

# PSYCHOLOGY NEWS

The Florida State University



Spring 2017

## Message From the Chair



Dr. Jeanette Taylor

It has been a busy and productive semester in Psychology. Spring is filled with wonderful events that include the annual Brain Fair to increase awareness of neuroscience, Undergraduate Research Day highlighting undergraduate research in the department, and Graduate Research Day highlighting graduate research. Dr. Ellen Berler received the Stan and Paula Warmath Distinguished Service Award (see Spotlight on p. 3) for her excellent service to Psychology. Noah Venables (major professor: Chris Patrick) received the Glee Ross Hollander Dissertation Award (see Spotlight on p. 5) for the best dissertation in 2016. Multiple undergraduate majors won awards or received grants from FSU and external groups such as Psi Chi Honor Society. Graduate students garnered awards for teaching and research, and alumni continue to do well in the job market. Please continue reading for more highlights from FSU's Psychology Department.

*Jeanette Taylor*

## Faculty Awards & Honors

**Anders Ericsson** received an Honors Thesis Mentor Award, which recognizes and honors his efforts in directing and advising undergraduate research through the Honors in the Major program.

**Joe Franklin, Alexandria Meyer, Derek Nee, and Aaron Wilber** received the First Year Assistant Professor Award from the FSU Council on Research and Creativity.

**Colleen Ganley** was named a Rising Star by the Association for Psychological Science. This designation is presented to outstanding psychological scientists in the earliest stages of their post-PhD research careers.

**Elaine Hull** was an invited speaker at Lehigh University in April 2017. The title of her talk was "Steroids in the Medial Preoptic Area: Effects on Sexual Behavior and Stress Responsiveness."

**Pam Keel** was an invited speaker at the National Institute on the Teaching of Psychology in January 2017. Pam also was invited to present in a plenary session at the International Conference on Eating Disorders in Prague in June 2017.

**Chris Lonigan** was selected as a Fellow of the Association for Psychological Science.

## Department News & Events

The Clinical Psychology program achieved a 100% match rate for students applying for internships that will begin this summer. Thirteen clinical students will be completing their required 12-month, full-time clinical internship at sites throughout the country that are accredited by the American Psychological Association.

The department was quite successful in graduate recruiting this year. Twenty-four new graduate students will be joining the Clinical, Cognitive, Developmental, Neuroscience, and Social Ph.D. programs this fall, and the ABA Master's program will welcome 16 new students.

The Psychology Internship and Involvement Fair was held on February 22nd, with nearly 100 undergraduate students attending to receive information about 20 involvement opportunities.

The first Annual Diverse Fest was held on April 15. 40 undergrads attended this one-day departmental conference geared towards helping minority students prepare for graduate school. The event was organized by **Erin Harrell** (major professor: Wally Boot) and **Danielle Krusemark** (major professor: Ashby Plant). **Wally Boot** was one of several speakers at the conference.

On April 22nd, the Psychology Department hosted its 6th annual Brain Fair. This free and family-friendly event aims to increase awareness of neuroscience in the community. Graduate and undergraduate students from Psychology, Biology, and Biomedical Sciences had over 20 displays, interactive activities, and demonstrations of basic neuroscience. A free bike helmet giveaway also occurred at the event and was made possible thanks to the Simpkins family. This year's Brain Fair theme was "The Brain Awakens", a derivation off the recent Star Wars movie. Neuroscience graduate students Caroline Strong (major professor: Mohamed Kabbaj), Thomas Sullenberger (major professor: Sanjay Kumar), and **Manal Tabbaa** (major professor: Elizabeth Hammock) coordinated this year's Brain Fair.

# Undergraduate Awards & Honors

**Alejandro Albizu** (advisor: Wen Li) was selected as a recipient of Psi Chi's 2016-17 Fall Undergraduate Research Grant for his proposal "Sensory Processing Deficits and Aberrant Neural Oscillations in Veterans with Post-Traumatic Stress Symptoms".

