Welcome to the Psychology Department Newsletter!

As the new Head of the Psychology Department, I’d like to take the opportunity to update you on recent developments, and where we plan to go in the future.

First, I would like to thank Dr. Maureen Sullivan for 12 years of outstanding service as Head of the Psychology Department. She served the department admirably through sometimes uncertain and challenging times. I am also grateful for the time and energy she spent helping me transition into this position. After eight weeks on the job, I have even greater respect for what a Head has to contend with day in and day out!

These are truly exciting times for our Department. We have a young, talented, and energetic faculty, with almost a third of our faculty joining us in just the last four years. Coupled with a core group of more senior faculty, we have what I believe to be one of the strongest Psychology Departments in the Big XII. Publications, grant submissions, and grant awards have climbed steadily over the past five years and are at an all time high. We continue to have the second largest number of undergraduate majors in the College of Arts and Sciences, numbering 450 last Spring. Each year, many of these students go on to graduate study in Psychology, as well as other graduate programs, including law and medicine. Our own graduate student body, one of the true treasures of our Department, win Graduate College Research Awards and Fellowships on a regular basis, and many have gone on to have outstanding clinical and research careers. We now have graduates who are faculty members at Kansas State, Brown University, Kentucky, the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Minnesota State, the University of Alabama Medical Center, Duke University Medical Center, and University of Cincinnati, among others. One of our graduates is now the Deputy Director of Cherokee Nation Behavioral Health Services, and another is the Oklahoma State Health Commissioner. I think these accomplishments speak for themselves.

We certainly have other treasures as well. We continue to be among the most diverse Departments on the OSU campus, including both our faculty and our graduate students. In part, this is due to the success of our Psychology Diversified Students program, which under the leadership of Patricia Alexander, has flourished. The continued success of the American Indians into Psychology program, directed by Dr. John M. Chaney, is one of only three in the nation, and has now graduated ten Ph.D. students in Clinical Psychology since 1997. This brings us to a total of 21 Native American Psychologists awarded the Ph.D. from OSU since 1979, more than any other University in the country.

As for the near future, our plans are to continue to strengthen our Department in a number of ways. One of my primary goals is to enhance Alumni relationships with both former undergraduates and graduate students. In future issues of this newsletter, we will be highlighting the accomplishments of our graduates and their many, many successes. We will also be working towards securing additional resources for students and faculty alike through grants, contracts, and other fundraising efforts. I personally have not forgotten the opportunities that I was given at OSU as an undergraduate in the mid-70s, and in this vein, I try to take every chance I have to give back.

Please feel free to contact me personally at any time, and if you’re in Stillwater, feel free to drop by.

Best Wishes,

Larry
The Psychology Department is very pleased to announce that we have our first endowed professorship, the Vennerberg Professorship in Developmental Disabilities in Psychology. Mr. Vaughn Vennerberg is an OSU alum, who made three generous donations to the College of Arts & Sciences. We were privileged to receive $250,000 from Mr. Vennerberg to establish this professorship. This generous donation from Mr. Vennerberg was matched with $250,000 from another generous alum, Mr. Boone Pickens, who donated $100 million to OSU to provide 1:1 matching funds for donations in 2008. Eventually, this $500,000 will be matched with $500,000 from the State of Oklahoma, resulting in a $1 million endowment to support the professorship. While it may take some time to obtain the funding from the State, we are very excited about this unique opportunity. With this professorship, we will recruit a senior scholar with expertise in developmental disabilities. This will allow us to expand and enhance our current programs in clinical psychology and lifespan developmental psychology. Through this, we plan to strengthen our training in developmental disabilities. Empirical, research-based interventions provided by highly-qualified and specially trained individuals should improve the quality of life for families dealing with developmental disabilities.

