

Psychology News



Undergraduate Edition for Psychology and Neuroscience Majors

January 2007 Vol. 8 No. 3

College of Arts and Sciences

Congratulations Honor Roll Students!

March 1 is time for your 'Just Desserts'



It's time again to pay tribute to our hard-working students who have made the Honor Roll! The Department of Psychology will provide "Just Desserts" to those students, Psychology and Neuroscience majors alike, on **Thursday, March 1 from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.** All those who made the Dean's List, the Provost's, or the President's Honor Rolls during Spring or Fall 2006 are invited to attend this lively event that takes place in the 5th floor lobby of the Flipse building.

Our students did very well last year with 130 named to the President's Honor Roll (i.e., earned a 3.9 GPA or higher), 273 making the Provost's Honor Roll (earned a 3.7 GPA or higher), and 266 making the Dean's List (earned a 3.5 GPA or higher). Of the entering students enrolled in FACT last semester, 47% of Psychology majors and 65% of Neuroscience majors made the Honor Roll.



This will be the Department's sixth annual "Just Desserts" celebration. All invitees can bring a friend or family member to share in the fun and festivities! As usual, in addition to lots of desserts, there will be fun games to play and prizes to win...with the grand prize, a combination color printer-scanner-copier. Faculty and administrators will be on hand to give congratulations, cheer you on in the games, and compete for the food! Invitations will be mailed out in mid-February. If you don't get one and think you should have been invited, contact our office at 305-284-3303. Congratulations to all Honor Roll students! We look forward to celebrating with you on March 1st! Didn't make it this year? Work hard...we'll see you next year!



Now Hiring Peer Advisors for Fall 2007

Undergraduate Academic Services for Psychology (UASP) is looking for friendly, enthusiastic, motivated, conscientious, and talented Psychology and Neuroscience majors to become part of the next cohort of Psychology Peer Advisors. If you are a team player, passionate about Psychology/Neuroscience, like to help others, and would like to become more involved with the Psychology Department, then come to our meeting to learn more.

Described by some as "the best job on campus," Peer Advisors help run all of the activities at UASP. This includes helping to prepare Psychology and Neuroscience students for their advising appointments. As direct liaisons between the staff at UASP and the undergraduate population, Peer Advisors' ideas and feedback influence the changes made in the undergraduate program. They are the muscle behind programs and events like the FACT/FORUM, advising, "Just Desserts," and graduation. This is a real job, paying \$7.50 per hour for the first year and \$8.00 thereafter. Psychology Peer Advisors gain office experience, get a chance to improve their service and people skills, learn some of the nuts and bolts of event coordination, and get experience working as members of a team.

Peer Advisors should have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA, six credits in Psychology and Neuroscience, and be able to work at least 5 hours a week, starting the week before the semester begins in Fall 2007.

UASP will be holding Informational Meetings for Prospective Peer Advisors in Flipse 508. Please attend one of the following sessions:

Monday, February 12 at 10:00 a.m.
Wednesday, February 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 13 at 2:00 p.m.
Thursday, February 15 at 10:00 a.m.

Mark Your Calendar!



Last day to drop without a "W" is Wednesday, January 31.

Thinking of dropping a class? Planning and prompt action can avoid an unnecessary "W" on your record. Although having a "W" or two is not a 'bad' thing, a string of them could be a red flag and an indicator of irresponsibility and/or ill-preparedness.

Academic Alerts will be posted on MyUM on February 26. You should have feedback on some type of graded work by that time. If you are not doing well, you will want to consider dropping a course. Remember, the last day to drop a class is **Monday, March 26.**

Last day to apply for May graduation - Friday, March 23. Graduation is not automatic! You must apply for graduation through the MyUM system. Also, if you are planning to graduate this semester or next, make an appointment for a **senior credit check** with Marian Dahman in Ashe 200 (x4333).

Majors Fair 2007

The Majors and Minors Fair will be held on Wednesday, **February 28 from 1-4 p.m. in the UC Lower Lounge.** This is an opportunity for students to learn more about different options the University of Miami offers for undergraduate students. Peer advisors, academic advisors, and faculty will be on hand to interact with students who are interested in specific majors and minors. A fun and quick way to learn about potential minors or second majors, the event will provide lots of information in one place! The event will be sponsored by the Toppel Career Center and Academic Advisors in Residence. Check with them for more information!

