

Psychology News

Undergraduate Edition for Psychology and Neuroscience Majors

March 2004

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College of Arts and Sciences

Honor Roll Students Get Just Desserts

Psychology and Neuroscience Majors in the College of Arts and Sciences got their *Just Desserts* on Thursday, February 19, in the third annual celebration of this event. Our students who made President's, Provost's, or Dean's Honor Rolls during the previous academic year, were invited to partake in a wide array of desserts, cakes, candies, nuts, fruits, and cheeses, and play one of our challenging games! **Chairman Rod Wellens** and other faculty and administrators were on hand to congratulate students and join in the fun. **Provost Luis Glaser**, assisted by **Sebastian, the Ibis**, made an exact hit on the "Pin the Building on the Campus" game. Prizes went to students Melanie Klesse, Ainel Boonprakong, and Yvonne Marschner, who all scored highest in their chosen game. The grand prize, a color printer and photo copier combo donated by **Director of Undergraduate Studies, Victoria Noriega**, went to **Melanie Klesse**. **Dr. Ed Green** won the MUSE CUP for Contributions to the Undergraduate Program. More *Just Desserts* on page 3. **Jose Rodriguez** and the **Peer Advisors** worked hard to implement the event. They were assisted by about twenty students who helped out as part of the interview process for new incoming Peer Advisors. Didn't make it to Just Desserts this year? No problem. Make one of the Honor Rolls this or next semester and you, too, will be invited to get your Just Desserts!



Psychology In Film 2004



Last in this year's Community Lecture Series will be the critically acclaimed film, **The Hours**, scheduled for **Friday April 2**. Director of the Psychological Services Center at UM **Dr. Kim Fuller** will challenge us to think about some of the psychological situations portrayed in the film. You won't want to miss her discussion with the audience about women, depression, and suicide.

This event promises to be just as informative, educational, and entertaining as the other two events held so far this semester. In February, **Drs. Keith Scott, Daniel Messinger, and Lynne Katz** joined forces to show and discuss the heart-wrenching **Losing Isaiah** and discuss their work with children prenatally exposed to cocaine. Several students in the audience were able to make connections with these faculty members to volunteer and/or do research at **Linda Ray Intervention Center**.

In March, Dr. Any Weisman guided us through **A Beautiful Mind**, the story of Nobel Laureate John Nash and his struggle with schizophrenia. **Dr. Weisman** is an expert on how families cope with severe mental illness. Her enlightening talk helped us to understand how communication patterns, often varying across cultures, help to determine the course and severity of the disease.

Advising Alert!



Advising Appointments will be on-line as of Monday, March 22.

To make an appointment go to www.psy.miami.edu/advising. From March 22 through April 23, Advisors will be seeing students by appointment. Course offerings for the Summer and Fall are now available on EASY. Be sure to have a preliminary schedule ready before coming for your appointment. Questions? Call UASP at 305-284-3303.

Last day to drop for the Semester, Wednesday, March 27

Thinking of dropping a class? March 27 is the last day to do so this semester! Planning and prompt action can avoid an undesirable grade. Dropping a class before March 27 will put a "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 ill-preparedness.

Incompletes are granted only to students who have a non-academic reason for not completing a class. This includes health, legal, or family matters. See your Undergraduate Bulletin for details. In order to take an "I" you must be passing the class and have completed more than half of the course work. Speak with your instructor. If you must take an incomplete, you have one year to make it up, i.e., to complete the work for the class. Do not re-register for the class! Your instructor will fill out the appropriate forms when he or she submits grades.

Don't know what you will do post-bac? Come see us after the advising period to discuss your options. And don't forget that the Toppel Career Planning and Placement Center and the Counseling Center have career testing services and loads of information about possible careers and graduate schools. If you are having trouble deciding whether graduate school is for you, you might want to check out our practicum course, PSY 365, Introduction to Research and Careers in Psychology.

Online Registration
If you are a student in the
College of Arts and Sciences,
you can register for classes on-line
if you have ...

more than 75 credits,
a grade point average over 2.5,
and a declared major

If you have between 30-74 credits, you may register on-line but will need an access code. To get your code, present a completed, advisor-approved Course Request Form to Ms. Verdelle Bell in Ashe 200.

