

PsychNews

Sixth Edition Summer 2011



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MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



GREETINGS!

As noted in previous editions of PsychNews, we are implementing several exciting initiatives to reach our vision: **To be recognized as an**

innovative leader in the application of psychological science. Here are a few highlights from the past year:

3RD ANNUAL STRATEGIC PLANNING RETREAT

During August 2010, we held a day-long strategic planning retreat to scan our internal and external environments or landscapes, and to review our vision, goals and action plans. Following an extensive analysis of current trends and issues on the horizon, we focused on the future of our graduate program. Conversations ensued throughout the year about the mission of our graduate education and student learning outcomes. We agreed that the overall goal of the graduate program is to apply psychological science for enhancing quality of life and well-being among individuals, organizations and communities.

APPLICATIONS OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCE

Many initiatives are underway that truly reflect the application of our science. Faculty members have experienced much success in submitting quality grant and contract proposals, and in many cases, have received funding. Topics range from compulsive gambling, disaster management, successful aging, psychological and behavioral response to the oil spill, high performer (employee) competencies to attention and memory, work and life effectiveness of faculty and health. Additionally, and most faculty members are highly engaged in community projects that include activities focused on HIV prevention, early childhood education, disability awareness, aging veterans, juvenile justice, employment legal issues, domestic violence, and work/life effectiveness.

NEW PROGRAMS

With the elevation of the department to the School of Psychological and Behavioral Sciences, we assumed the responsibility of the UWF Women's Studies Program, to include the women and gender studies bachelor's degree program as well as the women's studies minor. I was delighted to appoint Dr. Rosemary Hays-Thomas as the chair of the Women's Studies Advisory Board during Fall 2010 semester and then as the Director of the program during the Spring 2011 semester. With Dr. Hays-Thomas' expertise and experience, the program is excelling! We also assumed the responsibility for the bachelor's degree program in Diversity Studies. I was pleased when Dr. Sherry Schneider offered to serve as the coordinator for these degree programs, and she is well on her way in successfully recruiting and retaining students!

FACULTY TRANSITIONS

We were sad to bid farewell to Dr. Doug Friedrich, Provost Emeritus and Professor of Psychology, when he retired this year. We had a wonderful send off with a renewal of Oktoberfest in his honor, hosted by the College of Arts and Sciences, and a reception at my house. Dr. Friedrich has been an integral member of our faculty, and is greatly missed. We are very excited about our two new faculty members joining this year, Dr. Lisa Blalock and Dr. Erica Jordan. They bring much intelligence and energy to our family! They both have had a fantastic year with outstanding teaching, and the beginnings of research and service. Students tell me how much they appreciate that Lisa and Erica are here!

I hope you continue to enjoy reading about our activities in this newsletter, and find that we continue to expand our roles and responsibilities! I thank Mrs. Diana Robinson for spearheading the preparation of this issue. As always, you are welcome to contact me through email (LKBryan@uwf.edu) or telephone 850.474.3493.

Warmest regards,

Laura Koppes Bryan, Ph.D.

WHAT IS THE SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGICAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES?

In the 5th Edition of PsychNews, we announced the change of the Department of Psychology to the new School of Psychological and Behavioral Sciences (SPBS). Many of you are probably wondering, what does this mean? How complex are the operations and functions?

To start, we now offer the following degree and minor programs:

- Bachelors of Arts in Psychology
- Bachelors of Arts in Diversity Studies (Interdisciplinary Social Science)
- Bachelors of Arts in Women and Gender Studies (Interdisciplinary Humanities)
- Masters of Arts in Psychology
- Minors in Psychology, Sports and Exercise Psychology, Women Studies
- Undergraduate Certificate in Human Resources
- Graduate Certificate in Health Psychology

Along with the UWF Center for Applied Psychology, whose mission is aimed at optimizing human performance across the lifespan in educational, health and workplace contexts, we also acquired the UWF Center on Aging. The mission for the UWF Center on Aging is to improve the quality of life of aging adults through the application of science to address challenges associated with aging and to promote healthy aging, with an emphasis on prevention. In addition, we now house the Women's Studies Program, whose students study the work of women's studies scholars and acquire the ability to examine and analyze history, literature, economic factors, politics, religion, legal matters, communication, film, works of art and

