

LSU

PSYCHOLOGY

newsletter

Awards

1. Fellowship Recipients

Huel-Perkins Fellowship Recipients:

Katie Stanko, Cognitive and Brain Sciences Doctoral Student

Juan Ventura, Cognitive and Brain Sciences Doctoral Student

SREB Fellowship Recipients:

Kimberlye Dean, Clinical Psychology Doctoral Student

Philip Richard, School Psychology Doctoral Student

2. Paul C. Young Award

Congratulations Paige Heurtin on receiving the Paul C. Young for the 2014-2015 year. The Psychology department gives this award annually to honor the most outstanding senior in psychology

3. Enhancement Award

EEG Neuroscience Lab - An interdisciplinary group of Psychology department faculty - Drs. Lane, Beck, Papesh, Cohen, Calamia and Elliott - recently learned that they were awarded a Louisiana Board of Regents Enhancement grant. The grant will fund several new pieces of equipment in the department EEG Neuroscience lab, and provide a workshop to faculty and students.

News:

Name Change

The department recently received university approval to rename the former Cognitive and Developmental Psychology Ph.D. program to Cognitive and Brain Sciences Ph.D program. The name change better reflects the nature of our graduate training efforts and faculty interests, and will allow our graduates to be even more competitive for academic and non-academic jobs.

ERP Bootcamp

The LSU Department of Psychology hosted an ERP (Event-Related Potential) Bootcamp on August 20-22 led by Steve Luck (UC Davis). Faculty and graduate students from psychology and other departments were treated to an outstanding educational experience. The training will be used to foster research in the Psychology Department's EEG Neuroscience laboratory, and was made possible by a grant from the Louisiana Board of Regents.

Photo: ERP Bootcamp



Life Course & Aging Center

Dr. Katie Cherry, Executive Director of the LSU Life Course and Aging Center, recently expanded the LCAC website to provide new information on aging well in the 21st century. Please visit their website at, <http://sites01.lsu.edu/wp/lcac/> to see what they have been up to.

Convention Presentation

Clinical area graduate students, Sonia Shah, Kim Dean, and Tony Ecker will be presenting their research at the annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies next month in Chicago.

New Committee - CDOP

In accordance with LSU's statement on diversity, the Department of Psychology has created a new committee dedicated to improving recruitment and retention of diverse students and faculty.

FACULTY RESEARCH

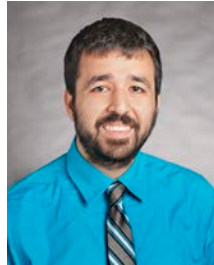
Dr. Julia Buckner
Clinical



Primary focus concerns understanding the nature and treatment of anxiety disorders, with a particular interest in the relations between anxiety and

addictive behaviors.

Dr. Matthew Calamia
Clinical



Research interests are broadly in the area of clinical neuro-psychology. Particularly in improving measurement of cognitive and emotional functioning in

individuals with neurological disorders.

Dr. Alex Cohen
Clinical



Laboratory focuses on understanding how emotional and neurocognitive abnormalities contribute to social dysfunction in schizophrenia.

Dr. Amy Copeland
Clinical



Research interests focus on cognitive and affective variables in substance use initiation, maintenance, cessation, and relapse. Primarily

interested in licit (tobacco/nicotine) and illicit (cocaine/methamphetamine) psychomotor stimulants.

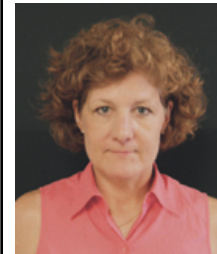
Dr. Thompson Davis
Clinical



Research interests focus on assessment and treatment of anxiety disorders in children, adolescents, and young adults. Particularly on the phenomenology, etiology, assessment, and treatment of

specific phobias. Specific interests include one-session treatment for specific phobia, evidence-based practice, behavioral assessment, and cognitive-behavioral therapy.

Dr. Mary Lou Kelley
Clinical/School



Research has focused on the behavioral assessment and treatment of children and adolescents. Topics of interest have included ADHD, home & school interventions for children with

externalizing problems, and the psychological effects of violent exposure. She has also been involved with developing several assessment measures for children and adolescents.

Dr. Johnny Matson
Clinical



Research has focused on the development of assessment and treatment methods in the fields of intellectual disabilities and autism spectrum disorders. He has over 800 publications including 41 books on mental

retardation, autism, and severe emotional disorders

Dr. Melissa Beck
Cognitive



Research focuses on understanding the cognitive processes involved in the perception of a complete and continuous visual world.