2007 Research & Creativity Forum

The Research and Creativity Forum is a University sponsored event at which all PRIME students and those completing Psychology Honors Theses will present a poster. It will be held on **Wednesday, April 4, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.** Opening ceremonies will be held at Noon.

By participating in the Citizens Board's Research and Creativity Forum, students have the opportunity of showcasing their research to other students, other members of the University community, and the public. Faculty, administrators, alumni, and other community leaders provide feedback on projects. Cash awards are presented at an awards dinner held at the BankUnited Center the following evening. This is a great way to learn more about research projects being conducted by both undergraduate and graduate students.

For more information please visit the website at <http://www.miami.edu/rcf>.



Summer Research Opportunities

APA Summer Science Institute

The APA Summer Science Institute (SSI) is a 10-day intensive program designed to immerse students in the science of psychology. This year's SSI will be held at University of California in San Diego from June 22-July 1. Freshmen and Sophomores with strong academic backgrounds and interest in research are encouraged to apply. This is a competitive, all-expenses-paid program. **Applications are due February 16, 2007.** For more information go to www.apa.org/science/ssi.html

Advanced Statistical Training in Psychology (ASTP)

From July 14-22, the APA will hold an advanced seminar in statistics for rising seniors who plan to pursue advanced degrees in psychological research. This new program, the Advanced Statistical Training in Psychology (ASTP), will be a 9-day hands-on seminar in which students learn about psychological statistics and research methods in a dynamic setting that emphasizes the skills it takes to analyze and interpret real data. **Application deadline is March 2.** Visit www.pap.org/science/astp.html for the online application and more information.

NSF Summer Program in Applied Psychology at Clemson University

The program at Clemson University aims to provide students with the opportunity to conduct research in Human Factors, Health, and Industrial/Organizational Psychology. Interns work closely with graduate students and faculty members on research projects that will promote skill development and experience for those interested in pursuing graduate school training in Psychology. Each week interns participate in a range of activities, such as research lab work, course meetings, research seminars, and informal presentations. At the end of the summer, interns prepare to present their summer projects to colleagues, professors, and invited guests at a mini-conference in Clemson. This 10-week program (May 28 - August 3, 2007) includes housing, summer pay totaling \$3,000, and paid tuition for 2 credits of research. In addition, interns that present their summer work at a regional or national conference following the completion of the program receive travel support. **Applications are due March 1, 2007.** Visit their website at <http://people.clemson.edu/~psyhelp/> for more information or contact Dr. Benjamin Stephens at bstephe@clemson.edu.

Summer Research at UM: PRIME 2007

Psychology Research Initiative Mentorship Experience (PRIME), our ten-week summer research program, is starting its 9th season. Students in PRIME work for 20 hours a week in a Psychology research laboratory under the direction of a faculty member. Students attend a weekly seminar to discuss their research projects, issues regarding research ethics and protocol, guidelines for poster preparation, and plans for graduate school, among other topics. All PRIME students prepare a poster presentation to showcase their work at the end of the program. Guests like family, friends, and faculty provide a receptive audience to these generally novice presenters. This helps PRIME participants prepare for participation in the University's Research and Creativity Forum.

Students can participate in the PRIME program on one of three levels. Full PRIME students will have successfully completed both PSY 204 (Statistics) and PSY 316 (Experimental Psychology), and have a 2.75 GPA or higher. These students receive a \$1,500 summer stipend as well as an additional \$500 Fall stipend upon

completion of the program.

JUMP START (Just for UM Psychology Students To Accelerate Research Training) is for students who have not yet completed PSY 316. JUMP START students must have a GPA of 2.75 or above and receive a \$1,000 summer stipend and an additional \$250 stipend upon completion of the program.

PRIME Associates are funded through another source (ex., Dean's Women and Minority Scholarship, the Honors Summer Research Program, or Lois Pope Award), but work with the PRIME group in the weekly meetings and present a poster.

PRIME is part of a nationwide effort to increase minority participation in the psycho-biomedical sciences. The project is funded by the National Institute for General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) and administered through the American Psychological Association (APA). If you are of African-American, Hispanic, American Indian (Native American), or Pacific Islander descent and are interested in biomedical psychology, PRIME is for you.