DR. DOUG FRIEDRICH RETIRES

The University of West Florida recognized the many years of service of Dr. Douglas Friedrich with the distinguished title of Provost Emeritus. Dr. Friedrich retired from active SPBS faculty status in January 2011 and we commend him for his dedication and service during his tenure as Provost, Academic Affairs and Professor, Psychology.

music through a variety of lenses. We host an annual conference, now in its 10th year, which showcases the work of graduate and undergraduate students on gender and women's studies, in the form of papers, artwork, performances and various forms of presentations.

However, the changes go deeper than just adding centers and degrees. We have reformatted our organizational chart to better serve the needs of our students and community constituents in the following manner:

- Director for the School of Psychological and Behavioral Sciences
- Associate Director for Graduate Programs
- Associate Director for Undergraduate Programs
- Assistant Director for Program Scheduling
- Faculty
- Staff: Coordinator, Business System Specialist, Administrative Specialist, and Office Specialist
- Adjunct Instructors
- Faculty Associates
- Graduate Assistants, Graduate Teaching Assistants, Graduate Research Assistants and Federal Work Study students
- Director for the UWF Center for Applied Psychology
- Director for the UWF Center on Aging
- Director for the UWF Women Studies Program

As the dynamics of higher education continues to evolve to meet the needs of the next generation of students, we will continue to adapt and change our operations to reflect the national trends. In addition, we will continue to emphasize the scientific foundations of the discipline.

STUDENTS EXCEL!

Psychology Junior and Senior Excellence Award Recipients, 2010-2011

Junior winners: Kimberly Chafin, Carolyn Guy, Michael Hoepfl, Lauren McAlpine, Allysia Ramirez, Nancylyne Reddick, Tiffany Reed, Nina Cayley Russell, Teddy Scott, Jr., Erin Smallwood, Amy Underwood and Brittany Wildhaber.

Senior winners: Amelia Alexander, Crystalle Arvin, Nicole Blais, Alynth Bowen, Taylor Brewster, Philip Collins, Lauren Corbett, Katherine Day, Jacqueline Erickson, Carolyn Glass, Stuart Hibyan, Shannon Howard, Gracie Hutchinson, Beverly Mainor, Daryll McKinley, Lisa Patterson, Tamara Powell, Carlina Radius, Nicole Reichenbach, Carly Robbins, Elizabeth Sandberg, Tonya Saylor, Emily Sheets, Leslie Snedeker, Angelica Sullivan, Taleana Talmon, Rachael Thrower, Gregory Uzdevenes, Brandon Webb and Kyra Wyatt.

Outstanding Undergraduate and Graduate Students/Assistants For 2010-2011

Carly Robbins – Outstanding Undergraduate Student,
Eileen Wolfe – Outstanding Graduate Student,
Kristen Palazzo – Outstanding Graduate Assistant.

STUDENTS ENGAGE!

One of the greatest benefits of majoring in psychology is the opportunity to engage in activities relevant to psychology. Students choose to participate in student organizations, service learning projects, volunteer activities and scholarly/research projects.

The Psi Chi National Honor Society in Psychology and Student Psychological Association (SPA)

Psi Chi at UWF provides Psychology students with a portal to many Psychology related opportunities. In 2010-11, President Carly Robbins, Vice-President Jason Case, Secretary Lauren Marcotte and Treasurer Brandon Webb led our undergraduate students in a very productive year. Psi Chi hosted a faculty/student welcome-back barbeque, student/faculty bowling event, hosted a "How to Get into Grad School" panel, volunteered for Manna Food Bank as well as for ABC's Extreme Home Make-over, and attended the 57th Annual Southeastern Psychological Association conference. This year, during the 2011 Induction Ceremony, 11 students became new members of the UWF Psi Chi chapter.



The Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM)

Congratulations to SHRM for reaching their goal of becoming a Gold level status organization for overall involvement at UWF! UWF SHRM was one of only 10 organizations to reach this status. SHRM ranked number three in overall points (out of about 140 student organizations), with a total of 37 points for the academic semester. The points system is a new system that UWF Student Involvement Services incorporated in order to track Registered Student Organization Involvement (e.g., hosting events, attendance at campus-wide events, attendance at ISOC meetings, volunteer service hours).

Throughout the 2010-11 academic year, the UWF SHRM chapter has hosted and participated in several events. In October, the chapter participated in a webinar event on creating a culture of sustainability. In November, Mr. Tim Lambert, Employee Relations Manager of Gulf Power, spoke about both the Human Resource Department of Gulf Power, and their parent company; Southern Company. The chapter also welcomed a recent graduate of the UWF I-O psychology track, Mr. Chris McGrath, to speak at their February meeting. Mr. McGrath, who is now a manager for H2 Performance Consulting, spoke about the making of a business consultant.

The UWF SHRM Chapter has also been very active on the UWF campus this academic year. Representatives from the chapter attended multiple UWF leadership workshops, senate meetings and recruited new members from the UWF College of Business. The chapter also reserved a table to provide information and recruit members during the Spring White Out Blizzard Bash. The chapter looks forward to participating in future events with the UWF business fraternity, Delta Sigma Pi. The opportunities for networking during the academic year have been tremendous for members. Members continue to attend monthly Greater Pensacola SHRM meetings and they were also recently invited to attend an Emerald Coast SHRM chapter meeting at Fort Walton Beach. The chapter also provided funding to help 14 active members attend the 26th Annual Society for Industrial Organizational Psychology Conference in Chicago. The chapter looks forward to the upcoming planned events and welcomes other interested students to get involved!

Scholarly and Community Service Activities

Students are actively involved in research in the SPBS. During 2010-11, the school funded four undergraduate and eight graduate students to attend three conferences. Sixteen undergraduate and six graduate students presented their faculty sponsored research at the new UWF Student Scholars Symposium this April. Topics ranged from self-efficacy and anxiety in relation to students' future plans, implicit sequence learning within a unidimensional framework to a presentation on the association between sex education, age and contraception use at first intercourse. The SPBS hosted the 10th Annual Women's Studies conference that presented six main themes ranging from Feminist Theories to Women in Science. There were 18 presentations made by undergraduate students from multiple academic disciplines.

NEWS FROM THE SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGICAL AND BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

Graduate Admissions Goes Paperless!

You've probably noticed that green is everywhere these days—in the news, politics, fashion and even technology. You can hardly escape it on the Internet or TV. The SPBS has teamed up with the Graduate School and we are working to make our graduate admissions process green by going paperless. Undergraduate students can now submit most of their application materials (admission application, supplemental form, letter of intent, letters of recommendation) to us via the internet or email. We convert these materials to .pdf format and archive in NoliJ, a data management software program. Our Graduate Admissions Committee can then access all of the materials via internet which saves on us creating file folders and utilizing paper. This system will also allow us to maintain the integrity of the materials as originally submitted.

Welcome to our new Administrative Specialist

We welcome Ms. Teresa Harris to our SPBS administrative staff. Harris joined us in December to assist in the absence of our Office Specialist. We were able to hire her to join us full time in January. Teresa works primarily for the Director, but is willing and available to assist faculty, staff, students, alumni and visitors who need assistance.

Congratulations to our Coordinator!

Our coordinator, Mrs. Diana Robinson was awarded the University of West Florida's Academic Affairs Professional Excellence Award for 2011. During the Nautilus Awards Ceremony held in April, Diana was recognized by the Provost for this achievement. The nomination for the award was submitted by faculty within the School of Psychological and Behavioral Sciences for recognition of the quality work she performs in assisting with the recruitment and retention of our majors.

News from the School of Behavioral Sciences continues on page 4

SPBS welcomes their first Alumni and Student Advisory Boards

The SPBS held its first meeting of the charter membership of a newly formed Alumni Advisory Board on March 11th. Charter members include Dr. Joanne Massey, Chair, Dr. Cheri Sparks, Dr. Joel Fairbanks and Ms. Brittany Bjorklund. Roles and responsibilities of the new group are to provide advice and feedback to SPBS as professional input; support SPBS and students with a mentoring program for students, hosting lunch-n-learn or evening receptions, or hosting workshops for students (life after school); providing access to internship sites or helping to establish internship sites; and supporting the Center for Applied Psychology by delivering professional education workshops and spreading the word about educational opportunities. For more information, please email Diana Robinson at drobinso@uwf.edu with your contact information and your availability.

