. Grigorenko, S. Latham & M. Tan (Eds.), *Current Perspectives in Psychology: Education, Ethics, and Genetics*. Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press.

Little, C.W., **Taylor, J.**, Moltisanti, A., Ennis, C., **Hart, S.A.**, & **Schatschneider, C.** (in press). Factor structure and etiological architecture of the BRIEF: A twin study. *Journal of Neuropsychology*.

Lynch, R. J., **Kistner, J. A.**, Stephens, H. F., & David-Ferdon, C. (2015). Positively biased self-perceptions of peer acceptance and subtypes of aggression in children. *Aggressive Behavior*.

Moxley, J. H., **Ericsson, K. A.**, Scheiner, A., & Tuffiash, M. (2015). The effects of experience and disuse on cross-word solving. *Applied Cognitive Psychology*, *29*, 73-80.

Peters, R. E., Grüter, T., & **Borovsky, A.** (2015). Anticipatory and locally-coherent lexical activation varies as a function of language proficiency. *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 1865-1870). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

Quinn, J. M., Spencer, M., & **Wagner, R. K.** (2015). Individual differences in phonological awareness and their role in learning to read. In Afflerbach, P. (Ed.), *Handbook of Individual Differences in Reading: Reader, Text, and Context* (pp. 80-92). New York, NY: Routledge.

Roque, N., & **Boot, W.R.** (2015). Exploring the relationship between object realism and object-based attention effects. *Acta Psychologica*, *160*, 178-183.

Schatschneider, C., Tighe, L., **Wagner, R.K.**, & **Hart, S.A.** (in press). Integrating information across studies. *Scientific Studies of Reading*.

Smith A.S., Tabbaa M., Lei K., Eastham P., Butler M.J., Linton L., Altshuler R., **Liu Y.**, & **Wang Z.X.** (2016). Local oxytocin tempers anxiety by activating GABA_A receptor in the hypothalamic paraventricular nucleus. *Psychoneuroendocrinology*, *63*, 50-58.

Stephens, H. F., **Kistner, J. A.**, & Lynch, R. J. (2015). Positively biased self-perceptions: Who has them and what are their effects? *Child Psychiatry and Human Development*.

Stothart, C., Mitchum, A., & Yehnert, C. (2015). The attentional cost of receiving a cell phone notification. *Journal of Experimental Psychology: Human Perception and Performance*.

Troyer, M., & **Borovsky, A.** (2015). Childhood SES affects anticipatory language comprehension in college-age adults. *Proceedings of the 37th Annual Meeting of the Cognitive Science Society* (pp. 2428-2433). Austin, TX: Cognitive Science Society.

Vonasch, A. J., Maranges, H. M., & **Baumeister, R. F.** (in press). Self-regulation, controlled processes, and the treatment of addiction. In N. Heather & G. Segal (Eds.), *Addiction and Choice: Rethinking the Relationship*. Oxford, UK: Oxford University Press.

Vonasch, A. J., Masicampo, E. J., & **Baumeister, R. F.** (in press). The science of consciousness must include its more advanced forms. *Behavioral and Brain Sciences*.

Wang, Z., Lukowski, S.L., **Hart, S.A.**, Lyons, I., Thompson, L.A., Kovas, Y., Mazzocco, M.M.M., Plomin, R., & Petrill, S.A. (in press). Is mathematical anxiety always bad for math learning: The role of math motivation. *Psychological Science*.

Wood, S.G., **Hart, S.A.**, Little, C., & Phillips, B.M. (in press). Test anxiety and a high-stakes standardized reading comprehension test: A behavioral genetics perspective. *Merrill-Palmer Quarterly*.