Recent graduate **UnYoung Gabriela Chavez-Baldini** and colleagues recently published a paper in Schizophrenia Bulletin investigating the role of psychology processes, adverse events, and experiences in the onset of psychosis. She is currently a graduate student at Maastricht University in the Netherlands.

**Kirsten Christensen** (honors advisor: Thomas Joiner) was awarded the 2017 FSU David B. Ford Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity Award (IDEA grant) for \$4,000. These funds will be used to fund a self-designed project.

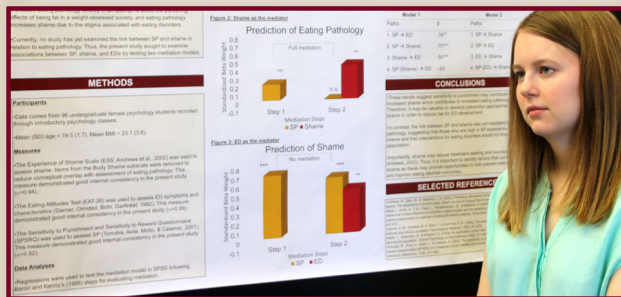
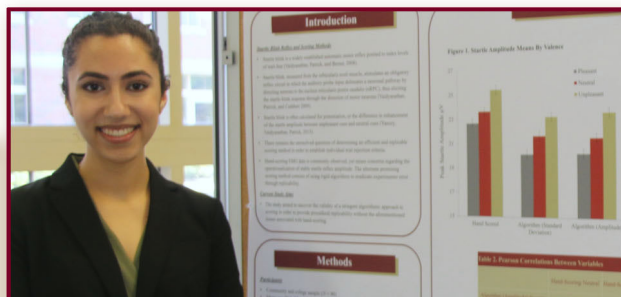
**Emilee Cruz** (advisor: Ed Hansen) was awarded the Mamie Phipps Clark Diversity Research Grant for a total of \$3,500 from Psi Chi International Honor Society.

**Julia Gorday** (honors advisor: Thomas Joiner) was awarded a 2017 IDEA grant for \$4,000. These funds will be used to fund a self-designed project.

**Olivia Bockler** (honors advisor: Wen Li) was awarded the 2017 FSU Garnet and Gold Scholar Society IDEA grant for \$4,000. These funds will be used to fund a self-designed project.

The Mark A. Berkley Research Fellowship supports undergraduate research projects in psychology. Awards are given annually to the top research proposals submitted to a faculty selection committee. This year's recipients were **Julia Gorday** (advisor: Thomas Joiner) and **Maria Puig Kreis** (advisor: Anders Ericsson).

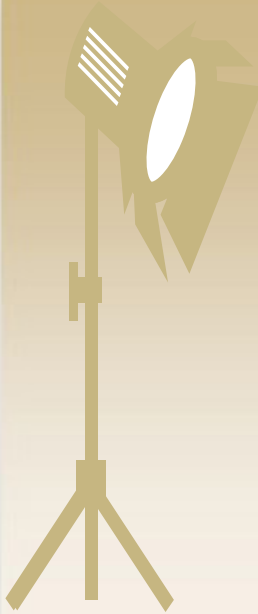
The Mae Hampton Watt Presidential Scholarship in Psychology provides support to undergraduate students majoring in psychology. Scholarships were given to students for excellence in research, writing, and service. The recipients were: **Ekaterina Zuniga** (advisors: Alexandria Meyer and Chris Lonigan) for Research, **Alli Zepher** for Writing, and **Katriana Johnson-Dubytz** for Leadership and Service.



