Protests and controversies over campus diversity have erupted on campuses across the country over the past several months. Students have protested limited diversity among faculties, unfair or biased treatment, and ethnocentrically biased curricula favoring the dominant culture. Similar concerns have existed for decades on campuses in multicultural societies and progress has no doubt been made, but it is understandable that frustration continues that more progress has not been realized. It is the nature of college campuses to evolve slowly, and for intelligent, passionate people to express frustration. Campuses both reflect the societies and times in which they are situated, and also often lead societal change.

In the Department of Psychology, a commitment to diversity is one of our core values and we have much to be proud of in our contributions to furthering the goals of a more diverse and representative academy. For nearly 30 years, we have had a successful Psychology Diversified Students Program (PDSP) that has focused on identifying and mentoring diverse graduate students. For nearly 20 years, we have had a grant-funded program called American Indians into Psychology (AIIP) led by Dr. John Chaney that helps prepare outstanding American Indian students to compete for admission and succeed in graduate training in Psychology. This program has an incredible legacy of preparing professionals to serve our communities. We have added courses in Black Psychology and the Psychology of Prejudice in recent years to contribute to a curriculum that prepares students for living and working in a multicultural society. Not surprisingly, two of our faculty have been chosen to lead College-level centers that focus on diversity, including Dr. LaRicka Wingate with the Center for Africana Studies and Dr. John Chaney with the Center for American Indian Studies.

These mark just a few of the ways that the Department of Psychology is expressing our core value and contributing to expanding opportunities for students of diverse backgrounds and helping create a campus culture that celebrates diversity and enriches understanding. We are proud of what we have done, but know that the work is far from complete and stand ready to engage in creative initiatives in the future.

Loyal and True,

Thad Leffingwell, Ph.D.
The course “Explorations in the History of Psychology” was offered during Spring Break 2014 and provided students with cultural and intellectual experiences associated with psychology in Vienna, Austria and Prague, Czech Republic.

Vienna was the home of Sigmund Freud and where the Gestalt School of Psychology was founded. In addition, Vienna was the capital city of the Austrian-Hungarian Empire and is still consider one of the most beautiful cities in the world. One of the highlights of our trip to Vienna was a visit to the home of Freud which has been transformed into a museum. The museum consisted of his apartment and consulting room and contained many artifacts such as books, letters, and art from Freud's personal collection. In addition to the Museum, we visited many of the cultural sites associated with Vienna including St. Stephens Cathedral, Mozart's home, and museums such as the Natural History Museum and the Museum of Culture.

On a more somber note, some of us visited places associated with what has become known as “Kristallnacht” (Crystal Night, also known as the Night of Broken Glass) which was carried out by Nazis and their many supporters in Vienna (November 9, 10, 1938). During those two days Freud's home was also ransacked. Our hotel was in walking distance of many of the historical sites associated with Vienna. The food was also first rate as was the shopping.

After a few days in Vienna we moved to Prague. Via tour bus which allowed us to learn more about the relationship between these two great cities. For example, the famous Mozart opera “Don Giovanni” was composed in his Viennese apartment but was premiered in the Estates Theatre in Prague. We also saw the Prague Astronomical Clock which was installed in 1410. This clock was the third oldest of its type and the oldest still working.

Another highlight of our visit was a lecture given by Dr. Daniel Heller on the history of psychology in the Czech Republic and the history of Charles University (Universitas Carolina) – especially as it was influenced by Nazis and communists. It served as a stark reminder to all of us about the dangers of associating politics and science. We also learned that Charles University is the oldest in Eastern Europe having received its charter on April 7th, 1348.

In addition to the lecture, we were treated to a “mini museum” within the department that housed some of the original equipment used in the laboratory of Wilhelm Wundt. Wundt is generally considered the founder of experimental psychology in 1879. Of special interest is the way Charles University selects their undergraduate psychology majors. Unlike the selection process in the United States, at Charles University perspective students must pass both a written and oral examination. Moreover, they select only 50 undergraduate students per year.

Prior to our trip to Europe, we met on a regular basis to learn about the history of psychology, to share articles, and to plan our trip. For example, Dr. Abramson was familiar with the work of Dr. Jiri Hoskovec on the history of psychology in the Czech Republic but who died in 2011. Luckily, his daughter – Dr. Simona Hoskovcova – arranged our program and the meeting with Dr. Heller.

