

# *Psychology News*



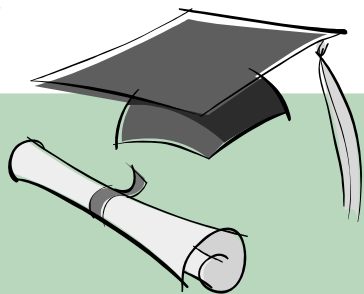
Undergraduate Edition for Psychology and Neuroscience Majors

May 2007

Vol. 8 No. 5

College of Arts and Sciences

**Congratulations  
and  
Best Wishes to  
our Graduating  
Psychology &  
Neuroscience  
Majors!**



*Class of 2007*



# During 2006-2007 we were busy ...



... getting PRIMED ...

... learning FACTs ...



... getting our Just Desserts ...



... making presentations ...

... receiving special recognition ...



... working, studying, learning ...

... and, of course, having lots of fun!



# 2007 Undergraduate Awards



## Psychology & Neuroscience Phi Beta Kappa

<b>Wayne Bauknight</b>	<b>Marissa Kummerling</b>	<b>Trishul Siddharthan</b>
<b>Michael Casciato</b>	<b>Carolin Martin</b>	<b>Paul Smith</b>
<b>Timothy Dullaghan</b>	<b>Razvan Nicolescu</b>	<b>Elena Smuckler</b>
<b>Cristina Fernandez</b>	<b>Thomas Painter</b>	<b>Amanda Thompson</b>
<b>Maressa Kelly</b>	<b>Amy Pearlman</b>	
<b>Abigail Knor</b>	<b>Richard Rammo</b>	

## Omicron Delta Kappa Inductees

**Marissa Kummerling**  
**Annerly Pulgar**  
**Amberly Reynolds**

### Outstanding Psychology Major

**Charlene Bobb**

### Outstanding Neuroscience Major

**Ansel Amaral**

### Psi Chi Award

**Cleo Samuel**

### Eber Award Winner

**Jenessa Sprague**

## Research & Creativity Forum Winners

### Psychology

1st Place: **Harry Madhanagopal**  
(Mentor: Dr. Ironson)  
2nd Place: **Brittany Lambert**  
(Mentor: Dr. Messinger)  
3rd Place: **Barbara M. Sorondo**  
(Mentor: Dr. Cheour)

### Neuroscience

1st Place: **Sanaa Bhattu**  
(Mentor: Dr. Lemmon)  
2nd Place: **Ansel Amaral**  
(Mentor: Dr. Barrientos)  
3rd Place: **Stephanie Glass**  
(Mentor: Dr. Bajenaru)

## Senior Honors Theses

### Summa

**Ansel Amaral** - Chaperone Balance Modulates Polyglutamine Induced Toxicities in a Yeast Model of Huntington's Disease

**Wayne Bauknight** - The Effect of cAMP on Schwann Cell Differentiation

**Cristina Fernandez** - Temperamental Differences between Siblings of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and Typically Developing Siblings (TD)

**Nathaniel Helwig** - EEG Asymmetries as Predictors of Motivational and Affective Biases in Adolescents with High-Functioning Autism

**Cleo Samuel** - Temperamental Predictors of Social Adaptation in Middle Childhood

**Trishul Siddharthan** - Birth Weight Perturbations in Florida: An Examination of Variance among Low Birth Weight Infants

**Barbara Sorondo** - Maturing Thalamocortical Connections Impede Learning in Sleeping Infants

**Carolina Quijano** - Differences in Leadership Characteristics: Effects of Autonomy and Self-Sacrificial Attributes on Employee Motivation and Efficiency

**Dayron Rodriguez** - Modulation of the Innate Responses by Tumors: Mechanisms of Alteration of the Macrophage Compartment

**Amanda Thompson** - Evaluation of Head Start Children's Museum Experience

### Magna

**Charlene Bobb** - Does Deafness Affect Symbolic Play in Young Children?

**Yelena Guller** - In Vitro Models for Enhancing Adult Schwann Cell Survival: Induction of Necrosis and Apoptosis and Testing Cell Death-Inhibiting Drugs

**Alexandra Henchy** - The Role of Attachment and Initiative on Head Start Children's School Readiness

**Erin Rowntree** - Usability Testing of a Speech Recognition Program to Create Electronic Health Records: Examining Problems When the Program is Used by Non-native English Speakers

**Pooja Soni** - Assessment of Self-Monitoring in High Functioning Autism

### Departmental Honors

**Sanaa Bhattu** - Axon Formation Requires JNK but Does Not Appear to require p13-Kinase or GSK-3

**Rachel Carlsen** - Novel Noun Learning in Hearing-Impaired Children with Cochlear Implants

**Natalie Escobio** - The Relationship between Negative Emotions and Lipid Components of Cardiovascular Risk Factors

**Stephanie Glass** - Signaling Pathway and Extracellular Matrix Modification Following Acute Retinal Ischemia/Reperfusion Injury