## Undergraduate Research Day

On March 31st the department and local chapter of the Psi Chi National Honor Society hosted the annual Undergraduate Research Day in which undergraduate students present and discuss their research. The morning began with a poster session, followed by a brunch at which the Howard D. Baker Research Talks were presented and an awards ceremony was held. The Howard Baker Award is given to the research project submissions that are judged to be the most meritorious. The awards were presented to **Alejandro Albizu** (1st place; advised by Wen Li), **Alexandra Brockdorf** (2nd place; advised by Pam Keel), **Kimberly Champagne** (3rd place (tie); advised by Wally Boot), and **Vanessa Domingos** (3rd place (tie); advised by Sara Hart). The Psi Chi Best Poster Award was presented to **Michelle Sanabria** (advised by Nelson Roque and Mike Kaschak)

## In the Spotlight



*The Stan and Paula Warmath Distinguished Service Award* was established last year by a generous donor, who wished to remain anonymous. The

award is given on an annual basis and recognizes a staff member or specialized faculty member for their dedicated service to the Psychology Department. This year's recipient was **Ellen Berler**. Ellen was selected as the recipient of this award for her significant contributions to every aspect of the department. Ellen

has served in many roles during her time at FSU including associate chair, director of graduate studies, director of the psychology clinic, coordinator of external placements, co-director of the ABA Master's program, and interim chair. Ellen is recognized for her encyclopedic knowledge of university policies; her ability to balance faculty preference and students' needs in completing the teaching schedule; her willingness to give her time, attention, and energy to every problem or concern; her ability to find new solutions as information changes; and her ability to do all of this with an unmatched level of grace and patience. Ellen plays an essential role in keeping the department running smoothly.

## Graduate Students, Postdocs, and Alumni on the Move

**Ryan Best** is now a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Zurich, conducting research on aging and decision making. Ryan received his Ph.D. in cognitive psychology in 2016 under the guidance of Neil Charness.

**Briana Carroll** (major professor: Rick Hyson) accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Chicago, working with Murray Sherman on the thalamocortical circuitry using in vitro slice physiology.

**Jessica Cascio** (major professor: Ashby Plant) accepted a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor at Northwest Missouri State University.

**Charleen Case** (major professors: Jim McNulty and Jon Maner) accepted a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor of Management and Organizations in the Ross School of Business at the University of Michigan.

**Chris Hagan** (major professor: Thomas Joiner) accepted a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of Wisconsin, Eau Claire with Jennifer Muehlenkamp.

**Timothy Kutta** (major professor: Mike Kaschak) accepted a position as a Research and Statistics Consultant for the Internal Affairs division of the Florida Highway Patrol.

**Jerad Moxley** has taken a position as a Research Scientist at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Jerad received his Ph.D. in cognitive psychology in 2016 under the guidance of Anders Ericsson.

**Lindsey Schier** accepted a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in the Department of Biology at the University of Southern California. Lindsey works with Alan Spector as a postdoctoral fellow.

**Cary Stothart** is now a postdoctoral fellow at Notre Dame, conducting research on attention and visual processing. Cary received his Ph.D. in cognitive psychology in 2016 under the guidance of Neil Charness.

**Timothy Wright** recently took a position with Dunlap and Associates, Inc. a human factors firm that works with NHTSA, CDC, and NIH to conduct research and analyses to understand and improve product and highway safety. Timothy received his Ph.D. in cognitive psychology in 2015 under the guidance of Wally Boot.

## Staff News



Blair Burley, a grants analyst in the department, was awarded the Exemplary Service Award for FSU Budget Services for 2017. Blair was recognized for her commitment to the success of the department and her willingness to take on new tasks.



### FSU Day

April 4th was FSU Day at the Capitol. The annual event showcases the university's accomplishments over the past year to legislators. Psychology faculty and graduate students represented the department to showcase our high quality research.

# Graduate Students, Postdocs, and Alumni Grants, Awards, and Honors

**Edward Cokely** was awarded an Early Career Impact Award from the Federation of Associations in Behavioral and Brain Sciences. Edward received his Ph.D. in cognitive psychology in 2007 under the mentorship of Colleen Kelley.

**Jean Forney** (major professor: Pam Keel) and **Sarah Terrill** (major professor: Diana Williams) both received the Philanthropic Educational Organization (P.E.O) Scholar Award. This is a merit-based award for women who are pursuing a doctoral level degree at an accredited college or university.

**Kyle Harwell** (major professor: Anders Ericsson) was nominated for the FSU Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award.