If you already have a code, go ahead and register. However, remember to check your Psychology Major's Manual and your Bulletin for details about graduation requirements. Remember, you are responsible for your class choices. You will want to stop by UASP sometime before next semester to check your choices and to avoid any unnecessary graduation problems.

New Professor in Psychology

Dr. Alexandra Quintner, a researcher in the area of childhood chronic illness, has joined the Psychology faculty in the Child Division. Quintner's research focuses on how children and families cope with stressors such as asthma and cystic fibrosis. She also studies the effects of cochlear implants on deaf infant and toddler's cognitive, behavioral, and social development. In the Fall she will be teaching PSY 440, Abnormal Child Psychology. The course will be lecture-based, with presentation of cases and discussion. The exams will be short answer and essay.

Szeli Offering Courses

Popular lecturer **Dr. Eva Szeli** will be returning to UM this coming year to teach two courses you will want to check out. Dr. Szeli is a psychologist and lawyer and has spent the last three years in Eastern Europe working on human rights issues.

PSY 333- Attitudes and Persuasion explores theories and research regarding attitude formation and change, including a review of persuasion theories and techniques. The class will also explore some of the techniques of persuasion used by candidates during the presidential debates and in their campaigns.

PSY 590- Psychology and Law This course seeks to explore the various areas in which the fields of psychology and law converge. Topics include: clinical vs. legal definitions of mental disorder, evidentiary issues and the use of psychology in the courtroom, criminal responsibility, incompetence, and insanity, among others.

Congratulations to New Peer Advisors

Undergraduate Academic Services is pleased to announce it has offered Peer Advisor Positions to

Psychology Majors

Shoshana Brown

Sean Kilpatrick

Amy Sun

Juan Villamar

Neuroscience Majors

Pooja Sheth

Matt Irwine

Ansel Amaral

As many of you know, the hiring process for the Peer Advisors is comprehensive and demanding. It includes a test of knowledge of advising principles and information; a work sample at a Departmental event and participation in a leaderless group discussion. One of the students who applied this year said of the work sample, "This is like playing Beat the Clock. You have to do an impossible task with no instructions before the bell rings!"

All of the incumbent Peer Advisors are involved in the evaluation and selection of the new students who will join their ranks. Because so many qualified and sociable students apply for these positions, the hiring process is always difficult for the Peer Advisors and the entire UASP staff. In addition to congratulating those who were chosen, we would all like to send our regrets to those who were not, and thank them for all of their efforts.

We look forward to training our new group of Peer Advisors and to putting them in place in UASP to serve our undergraduates. Congratulations again, and welcome to the "best job on campus!"

Ibis Antics at Just Desserts



Find yourself!

1. Read *Psychology News*
2. See if you are pictured or mentioned
3. Bring the newsletter to Flipse 508
4. Receive a gift from UASP!

Just Desserts



PRIME Applications Due March 29

Applications are still available for this summer's PRIME program. Come by Flipse 508 to pick up an application. PRIME is a summer research program funded by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, the American Psychological Association, the Provost of the University, and the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. PRIME is a 10-week research program geared to students who are serious about graduate work in Psychology and Neuroscience. Students work 20 hours per week with a research faculty mentor, attend weekly PRIME meetings, and produce a research project or proposal at the end of the summer. You can participate in PRIME in one of two ways ... either as a Full or JUMPSTART student. Applicants wishing to be Full PRIME students must have completed PSY 204 and PSY316. They receive a \$1,500 summer stipend and, upon successful completion of the summer program, also receive a \$500 supplies stipend in the Fall. **Full PRIME** students are required to produce a research poster by the end of the program in July. **JUMPSTART** (Just for University of Miami Psychology Students to Accelerate Research Training) need not have completed PSY 204 or PSY 316. They receive a \$1,000 summer stipend and \$250 Fall supplies allowance, and must produce a research proposal. Both Full and JUMPSTART students are expected to present their work at the Undergraduate Conference for Research in Psychology in the Fall and the Research and Creativity Forum in the Spring. Presenting at the Psi Chi Conference or other such venues is encouraged. Questions? Come by the UASP office at Flipse 508 or call 305-284-3303.