**Departing Notes from Maureen Sullivan, Ph.D.**

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank those who have been so helpful to me these past 12 years. First, I want to thank Dr. David Thomas, Associate Head, for his generosity in sharing sage advice and counsel, his sense of humor, his knowledge, and support. He continues to provide significant time and effort in completing his Associate Head duties with professionalism and talent. Second, I want to thank my Administrative Assistants, Sue Robinson (retired), and Marilyn Holmquist, who assisted me in countless ways, with skill, professionalism, and cheerfulness. I also want to thank our office staff, Carol Timm, Jean Gay Potts, Trenton Burke, and Pat Newman, without whom the office and department could not function. Special thanks go to our Academic Advisors Silvia Daggy and Kevin Seymore. Our many majors benefited greatly from their knowledge, professionalism, and dedication, and they are critical to the success of our undergraduate program. Special thanks also go to Patricia Alexander, our Graduate Advisor and the Psychology Diversified Students Program Director. In addition to recruitment of new graduate students, advising of current students, and coordinating our diversity activities, Patricia has been involved in facilitating virtually every department function and activity. I cannot thank her enough for her unfailing enthusiasm, dedication, and sense of fun. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with the students, especially the officers of the Psychology Graduate Student Association, Psychology Club and Psi Chi. Their eagerness to learn, their creative ideas, and enthusiasm always make me miss them when they leave, while celebrating their accomplishments as they pursue their own careers. I'll also miss working with the great staff in the dean’s office, including our dean, Dr. Peter Sherwood, the associate deans, Dr. Bruce Crauder, Dr. Tom Wikle, and Dr. Ron Van Den Bussche, and the many outstanding support staff, including Renee’ Tefertiller, Teresa Reedy, Susan Weir, and Suzy Thompson. Last, but certainly not least, I wish to thank the Psychology faculty. While we have had quite a bit of turnover in the last 12 years, we have kept our best and succeeded in recruiting outstanding new faculty. Our current faculty are an amazing group of bright, dedicated scholars who have made our department stronger than ever. It has been a privilege to serve as your Head for the past 12 years. I benefited greatly from your support, cooperation and many contributions to the department. I thank you for making this department such a great place to work!
Since our last newsletter, two of our favorite people have retired after more than 35 years of service to the department and OSU. We had great receptions for each of them, but wanted to add our thanks to them in this newsletter too.

Dr. Bill Scott retired in May, 2008. Bill joined the faculty in 1969, after receiving his doctorate degree in Experimental Social Psychology from Texas Christian University. While he made many, many contributions to the department, here are a few. First, he taught countless students through Introduction to Psychology, including our new Head, Dr. Larry Mullins, who was an undergraduate at OSU. Beginning in 1994, he also coordinated and supervised the graduate student instructors for Intro Psych, influencing many future teachers of psychology. He taught Social Psychology at the undergraduate and graduate level, Human Sexuality, and a course he developed on Careers in Psychology. He merged his research interests in eyewitness memory with a course on Psychology and the Law. He was a member of the American Psychology-Law Society, APA, OPA, Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues, Southwestern Criminal Justice Center, and the Society for the Advancement of Social Psychology. He won multiple teaching awards during his career, and teaching became his primary focus in more recent years. Besides these accomplishments, Bill was an outstanding colleague. His unfailing good humor, enthusiasm, and generosity in sharing his expertise were a model for us all. Other interesting tidbits include the fact that Bill always took the elevator instead of the stairs, but held his breath in between telephone poles to make his daily 2-mile run more “fun.” And who could forget his interesting way with words, such as “pigs on ice” and “camels in tents.” While we greatly miss Bill, we hope that he enjoys his much-deserved retirement. He plans some volunteer activities, continued running, biking and swimming, and hopefully, will finally have the time to put together his model train collection. We wish him the best!

Sue Robinson retired in September, 2009, and she joined the department even earlier, in January, 1967. Although she left briefly to live in Kentucky, she just couldn’t stay away from us, and she returned to the Department a year later. Sue began working with Dr. Clayton Morgan on his federally funded program, then was a secretary in the department, and later became the Administrative Assistant. In this position, she assisted the Department Head and supervised the office staff. Sue had a wonderful memory for the events of the department, and was the unofficial historian for us. She maintained photos, clues from our annual holiday guessing game about little-known facts about the faculty, and many other tidbits about faculty, staff and students. She remained the soul of discretion, although she could certainly tell some entertaining stories about “one faculty member” or “one staff person.” During Sue’s time, the Department moved from the College of Education to the College of Arts and Sciences, and the number of undergraduate majors expanded considerably. She worked in different buildings, and was instrumental in coordinating the recent renovations as we obtained the remaining space in North Murray Hall. Another talent of Sue’s was her ability to navigate the mysterious workings of the Physical Plant – this was critical during our recent renovations! Interesting tidbits about Sue include her love and talent for gardening, her homemade pies, and her love for her family. She coordinated our annual holiday party, office birthday parties, and many other events in the department. She has a great laugh which was highly contagious. Sue plans to spend more time with her family, especially her grandchildren. It’s very different without Sue, but we wish her the very best during her retirement.
The Department of Psychology is Proud to Congratulate Dr. Charles Abramson, Regents Professor of Oklahoma State University