If you are interested in other areas

of psychology, or are not of minority descent, you can apply for PRIME II. This program is the same as PRIME, except for the funding source, which comes from the Provost of the University of Miami. This way all students can participate in psychology research.

PRIME '07 will begin on May 22 and end July 27. If you are interested in participating, stop by **UASP in February to pick up an application.** A completed application includes: the application form, a one-page statement of purpose, a letter of "intent to supervise" from a potential mentor, a letter of recommendation, a recent copy of your ACE, and a brief autobiographical summary. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. If you plan on taking classes or working over the summer while participating in PRIME, it is your responsibility to make accommodations for the weekly seminar and research hours with your mentor. **The application deadline is March 20, 2007.** Notification of acceptance to the program will be made by April 3. For more information call UASP at x3303.

Summer Medical and Dental Education Program



The American Association of Medical Colleges (AAMC) and American Dental Education Association (ADEA) are now accepting applications to the prestigious Summer Medical and Dental Education Program. Students spend six weeks, all expenses paid, in an intensive medical and/or dental school preparation program at one of eleven sites across the nation.

Students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, underrepresented ethnic/racial minorities in medicine, underrepresented rural residents in medicine, and those with a "strong commitment to diversity in the workforce" are encouraged to apply. **Applications are due March 1, 2007.** Visit the website at www.smdep.org for more information.

Summer Research Initiative Program at University of Maryland

The Summer Research Initiative Program at the University of Maryland is an 8-week program (June 3-July 28, 2007) designed to increase the number of underrepresented minorities who pursue graduate degrees in the social, behavioral, and economic sciences. This year the Initiative will bring 10-12 students to the Maryland campus to work side-by-side with a faculty mentor on a faculty-guided research project. Participants will also participate in a weekly seminar series and visit local research institutions in the Washington area such as the National Institutes of Health. **Applications are due February 9, 2007.** Visit the website at <http://www.bsos.umd.edu/dean/summer.html> for more details on the application process and program.

Summer Research Experience at University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

This summer, the 2007 Summer Pre-Graduate Research Experience (SPGRE) Program will be in its 18th year of offering undergraduate students throughout the country the opportunity to work full-time on research projects under the direction of UNC-CH faculty members and to conduct high quality research. The 10-week research education program is designed for students interested in pursuing the Ph.D. degree. Dates for this year's program are May 20 - July 27, 2007. **Applications are due February 9, 2007.** For more information visit the website at www.ibiblio.org/res.

More Summer Research Opportunities

UM Honors Summer Research Program

The Honors Summer Research Program pairs students with a research mentor from the Coral Gables, Medical, and Rosenthal campuses to conduct research in the Humanities, Social Sciences, and Natural Sciences. To participate in this program, students must be a part of the Honors Program, must have at least one more semester at UM, and are required to work at least 280 hours during the summer. Students that complete the program receive three honors credits, a grade from the research mentor for the following fall semester, and a stipend of \$1,500 at the completion of the program. Visit the Honors Program in Building 21 Y for more information. **Applications will be available on February 26, 2007.**

The National Science Foundation's (NSF) Research Experiences for Undergraduates

Each year, the National Science Foundation works with various universities to provide students with meaningful research experiences through the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program. Students who participate in REU must be citizens or permanent residents of the United States or its possessions. To learn more and apply to this program, visit http://www.nsf.gov/crssprgm/reu/list_result.cfm?unitid=5054.

FORUM

FORUM stands for Faculty Overview of Research and Undergraduate Mentors. This Spring, ten FORUM sections (7 Psychology and 3 Neuroscience) are being taught by faculty members who do research. These courses (listed as PSY 120 and held once a week) are designed to introduce students to the importance and variety of research in Psychology and Neuroscience. Students will read short research articles and write brief papers summarizing and critiquing the various projects described. Some of the articles are of historical interest and some cover cutting-edge research. The course helps students become familiar with research in the field, in general, and at the University, specifically.

The vast majority of students in FORUM took FACT (Freshman Advising Contact Term) last semester. FORUM sections also include students who have recently transferred from other departments or schools. The FACT sections are designed to give incoming students a heads-up about opportunities at the University and in the Department, and help them take charge of their own curriculum planning in order to make the most of their undergraduate education. Our award winning program is now in its 9th year.