The SPBS also created and held the first meeting of the newly formed Student Advisory Board. Charter members include Amy Underwood, Lora Hendley, Sara Yarbrough, Jenny Hasseltine, Jane Ellen McCormack, Elizabeth Hurd, John Hale, Anna Weaver and Garrison Lightfoot. The purpose of the student advisory group is to gather a cross sampling of student views and concerns in order to gain a more complete understanding of issues and to facilitate communication between students, faculty and school administration. (see photo on page 7)

Naming Opportunity for Student Lounge!

We are still looking for an interested individual who would like to have our student lounge named in their honor. Every day more and more students are taking advantage of this unique and relaxing space as they wait between classes, meet in study groups or prepare for presentations.

Remodeling of the lounge is needed to make the space an inviting, enjoyable and intellectually stimulating learning environment. We would like to remove a wall and the door to give the space an open, social feel. If you would like to help make this happen, we invite you to give to the Psychology Department Student Fund. Donations can be made online at alumni.uwf.edu or by check made payable to the UWF Foundation (make reference to the Student Fund).

If you are interested in naming the new student lounge after you or in memory of someone, please contact Dr. Laura Koppes Bryan for details. (LKBryan@uwf.edu; 850.474.3493)



SPORTS AND EXERCISE PSYCHOLOGY RESEARCH LAB IS ESTABLISHED

The primary purpose of this research experience is to study aspects of sports or exercise from a psychological perspective. Undergraduate and graduate students work together under the supervision of Dr. Rotunda on projects already underway as well as projects selected and developed by the students. Recent projects have included assessment of alcohol and other drug use among collegiate athletes, motivation to initiate and continue the practice of yoga, injury and burnout among competitive swimmers,

motivation and burnout among minority athletes, exercise and the relief of depression, parental perceptions of the advantages and disadvantages of their children's' soccer participation, and factors associated with exercise and sport participation in the GLBT community. Students presented selected projects at the 2011 Southeastern Psychological Association Conference and the southeast regional meeting of the Association for Applied Sport Psychology.

In 2010-11, Dr. Rotunda worked with graduate students Eileen Wolfe, Tierra Rudd and Sakkaphat Ngamake, and with undergraduates Smruthi Garlapati, Brittany Shelton, Noemi Mills, Nicole Reichenbach, Margeaux Donovan, Katie Beaugrand, Erin Scully, Kirstie Stivers and Kyle Bandy.



UWF CENTER ON AGING IS REVITALIZED!

Thanks to funding provided by the Board of Governors of the Florida State University System, the UWF Center on Aging (COA) is being revitalized to build a health and science-related intra-university clustering program in partnership with the community to develop inter-disciplinary principles and inter-professional strategies for promoting successful aging in the Northwest Florida region. The focus is the formation of a superior collaboration of faculty, staff, students and community agencies who together address important needs of aging and care of the elderly, as well as develop innovative strategies for successful aging, in order to promote the health and well-being of older persons and their families. The COA provides a direct interface with the community, facilitating the application of the University's collective expertise to assist existing community health and social service agencies and organizations improve their programs, processes and services to aging Baby Boomers and their elders. The clustering program capitalizes upon existing strengths of UWF and serves as a regional force for investigation of, and applications for, integrating research, direct services for better aging, and education of older and younger adults.

UWF's administration, faculty and staff recently re-invigorated the COA with a restructuring in the School of Psychological and Behavioral Sciences

(SPBS) and the appointment of an interim director. A search was just completed for a Center Director and Dr. Rodney Guttman will be joining UWF in August. Dr. Guttman is a Pensacola native, and alum of Pensacola Catholic High School, Florida State University, and the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He joins us from the University of Kentucky, Sanders-Brown Center on Aging, College of Public Health and the Gerontology Graduate Program. With the restructuring and the new director, the COA's mission is to improve the quality of life of aging adults through the application of science to address challenges associated with aging and to promote healthy aging, with an emphasis on prevention interventions.