After fourteen years of dedicated service on the faculty at OSU, Dr. Abramson joined the ranks of the university’s elite, being recognized on July 1, 2007 with its most prestigious position. The title “Regents Professor” is reserved for those select few whose contributions to their respective fields have demonstrated the highest levels of scholarship and excellence that have earned them both national and international recognition. Since its inception in 1971, only 79 faculty members have been named to the position, with Dr. Abramson being 1 of only 46 still actively serving on the OSU faculty (numbering more than 2,000 system-wide). He is only the second social scientists to receive the distinction, and is the first-ever in history of the Psychology Department.

A comparative psychologist by training, Dr. Abramson’s work is both interdisciplinary and international. While probably best known for his applied work with Africanized honey bees, his scholarly contributions have been both numerous and varied, and have led among other things to recent discoveries that may help prevent the spread of the incurable Chagas disease among the impoverished populations of Venezuela and the use of bees as a model for ethanol induced drinking behavior.

Despite his long list of accolades, Dr. Abramson’s work is not about seeking recognition but about creating opportunities. His own history bears out this fact. Having never graduated from high school himself, his own journey has been one of hard-work, dedication, and discipline — a standard that has carried over into his philosophy of education. As such, he places a particularly high value on undergraduate education. “Every student will always have an opportunity in my lab,” he stated, “but it is up to them what they will make of that opportunity.” He maintains high standards both for himself and others; pushing himself to stay ahead, and pushing his students to keep up. When asked what goals as a professor he has yet to accomplish, he noted that there is still unfinished work to be done in his research. He hopes to see the ends of his current projects and the beginnings of new ones; to see his students carry the work forward, and to see the work take-off in new directions.

Making no distinction between his personal and professional life, Dr. Abramson stated, “I have the best job in the world and could never see myself retiring,” later adding “everything I am, good or bad, is being a scientist — it’s all a part of my creative endeavors.” Dr. Abramson’s new post as a distinguished Regents Professor has established a new standard of excellence within the Department of Psychology. His past and ongoing contributions reflect great credit upon both himself and the department, and we are proud to recognize his extraordinary efforts and accomplishments.

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We are proud of our alumni. We love to stay in contact with our alumni and let you know what is happening in the Psychology Department. Stay involved by keeping us in the loop.

We started a new alumni web page where you can update your information by giving us your latest information and you can read about what other alumni are doing now on the alumni spotlight.

Please visit our web page: psychology.okstate.edu

For more information, contact us at (405) 744-7591 or e-mail patricia.alexander@okstate.edu
New Faculty In the Clinical Psychology Program

Matt Alderson, Ph.D.
Dr. Alderson’s research interests are in the area of clinical child psychology and developmental psychopathology. His research takes a two-pronged approach to studying potential core deficits/endophenotypes of Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) by: (1) re-examining extant models (behavioral inhibition), and (2) contributing to the development and refinement of nascent models (working memory and ADHD related variability). Results from this line of research challenge prevailing views concerning the central role of behavioral inhibition deficits in ADHD, and provide support for working memory as a candidate core deficit of the disorder. More recent research examines the functional relationship between specific phonological and visuospatial working memory subsystem components, and tertiary symptoms such as poor academic achievement, impulsivity, and hyperactivity.

