Psi Chi & Psychology Club

The Psi Chi honor society and Psychology Club were very active throughout this past academic year, engaging in a number of service and fundraising activities. The following are a list of the events that they were involved in:

Bake Sale

Students conducted several on-campus bake sales, including a large Valentine’s Day Sale.

Psi Chi Induction Dinner

The fall 2016 and spring 2017 induction of new Psi Chi members was held at Mario’s Restaurant.

Graduate Record Examinations

Students held GRE study group sessions (see page 2).
**T-Shirt Sales**

Students designed and sold club t-shirts.

**Tie Dye with Psychology**

Students hosted the “Tie Dye with Psychology” social event.

**UIS Dance Marathon**

The UIS Dance Marathon raised $350 to benefit Children’s Miracle Network Hospitals.

**Donations**

$100 was donated to both The Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault and The Autism Society of America.

**Midwestern Psychological Association (MPA)**

UIS undergraduates who attended MPA were sponsored.

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### 2016-2017 Psi Chi Inductees

**Fall 2016 Inductees:**
- Stephanie Adkins
- Wendy Allan
- Paul Artis
- Ashley Christine
- Avery Dodwell
- Brittany Dougherty
- Emberly Faye
- Sam Morin
- Noel Nightingale
- Kendra Painter
- Alex Rockford

**Spring 2017 Inductees:**
- Kami Branom
- Ashley Fields
- Danielle Gibbs
- Eli Hahn
- Eric Hines
- Lindsey Kavish
- Jheri Keppler
- Alexander Simko
- Hannah Skaggs
- Deni Smith
- Christina Stampf
- Brittany Stimpert
- Anastasia Wernsing

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**Meet Your 2016-2017 Student Representative, Eli Hahn!**
Dr. Michele Miller

Dr. Michele Miller’s program of research, *The Early Social Emotional Development & School Readiness Study*, examines the associations between social-emotional development and readiness for school in a sample of three year olds using caregiver and teacher report as well as observational assessments of children’s cognitive and social-emotional development. She is currently working with two graduate students from the Human Development Counseling program, Aubrey McCarthy and Jingyuan Zhang as well as one undergraduate from Psychology, LeAnna Kehl. Aubrey presented at the 2017 Society for Research in Child Development in Austin, Tx. Leanna presented at the 2017 Midwestern Psychological Association annual meeting in Chicago, IL. Aubrey and Jingyuan also presented at the 2017 STARS.

Dr. Carlee Hawkins

Dr. Carlee Hawkins has been working with Chloe Taylor, to investigate identities and attitudes of religious, nonreligious, and spiritual people, and Chloe Taylor was awarded the CLAS Student Faculty Creative Activities Award. With Ross Haskins, Dr. Hawkins has been evaluating beliefs and attitudes of students in a Stereotypes and Prejudice class. They’re testing whether the class changes students’ beliefs about privilege, motivation to avoid prejudice, and understanding of how bias can lead to discrimination. She is also working with Alexia Vander and Avery Dodwell to review literature on information literacy and research practices in the classroom. They’re also coding and analyzing data from a study she conducted in her Research Methods class in Fall 2016.

Dr. Karen Reinke

Dr. Karen Reinke’s students are winding down one project, and starting up another. Sara Stutzman developed a project examining the effects of music on attention and was awarded the CLAS Student Faculty Creative Activities Award for this year. She and Elizabeth Hoag have finished collecting data and already presented a poster at the 2017 STARS. Next they will go to the Association for Psychological Science conference to present the poster. Elizabeth Hoag is in the process of developing her research project entitled “Factors that Influence Emotion Perception and Threat Sensitivity.” She applied for and was awarded the CLAS Student Faculty Creative Activities Award for the upcoming year.
Dr. Frances Shen

Eli Hahn, Marquiera Harris, and Charlene Poindexter have been working with Dr. Frances Shen on a study to develop Asian American male and female body image scales. Eli and Marquiera presented the exploratory factor analysis from the Asian American female body image scale at the 2017 National Conference for Undergraduate Research in Memphis, TN. Eli, Marquiera and Charlene also presented these findings at the 2017 Midwestern Psychological Association annual meeting in Chicago, IL. They are currently analyzing the exploratory factor analysis for the Asian American male body image scale, and plan to present these findings at the 2017 Asian American Psychological Association annual convention in Las Vegas, NV. This research is supported by funding from the 2-year CLAS Faculty Enhancement Scholarship, which was awarded to Dr. Shen in May 2016.

Where Are They Headed?

Let’s congratulate the following students and wish them success in graduate school!

Teiara Grant — Clinical Mental Health Counseling Master’s program at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology

Anastasia Wernsing — School Psychology Master’s Program at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

LeAnna Kehl — Clinical-Child Psychology Master’s program at Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville

Alena Eitenmiller — Mental Health Tech at Bayfront Health in Florida
Message from the Psychology Department Chair

by Dr. Sheryl Reminger

Hello students! I hope everyone has had a very successful and enjoyable school year. We are extremely proud of all of the students who have been involved in the Psychology Department. You are all active citizens who are clearly working to make the world a better place. Thanks for the many contributions you have made to UIS and to our community!

I admit that, as the department chair, I may be somewhat biased about this, but I genuinely believe that psychology students are some of the most conscientious, most altruistic, and most enthusiastic people I have ever met. For example, the Psychology Club has been incredibly active this year. Through their activism and fundraising efforts, the members of the club have assisted organizations such as the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, the Children’s Miracle Network, and the Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault. Through their work, internship, or volunteer efforts, psychology students have been helping organizations such as Big Brothers Big Sisters, The Autism Clinic, Sojourn Shelter, The Vet Center, and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. I am ceaselessly impressed by the compassion and commitment that psychology students show in helping those in need.

Psychology students do incredible research as well! This year, numerous psychology students have given or will soon be giving presentations at the Midwestern Psychological Association conference, the Association for Psychological Science conference, the Council on Undergraduate Research conference, and the UIS Student Technology, Arts & Research Symposium. The research of these students has served to improve our understanding of brain-behavior relationships, cultural identity, social norms and biases, workplace satisfaction, and early childhood emotional development. Their work is truly inspiring. My heartfelt thanks goes out to the faculty mentors who have given these students the opportunity to expand their research skills.

I also want to express my sincere appreciation for all of the efforts that you as psychology students have put into your classes. I know how challenging it can be to balance academic, work, and personal life while in college. Getting good grades and performing well in class takes strong will and determination. It can be tough, but hopefully you are finding that the hard work has paid off. Please take advantage of as many learning experiences as you can while you are at UIS! Make your undergraduate experience the best it can be.

For those students who are graduating this year, we wish you all the best! Whether you are starting a new career or beginning graduate school, we hope that your knowledge of psychology will allow you to communicate with, work with, and lead others more effectively. The Psychology Department wants you to achieve the greatest happiness and success. Please don’t hesitate to keep in touch with us. We always love to hear how psychology students are doing!