**Melanie Hom** (major professor: Thomas Joiner) received the Research & Creativity Award from the Graduate School.

**Anastasia Makhanova** (major professor: Jim McNulty) received the 2016-2017 FSU Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award.

**Shayne Piasta** was selected as a recipient of the Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and

Engineers, the highest honor bestowed by the United States Government given to scientists and engineering professionals in the early stages of their independent research careers. Shayne received her Ph.D. in developmental psychology in 2008 under the mentorship of Rick Wagner.

**Matthew Ross** (major professor: Rick Hyson) was awarded the Excellence in Visual Arts Award from the Graduate School.

**April Smith** was named a Rising Star by the Association for Psychological Science. April received her Ph.D. in clinical psychology in 2012 under the mentorship of Thomas Joiner.

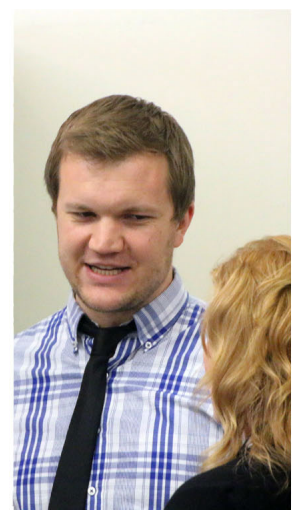
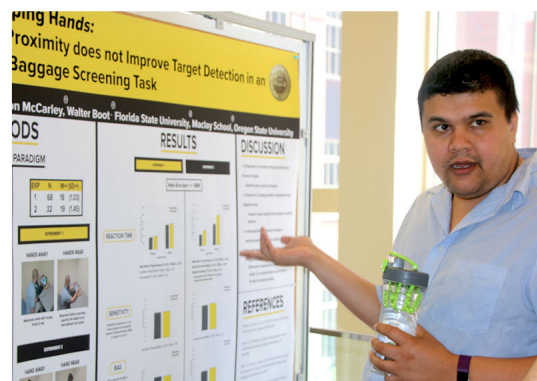
**Dustin Souders** (major professor: Neil Charness) was named the Outstanding Student of the Year by the University Transportation Center, a consortium of FSU, FAMU, and the University of North Florida. He will be recognized at the Transportation Research Board's annual meeting in Washington, DC in January 2018.

**Ian Stanley** (major professor: Thomas Joiner) was chosen as a winner of the FSU Alumni Association's Bernard Michels Scholarship.

## Graduate Research Day

On April 21st the department hosted its annual *Graduate Research Day* (GRD), in which graduate students present research through oral and poster presentations. Following adjudication by faculty members, the following students were awarded the Eugenia and Russell Morcom GRD Excellence Award for best oral presentations: **Maria Greenwood** (1st place; major professor: Liz Hammock), **Nicole Short** (2nd place; major professor: Brad Schmidt), **Stephanie Mallinas** (3rd place; major professor: Ashby Plant), and **Nelson Roque** (honorable mention; major professor: Wally Boot). The award was also presented to one student from each of five programs for their poster presentations: **Lauren Stentz** (Clinical; major professor:

Brad Schmidt), **Mia Daucourt** (Developmental; major professor: Sara Hart), **Dustin Souders** (Cognitive; major professor: Neil Charness), **Calyn Maske** (Neuroscience; major professor: Diana Williams), and **Lindsey Hicks** (Social; major professor: Jim McNulty).



## In the Spotlight



The Glee Ross Hollander Dissertation Award was established last year through a monetary gift to the department in memory of Dr. Glee Ross Hollander, an alumna of our clinical psychology program. The \$2,000 award is given to a psychology doctoral student who, in the previous calendar year, defended

a dissertation that is judged to be the best of those nominated by department faculty. This year's recipient is **Noah Venables** (major professor: Christopher Patrick). His dissertation is entitled "Toward a cross-domain conception of inhibitory control capacity as relevant to impulse control problems". Noah received his doctorate in fall 2016 and is currently a postdoctoral research fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of Minnesota.