Jerad Dempsey, Ph.D.
Dr. Dempsey’s primary interest is in addiction and comorbid mental health disorders. More specifically, Dr. Dempsey is interested in how anxiety disorders may contribute to, result from, or maintain an addiction (e.g., self-medication). Another interest is in Affective Modulation of the Startle Response and other psychophysiological research tools. Current investigations include utilizing these techniques to objectively assess affective reactions to the addicted substance and the desire to change substance using behaviors. Dr. Dempsey’s clinical interests include social phobia, panic disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorder.

DeMond Grant, Ph.D.
Dr. Grant’s research examines factors that affect comorbidity between anxiety and depressive disorders. Dr. Grant is particularly interested in cognitive, interpersonal, and psychophysiological correlates of social anxiety and depression. Current research projects involve: a) examination of specific interpersonal features of social anxiety which may increase risk for the development of depressive symptoms and b) unique and shared cognitive facets of social anxiety and depression, including the effects of worry and rumination on peripheral and central measures of psychophysiology.
The Psychology Department
2009 – 10 Internship

Joe Mignogna, MS
Michael E. DeBakey Veteran Affairs Medical Center, Houston, TX

Cynthia Muhamedagic, MS
University of Florida Health Science Center, Gainesville, FL

Benjamin Sigel, MS
University of Arkansas for Medical Science, Little Rock, AR

Joshua Swift, MS
SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, NY

Ted Wagener, MS
Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Providence, RI

Nick Wisdom, MS
Yale University, New Haven, CT

Shital Gaitonde
University of California-Los Angeles, CA
Semel Institute for Neuroscience and Human Behavior, Los Angeles, CA

From left to right: Joshua Swift, Shital Gaitonde, Joey Mignogna, Ted Wagner, and Cynthia Muhamedagic. Missing from the picture: Ben Sigel and Nick Wisdom.

What’s in a Name?
The Ph.D. Program in Experimental Psychology Changes

In the field of psychology, Ph.D. programs in Experimental Psychology date back to the early 1900s in the United States. The first graduate training programs in psychology were designed to train researchers in the practice of scientific, specifically, experimental psychology. Since the middle of the 1900s, researchers in psychology have become more and more specialized in the study of specific topics of human behavior. One of the most exciting new trends in the science of human behavior is the study of lifespan developmental psychology. Lifespan developmental psychology reflects on orientation in which one looks at various psychological phenomenon and/or problems across the lifespan. The trend in psychology toward increasing interest in developmental psychology is reflected in the research interests of faculty that have been hired over the last decade. The areas of expertise currently represented within the old “Experimental Psychology” program were more accurately described as “Lifespan Developmental Psychology”, thus we voted in favor of changing our name from “Experimental Psychology” to “Lifespan Developmental Psychology” to reflect more accurately the type of training that prospective graduate students can expect to receive.

The Lifespan Developmental Program faculty conduct research in a variety of areas across the lifespan, including the effect of nutritional deficiencies on cognitive development in infancy, cognitive development in infancy and early childhood, children’s social development, comparative approaches to behavioral analysis, language processing, the effects of mass media, memory in older adults, personality assessment, retirement planning and financial cognition, self-regulation and persuasion, stereotypes and prejudice, stress and coping in the context of peer relationships in adolescents, and the developmental correlates of the stress response. Faculty and students are supported by grants from NSF, NIH, the USDA, OCAST, and private foundations.

The program in Lifespan Developmental Psychology has three primary goals: instruction in content areas of developmental psychology, training in research methodology and quantitative analysis, and preparation for research and/or teaching careers. Students work with a primary research advisor in accordance with a mentorship model of graduate training.

The name/focus change has been highly successful — there are currently 11 faculty and 20 graduate students in the program, showing that although a rose by any other name is just as sweet, there is power in a name!
Stress can be an unavoidable feeling in today’s society with things such as finances, education, and relationships individuals are involved with. So how does one deal with stress and what are the physiological markers of stress? These are the types of questions Dr. Jennifer Byrd-Craven’s research examines. Dr. Byrd-Craven’s interest in the relationship between stress and development began during her undergraduate career at the University of New Mexico and continued on into her graduate school career at the University of Texas-Tyler in clinical psychology. However, after finding herself in the lab much more often than in the clinic, she changed courses to refine her understanding of the stress system and its ties with development. After receiving her Ph.D from the University of Missouri in 2007, Dr. Byrd-Craven discovered a new interest in cognitive and social sex differences within the area of stress and development. More specifically, she (along with other colleagues) currently examines multiple physiological markers of stress in the context of female peer relationships.