Our next trip is planned for Russia where we will visit many places of historical interest – especially the home of the conditioned reflex!
Dr. Terry Cline
2015 Distinguished Alumni from Psychology

Twenty-five OSU College of Arts & Sciences alumni were honored on the evening of September 11, 2015, at the Conoco Phillips OSU Alumni Center. Dr. Terry Cline received a 2015 Arts & Sciences Distinguished Alumni Award from the Department of Psychology. Cline is currently serving a dual position as Oklahoma Secretary of Health and Human Services and Commissioner of the Oklahoma State Department of Health.
Meet New Experimental Faculty: Amanda Baraldi, Ph.D.

Maximum Likelihood (ML) Analysis

- Maximum likelihood identifies the population parameter values that most likely produced the sample data.
Dr. Amanda Baraldi is a new Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at Oklahoma State University. Dr. Baraldi came to OSU from Arizona State University where she completed her PhD in Quantitative Psychology. Prior to her career in Quantitative Psychology, Dr. Baraldi received a degree in mathematics from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, and worked for several years in insurance and financial services. When Dr. Baraldi decided to pursue an academic career, she began with an interest in clinical psychology and obtained a masters in Clinical Psychology from Columbia University Teachers College. Following her masters, she worked for the Nathan Kline Institute as the project coordinator for a schizophrenia research study examining the biological markers of schizophrenia at Bellevue Hospital Center in New York City. During this experience, she was introduced to the field of quantitative psychology. This seemed like the perfect avenue for continued studies as quantitative psychology melds two of Dr. Baraldi’s passions: math and psychology.

A quantitative psychologist has multiple roles in an academic research environment. First, quantitative psychologists must develop novel statistical methods to address questions posed by substantive researchers. Secondly, quantitative psychologists should contribute to the improvement of research practices by disseminating information and promoting the use of best practices. Finally, quantitative psychologists consult and collaborate with researchers in a wide variety of substantive areas.

Dr. Baraldi’s primary methodological research is focused on missing data methods and statistical mediation analysis. Her research on missing data focuses on developing and applying a class of so-called “modern” missing data methods (e.g., multiple imputation and maximum likelihood estimation). These modern missing data methods address many of the shortcomings of more traditional missing data methods (e.g., listwise deletion and mean imputation) such as the potential for bias and reduction in power. Dr. Baraldi also conducts research leveraging these modern missing data methods to a researcher’s advantage with the use of planned missing data designs whereby a researcher purposefully plans a study where all participants do not provide data on all questions and/or at all time-points. By using a planned missing data designs, a researcher may optimize resources, decrease respondent and researcher burden, while simultaneously maintaining the desired full scope of research.

Dr. Baraldi’s work on statistical mediation and moderation analysis is generally applied to health and prevention research. Moderation can help us understand for whom and in what context a particular intervention or treatment worked, and mediation can elucidate the mechanisms by which the change occurred. With attention to mediation and moderation effects, researchers can enrich theoretical perspectives, extract more information from a research study, and provide stronger, tailored interventions and treatments.

Dr. Baraldi enjoys teaching statistical and methodological techniques to both undergraduate and graduate students. Currently, she teaches introductory quantitative psychology courses at both the undergraduate and graduate level. She particularly takes joy in helping undergraduate psychology students understand the importance of quantitative methods both in their academic studies and beyond. Quantitative psychology is an integral component of the “science” in the psychological sciences.

To contact Dr. Baraldi, email baraldi@okstate.edu.
Meet New Clinical Faculty: Misty Hawkins, Ph.D.

Dr. Misty Hawkins is the newest Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology at the Oklahoma State University (OSU) Psychology Department. Her psychology career began with a B.S. from Indiana University, where she majored in Psychology, minored in Biology, and received a certificate in Neuroscience. From her early educational experiences, she knew she wanted a career that bridged the gap between medicine and psychology, so she pursued her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from Purdue University-Indianapolis and specialized in the behavioral medicine of cardiovascular disease and obesity. After finishing her doctoral training and clinical internship at the West Virginia University School of Medicine, Dr. Hawkins chose a postdoctoral research fellowship at Kent State University. At Kent, Dr. Hawkins was able to combine her behavioral medicine expertise with neuropsychological approaches to chronic disease. In June 2015, Dr. Hawkins states that “I got to see my career dreams become reality” when she moved to Stillwater with her husband Damian and daughter Morgan to become to newest clinical faculty member. Since she arrived at OSU, Dr. Hawkins has been busy directing the REACH Laboratory (Research on Emotions And Cognition in Health) (www.reachlab.org). She has also started implementing an NIH-funded randomized clinical weight loss trial as part of her K23 award from the National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive Disorders, and Kidney Disease (NIDDK). This competitive career award worth over $780,000 will allow Dr. Hawkins to examine the relationships between weight loss and biomarkers, self-regulation, and cognitive function among adults. Dr. Hawkins says, “I hope that the trial will result in a long-term weight loss clinic at OSU, where adults can receive state of the art behavioral treatments for obesity and overweight. I would love to be part of the solution for such a prevalent and difficult to treat health issue.”