## Faculty Grants

**Anders Ericsson** received a \$44,000 award from the Character Lab for his project titled "Good Best Better: Toward Expert Performance in Teaching".

**Jonathan Folstein** received a 2016-2017 Spring Planning Grant Award from the Council on Research and Creativity, for \$13,000.

**Elizabeth Hammock** received a \$20,000 Go! Grant from the Good Nature Institute. This grant was awarded to recognize her work on the neural mechanisms of social imprinting in development.

**Rick Hyson, Frank Johnson, Richard Bertram** (Mathematics) and **Wei Wu** (Statistics) were awarded a

new 4-year grant (\$800,000) from NSF for their project entitled "Developmental Learning Involves Nonsynaptic Plasticity."

**Pam Keel**, along with colleagues from Michigan State University, received a \$3.4 million grant from the National Institute of Mental Health to use a multi-method (behavioral genetic, neuroendocrine), longitudinal twin study to document the effects of combined oral contraceptives on phenotypic and genetic risk for binge eating in women.

**Wen Li** received an \$8,000 grant from Utrecht University to support her research on human olfaction, emotion, and related problems.

**Jim McNulty** received a 2016-2017 Spring Planning Grant Award from the Council on Research and Creativity, for \$13,000.



*Anders Ericsson*



*Jonathan Folstein*



*Elizabeth Hammock*



*Rick Hyson*



*Frank Johnson*



*Pam Keel*



*Wen Li*



*Jim McNulty*

## Research In the News

**Jesse Cougle** was quoted in the New York Times, discussing his substance use research investigating the addictive nature of marijuana.

**Aaron Wilber's** research on the encoding and memory reactivation in the parietal cortex was featured by the Simons Foundation.

**Joseph Franklin** and **Jessica Ribeiro's** research on large scale suicide risk detection was featured by several news outlets, including: Newsweek, Wired, PBS, Scientific American, FSU News, Tallahassee Democrat, NPR-WFSU, American Medicine Today, and WBZY Top of the Mind.



## Recent Publication Highlights

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

Elliott, K.C., Wu, W., Bertram, R., **Hyson, R.L.**, & **Johnson, F.** (in press). Orthogonal topography in the parallel input architecture of songbird HVC. *Journal of Comparative Neurology*.

Erbeli, E., **Hart, S.A.**, & **Taylor, J.** (in press). Longitudinal associations among reading related skills and reading comprehension: A twin study. *Child Development*.

**Ericsson, K. A.**, & Pool, R. (2016). *Peak: Secrets from the new science of expertise*. Boston, MA: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

Galvis, D., Wu, W., **Hyson, R.L.**, **Johnson, F.**, & Bertram, R., (in press). A recurrent network model can explain the effects of targeted partial ablation of HVC on zebra finch song. *Journal of Neurophysiology*.

**Ganley, C.M.**, & **Hart, S.A.** (in press). Shape of Educational Data: Interdisciplinary perspectives. *Journal of Learning Analytics*.

Greenwood M.A., & **Hammock E.A.D.** (2017). Oxytocin receptor binding sites in the periphery of the neonatal mouse. *PLoS ONE*, 12(2), e0172904.

**Hart, S.A.**, Daucourt, M., & **Ganley, C.M.** (in press). Individual differences related to college students' course performance in calculus II. *Journal of Learning Analytics*.

Mesina, L., **Wilber, A.A.**, Clark, B.J., Dube, S. Demecha, A J., Stark, C.E.L., & McNaughton, B.L. (2016). A methodological pipeline for serial-section imaging and tissue realignment for whole-brain functional connectomics. *Journal of Neuroscience Methods*, 266, 151-160.

Rom, S.C., Weiss, A., & **Conway, P.** (2017). Judging those who judge: Perceivers infer the roles of affect and cognition underpinning others' moral dilemma responses. *Journal of Experimental Social Psychology*, 69, 44-58.

**Wilber, A.A.**, Skelin, I., & McNaughton, B.L. (2017). Modular organization and memory reactivation in parietal cortex. *bioRxiv*.