UWF Center on Aging is promoting Successful Aging!

The University of West Florida Center on Aging is polling seniors (60+ years) in Northwest Florida counties to research successful aging strategies. Information provided in the confidential survey will help determine the needs of seniors and promote healthy living in Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa and Walton counties. The results will be utilized by UWF's Center on Aging to lead us in establishing research initiatives, community outreach, local and state agency partnership, and cross-departmental initiatives. If you live or work in Escambia, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa or Walton Counties and know of any individuals or agencies that can assist in helping us to poll seniors for our survey, please contact us at (850) 474-3298 for a hard copy or access the survey at: uwf.edu/coa/.

UWF Center for Applied Psychology CAP Responded to the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill UWF's Center for Applied Psychology was proud to sponsor an event in response to the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill with two distinguished visitors. Dr. J. Steven Picou presented research into the Exxon Valdez and BP Deepwater Horizon oil spills. Dr. Picou's research applies sociological interests into studying the impacts of these disasters. He also discussed his recent endeavors leading to workshops to train peer listeners for the residents of the Gulf Coast. Dr. Michael DeMaria, a clinical psychologist and Grammy-nominated musician, performed selections from his "Healing Sound Series" album. Dr. DeMaria's album, *Siyotanka*, was nominated for the 2010 Grammy for Best Native American Music Album.

Additionally, three SPBS faculty were invited to join a consortium headed by the University of Florida for an NIH grant to research the health impacts of the Deepwater Horizon Spill in Eastern Gulf Coast Communities. Our faculty will be conducting a community-based assessment of social vulnerability and resiliency in our tri-county area.

FACULTY AT A GLANCE

Awards and Honors

Dr. James Arruda was promoted to Professor. Dr. Arruda also had an article entitled, "The effects of qEEG data transformations on principal component analysis" published in *Psychophysiology*.

Dr. Ronald Belter was awarded the UWF Excellence in Teaching or Advising Award for exemplary teaching.

Dr. Lisa Blalock was nominated for the Student Government Association Teacher Award, and published an article entitled, "Proactive interference and practice effects in visuospatial working memory span task performance" in *Memory*.

Dr. Joan Duer continued to serve as an elected member of the Southeastern Psychological

Association Executive Committee and she gave an invited presentation entitled "The CACREP Crisis in Counseling Psychology" at the annual meeting of the Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology.

Dr. Jane Halonen was selected as the President of the Board of Directors of Families Count, an organization that helps at-risk families thrive through parent education, child abuse prevention and complex resource management. Dr. Halonen was also appointed by the American Psychological Association to chair a newly convened task force to revisit the National Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology major. Dr. Halonen chaired the group that originally developed the guidelines ten years ago.

Dr. Rosemary Hays-Thomas was recently appointed to a task force of the Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM), to examine Diversity and Inclusions standards. She also successfully concluded a 9-year term as the administrative officer for the Southeastern Psychological Association.

Dr. Erica Jordan had a starring role in the Difficult Dialogues sessions held at the UWF Center for Fine & Performing Arts and also presented a presentation for the Leisure Learning Society entitled, "Parent-Child Attachment: Influences throughout the Lifespan."

FACULTY IN TRANSITION

Welcome **Drs. Lisa Blalock** and **Erica Jordan**, our newest faculty members. Dr. Blalock is a Cognitive Psychologist who earned her Ph.D. from Colorado State University. She earned her B.S. in Psychology from the University of Central Florida. Her research interests are in visual working memory, interactions between visual working memory and long-term memory, and visual expertise and situational awareness while driving. Courses taught are Experimental Psychology and Lab, Sensation and Perception at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

Dr. Jordan is an Applied Developmental Psychologist who earned her Ph.D. and M.S. from the University of Alabama. Her research interests are parent-child relationships, children's perceptions of discipline and punishment and family dynamics. Courses taught are Psychology of Learning, Child Development and Human Development across the Lifespan.