Leffingwell Grant Explores use of Alcohol Monitors

Dr. Thad Leffingwell received a $10,000 SEED Grant from the OSU Office of Research to support pilot data collection using wearable alcohol monitors called SCRAM (Secure Continuous Remote Alcohol Monitors). Supported by a donation of 16 units and monitoring services from Alcohol Monitoring Systems of Highlands Ranch, CO, this research will explore a new frontier in data collection for alcohol studies. SCRAM monitors are worn by participants on their ankles 24-hours a day. The units record alcohol concentrations in insensible perspiration, the water vapor given off constantly by the body through the skin. About 1% of consumed alcohol is expelled from the body in this perspiration, and recording alcohol concentrations in this vapor is akin to constant breathalyzer monitoring. The units were designed for use in corrections environments, and Dr. Leffingwell’s lab is the first in the country to be using the technology for evaluating the outcomes of research interventions.

Dr. Leffingwell’s research will investigate the feasibility and validity of using SCRAM monitoring for evaluating alcohol consumption among high-risk drinking college students. Prior to SCRAM monitoring, the only options for measuring alcohol consumption were retrospective self-report or costly collateral reports, both of which are of questionable reliability and validity. Two studies are planned for Fall 2008 that will utilize the SCRAM technology.

Resistance is Futile

Resisting temptation is hard work and without willpower most people fail at things such as diets and savings plans. The concept of having willpower has come a long way to its current research label, self-control. Self-control is defined as the active inhibition of unwanted responses (e.g. resisting temptations). Previous research shows that self-control relies on a limited energy source and a single act of self-control can use up these resources. Self-control depletion has been linked to a number of problems in society, including aggression, prejudice, poor emotional regulation and failure at diets. Among those researching self-control Dr. Edward Burkley’s work has examined the factors that lead to self-control impairment and ways to overcome such impairments. More recently, his lab has extended its investigation of self-control to the area of attitude change exploring the regulatory process involved in resistance to persuasion. Findings from the lab have shown that resisting a persuasive appeal consumes self-control resources and that exerting self-control on a previous task leaves one vulnerable to persuasive influences. Dr. Burkley’s research in the area of self-control stems from interest in high school that surrounded understanding the self. These interests developed into a program of research that he would continue after receiving his Ph.D at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 2006.

Another area of research Dr. Burkley finds himself engaged in is goal management. A great deal of research has examined the topic of goal pursuits; however, this research has primarily focused on goals in isolation. In reality, people juggle several goals at once (e.g. career and family goals). Work in his lab also investigates how people manage multiple goals.

Stressed Out

Stress can be an unavoidable feeling in today’s society with things such as finances, education, and relationships individuals are involved with. So how does one deal with stress and what are the physiological markers of stress? These are the types of questions Dr. Jennifer Byrd-Craven’s research examines. Dr. Byrd-Craven’s interest in the relationship between stress and development began during her undergraduate career at the University of New Mexico and continued on into her graduate school career at the University of Texas-Tyler in clinical psychology. However, after finding herself in the lab much more often than in the clinic, she changed courses to refine her understanding of the stress system and its ties with development. After receiving her Ph.D from the University of Missouri in 2007, Dr. Byrd-Craven discovered a new interest in cognitive and social sex differences within the area of stress and development. More specifically, she (along with other colleagues) currently examines multiple physiological markers of stress in the context of female peer relationships.
Native American Program Proven to be Successful

In 1997, in an attempt to increase the number of American Indian students entering the field of professional psychology, the Psychology Department at Oklahoma State University competed for and was awarded an Indian Health Service grant — American Indians Into Psychology (AIIP). The AIIP program is part of the Indian Health Care Improvement Act, designed specifically to augment the number of Indian health professionals serving Indians by encouraging Indians to enter the health professions and removing the multiple barriers to their entrance into IHS, tribal, and private practice among Indians. For the past eleven years the Project Director, Professor John M. Chaney, Ph.D. (Mvskoke Creek), has successfully directed the AIIP program at OSU, resulting in over $2.25 million in funding.