In addition to the weight loss trial, Dr. Hawkins also continues her laboratory-based behavioral medicine research. These lab studies include using blood biomarkers as well as eye-tracking and electrocardiogram (ECG) equipment to identify the mechanisms that link the mind to the body. Her current laboratory studies include a psychophysiology study examining how cognitive function and depression work together to impact an early marker of heart disease (i.e., heart rate variability or HRV). A second study will examine how high fasting glucose levels impact the ability to make decisions.

Dr. Hawkins notes that she is lucky to have brilliant team of undergraduates working on these laboratory projects with her and will recruit her first graduate student this year. As a first generation college student, Dr. Hawkins values working with students as much as she enjoys research. She shared that “Without the excellent mentors I’ve had and past professors believing in me, I may never have realized my career goals. I want to pay that gratitude forward to the students I work with.” In addition to training undergraduate and graduate students in the lab, Dr. Hawkins also teaches several classes, including Abnormal Psychology and Behavioral Medicine/Health Psychology.

If you are interested in any of the studies or training currently being done in Dr. Hawkins’ REACH lab, she hopes you will contact her via email at misty.hawkins@okstate.edu.
Meet New Clinical Faculty: Misty Hawkins, Ph.D.
Dr. David Schrader received a 2015 Regents Distinguished Teaching Award at the 2015 University Awards Convocation. To be eligible to receive this award, a full-time member of the faculty must have evidenced unusually significant and meritorious achievements in the instruction of students for a significant period of years.
Dr. Beasley Awarded 2014-15 Outstanding Faculty Member

At the spring 2015 banquet, Dr. Lana Beasley was awarded for the second time for her outstanding teaching contributions to the department. Dr. Beasley was elected by undergraduate psychology majors who have taken her classes in child psychology and parent behavior and those who have contributed to research in her lab. In notes that accompanied their votes, students commented on her enthusiasm for her subject and sincere dedication to her students. One student commented, “Hands down the best professor I’ve had at OSU. She has tons of experience in clinical child psychology and can always give a good example to back up something discussed in class. She really believes in her students and will go above and beyond to help them both academically and professionally….”

Dr. Beasley previously won the award for the 2012-13 school year. Recent past winners of the award include Dr. Jennifer Byrd-Craven, Dr. DeMond Grant, and Dr. Ed Burkley.

2015-16 Ph.D. Students

Elaine Arrington
Dana Bakula
Jarrod Bock
Kristine Chua
Nikki Clauss
Megan Downing
Erin Harrington
University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Univ of Missouri-Columbia
Univ of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
Univ of California-Los Angeles
Northern Arizona University
Valparaiso University

Meghan Hills
Emily Kieson
Cassandra Krug
Maddison Lynn
Ashley Rankin
Christina Sharkey
Caitlin Smith

Oklahoma State University
University of Edinburgh
Oklahoma State University
University of Kansas
University of North Texas
Georgetown University
Florida State University
Dr.
Outstanding Senior Award

Cassandra Krug graduated with a Bachelor of Science in psychology and a minor in Spanish. Over the course of her studies she developed an impressive record of accomplishments. She conducted research in two different laboratories assisting Dr. Larry Mullins’ Pediatric Psychology and Health Lab and Dr. Tony Wells’ Behavior, Affect, and Thinking lab. She presented her research at regional and national conferences and is an author on a publication currently under review. She served as a teaching assistant to Introduction to Psychology course. Cassandra has been on the President’s Honor Roll, Dean’s Honor Roll, inducted into Psi Chi (The International Honor society in Psychology), and Phi Kappa Phi. She served as Public Relations Chair for the OSU Dance company. Cassandra began the Ph.D. program in clinical psychology at OSU in the Fall of 2015.

Niblack Research Scholar

Ashley Hadwiger, Junior Psychology major, was selected as a Niblack Research Scholar beginning in the summer 2015 semester. The Niblack Research Scholars is an undergraduate research program funded by a gift from OSU alumni and former Pfizer Vice Chairman Dr. John Niblack. Each year the program awards an $8,000 scholarship to 12 students, who have the unique opportunity to conduct research in a university lab, assisted by a faculty sponsor and graduate student mentor.