**Christina Kelsey** - Associations between Caregiver Psychopathology, Stress, and Interactive Behaviors in a High Risk Sample

**Brittney Lambert** - Gaze Patterns of Infant Siblings of Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder

**Ana Pires de Sa e Silva** - Clients' Religious and Spiritual Beliefs and Therapists' Competence and Adherence to a Family Focused, Culturally Informed, Therapy for Schizophrenia

**Mark Sheskin** - Facial Actions and Intensification of Ratings of Emotion

### Other Senior Theses

**Dawn Brown** - Evaluating the Sensitivity of a Sensorimotor Task for Assessing Recovery of Function Following Traumatic Brain Injury in Mice

**Harry Madhanagopal** - Relationship between Natural Killer Cells and Psychosocial Variables

# Congratulations Graduates!

## College of Arts and Sciences

### Psychology

Yuriy Abramov	Laurie Diaz	Maria Izquierdo	Camilo Mejia	Hallie Sheade
Barbara Alvarez	Andrea Dubocq	Megan Janson	Christina Millares	Aaron Sheklin
Vanessa Alvarez	Timothy Dullaghan	Katty Julca	Amy Miller	Molly Sloan
Nishali Amin	Naja Eccleston	Lauren Kaplan	Ariana Minatelli	Jason Smith
Nicole Barclay	Victoria Elf	Maresa Kelly	Lauren Monarch	Stephanie Soberon
Erin Bauer	Alexandra Endelson	Christina Kelsey	Curren Mulkeen	Mallory Sosinski
Charlene Bobb	Natalie Escobio	Katelyn Kenny	Jennifer Nelson	Kevin Spinozza
Jennifer Branchini	Rina Espinosa	Samar Khalife	Anna Noriega	Jenessa Sprague
Ryan Brewster	Fabiola Estebanez	Jini Kim	Ruth Ocampo	Patrick St. Arromand
Dawn Brown	Blair Feldman	Abbigail Knorr	Zasha Ochoa	Gail-Marie Stewart
Shoshana Brown	Cristina Fernandez	Roy Kohl	Sarah Paciulli	Nathan Stout
Zoe Brunyard	Lindsey Fox	Ashley Koven	Katherine Palacios-Paredes	Christopher Stroke
Karina Buzengo	Jeffery Fraser	Vanessa Kuljis	Jacqlyn Pallagi	Amy Sun
Ashley Cain	Helen Fuchs	Brittany Lambert	Jorge Perez	Rena Szymczak
Ian Campbell	Angela Fusco	Lisa Laratro	Joseph Perez de Corcho	Michelle Taber
Etty Carcamo	Daniel Garay	Domenick Lazzara	Stephanie Piquer	Elizabeth Tedford
Rachel Carlsen	Daniel Goldberg	Alexandra Lejarza	Ana Pires de Sa e Silva	Amanda Thompson
Andreina Castillo Irazabal	Allison Good	Jessica Lim	Stephanie Prochazka	Nicole Timmons
Gary Cheng	Bertha Grano de oro	Jefferson Lima	Christopher Puzar	Jennifer Urs
Gary Clay	Adam Greenberg	Morrissa Linson	Carolina Quijano	Eduardo Valdes
Lauren Coffren	Lauren Griffin	Alexa Lunderman	Lisa Rotter	Vanessa Valdez
Chloe Cohen	Amanda Hauns	Chloe Markowicz	Erin Rowntree	Monica Vasquez
Mary Collins	Ashley Head	Jodie Marquez	Antonia Sabogal Croghan	Monica Vera
Rebecca Cox	Nathaniel Helwig	Michael Marsh	Lisa Saintil	Rinat Vidal
Alyssa D'Angola	Alexandra Henchy	Adriana Marti	Cleo Samuel	Miguelina Villanueva
Megan Deehan	Giselle Hernandez	Carolin Martin	Eugenia Sassalos	Jaclyn Wofsey
Ashley Dehart	Betti Horowitz	Teresita Martinez	Khara Schenker	Brian Wolf
Doris Delgado	Meghan Hunt	Elizabeth McCann	Elizabeth Schneider	Jessica Yaniz
Dawn Dias	Shantay Irons	Emily McCarroll	Jonathon Share	Veronica Yestrumskas