The AIIP program at OSU is the only one of its kind nationwide. Each year, ten undergraduate Native American students from across the country attend a summer enrichment program at OSU. The intensive six-week program includes participation in a professor’s research team, weekly professional development seminars, preparing a research presentation, attending professional colloquia, preparation for entry to graduate programs, and placement at tribal mental health facilities and urban Indian health care settings throughout the state. The summer enrichment program has been very successful. Of the ninety-seven former undergraduate students who have participated in the summer academy, 55 (56%) have been admitted to graduate programs; nearly one-fourth (N=23) of them have been admitted into doctoral programs across the country.

During the academic year, the AIIP program also provides scholarships for American Indian undergraduate psychology students and for graduate students in the Clinical Psychology doctoral program. Since the inception of the AIIP program, approximately 25% of every incoming class admitted into the Clinical Psychology doctoral program has been American Indian. The latest statistics from the Survey of Earned Doctorates (funded by the National Science Foundation) show that Oklahoma State University leads the nation in the number of doctorates awarded to Native Americans. OSU awarded doctorates to 33 Native Americans in the period from 2002-06. The next highest total was 18 by both Arizona State and the University of North Dakota. OU ranks fourth nationally with 17. Of the 33 Native American doctorates awarded by OSU during this time period, the AIIP program is responsible for one-third of them (N = 11).

Throughout the history of the AIIP program, Dr. Chaney has been assisted in the project by Ms. Patricia Diaz Alexander, Director of the Psychology Diversified Students Program. Ms. Alexander has been instrumental in the coordination of the summer enrichment program and in the recruitment and oversight of undergraduate and graduate students’ academic progress in the program. Dr. Chaney is also assisted by a Steering Committee composed of Dr. Maureen Sullivan, Clinical faculty, Dr. Thad Leffingwell, Director of Clinical Training, and Dr. Larry Mullins, Head of the Department of Psychology.
The Psychology Club & Psi Chi News

With more than 400 students majoring in psychology, we are still the second largest group of students in the College of Arts and Science. This requires two academic advisors to help students reach their academic goals while at OSU. The undergraduate advising office is centralized in room 102 N. Murray. Two advising offices and a waiting room provide a friendly and comfortable environment for students while waiting to see their advisor.

Knowing that it takes more than good grades to succeed in a career, psychology advisors strongly encourage students to participate in many academic opportunities, such as becoming a teacher (psyc 3990) or research assistant (psyc 4990) for a faculty member, while at the same time receiving course credit that complies with degree requirements. Students are also encouraged to participate in colloquia organized by the Psychology department and to be involved in student organizations on campus. Student participation in the two psychology Clubs; Psychology club and OSU Psi Chi Chapter has increased in the past two years. The 2008-2009 academic year was a very successful one. Thanks to the generosity of the club officers, club members, faculty, and staff, both organizations have positively impacted the lives of many students and people in need throughout the community.

Together, Psychology Club and Psi Chi offered speakers from various fields in psychology. Psychology Club offered semesterly workshops informing students about Bachelor's-level career opportunities, as well as workshops on applying to Graduate School. Additionally, Psych Club offered meetings designed to give our new faculty members, Dr. Grant, Dr. Alderson, and Dr. Dempsey opportunities to recruit research assistants for this spring 2009, thus promoting research experience to undergraduates. Psych Club also hosted speakers from the FBI, DHS, Hogan Assessments, and from Tulsa University who discussed the Industrial/Organizational psychology field. Of particular significance was the Scholarship Opportunities meeting. Thanks to this information, several psych majors applied for Wentz Research Awards—five of whom won substantial grants! Psych Club also offered two socials this year: an ice cream social, and a movie night. Psi Chi offered free GRE workshops every semester, a Curriculum Vitae workshop, a workshop for Pre-Med or pre-health students in Psychology, and speakers discussing volunteer opportunities, school psych, educational psych, counseling, and marriage & family therapy.