Miss Hadwiger will be working in Dr. Jennifer Byrd-Craven’s lab focusing on the “impact of personality on cortisol responses to intrasexual competition cues: an assessment of body image and status.”
Psi Chi Inductees

In front of family members, faculty and staff, 33 undergraduate students were inducted to the Psi Chi International Honor Society. A reception followed to congratulate the new members.


Psych Club 2015-16

Tayler Jones- President
Melissa Manila- Vice President
Marissa Foore- Secretary/ Membership
Elisa Duell- Treasurer
Erin Wood- Historian
Dr. Celinda Melancon- Faculty Advisor
Payton Jones- Philanthropy
Regan Roland- Social Chair
Ben Maes- Campus Publicity
Connor Reece- Online Publicity
Natalie Braden- Homecoming Chair
Silvia Daggy- Staff Advisor
The Psychology Department Congratulates

Charles Abramson, Ph.D. was awarded a NSF grant for $900,000.00 “NRI: Collaborative Goal and Policy Learning from Human Operators of Construction Co-Robots”.

John Chaney, Ph.D. was awarded a grant renewal for $238,359.00 from the Department of Health and Human Services, Indian Health Service, “American Indians Into Psychology.”

Shelia Kennison, Ph.D. along with a graduate student received a grant for $40,000.00 from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education “Exploring the Scientific Basis of Human and Animal Behavior.” Dr. Kennison was also named an APA Fellow from the Division 2 - Society for Teaching Psychology.

Greg Lengel, MS a fifth year Clinical student on internship accepted a faculty position at Drake University, Des Moines, IA.

Ray Tucker, MS a fifth year Clinical student was elected as the first student to sit on the board of the National Suicide Association.

Hilary Deshong, MS a fifth year Clinical student was awarded a 2015-16 OSU Distinguished Graduate Fellowship. Also, she received a grant for $3,000.00 from Qualtrics Behavioral Research.

Ashley Cole, M.S. a fourth year Clinical student received an award from the Military Research Consortium granting her $2,000.00 toward her dissertation project.

Christopher Dinges, a third year Experimental student received a 2015 NSF Graduate Research Fellowship the award is $34,000.00 a year up to 3 years.

Kate Gamwell, M.S. a second year Clinical student won a poster award at the 2015 Society of Pediatric Psychology National Conference.

Roha Thomas, a second year Experimental student along with her research advisor received a grant for $40,000.00 from the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education “Exploring the Scientific Basis of Human and Animal Behavior.”

Hannah Bently and Jennifer Jackson, both undergraduate students were awarded a SPSP’s Diversity Fund Registration to attend the 17th Annual Convention of the Society of Personality and Social Psychology in San Diego, CA.

Robberson Dissertation Fellowship

Congratulations to Connor Patros a fifth year clinical student, who received a Robberson Summer dissertation Fellowship. Connor’s advisor is Dr. Matt Alderson.

Eleven fellowships were awarded this year to Oklahoma State University doctoral students. The Robberson Summer Dissertation Fellowships support doctoral students by providing a $6,000 stipend and a tuition waiver for up to three credit hours.

The Robberson Trust and Graduate College provides funding for the fellowships. U.S. citizens (a Robberson Trust requirement) receive the Robberson Summer Dissertation Fellowship, and non-U.S. citizens receive a “Graduate College Summer Dissertation Fellowship”.

Psychology Department congratulates Wentz 2015-2016 Research Scholars

Caitlyn Maye  
Mentor Dr. Beasley

Taylor Jones  
Mentor Dr. Beasley

Mesha Foster  
Mentor Dr. Grant

Elisa Duell  
Mentors Dr. Thomas & Dr. Craven

Janae Stockton  
Mentor Dr. Wingate

Connor Reece  
Mentor Dr. Melancon

Emily Ingram  
Mentor Dr. Lukaszewski

Mitchell Meyer  
Mentor Dr. Melancon

Clinical Psychology Research Award

The Clinical Psychology Program presented the 2015 Clinical Psychology Research Award to Connor Patros fifth year Clinical student.

Vickie M. Little Award

The Experimental Psychology Program presented the 2015 Vickie M. Little Teaching Award to Janna Colaiuzzi fifth year Experimental student.
Leavens, M.S., third year student and Alli Mullins, second year student, are the recipients of a 2015-16 Remember the Ten Run Memorial Scholarship.