Remember, even if you are funded by the Dean's Women and Minority Scholarship, the Lois Pope Neuroscience Scholarship, or the Honors Summer Research Program, you may still be eligible to participate in the weekly PRIME meetings. PRIME students not only gain valuable experience in research, but have the advantage of collaborating with other students working toward similar goals. Many of the PRIME students go on to do Senior Honors Theses. While not necessary to get into graduate school, a Senior Honors Thesis is necessary for any student wishing to graduate *magna* or *summa cum laude*. Additionally, it can provide you with valuable experience working with a faculty member that will be very useful once you get to graduate school.

2004 Honors Theses

Ethnicity, HIV Serostatus Disclosure, and Social Support in HIV-Positive Men	
Frank C. Bandiera	Mentor: Ron Duran
Neonatal Learning During Sleep	
Ivette Cruz	Mentor: Marie Cheour
Associations Between Temperament and Attribution Style in Middle Childhood	
Jennifer Escobar	Mentor: Heather Henderson
Gender Differences in Suicidality in Bipolar Patients	
Jennifer Ernest	
The Pursuit of Intimacy Goals in Couple's Daily Interactions	
Susy Gomez	Mentor: Jean-Philippe Laurenceau
Determining the Optimal Parameters for Mis-Matched Negativity in Infants	
Alina Klein	Mentor: Marie Cheour
CBSM and Quality of Life in Prostate Cancer Patients	
Bertha Kushnir	Mentor: Frank Penedo
Does Spirituality Predict Depression in Cancer Patients?	
Joanne Nunes	Mentors: Susan Lechner and Mike Antoni
Traditional and Non-Traditional Risk Factors for CHD: Can They be Modified with a Behavioral Intervention?	
Jon Puttinen	Mentor: Marc Gellman
Attitudes and Satisfaction with Parental Relationships as Predictors of Emotional Well-Being in Adult Children	
Stephanie Wasserman	Mentor: Amy Weisman

Research and Creativity Forum to Highlight Research

Graduate and Undergraduate students from every discipline at UM will come together on **Thursday, April 15** to present their research and projects. This is a great chance to learn more about what types of research you might get involved with. Last year, Psychology and Neuroscience students figured prominently in both the exhibitions and the prizes. Remember, the University of Miami is a research university. Don't miss out on this opportunity to find out how you can add research to your curriculum to make the most out of your undergraduate education. Posters will be on display at the UC Lower Lounge. A banquet to announce the winners of the cash prizes will be held on Friday, April 16 at noon in the Convocation Center. For more information, go to www.miami.edu/rcf.

UASP Gets New Resources for Students

The UASP office has recently acquired two new books to add to its library of student resources. These books were donated by Assistant Director of Advising, Jose Rodriguez who felt that students needed more resources about internship-related experiences and more information about graduate school. *Internships 2003 23rd edition* is a wonderful resource for students interested in having an internship experience. Although internships in psychology are not generally available to undergraduates, this book has a wealth of internship opportunities in areas related to psychology and in the social and behavioral sciences. The book is organized by major types of internships (i.e., Educational Services, Information, Professional and Scientific Services). Each main type is divided into sub-types that are more specific to certain areas. The book also has a great index including such areas as field of interest and location. *Graduate Schools and Professional Programs* offers an overview of over 1,700 institutions. The book has two parts; the first provides an overview of the graduate programs (not just Psychology) at the given institution. The second part gives a brief synopsis of the school, its location, fellowship information, applicant data, and contact information. Both books are available for viewing in the UASP office. Also available for use in the office are books on the GRE, careers and graduate programs in psychology, and the APA Graduate School Guide. Also, don't forget to check out the POP Files (Psychology Opportunities Portfolio). Rodriguez and the Peer Advisors have recently updated this resource. Be sure to check them out and see the wealth of information they contain about various research opportunities, scholarships, and many graduate schools.