Dr. Katie Cherry
Cognitive



Research interests include post-Katrina resilience and long-term recovery, interdisciplinary studies of healthy aging, and cognitive aging (especially memory

processes in healthy older adults).

FACULTY RESEARCH

Dr. Emily Elliott
Cognitive



Research focus includes the areas of short-term memory and working memory, and also the interaction of attention with memory performance.

Dr. Jason Hicks
Cognitive



Research focuses on source memory and decision processes. Interests lie in the extent to which source memory and these decision processes are influenced by the test curing environment.

Dr. Sean Lane
Cognitive



Research goal is to understand how memory and cognitive processor are deployed in complex real-world events. The source-monitoring framework motivates the vast majority of the research.

Dr. Janet McDonald
Cognitive



Research is done within the field of psycholinguistics. Specific interests lie in first and second language acquisition, bilingualism, and language comprehension. Research projects involve language learning in adulthood, as well as alternative explanation of age of acquisition effects on language mastery based on cognitive processes.

Dr. Megan Papesh
Cognitive



Lab focuses on investigating human perception and memory, using converging techniques to study multiple, interrelated phenomena. Across studies, data at multiple levels of analysis are collected, emphasizing classic techniques, while also incorporating newer dynamic measures.

Dr. Frank Gresham
School



Research interests include social skills assessment and intervention for children & adolescents with or at-risk for emotional and behavioral disorders, using Response-to-Intervention (RTI) approach for addressing academic & behavioral needs of children & youth, and in the assessment of prosocial & problem behaviors using multi-informant behavioral rating scales.

Dr. Anna Long
School



Research focuses on 1) increasing awareness of and access to proven practices to prevent & ameliorate risk (with a particular focus on traditionally under-or poorly-served populations, and 2) in promoting treatment integrity.

Dr. George Noell
School



Research focuses extensively on interventions for young children, at-risk children, and children with disabling conditions. Research team works with challenging behaviors, academic problems, and social/adaptive behavior concerns exhibited by children.

Dr. Tyler Renshaw
School



Research is broadly devoted to enhancing the well-being of students and their caregivers in school settings. Interests lie especially in population-based approaches to service delivery and non-traditional paradigms for approaching assessment and intervention in the schools.

Faculty Welcomes...

Dr. Steven Greening is excited to join LSU and the Department of Psychology. He was drawn to the program for its opportunities to grow in cognitive neuroscience and brain imaging research.

Dr. Steven Greening brings ample and exciting experience in the field of cognitive neuroscience and psychology. Dr. Steven Greening completed his doctorate at the University of Western Ontario, where his research began to focus on the cognitive neuroscience of affect and psychopathology under the supervision of Derek Mitchell in the Brain and Mind Institute. After completing his doctorate, Dr. Greening moved to L.A. as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Southern California, under the supervision of Mara Mather. There Dr. Greening studied the impact of emotional arousal on both brain and behavior during perceptual processing. This work involved the combination of psychophysiology and fMRI in both healthy younger and healthy older adults, and collaborations with members of the Brain and Creativity Institute.

Dr. Steven Greening plans to build on his past research here at LSU. His research program will focus on elucidating the neurocognitive mechanisms involved in adapting to and controlling the influence of emotional events on the brain and behavior.



Dr. Steven Greening



Dr. Paul Frick

Dr. Paul Frick is very excited to join LSU's Department of Psychology. He was drawn to the program by the opportunity to work with the great faculty, but also to work with the quality of students that LSU attracts. Also, the support for his research by the generous endowment from the Crumpler family will help him contribute to LSU's mission to be a top public research university. Finally, he is also returning to his alma mater, where he received his BA degree in Psychology in 1984, met his wife, and became a lifelong Tiger fan.

Dr. Frick received his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Georgia in 1990. He was on the faculty at the University Alabama from 1990 to 1999. From 1999 until 2015, he was on the faculty at the University of New Orleans, where he was chair of the Department of Psychology from 2007 to 2015. Since 2013, Dr. Frick has held a joint appointment in the Learning Science Institute of Australia at Australian Catholic University in Melbourne, Australia.

Dr. Frick has earned a long list of publications and accomplishments and is excited to be apart of this program

Dr. Jason Harman joins LSU Department of Psychology after completing his postdoctoral fellow in Decision Sciences at Carnegie Mellon University. He researches how the human mind makes decisions and how understanding memory, attention and learning can help us make better decisions. Particularly, he studies decision making related to finance, health and the environment. Jason received his M.S. and Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology from Ohio University, he has won awards for both his teaching and research and his work has been published in leading journals of Psychology, Organizational Behavior and Computer Science.