### Neuroscience

Beenish Ahmad	Desmond Fitzpatrick	Harry Madhanagopal	Dayron Rodriguez	Pooja Soni
Ansel Amaral	Jorge Fuentes	David Mawson	Lattisha Rowe	Barbara Sorondo
Hashem Azad	Colin Gallagher	Marilia Nery	Allison Rubin	Geoffrey Vargish
Sanaa Bhatti	Stephanie Glass	Razvan Nicolescu	Samira Sami	Tina Vohtang
Emily Cronin-Furman	Lianne Gonzalez	Lisa Oelschlaeger	Ashley Seltzer	
Justin Deckard	Yelena Guller	Enrique Perez	Aditi Shah	
William Dudney	Marlow Hernandez	Kristopher Peters	Mark Sheskin	
Anthony Fine	Michele James	Aldo Riesgo	Pooja Sheth	

### School of Communication

Cristina Araujo	Marie Frederico	Sara Noonan	Bianca Sacks
Emily Bernstein	Brooke Gold	Bhavin Patel	Danielle Sanchez
Jaime Brunner	Corinne Guerra	Susan Peri	Megan Sterritt
Samantha Cheifetz	Ricardo Herrera	Gregory Phelps	Elisa Turri
Lawrence Cole	Amanda Katz	Lea Rausch	Brendan Ward
Roy Delgado	Joshua Koumjian	Colby Robertson	Mark Zuckerbrow
Jill Forrest	Deborah Muller	Jamie Rudolph	

### School of Education

Robin Adair
Adriana Antunez de Mayolo
Kristina Birard
Yael Cavero Isakowitz
Jamie Fiorentino
Brianna Garcia
Mailin Mendez
Briana Tateo

# Alumni News

## **Susan Wills Amat, B.L.A., '01**

### **BLAR & PSY**

On March 23, 2007, Susan Amat (formally Susan Wills) and her husband Luis welcomed the birth of their daughter Frances Teresa Amat. According to the family, Susan and Frances are doing well.

## **Brian Gonzalez, B.A., '05**

### **PSY/CHM**

Brian has been working as a research assistant for Dr. Gail Ironson. Next fall, he will attend the University of South Florida for his Ph.D. in Clinical Health Psychology. At USF, Brian will be working with Paul Jacobson, a psychosocial oncology researcher.

## **Blake Harrington, B.S.C., '05**

### **CBR & PSY**

Blake has been working as a post-baccalaureate research fellow in the NICHD Child and Family Research division of the National Institutes of Health. He was recently accepted into the Master of Public Health program at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University where he will focus on Health Behavior and Health Education.

## **Sean Kilpatrick, B.A., '06**

### **PSY & CRI**

As most of you know, Sean has been working as an Advisor in UASP for the past eight months. As an undergraduate, he worked as a research assistant for the Latino Drug and Alcohol Research Center (LDARC) and the Center for Research on U.S. Latino AIDS/HIV and Drug Abuse (CRUSADA) at FIU. He was a member of the Violence Study, which explored the theoretical and social implications of homicides, suicides, and accidental deaths, as well as other violent and property crimes. Recently, Sean received an award for his outstanding research contributions to the LDARC, CRUSADA, and FIU.

## **Amy Salazar, B.S., '04**

### **PSY/MTH & CRI**

Amy will be attending Portland State University for her M.S.W./Ph.D. in Social Work and Social Research beginning in the Fall. Amy and her husband will be moving to Portland from Seattle and plan to purchase a house.

## **Bailey Smith, B.S., '05**

### **PSY/BIL**

Bailey worked briefly as a social worker and has spent the last year conducting research on bipolar disorder with Dr. Sheri Johnson. In the fall, Bailey will begin her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of South Florida where she will focus on research that examines emotion psychopathology and depression.

## **Dante Trevisani, B.A., '06**

### **PSY & POL/SPA**

Recently, Dante received confirmation that his Senior Honor Thesis on "Positive Mood Induction and Facial Affect Recognition Among Students Vulnerable to Hypomania" will be published in Cognitive Therapy and Research.

## **Lila Woolston, B.A., '05**

### **PSY/ART**

Lila was recently hired as a financial advisor for Ameriprise Financial. She was recruited for this position through her resume posting on [Monster.com](http://Monster.com). The company actively seeks recent college graduates. Her job is to synthesize the issues people care about, financial issues, and help them find workable solutions to give them a better future. Lila's ultimate desire is to return to school in the future for a Master's in Psychology or a JD. Lila can be reached at [lwoolston@aol.com](mailto:lwoolston@aol.com).

# UASP Says Adios

All of us at UASP send special congratulations to our seven Peer Advisors who are graduating this May. We are very proud of their accomplishments and appreciate all their hard work! We will definitely miss each one around the office! Best of luck in future endeavors!

**Ansel Amaral**, a Neuroscience (Psychobiology track) major and Chemistry minor, has been a Peer Advisor for three years. Ansel decided to stay true to his University of Miami roots by accepting his offer of admission to the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine where he will pursue his M.D. and Ph.D.