Psi Chi successfully installed three new programs: the tutoring program, the mentor program, and the faculty lunch program. The tutoring and mentoring programs are planned to continue for the 2009-2010 academic year, will be accessible online, and will allow students to seek and utilize tutors and/or mentors for their college courses. The faculty lunch program allows members to sign up for a free lunch with a department faculty member, stimulating student/faculty interaction, and also providing students with an opportunity to learn about the faculty member’s research and career path. This academic year, 2009-2010, there will be a slight modification in order to include more faculty members at each meeting.

Psychology Club and Psi Chi also heavily promoted conference attendance to undergraduates by providing van transportation, registration fees, and sometimes even hotel accommodations to approximately 25 members who either attended or presented posters at conferences throughout the academic year. These conferences included ONTOP, OPA, SWPA, and OPS. For this academic year, 2009-2010, both clubs have funds available to support students attending or presenting their research at conferences.

In terms of philanthropy, both organizations began the year with modest expectations. Thanks to the hard work of our officer teams, these expectations were wildly surpassed with unprecedented accomplishments. Psych Club hosted seven different philanthropy efforts—all of which were orchestrated by our outstanding philanthropy chair, Ashleigh Vogle. In September, Psych Club members raised over $700 CROP walk—representing the highest OSU CROP walk donor. In October, our glow-stick Homecoming vendor booth raised $300, $150 of which we donated to the Payne County Youth Shelter, and $75 of which we used to sponsor a member participating in Walk for Life. On Halloween, we hosted a carnival game booth for children in the Student Union, and in November Psych Club joined forces with Psi Chi and participated in Into the Streets, where we completed some much-needed house and yard work for a local elderly resident. In late November, Psych Club visited Golden Oaks retirement home where we played BINGO with the residents. We revisited Golden Oaks during the spring semester as well. Finally, Psych Club utilized fundraising packets to fund our participation in the university’s Angel Tree program, where we bought Christmas presents for two underprivileged children.

Psi Chi also participated in the Angel Tree program, and dedicated all of our fall’s fundraising efforts to this cause. We raised $100 at our Homecoming hot chocolate and popcorn booth, and also sold hot chocolate by Chio-Clock during late November. Additionally, the Psi Chi officer team held an internal fundraising effort where we each sold Hideaway gift cards, raising another $100. In the spring of 2009, Psi Chi organized our Annual Valentine’s Week Raffle. Each day during Valentines week, tickets were sold in the Student Union,
In Memorium

Julia L. McHale, Ph.D.

Dr. Julia L. McHale, Professor Emeritus, was born September 5, 1919. Her first career was in business, until she joined the Women’s Army Corps in 1944 and was stationed at the 8th Air Force Headquarters at High Wycombe, England.

She received her B.A. from Syracuse University and received her Ph.D. in Developmental Psychology from the University of Minnesota in 1956. Prior to joining the faculty at OSU, Dr. McHale was on faculty at the University of Illinois, was affiliated with the Children’s Medical Center of Tulsa, and served as a consultant to the OK State Health Department for the Tulsa Education Foundation. Dr. McHale joined the Department in 1960, where she used her expertise to improve services to children. She provided services to children with mental retardation, which was federally funded, and coordinated the Mental Health Specialist Program in Psychology.

Dr. McHale Was a Fulbright Scholar in the United Arab Republic (Egypt). Other contributions included serving as Associate Director of Clinical Training, and co-founding the Marriage & Family Clinic. She served on the OK Quality of Life Task Force, the American Psychological Association’s Task Force on the Status of Women in Psychology, and served as a consultant for the Veteran’s Administration. As a teacher, she was a gifted, talented professor who genuinely cared about her students, taking great pride in their successes. Dr. McHale died on January 15, 2009.

Her knowledge, dedication to children and families, and enthusiasm will be missed greatly.

William E. “Bill” Jaynes, Ph.D.

Dr. William E. “Bill” Jaynes, Professor Emeritus, was born June 5, 1925 in Columbus, OH. He earned his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees at Ohio State University, completing his doctorate degree in 1955 in Industrial Psychology with a specialty in Quantitative Psychology. He was a member of Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, and Phi Kappa Sigma.