Dr. Jason Harman

Graduate Students

Clinical Psychology

Dr. Julia Buckner

Kimberlye Dean
Anthony Ecker
Emily Jeffries
Austin Lemke
Sonia Shah

Dr. Matthew Calamia

John Bernstein
Scott Royce

Dr. Alex Cohen

Tracey Auster
Thanh Le
Rebecca MacAulay
Jessica McGovern
Kyle Mitchell
Elana Schwartz

Dr. Amy Copeland

Ciara Foster
MacKenzie Peltier
Melanie Roys
Krystal Kleabir Waldo
Aaron Waters

Dr. Thompson Davis

Peter Castagna
Maysa Kaskas
Megan Kirkpatrick Lilly
Franziska NoackLeSage
Paige Ryan
Georgia Shaheen

Dr. Paul Frick

Julia Clark

Dr. Drew Gouvier

Justin Ory

Dr. Mary Lou Kelley

Leah Adams
Seandra Cosgrove
Ryan Cummins
Ashley Galsky
Morgan Ashwill Grinnell
Shannon Harbin
Katherine Harrison
Blair Burke Kreiger
Ilayna Mehrtens
Jennifer Piscitello
Kasia Plessy
Christine Raines
Valerie Fine Walls

Dr. Johnny Matson

Hilary Adams
Jennifer Beighley
Claire Burns
Paige Cervantes
Jasper Estabillo
Rachel Goldin
Jina Jang
Xinrui Jiang
Matthew Konst
Maya Matheis
William Peters
Robert Rieske
Kimberly Tureck Sheffield
Nicole Turygin
Lindsey Williams

Cognitive Psychology

Dr. Melissa Beck

Rebecca Goldstein
Sunghyun Kim
Katherine Moen

Dr. Katie Cherry

Bethany Lyon
Katie Stanko

Dr. Emily Elliott

Danielle Lutfi-Proctor
Corey McGill
Juan Ventura

Dr. Jason Hicks

Bryan Franks
Samantha Spitler

Dr. Sean Lane

Daniella Cash
Kacie Mennie

Dr. Janet McDonald

Ian Comeaux
Lisa Kemp

Dr. Megan Papesh

Dina Acklin
Juan Diego Guevara Pinto
Laura Heisick

School Psychology

Dr. Frank Gresham

Shelby Byrd
Megan Erickson
Kelsey Hartman
Sarah Metallo
Kristen O'Leary
Rachel Olinger
Natalie Robichaux
Elizabeth Wilson
Haley York

Dr. Anna Long

Sarah Fletcher
Melissa Jo Hamilton
James Upright

Dr. Mary Lou Kelley

Stephanie Grant

Dr. George Noell

Ashley Bordelon
Rachel Bradley
Meredith Harris
Catherine Lark
Elise Baker McIver
Philip Ross Richard
Michael Schafer

Dr. Tyler Renshaw

Sarah Bolognino
Kelsie Hammons
Anthony Roberson
Shelley Upton

Industrial/Organizational Psychology

Dr. Jason Hicks

Byron Shane Lowery

2015 Society for Research in Psychopathology

LSU helped host the 2015 Society for Research in Psychopathology in New Orleans. This conference featured approximately 400+ clinical scientists attempting to understand the roots of mental illness. Featured presenters included the Keynote Speaker Paul Frick with a presentation on "Callous-unemotional Traits and Developmental Pathways to Conduct Disorder", Alex Cohen chairing a symposium entitled "Journey to the Bio-Behavioral Center of Schizotypy", and Matt Calamia presenting on "A Bifactor Model of Apathy Symptoms". Also in presenting and/or in attendance were doctoral graduate students: Julia Clark, Thanh Le, Kyle Mitchell, Elana Schwartz and Jessica McGovern, and current/recent undergraduate students Hannah Walsh and Lauren Meaux. LSU was also well represented by former undergraduate and graduate students as well, who are doctoral students or academic faculty at other institutions.



PSYC 2005 - A Unique Course For Psychology Majors

Students who are Psychology majors, or interested in becoming one, take a unique online one-credit course designed to help them learn about what they need to complete the major, career paths they can take and how to pursue them (e.g., attending graduate school), and resources they can utilize during their time at LSU. The course, PSYC 2005 - Introduction to the Psychology Major - includes a number of useful assignments that culminate in a plan for their work at LSU and beyond. Questions about the course can be directed to the instructor and Chair of the Psychology department, Jason Hicks at jhicks@lsu.edu



Psi Chi

The Psychology Club encourages all undergraduates majoring or minoring in psychology to make use of the great resources provided by our organization. Our primary goal is to promote unity amongst those interested in the field of psychology. LSU's Psychology Club encourages scholastic achievement and peer networking. There are guest speakers at every meeting in order to assist students and further their education beyond the undergraduate level. Guest speakers can range from psychologists, graduate school representatives, and other professional/volunteer-related speakers.