Possible Psy 367/368 Research Projects in Psychology

To register for Psy 367/8 come by UASP to pick up the *Permission to Register for 367/8* form. You must then have the faculty member you will be working with sign the form prior to returning to UASP to officially register. An advisor cannot sign your form until it is signed by the professor you will be working with.

To get more information about the requirements for each project, come to Flipse 508 or go to www.psy.miami.edu/undergraduate/research. A brief description of research being conducted is also available in the Guide to Undergraduate Mentors. Ask a Peer Advisor for a copy!

Adult Division

Dr. Charles Carver

Positive Mood, Academic Performance, and Motivation

Dr. Jutta Joormann

The Newlywed Marriage Project - Dr. JP Laurenceau
Processing of Emotional Information in Depression
Emotion and Mood Regulation in Depression and Social Anxiety
Autobiographical Memory in Social Phobia
Adversive Interpersonal Events, Psychopathology, and Health
Cognitive Causes and Consequences of Moods and Emotions
Individual Differences in Mood and Emotion Regulation

Dr. Michael McCullough
Dr. Matthias Siemer

Child Division

Dr. Daniel Armstrong
Dr. Alan Delamater
Dr. Daryl Greenfield
Dr. Lynne Katz
Dr. Daniel Messinger

Disclosure of School-age Children Infected with HIV
Prescription Practices in Youths with Type 1 Diabetes
Head Start and School Readiness
Project Hand-in-Hand
Emotional Expression
Siblings of Children with Autism
Computer Vision and EEG
Childhood Development after Cochlear Implantation
Cystic Fibrosis Adherence Trial

Dr. Alexandra Quittner

Health Division

Dr. Marc Gellman
Dr. Barry Hurwitz
Dr. Gail Ironson
Dr. Philip McCabe
Dr. Frank Penedo

The GREAT Heart Study
Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Disease Progression
Psychoneuroimmunology of HIV/AIDS
Cognitive Function in Parkinson's Disease - Dr. Bonnie Levin
Latinas' Perceptions of Genetic Testing for BR/OV Cancer
Quality of Life Intervention in Advanced Prostate Cancer
Ethnicity and Determinants of Quality of Life
Following Prostate Cancer Treatment
Heart Smart
Psychosocial Factors and Heart Disease
Psychosocial Issues Among Patients with Heart Failure

Dr. Patrice Saab
Dr. Biing-Jiun Shen

Alumni News

Martha Arias, B.A., '01

PSY/MGT & BUA

After working with AOL, Martha recently accepted a new position as the Associate Director for the Corporate Executive Board, a "best practices" research firm. Martha says her new position has brought back memories of her days at UM as she uses the skills she practiced during the PRIME program. Good luck in your new position, Martha!

Alyson Clark, B.A., '05

PSY/CHM

Since graduation, Alyson has been busy teaching science to gifted students at Oslo Middle School in Vero Beach, Florida. Alyson is currently applying to graduate school and expects to begin her Masters in Public Health in the Fall. Go Alyson!

Theresa Dulski, B.S., '05

PSB/CHM

Theresa will be completing her Master's in Public Health from Drexel University this Spring. She will then begin Medical School at Emory University in Atlanta in July! We're proud of you, Theresa!

Melanie Ervin, B.A., '04

PSY

Melanie will graduate from UM with her Master's in Mental Health Counseling this coming August. She is currently teaching sixth grade science on Key Biscayne and is completing her internship with the Juvenile Detention Center. Congrats, Melanie!

Shireen Lackey, B.A., '00

PSY/CBR

Shireen was recently named one of Tampa Bay's "30 under 30." Once a year, the Tampa Bay Business Journal presents 30 honorees with this award. This year, Shireen was one of 100 nominees that received this title and she was recognized during an awards banquet in November. Congratulations, Shireen!

Lindsay Rapp, B.A., '05

CRI & PSY

One year after her graduation, Lindsay (Long) Rapp married her college sweetheart, Brian Rapp. Since then, the two have relocated to Washington D.C. where Lindsay is pursuing her Master's in Higher Education Administration at George Washington University. Congratulations on your wedding and best of luck in graduate school!

Laura Serrano, B.A., '02

PSY/SPA

Laura graduated summa cum laude and with general honors from UM in 2002 and has recently begun an internship at the Linda Ray Intervention Center where she will participate in the Infant Mental Health Training Program. Glad to have you back, Laura!