We welcomed **Dr. Stacy Parenteau**, visiting instructor for 2010-11. Dr. Parenteau is a Clinical Psychologist and taught Abnormal and Health Psychology. Stacy will be joining us again as a visiting instructor for the 2011-12 academic year.

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHTS

Industrial/Organizational Graduate Program

In order to stay informed about the success of our graduates, the UWF Industrial-Organizational Psychology Track has started a LinkedIn group. If you are a graduate of the program and would like to join the group, please contact Dr. Kass at skass@uwf.edu. Below are a few updates of graduate accomplishments and other good news about your former classmates and current students. If you have good news to share please send it to Dr. Kass or post it on the LinkedIn group site.

Congratulations go out to the following:

Catherine Bogese, current graduate student, now works as a Recruiter for Absolute Consulting Inc in Pensacola, Fla..

John Cendroski, alumnus, is a Talent Management Consultant for Lowe's in the Charlotte, NC area.

Roxane Hettinger, alumna, is an Executive Healthcare Recruiter at the Hart Group in the Atlanta, GA area.

Jasmine James, alumna, is a recent hire of the St. Petersburg Floridian, a large HR company that assists Military One Source.

Liza Kittinger, alumna, is a Training and Curriculum Development Specialist for AppRiver in Pensacola, Fla.

Kerstan Mork, alumna, successfully defended her dissertation at Texas Tech. She is also employed with Sandia National Laboratories as a Senior Member of the Technical Staff in the Human Factors and Statistics department.

John Raheal, alumnus, submitted his thesis to the Society of Industrial/Organizational Psychology annual conference for 2011 and was accepted for a poster session.

Cole Yuknis, alumnus, now works as a HR Generalist for Columbia Southern University in Mobile, Ala..

In case you've lost touch with some of your classmates, we are starting the "Where are they now?" section of the newsletter. This edition we are featuring Kiersten Jarvis, who graduated in 2007.

Kiersten Jarvis is now working as an Academic Coordinator for both Athletics as well as the Advising Center at the University of West Florida. She advises all freshman and sophomore athletes, monitors progress towards degree and NCAA academic eligibility. She coordinates seminars and workshops for the CHAMPS life Skills Program and serves as the advisor for the Student Athlete Advisory Committee.

Congratulations to UWF undergraduate students who were all accepted to the UWF Master's Program in Psychology.

Jason Barrow, Stacey Bass, Nicole Blais, Alyinth Bowen, Robert Bryan, Philip Collins, Lauren Corbett, Danielle DeMaria, James Goodson, Stuart Hiban, Elena Krivosheeva, Kelly Manning, Tamara Powell, Donald Powell, Ashley Rotolo, Angelica Sullivan and Brandon Webb

Counseling Graduate Program

Please contact Dr. Rob Rotunda (rrotunda@uwf.edu) with stories, position descriptions and pictures as we would like to highlight counseling alumni in future newsletters and on our new department website (uwf.edu/psychology/track-counseling/grads.cfm).

James Flens, alumnus, is a Diplomate in Forensic Psychology from the American Board of Professional Psychology and became a Fellow in the American Academy of Forensic Psychology. Dr. Flens was also the first guest editor for the first special issue of the Journal of Child Custody, focusing on psychological testing in child custody evaluations. Dr. Flens is employed in private practice in Brandon, FL.

Jeffrey Wincze, alumnus, is currently employed as a Licensed Clinical Psychologist in the Mood Disorders Clinic at Rhode Island Hospital.

General Psychology Graduate Program

Please contact Dr. Sam Mathews (smathews@uwf.edu) with stories, position descriptions and pictures as we would like to highlight general track alumni in future newsletters and on our department website (uwf.edu/psychology/).

Melissa Strompolis, alumna, received an award for exemplary service to the Health Psychology Program and the Department of Psychology at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.



ALUMNI ADVISORY BOARD

Dr. Steven Kass was awarded the UWF Excellence in Teaching or Advising for outstanding advising to undergraduate and graduate students.

Dr. Laura Koppes Bryan was elected for a second term to serve as President of the national organization, College and University Work/Family Association.