Current Research Projects in Psychology

Adult Division

Dr. Adele Hayes

Depression Treatment and Research Program
Depression Risk Factors and Prediction of Well-Being
Current Dysphoria, Past Depression, and Social Information Processing
Bipolar Disorder Studies

Dr. Sheri Johnson

Emotional Support

Positive Affect and Mania

Mood Changes and Reactivity to Positive and Negative Mood

Dr. Jean-Philippe Laurenceau

Validating Measures of Relationship Functioning with Spanish-speaking Couples

Dr. Mike McCullough

Relationship Events Study

Study of Relationships and Society

Dr. Ray Winters

Relationship Between Sleep Deprivation and Mood

Child Division

Dr. Daniel Armstrong

Disclosure of School-Age Children Infected with HIV

Dr. Marie Cheour

Bilingual Phonemic Processing and Brain Development

Dr. Christine Delgado

CHRIS Project: Preschoolers with Disabilities

Dr. Alan Delamater

Quality of Life in Youth with Type 1 Diabetes

Dr. Daryl Greenfield

Head Start and School Readiness

Dr. Lynne Katz

Linda Ray Intervention Project

Analyses of Environmental Risk Factors for Children Prenatally Exposed to Cocaine

Dr. Annette LaGreca

Healthy Adolescents Project

Dr. Kristen Lindahl

Family Communication Study

Dr. Daniel Messinger

Center for Treatment Research on Adolescent Drug Abuse

Maternal Lifestyle Study

Dr. Peter Mundy

Emotional Expression

Early Social & Communication Development Project

Social Information Processing in Asperger's Syndrome

Early Intervention with Children with Autism

EEG Studies of Infants and Children

Dr. Keith Scott

Nurturing and Strengthening Families

Health Division

Dr. Mike Antoni

Cognitive Behavioral Stress Management (CBSM) for Chronic Fatigue Syndrome

CBSM with HIV+ Women at Risk for Cervical Cancer

Dr. Chuck Carver

Long Term Cancer Survivors Quality of Life

Breast Cancer Coping and Recovery

Dr. Ron Durán

CBSM Intervention for Breast Cancer Survivors

Emotional Expression in HIV+ Individuals

Dr. Marc Gellman

The GREAT Heart Study

Dr. Barry Hurwitz

Cardiovascular Risk Factors in Disease Progression

Drug Abuse, HIV, and Coronary Vascular Disease

RBC Mass, ANS Integrity, & Syncope Susceptibility in CFS

Dr. Gail Ironson

Psychoimmunology of HIV/AIDS

Dr. Maria Liabre

Questionnaire Scoring in Health Research

Dr. Frank Penedo

Cognitive Behavioral Stress Management (CBSM)

CBSM in Men with Prostate Cancer

CBSM in HIV Positive Drug Users

CBSM for Hispanic Men with Prostate Cancer

Dr. Patrice Saab

Project ACE (Adolescent Cardiovascular Evaluation) Blood Pressure Study

Library Workshop



John Renaud, Psychology Librarian at the Richter Library, will be hosting a special workshop on the computer program *RefWorks*. If you have ever written a paper in Psychology (or in the social sciences in general) and needed an effective tool to help with your references, *RefWorks* may be right for you. Join us on **Monday, April 5th, at 5:30 pm**, in the Library Information Literacy Lab, 3rd floor. All students are invited. Psi Chi members will receive participation points toward the Kaplan Scholarship.

Thanks to John Renaud who visited all of the FACT sections last Fall, and has been following up with the PSY 120 for students from other majors, and the PSY 365 for Transfer Students.

Student Spotlight



Jennifer Benoit

Major: PSY,

Minors: SOC, MGT

Jennifer will graduate this summer and plans to apply to graduate school in social psychology. She has

worked on research with Dr. Gail Ironson and participated in PRIME 2002. Jennifer presented a research paper on stressors and AIDS progression at the Undergraduate Conference for Research in Psychology. Outside of school, Jennifer has been very active in her community working with the National Conference for Community and Justice. Recently she founded a non-profit organization meant to help educate and empower disadvantaged members of the community.

Visiting Scholar

Thanks to the efforts of **Dr. Steven Saap**, Chairman of the Department of Religious Studies, **Dr. Paul McHugh**, distinguished professor and researcher from Johns Hopkins University, visited the University of Miami as part of the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society's Visiting Scholar Program. Dr. McHugh, former Director of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Johns Hopkins University, shared some of the insights he has gained throughout his distinguished career as a medical practitioner and scholar in the field of psychiatry. He visited classrooms in several departments and met with both graduate and undergraduate students to talk about current issues facing the fields of Psychiatry and Psychology. He's currently working on a revised version of his book "The Perspectives of Psychiatry."

Hats Off To...