NEED A LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION?

A strong letter of recommendation is an important factor in getting a scholarship or into graduate school. Good letters of recommendation will contain specific examples of your accomplishments and/or the progress you have made. Only someone who knows you well will be able to speak to your advantage. Even though the writer may like you very much, and vice versa, he or she might not be able to be specific enough to catch the eye of the reviewers. Catch phrases like "good student" or "nice person" can devalue the letter. Letters written by someone who does not know you very well may be a neutral influence rather than a positive one.

Working with and getting to know faculty members is the best way to develop relationships that serve as the basis of good letters of recommendation. While taking classes with a professor is a good starting place, getting involved in his or her research is probably the best way to demonstrate your talents and potential.

Plan to ask for a letter of recommendation several months ahead of time. Speak with everyone you think might be able to act as a suitable advocate for your application. This will help you determine who can write the strongest letter(s) for you. When asking for a letter, include an introductory note reminding the person of your interactions and reasons for submitting the application. A personal statement, a resume, and an ACE or transcript can also give the writer data to jog their memory when he or she writes your letter.

Remember when asking for letters of recommendation that professors are very busy at the end of the semester when many letters come due. Be sure to facilitate preparation by including specific, simple, complete instructions with due dates. Also include pre-addressed stamped envelopes for each school to which you are applying. Be sure to put the return address of your recommender; don't use your own return address!

Psychology Majors Accepted to Teach for America Program



From left to right- Vanessa Alvarez, Adriana Antunez de Mayolo, and Amy Sun.

Three Psychology majors were recently accepted into the Teach for America Program. **Adriana Antunez de Mayolo** will be teaching in Washington D.C., and **Vanessa Alvarez** will be staying in Miami to teach. Also, our own **Amy Sun**, who has been a Peer Advisor for three years, will be teaching in Hawaii next year through the Teach for America Program. Amy will teach secondary mathematics (6-12 grade) for the next two years in a low-income school. During the program, she will be able to work on her Master's in Education at the University of Hawaii. After Teach for America, Amy plans to attend graduate school studying public policy. Congratulations and best of luck to all of you! For more information about Teach for America, visit teachforamerica.org.

Congratulations Psychology December Grads!

College of Arts and Sciences

Austin Alhindawi	Julie Garcia	Brian Monaco	Jordan Smilovic
Andrew Bain	Isabel Gonzalez	Emily Noguez	Jessica Svajgert
Yasmine Bally	Allison Good	Lidia Pefaur	Michele Valdez
Samantha Brown	Ryan Harris	David Quinney	Monica Vasquez
Kelsey Campion	Ana Maria Li-Rosi	Lisette Riera	Chakriwat Vivacharawongse
Marisol Diaz	Sian MacLean	James Rippel	Kimberly Walker
Vanessa Donis	Nirmala Maharaj	Toyeca Robinson	Arnetha Whitmore
Candace Drummond	Carolina Martinez	M. Rosanna Rodriguez **	
Jackie Engebretson	Omar-Shukri McIntosh	Allison Rubin	
Daniel Friedeberg	Alexandra Merolla	Cristina Serafini	

School of Communication

Muge Arikan	Natalie Leon
Patricia Arruza	Melissa Melgen
Larissa Berman	Veronica Menin
Carolina Correa	Chaya Minkowitz
Sarah Harrison	Lourdes Rodriguez
Ashley Ketko	Carolina Toledo

School of Education

Stephanie DeGiorgio
Norma Goldberg
Katrina Gotera
Bridget McDermott

** Magna Cum Laude

Student Enjoys Studying Abroad!



My name is **Susan Geffen**, and I am a senior majoring in Neuroscience (Psychobiology track). I am thrilled to be able to study abroad at the University of Edinburgh in Scotland for my last year. Scotland is everything I could have hoped for and more. I've been traveling around Scotland and England a bit, and everytime I get back to Edinburgh, I know I made the right decision. This is such a fantastic city, with it's mix of history and modernity, it's jumble of people. I can walk anywhere in the city in under an hour. It's beautiful and I feel truly lucky to be here!

For more information about studying abroad, email ieep@miami.edu, call 305-284-3434, or stop by Allen Hall 212 to meet with an advisor.