**Charlene Bobb-Smith**, a Psychology major and Sociology minor, has been a Peer Advisor for two years. Recently accepted to NOVA Southeastern University's Psy.D. and Clinical Ph.D. programs in psychology, Charlene is currently debating her final decision.

**Shoshana Brown**, a Psychology major and Anthropology minor, has been a Peer Advisor for three years. After a recent visit to New York University, she accepted her offer of admission and will attend NYU in the fall to pursue her Master's in Public Health with a concentration on International Health. In the future, Shoshana plans to obtain a Ph.D. in Public Health and become a future leader in global health practice.

**Nathaniel Helwig**, a double major in Psychology and Math with a Business Administration minor, has been a Peer Advisor for one year. Although he has not decided on his future plans, Nate was accepted at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill to pursue a Ph.D. in Quantitative Psychology.

**Danielle Sanchez**, a double major in Communication Studies and Psychology, has been a peer advisor for three years. In the fall, Danielle will relocate across the city of Miami to Florida International University where she will pursue an Educational Specialist Degree in School Psychology.

**Pooja Sheth**, Neuroscience (Neurobiology track) and Philosophy double major, has been a Peer Advisor for three years. In August, Pooja will begin medical school to earn her M.D. at Georgetown University School of Medicine. She is excited about medical school and looking forward to experiencing Washington D.C.

**Amy Sun**, a Psychology major with double minors in English and Sociology, has been a Peer Advisor for three years. After graduation, she will teach secondary mathematics in the low-income public school systems of Hawaii as a part of the Teach for America program. Amy will also be attending the University of Hawaii in Manoa for her Master's in Education and interning with the Students for a Free Tibet chapter of Hawaii.

# The Psi Chi Connection

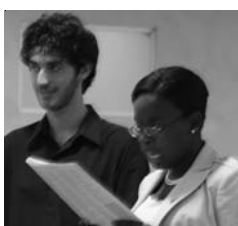
News & Briefs for University of Miami Psi Chi

Vol. 8 Num. 5

## Psi Chi 2006-2007

### Congratulations New Inductees

#### Psi Chi Welcomes New Members at Banquet



On April 22nd, Psi Chi held its annual banquet and induction ceremony at the Faculty Club. Psi Chi members and new inductees were joined by family, friends, faculty, and administrators who shared in a buffet dinner. New members were honored for their academic accomplishments and interest in the field of Psychology and

Neuroscience. We are very proud of our new members and wish to congratulate and thank them for their participation. We look forward to working with them, along with our current members in the upcoming year.

Elyse Aceto  
Carolina Acevedo  
Yaima Alonso  
Aparna Saini  
Stephanie Beckel  
Terri Benn  
Darah Bouchereau  
Danika Brodak  
Mariel Butan  
Gary Cheng  
Jessica Clarke  
Megan Deehan  
Alexandra DeSmidt  
Dain de Souza  
Tara DiJohn  
Norma Ford  
Christine Gonzalez

Spencer Gray  
Tara Irani  
Lyndsey Kiss  
Michael Landers  
Jefferson Lima  
Robin Lucas  
Aixa Marchand  
Valerie Palermo  
Margi Patel  
Reeva Ramcharan  
Mia Raymond  
Maria Agustina Rossetti  
Sarah Shergy  
Mallery Sosinski  
Elizabeth Tedford  
Nicole Tucci

#### Congrats to the 2007-2008 Psi Chi Executive Board

**Eric Halpern** - President  
**Vicky Edelman** - Vice President  
**Lyndsey Kiss** - Treasurer  
**Kendra Anderson** - Secretary  
**Marta Cuervo** - Public Relations



#### Thanks to the outgoing Officers for all their hard work this past year!

**Cleo Samuel** - President  
**Vanessa Villar** - Treasurer  
**Amanda Thompson** - Public Relations  
**Eric Halpern** - Vice President  
**Valentina Rodriguez** - Secretary

#### PSI CHI Induction Requirements

PSI CHI is the national honor society for Psychology. Members are chosen yearly according to three criteria. Students must be a declared Psychology/Neuroscience major or minor with a minimum of nine credits in Psychology, a minimum 3.0 GPA, and be in the top 35% of their class (this varies from year to year). Membership invitations are sent out every year in mid-February/March. If you did not get an invitation but think you may be eligible, email PSI CHI representatives at [PsiChiami@hotmail.com](mailto:PsiChiami@hotmail.com).

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# Psychology News

## Thanks to . . .

Rachel Acosta  
Anna Fredericks  
Jason Garstka  
Sean Kilpatrick  
Rod Wellens, Ph.D.  
Richard Williams, Ph.D.  
The Peer Advisors

## Editor

Victoria Noriega, Ph.D.

## In this issue . . .

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