Along with the Psychology Club is LSU's Psi Chi Chapter. Psi Chi is an international honor society in Psychology. Psi Chi strives to promote the advancement of Psychology as a science in addition to maintaining scholarship excellence. In order to join Psi Chi, you must be a second semester sophomore with at least nine credit hours of Psychology courses (excluding dual-enrollment classes). One must also have a 3.0 cumulative GPA and 3.0 GPA in psychology courses taken. Psi Chi has a one-time \$70 fee.

If you are interested in joining the Psychology Club or want more information, please contact us at psichi@tigers.lsu.edu.

Lastly, go like our new Facebook page titled, "LSU Psychology Club and Psi Chi Honor Society" to receive daily updates and club information.

Supporting Excellence

The Department of Psychology proudly recognizes the research efforts of our faculty, graduate, and undergraduate students. To this end, we would like to create a travel fund that would go directly to support the financial needs of graduate students who are participating in research conferences. Many of our graduate students would like to travel to conferences, to gain the knowledge of research that can come from such experiences, but often times they are limited by financial resources. In addition to research knowledge, the networking opportunities from conferences create links to other researchers, and builds relationships for future internship and post-doctoral fellowship opportunities.

Yes! I want to support the continuing excellence of the LSU Department of Psychology.

Checks should be made out to the LSU Foundation, with **Dr. Paul C. Young Psychology Department Fund** written in memo line.

Checks can be mailed to:

The College of Humanities & Social Sciences
Louisiana State University
Attention: Krista Allen
(kallen@lsufoundation.org)
132 Hodges Hall, Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Donations may also be made online:
www.lsufoundation.org/givetohss

Staff Spotlight:



Wendy A. Young

Administrative Coordinator - Undergraduate Studies

B.A. in Theatre from Nicholls State

M.F.A in Theatre from LSU

For over 15 years, Wendy worked as a singer, dancer, actor, choreographer and fight director at various theatre companies. She taught acting, stage movement and combat here at LSU and at the Virginia Governor's Magnet School for the Arts. Wendy is also a member of the Society of American Fight Directors.

After retiring from performing, she transitioned into arts and education administration for UNC Chapel Hill, the Tennessee Performing Arts Center and Nashville Repertory Theatre. A Louisiana native, Wendy

decided to come "home" to be near her family. And she loved LSU so much as a student that she decided to come back as a staff member. Her favorite part of the job is..."connecting with the students and doing what I can to make college life a little less stressful for them. The Psychology faculty and staff are wonderful to work with. I'm very happy to be back at LSU."

New Addition to Dr. Anna Long's Family!

Simone Louisa Long was welcomed into the world on August 12th at 8:56AM.

She weighed 9lbs 5ozs and was 21.75 inches long.

Her current favorite activities are eating, sleeping, taking in the world around her, and stretching like she is a yoga master.



Thank You Message:

The Department would like to thank Dr. Mike Hawkins for his many years of service. He was well-known for telling humorous stories in his classes, and for teaching countless students in the History of Psychology and Physiological Psychology courses. We hope he enjoys spending more time with his family.



Lab News

Dr. Amanda Staiano

In fall 2014, psychology senior Johannah Frelrier earned PSYC 4999 course credit working in Dr. Staiano's Pediatric Obesity and Health Behavior Lab at Pennington Biomedical Research Center. Johannah's chief responsibility was to write the protocol and collect data for the "Copy Kids" project. Copy Kids was a randomized controlled trial that examined the influence of screen-based peer modeling on preschoolers' preference and consumption of a modeled vegetable. Johannah is co-author on the manuscript under review, and she also presented research at a regional conference. After graduating in December, Johannah was employed in Dr. Staiano's lab for 5 months before leaving to pursue an MPH at University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. [Click here](#) to learn more about Dr. Staiano's research and opportunities to get involved.



Photo Caption: Psychology senior Johannah Frelrier collecting data for the "Copy Kids" study during her PSYC 4999 course.

Recent Publications:

Staiano AE, ST Broyles, PT Katzmarzyk. School term vs. school holiday: Associations with children's physical activity, screen-time, diet, and sleep. *Int J Environ Res Public Health* 2015;12(8):8861-70.

Institute of Digital Media and Child Development Working Group on Games for Health: Baranowski T, Blumberg F, Buday R, DeSmet A, Fiellin LE, Green CS, Kato PM, Lu AS, Maloney AE, Mellecker R, Morrill BA, Peng W, Shegog R, Staiano AE, Thompson D, Young K. White Paper: Games for health for children – current status and needed research. *Games Health J* 2015;4(6).