Dr. Samuel Mathews was named "Volunteer of the Year" by Families Count for his work in adolescent mentoring and program development in child abuse prevention.

Dr. Robert Rotunda was awarded a \$200,000 grant from the Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling, as well as a \$10,000 award from the American Psychological Association Foundation for development and evaluation of a crisis intervention and disaster psychology training program for undergraduate and graduate students.

Dr. Sherry Schneider published an article with a graduate student co-author in the Journal of Leadership and Organizational Development.

Dr. Lisa VanWormer received a Faculty Scholarly and Creative Activity award for 2010-11. She was also nominated for the Outstanding Professional Paper Award at SEPA 2011 and published an article entitled, "The effect of perceptual cues on inhibiting irrelevant information in older adults using a list-learning method" in *Experimental Aging Research*.

Dr. Stephen Vodanovich was first author on two publications. One was an update of recent legal developments (written for human resource practitioners) and the other was a cross-cultural study of boredom proneness. The latter is a neglected area of research and provides much-needed data in the literature.

Dr. Susan Walch and OASIS received a \$50K Sapphire Award for Community Health Organizations from the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Florida.

HELP US HELP OTHERS SUCCEED!!

Invest in the Future and Vibrancy of the School of Psychological and Behavioral Sciences!

In the SPBS, we take pride in the accomplishments of our students. At both undergraduate and graduate levels, psychology students are actively engaged with faculty in research and other professional activities. Mentoring the next generation of scholars and professionals in psychology is a long-standing tradition of our faculty. In the spirit of this tradition, we invite you to join us in supporting the academic activities of our students. This is an appeal for support that will allow you to share in our students' accomplishments. By contributing to the Psychology Department Student Fund, you can participate in the mentoring of today's students to become tomorrow's scientists and practitioners.

Please give to the Psychology Department Student Fund. Donations can be made online at alumni.uwf.edu or by check made payable to the UWF Foundation (make reference to the Student Fund). Please send all checks to Annual Fund, University of West Florida, 11000 University Parkway, Pensacola, FL 32514.

On behalf of our talented students, we thank you for your generous, ongoing support!

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All issues of PsychNews are available on the School department website: uwf.edu/spbs.

PsychNews is also available by e-mail. If you know of someone who might want to receive a copy of the newsletter or be added to our mailing list, simply send us the person's name and address.

E-mail your comments about the newsletter to: psych@uwf.edu.

Bachelor of Arts in Women and Gender Studies

- GAIN KNOWLEDGE in feminist theories
- UNDERSTAND women's issues through a multicultural perspective
- STUDY women in historical and contemporary contexts

This specialization requires 30 hours of major related coursework, participation in the University's Annual Women's and Gender Studies Student Conference, as well as completion of a related approved minor. The combination of the interdisciplinary specialization and a related minor prepares students for pursuing a wide array of careers in teaching, counseling, community relations, law, recreation, social work and business, with an enhanced understanding of how gender and sexual politics operate in those professional and social environments.

Bachelor of Science in Diversity Studies

- GAIN KNOWLEDGE of theories in diversity
- UNDERSTAND social issues of diverse groups
- STUDY and analyze diverse cultures

This specialization requires 30 hours of major related coursework and completion of a related approved minor, combines academics and social services, preparing individuals to work in non-profit organizations, businesses, community agencies, human resources, Institutional planning, public administration, educational development, or communication. It also prepares students to become effective leaders in promoting institutions, relationships, politics, and services that value diversity and work toward eliminating racial, ethnic, national, and other stereotypes.

Outstanding Young Alumnus: John 'Chris' Brill

Dr. Brill, a 2003 MA graduate of the Industrial/Organizational Specialization, obtained a research facilities grant of close to \$5 million and started a new doctoral program at Michigan Tech University. He made several other significant contributions while at MTU including developing new courses and revising the curriculum that led to significant improvements in students' standardized test scores. Currently, Dr. Brill serves as an assistant professor at Old Dominion University. He has applied for and been awarded a patent for an "electromagnetic field (EMF) tactile display interface and biosensor."