Martha Arias

After graduation, Martha was hired by the Department of Defense into its Financial Management Intern Program (FMIP) to hire competitive college graduates. This program was created to address problems in the Federal Government that have come as the result of downsizing since the Cold War. Additionally, studies indicate that about 50% of all Federal civilian employees will be eligible by 2005. In the past two years Martha's work travel has taken her to San Diego and Monterrey, CA; Hawaii; New Orleans, LA; South Carolina, Norfolk, VA, and Miami and Pensacola, FL. Many interns in the same program are also given the opportunity to work in higher-echelon activities at the Pentagon such as the Office of the Secretary of the Navy, Marine Corps Headquarters, and even Congressional offices. Once accepted into the program, interns commonly gain their Grade Level and salary in one-fifth of the time it takes the majority of Federal employees. Martha has recently been accepted to Boston University's International Management Program (MBA). This program begins with a summer in Shanghai, China, and Kobe, Japan.

Danny Roque Admitted to Medical Scholars (7-year Program)

During his first semester as a Psychobiology major on a pre-med track and participant in FACT FORUM, Danny Roque decided to accelerate his academic career by applying to the University of Miami School of Medicine via the Medical Scholars Program. Having grown up in Miami, Roque said "From early on, I believed that I could benefit attending the excellent medical school with which I was familiar."

Along the way, Roque has had many experiences that, along with his good grades and maturity, strengthened his application. He worked as a computer technician at a hospital in South Beach during his freshman year. Soon thereafter, he joined a private research team comparing recurrence rates between colon cancer patients undergoing open surgery and those undergoing laparoscopic surgery. Said Roque, "I truly enjoyed interviewing patients; they were so grateful after their appointments." From the second semester of his sophomore year until last semester, Roque volunteered time as a Bedside Buddy at Miami Children's Hospital. He spent time with patients from newborns to teenagers. He held the babies and talked to them, and played games and read to or listened to the older children. Over the past summer, he shadowed an ophthalmologist as he saw patients and did cataract and laser-eye surgeries. This experience strengthened Roque's thought that ophthalmology might be a good specialty.

As usual, Roque is already planning ahead. Upon completion of his four years at the medical school, he plans to apply for residency at Bascom Palmer "in order to mark another milestone towards my long-term goal of becoming a physician." Roque is currently finishing up the work for his B.A. and studying for the MCAT.

Got news??? Share your happenings with other students and faculty in Psychology and around the University. Contact Dr. Noriega or Jose Rodriguez at x3303 or email us at vnoriega@miami.edu or JoseR@miami.edu

The Psi Chi Connection

News & Briefs for University of Miami Psi Chi

Vol. 5 Num. 3

NEW MEMBER APPLICATIONS

Membership applications were mailed out the week of February 23rd to all eligible students. Membership applications are due in the Psi Chi mailbox on the 5th floor of Flipse by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, March 23rd. New members will be honored at our annual Spring induction banquet on April 23rd.

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 give us a call.

Remember: you do not have to be a member of Psi Chi to attend our meetings and events! We look forward to having you join us.

Questions? Email us!
PsiChimiami@hotmail.com

Update and Review

The semester is well on its way and Psi Chi has been very active with many more activities still to come. On February 16th, we hosted a resume workshop. Psi Chi also had two social workers give a presentation on Social Work as a possible career opportunity. At our meeting on March 22nd, a representative from Big Brothers Big Sisters came to speak about that program and opportunities for volunteer work. In addition, we are hosting a special workshop on "Referencing in Psychology Research Papers" to be held on April 5th in which John Renaud will be presenting the software RefWorks to facilitate APA formatting in your writings. We also have our planned April 9th jail visit guided by a licensed psychologist. The Department of Psychology is still holding the third annual Spring Lecture Series, *Psychology in Film*. April 2nd the movie will be "The Hours," beginning at 6 p.m. in Flipse on the 5th Floor. We look forward to seeing all of you at these events. Remember you do not need to be a member of Psi Chi to participate. Also, attending these events gives you points towards the KAPLAN scholarship to be given out at the end of the semester.

Psi Chi Points Earn Kaplan Scholarship

Kaplan Review has donated a \$550 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 and earn points toward the scholarship!



Graduation 2004 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 PsiChimiami@hotmail.com.

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Psychology News

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