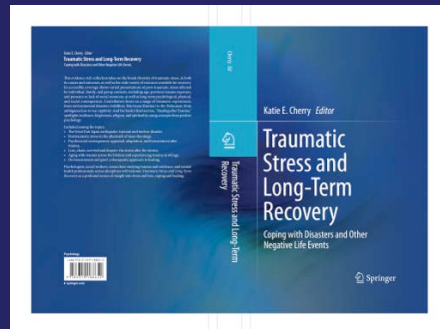
Staiano AE, DM Harrington, NM Johannsen, RL Newton, MA Sarzynski, DL Swift, PT Katzmarzyk. Uncovering physiological mechanisms for health disparities in type 2 diabetes. *Ethnicity & Disease* 2015;25(1):31-7. NIHMS 671588.

Marker AM, Staiano AE. Better together: Outcomes of cooperation versus competition in exergaming. *Games for Health Journal* 2015;4(1):25-30. NIHMS: 651483.

Carson V, AE Staiano, PT Katzmarzyk. Physical activity, screen time, and sitting among U.S. adolescents. *Pediatric Exercise Science* 2015;27(1):151-9.

Dr. Alex S. Cohen:

Our lab hosted the 2015 Society for Research in Psychopathology in New Orleans. This means we were in charge of organizing it from beginning to end. SRP is an organization devoted to understanding psychopathology using translational and basic psychological science methods. The program featured LSU's Paul Frick as an invited speaker, myself chairing a symposium about schizotypy and biobehavioral measures, and LSU's Matt Calamia presenting as well. Grad and undergrad students from my lab presented.



Dr. Katie Cherry

Dr. Katie Cherry has been busy. She recently has a new edited volume titled, "Traumatic Stress and Long-Term Recovery". She also gave a

talk at Science Café that coincided with the Katrina anniversary.



Dr. Melissa Beck

Dr. Beck's lab currently has three papers in press:

Ericson, J.M., Beck, M.R. & van Lamsweerde, A.E. (in press). Binding global and local features in visual working memory. *Attention, Perception, & Psychophysics*.

van Lamsweerde, A. E., Beck, M.R. & Johnson, J.S. (in press) Visual working memory organization is subject to top-down control. *Psychonomic Bulletin and Review*.

van Lamsweerde, A.E., & Beck, M.R. (in press). Incidental learning of probability information is differentially affected by the type of visual working memory representation. *Canadian Journal of Experimental Psychology*.

Dr. Emily Elliott

Elliott Working Memory Lab is happy to welcome Juan Ventura, a new graduate student in Cognitive and Brain Sciences.



From left to right: Jenna Zeringue, Juan Ventura, Corey McGill, Emily Elliott, and Danielle Luffi-Proctor.



From left to right: Tony Ecker, Sonia Shah, and Kim Dean.

Dr. Julia Buckner

LSU Department of Psychology Graduate students presented at the annual convention of the Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies in Chicago. The following are the graduate students in the clinical area working in Dr. Buckner's lab: Tony Ecker (5th year student who is currently doing a clinical internship at the West Haven VA Healthcare System, a Yale University School of Medicine affiliated education and training institution), Sonia Shah (4th year), and Kim Dean (2nd year).

*Ecker, A.H., Richter, A.A., Neighbors, C., Young, C.M., & Buckner, J.D. (2015, November). Event-specific Personalized Normative Feedback Intervention: The Impact of Social Anxiety. In K. Wolitzky-Taylor (Chair), *Anxiety and Substance Use Disorder Comorbidity across the Translational Model: From Laboratory Discoveries to Clinical Outcomes to Treatment Delivery*. Symposium presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Chicago, IL.

*Shah, S.M., & Buckner, J.D. (2015, November). Social Anxiety and Suicide: Tests of the Utility of the Interpersonal-Psychological Theory of Suicide. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive

Therapies Anxiety Disorders Special Interest Group, Chicago, Illinois.

*Dean, K.E., *Ecker, A.H., & Buckner, J.D. (2015, November). Frequent Solitary Cannabis Use Mediates the Relationship between Social Anxiety and Cannabis-Related Impairment. Poster presented at the annual meeting of The Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies Addictive Behaviors Special Interest Group, Chicago, IL.

*Ecker, A.H., Zvolensky, M.J., & Buckner, J.D. (2015, November). Cannabis craving during an anxiety-induction challenge among racially diverse cannabis users: The impacts of anxiety sensitivity and coping motives. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Chicago, IL.

* indicates LSU graduate student author