**Interested in Study Abroad?
Mark your calendar!**

Study Abroad Fair

Tuesday, February 6

and

Monday, February 12

UC Main Lounge 11:30-2:00 p.m.

The Latest Updates

Lost and Found

Missing something? Visit the UASP office and ask a Peer Advisor to check for your items in our new "Lost and Found" box. We already have a number of sweatshirts, sunglasses, books, and binders waiting to be claimed by their owners.

UASP Resource Library

Confused about post-graduation plans? Are you applying to graduate school? Do you need help preparing for the GRE? The UASP office has created a new Resource Library to provide students with information on undergraduate life, grad school, GRE prep, and careers in Psychology. Students are allowed to check out any of our 42 books for a period of one week. Stop by Flipse 508 to take advantage of this resource!

Sign Your Name

Whether you have a quick question or need to talk at length with an advisor, you must first sign-in with a Peer Advisor at the 508 office. This helps us make sure that you are seen in the order you arrive.

Email Etiquette

Remember that if you expect your emails to be answered, you should use your UM email address. Often emails from a "nickname" account will go into a professor's or staff person's junk mailbox.

The Psi Chi Connection

News & Briefs for University of Miami Psi Chi

Vol. 8 Num. 3

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

Applications for membership to Psi Chi will be sent out to qualified students in March. New members will be welcomed to the organization during the induction ceremony and banquet held in April. We hope to see all new (and old) Psi Chi members there!

QUALIFICATIONS FOR ACTIVE STUDENT MEMBERSHIP

Psi Chi is a National Honor Society. The national office stipulates that members must meet the following criteria for membership:

1. Completion of at least 3 semesters.
2. Completion of 9 credits in Psychology.
3. Declaration of Psychology, or Neuroscience major or minor.
4. Rank in top 35% of class.

Note: Occasionally, eligible individuals do not receive an invitation to join Psi Chi. If you are one of those who has fallen through the cracks, don't hesitate to email us.

Remember - you do not have to be a member of Psi Chi to attend our meetings and events! Please join us!

For general information about PSI CHI go to www.psiichi.org.

Questions? Email us!
PsiChiami@hotmail.com

Welcome Back!

Welcome back Psychology, Neuroscience, and Psi Chi students! We hope you had a productive and successful Fall semester, as well as a restful and enjoyable holiday season!

We had an exciting Fall semester and would like to thank all of our members and guests who attended our meetings. Our meetings included a Kaplan Test Preparation workshop, guest speakers from the UM Counseling Center, a research involvement seminar, representatives from Nova Southeastern University's Psy.D. Graduate Program, and a visit from the SwitchBoard of Miami. We also gave away a \$300 gift certificate good toward a Kaplan Test Preparation Course. In addition, members from our chapter participated in the Multiple Myeloma Walk which raised over \$10,000.

We hope to see everyone again at the exciting events planned for the Spring including, giveaways, guest speakers, community service opportunities, and the induction ceremony. We meet every other Friday at 4:00 p.m. in the Mahoney/Pearson Classrooms. **Our next meeting will be Friday, February 2.** Keep an eye out for flyers and emails announcing upcoming Psi Chi meetings!

And don't forget...

Psi Chi points earn Kaplan Scholarship

Kaplan Review has donated a scholarship to the UM chapter of Psi Chi to be used toward a test-prep class at Kaplan. The scholarship is awarded to the member who earns the most participation points each semester. We encourage everyone to participate in all of Psi Chi's upcoming events to enrich your collegiate experience while earning points toward the scholarship!



Graduation 2007 Materials



Remember to order Psi Chi graduation materials! Graduation cords are \$10.00 and medallions are \$15.00. If you want to order both, the combined price is \$22.00.

To order your graduation materials, contact Psi Chi at PsiChiami@hotmail.com.

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Department of Psychology
Undergraduate Academic Services for Psychology
P.O. Box 248185
Coral Gables, FL 33124-0751



Psychology News

Thanks to . . .

Rachel Acosta, B.A.
Anna Fredericks, B.A.
Sean Kilpatrick, B.A.
Phil McCabe, Ph.D.
Rod Wellens, Ph.D.
Richard Williams, Ph.D.
The Psychology and Neuroscience
Peer Advisors

Editor

Victoria Noriega, Ph.D.

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