After serving in the U.S. Army at the Army Medical Research Laboratory, Dr. Jaynes joined the Department of Psychology in 1967. He served as Department Head, served on the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists, and served as the Bingay Chair of Creative Leadership at the American College in Bryn Mawr, PA.

His research interests ranged from graduate education and adult learning, to quantitative methods, to leadership characteristics. He extended his love of jazz to his research, examining psychosocial factors in jazz musicians and lovers of jazz music.

He was active in the community, especially at First Presbyterian Church, Stillwater United Way, and the Rotary Club. He retired from OSU in 1987, and moved to Mamou, Louisiana. Dr. Jaynes died on November 7, 2006. We will miss his creativity and passion for psychology and jazz.

Bob L. Helm, Ph.D.

Dr. Bob L. Helm, Professor Emeritus, was born July 28, 1934 in Penalosa, KS. He served in the U.S. Army and worked as a draftsman and illustrator. He received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from Wichita State University and received his Ph.D. in Social Psychology from SUNY at Albany in 1972.

Dr. Helm joined the Psychology Department in 1972. His specialty area was mediation and dispute resolution, and he was passionate about his work in this area. He developed a course in conflict mediation that continues to be popular with students, and conducted research in this area.

His dedication to conflict resolution was evident in many areas. He was a certified mediation trainer, and as a mediator by the Oklahoma Supreme Court. He was active in the Oklahoma Psychological Association, serving as Director, Treasurer, and as President of the organization. He also served as president of the Oklahoma Academy Mediators and Arbitrators, served as a delegate for the Dispute Resolution Study Tour of China in 1984, and served on multiple committees for Stillwater and Payne County. He served as a consultant for the American Bar Association Standing Committee on Dispute Resolution, served on the program committee of the National Conference on Peacemaking and Conflict Resolution, and served on the National Program Advisory committee of the Society of Professionals in Dispute Resolution. Lastly, he served on the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists. Dr. Helm continued his mediation work and involvement in the Stillwater community after his retirement in 1995.

Dr. Helm died on November 8, 2006. His enthusiasm, optimism, and dedication will be sorely missed. He is survived by his wife of 52 years, Gwen Helm, his son, Bryan Leon Helm, two grandchildren, his brother Clarence Helm, and his sister Wanda Claypool.

Roy Gladstone, Ph.D.

Dr. Roy Gladstone, Professor Emeritus was born in Chicago on February 5, 1915. He was a WWII war veteran, having served in India. He earned his Ph.D. in Psychology from the University of Illinois in 1949, and joined the faculty at OSU the same year. He was a Fulbright Scholar, teaching in Venezuela and India during his career. Dr. Gladstone was an active researcher and a gifted teacher and mentor, benefiting both undergraduate and graduate students. He retired at the rank of Professor of Psychology in 1980 after more than 30 years of dedicated service to OSU. Following his retirement, Dr. Gladstone continued to teach both undergraduate and graduate students. In addition to his talents and contributions as a teacher, research and mentor, Dr. Gladstone was a strong supporter of music and the arts. He was also a sponsor of the Foreign Student Association, hosting multiple students and international musicians. Through these activities he made significant contributions to the University and to the Stillwater community. Dr. Gladstone died on June 28, 2004.
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The Psychology Club & Psi Chi News

and gift card donations were gathered from local businesses including Kyoto, Chili’s, Rib Crib, Aspen Coffee and Video Vault, and sold tickets in the Student Union every day during Valentine’s Week. In the end, $150 was raised, which we donated to the Special Olympics. None of Psi Chi’s philanthropic efforts would have been possible without the dedication of our philanthropy chair, Lindsey Bardwell.

Every spring, both clubs sponsor the Psychology Spring Award and Honor Banquet. At this reception, students, faculty, and staff are recognized for their accomplishments. The spring 2009 Outstanding Faculty Award recipient was Dr. Charles Abramson, the Outstanding Senior Award recipient was Andrew Timothy, and the Psych Club scholarship went to Devon Eldridge.

For information on how to join Psych Club go to psychology.okstate.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=72&Itemid=38 and Psi Chi psychology.okstate.edu/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=73&Itemid=39 or contact Silvia Daggy at silvia.daggy@okstate.edu or Kevin Seymore at kevin.seymore@okstate.edu.