Dr. Charles Abramson, Regents Professor, received a $4M NSF grant entitled PIRE (Partnership for International Research and Education): Neural Mechanisms of Reward and Decision.

Dr. Shelia Kennison, Associate Professor, was named APA Fellow for unusual and outstanding contributions or performance in the field of psychology.

Victoria O'Keefe, M.S., fifth year graduate student, was awarded a Psychologists in Public Service Wayfinder from the APA Division 18-Psychologists in Public Service.

Hilary DeShong, M.S., fifth year graduate student, was awarded a Qualtrics Behavioral grant for $3,000.00 and received an OSU Foundation Distinguished Graduate Fellowship for the 2015-16 academic year ($2,500.00 toward educational expenses).

Gregory Lengel, M.S., fourth year graduate student, was awarded the Graduate Research Excellence in the thesis area.

Chris Dinges, M.S., fourth year graduate student, was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship.

Connot Patros, M.S., fifth year graduate student, was awarded a grant.

The Psychology Department Congratulates...

Thank You to Our Recent Donors

Linda D. Arley
Matt Alderson
Lana Beasley
Kathryn C. Butler
William J. Bryant
John Chaney
Jennifer Byrd-Craven
Mark D. Cunningham
Michael P. Dunham
Deborah D. Egerer
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Maureen Sullivan
Stephanie Swett
Vaughn Vennerberg
Harland & Beverly Wells
Tony Wells
Dawn R. Weatherford
LaRieka R. Wingate

#StillwaterStrong

The Department of Psychology was saddened by the tragic event on Saturday, October 24 at the 2015 Homecoming parade. Our faculty, staff, and students are safe though many of us had friends, family members, and colleagues directly impacted by the incident. The week following the event, faculty and graduate students hosted an informational meeting for the community of Stillwater to discuss common reactions to tragic events, coping with stress and negative emotions, and tips for parents and teachers to help children with difficult questions and emotions. Additionally, a resource form with services in the community and online was available to participants. The OSU Psychological Services Center is offering free services if individuals impacted by the event present for treatment.

Additionally, the undergraduate Psych Club and Psychology Graduate Student Association hosted a fundraiser, selling Stillwater Strong bracelets on campus. A number of faculty members assisted in underwriting these efforts. All proceeds of the bracelets were donated to the Stillwater Medical Center victim fund.

The Psychology Department would like to thank the First Presbyterian Church for providing the meeting space and to Old School Bagels, Starbucks, and Walmart for donating refreshments for the event.

If you or someone you know was directly impacted by the event and would like helpful resources, we recommend the following links:

http://nctsn.org/resources/audiences/parents-caregivers
http://media.samhsa.gov/MentalHealth/TraumaticEvent.aspx

If you'd like to donate to the victims’ families, please text STRONG to 50555 to donate $10 to the # Stillwater Medical Center victim fund.
Three Minute Thesis

The 3MT® first held at The University of Queensland in 2008 is a research communication skills development activity to help prepare students to present their research and its relevance to a non-specialist but educated audience in a cogent but concise manner. Students have only 3 minutes and one static slide to convey to their audience what they do and its importance in a manner that makes their listeners want to know more! Since its inception, enthusiasm for the 3MT® concept has grown with the 3MT® adoption by numerous universities. OSU first held a 3MT® competition in 2013. In 2015, OSU held its third annual 3MT® competition sponsored by Haliburton with 20 graduate students from the Psychology Department competing in college-level 3MTs sending 3 finalist to the university 3MT®

The 2015 OSU Graduate college 3MT® finals were held April 16, 2015. Matt Judah a fifth year clinical psychology student won third Place and Connor Patros a fifth year clinical psychology student won People’s Choice Award.

The Department of Psychology was honored for the “highest participation” for a large-enrollment department. The Department received $2,000 to be used for graduate student travel.

Send us your updates to: psychology@okstate.edu
SUPPORT OSU PSYCHOLOGY

Every gift positively impacts the success of the department and the legacy you leave at Oklahoma State University. You can help us accomplish our departmental goals by investing in OSU Psychology today!

Make an immediate impact by giving online at www.OSUgiving.com/Psychology or by calling 800.622.4678. You can also detach the pledge card below and return it to the OSU Foundation via mail.

If you have additional questions about giving to OSU Psychology, please contact the OSU Foundation at either 800.622.4678 or annualgiving@OSUgiving.com.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

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