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UIS Psychology Department Newsletter, May 2018

# Eye on Psy





Fall 2017 Psi Chi Induction



Spring 2018 Psi Chi Induction

## Psi Chi & Psych Club

#### Making a Difference!

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:

- o Valentine's Day Bake Sale
- Psi Chi Induction dinners held in fall and spring at Mario's Restaurant
- Hosted two graduate school presentations given by Dr.
   Pomerantz from SIUe and Dr. Lane from WIU
- Donated to UIS Dance Marathon to benefit Children's Miracle Network
- Donating to the Prairie Center Against Sexual Assault and participating in Walk A Mile in her Shoes downtown
- Donating to the American Heart Association

### 2017-2018 Psi Chi Inductees

#### Fall 2017 Inductees

Jessica Babb Katherine Daly

Sheldan Grable Alyssa Hasler Samantha Katzel Jasmin Lisowski

Olivia Reed

Sarah Richmiller Nichole Ruddell Alexia Vandiver

Shavondra Britton Alexa Brown

Spring 2018 Inductees

Congratulations

Jonathan Davis Leonika Garrett



#### **PSYCHOLOGY CLUB OFFICERS**

President: Eli Hahn Vice President: Alexus Venegas-Rodriguez

Secretary: Hannah Roberts Media/Marketing: Connie Sifuentes



Meet your 2017-2018 Student Representative, Connie Sifuentes



## Chair

By: Dr. Sheryl Reminger

Hi psychology students! As the 2017-2018 school year winds down, I wanted to send a note of thanks to all of you for the fantastic work you have done all year. I know it takes a lot of determination and discipline to do well in your classes while also juggling your many other personal and professional responsibilities, so be proud of yourselves! Please continue to aim high in your aspirations. Having a background in psychology will be a huge benefit to you when you move on to the next stage in your career. Our department has always been impressed by the intelligent, practical, and kind-hearted nature of the students who take psychology classes. Use your skills and knowledge to make the world a better place. And thank you for everything you do.

And for those of you who are graduating this year, congratulations! We wish you well and look forward to learning about your many future accomplishments. Live life to the fullest.

## Message from the Welcome Our New Addition!

Dr. Jordan Hyde



Dr. Jordan Hyde joined the Psychology Department in Fall 2017. Dr. Hyde completed his BS in psychology from Brigham Young University-Idaho in 2011, where he graduated magna cum laude, and his PhD in applied social psychology at Brigham Young University in 2016. He also conducted field research on intergroup relations in South Africa, supported by BYU's Graduate Research Fellowship award. Before joining the psychology faculty at University of Illinois Springfield in fall 2017, Jordan taught part-time at BYU-Idaho for one year, where he received the "Outstanding Adjunct Faculty" award. He later taught part time as a graduate student at BYU for three years, and full-time at Weber State University for two years. Jordan's areas of specialization include social psychology, cultural psychology, intergroup relations, and philosophical issues in psychology.

#### Faculty & Student Research

#### ILLINOIS SPRINGFIELD

#### Dr. Sheryl Reminger

Rebecca Szabo has been working with Dr. Sheryl Reminger on a research project titled *The Use of Applied Behavior Analysis Therapy with Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder*. For the study, Rebecca is examining the records of children who have participated in applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy at The Autism Clinic in Springfield. ABA therapy uses principles of learning and reinforcement to help children improve their social and motor skills. Rebecca has hypothesized that certain variables, such as age, autism severity level, type of intervention, and length of treatment will predict children's success in therapy. She hopes that her findings will help demonstrate the effectiveness of ABA techniques in aiding children with autism spectrum disorder. Dr. Reminger will also be working with students in the upcoming year on a study titled *School Shootings and Mental Illness: A Study of Offender and Incident Characteristics*. Dr. Reminger and her colleague, Dr. Janice Hill from the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine, were awarded funding from the Caryl Towsley Moy, Ph.D., Endowed Fund for Collaborative Research for the project. The funding will help support the work of students who will be examining records of school shooting incidents to determine what factors may predict such events.



Patricia Henderson and Royce Hill

#### Dr. Jordan Hyde

Dr. Hyde submitted the article entitled *For Whom Are We Healthy? The Importance of Prosocial Health Motivation*. In it, he and his colleagues report two studies which suggest that individuals are motivated to maintain healthy habits by contemplating the effects their health will have on other people.

He is also currently putting finishing touches on an article called *Examining Justifiable and Unjustifiable Cultural Biases in Psychological Science*. In this article, he and his coauthor argue that psychological science is always shaped by the cultural perspectives of scientists themselves, and they offer suggestions on how psychologists can be more mindful of their own cultural biases and perspectives. They expect to submit this for publication within the next few months.

At the beginning of March, Dr. Hyde presented a paper at the Midwinter Meeting of the Society for Theoretical and Philosophical Psychology entitled *Do Psychologists' Ways of Knowing Implicate Us in Systems of Oppression?* His paper asked whether psychologists' research activities sometimes privilege perspectives that inadvertently disadvantage some groups relative to others.

#### Dr. Michele Miller

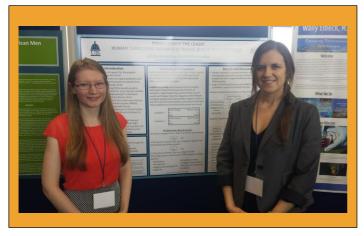
Patricia Henderson, Royce Hill, and Aubrey McCarthy have been working with Dr. Miller examining early associations among children's shyness, fear, attention, and cognitive performance utilizing data from experimenters, caregivers, and children. They have also explored distraction and shyness as predictors of cognitive performance at age 3. Their findings were presented at the 2018 UIS Student Technology, Arts & Research Symposium (STARS) and at the 2018 Midwestern Psychological Association annual convention in Chicago, IL. They are currently working on writing a manuscript based on these findings. This research is supported by funding from the 2-year **CLAS Faculty Enhancement** Scholarship, which was awarded to Dr. Miller in May 2017.

Former undergraduate student **LeAnna Kehl** is working with Dr. Miller on the writing of a manuscript based on their work exploring the importance of characteristics for early school readiness according to caregivers and teachers. **LeAnna** is currently working on a Masters degree in Clinical Child Psychology at SIUe. This research is supported by funding from the 2-year CLAS Faculty Enhancement Scholarship, which was awarded to Dr. Miller in May 2017.

#### Faculty & Student Research

#### 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. Charlene and Marquiera presented the exploratory factor analysis from the Asian American male body image scale at the 2017 Asian American Psychological Association annual convention in Las Vegas, NV. Eli and Marquiera also presented these findings at the 2018 UIS Student Technology, Arts & Research Symposium (STARS). They are currently collecting additional data for the confirmatory factor analysis for the validation of the Asian American male body image scale. They also plan to present additional exploratory findings at the 2018 American Psychological Association annual convention in San Francisco, CA. This research is supported by funding from the 2-year CLAS Faculty Enhancement Scholarship, which was awarded to Dr. Shen in May 2016.



Alexia Vandiver and Dr. Carlee Hawkins



Eli Hahn and Marquiera Harris

#### Dr. Carlee Hawkins

Alexia Vandiver has been working with Dr. Hawkins to investigate the popular stereotype that dogs are racially biased. They found that both Black and White Americans report that pet dogs are friendlier toward White than Black people. They also found that White caretakers report that their dogs display more positive behavior toward White than Black people and caretakers' racial bias predicts their reports of their dogs' behavior. Alexia presented a poster on this data at STARS and they currently have a manuscript under review for the journal *Group Processes and Intergroup Relations*.

Dr. Hawkins presented a poster at the Diversity Summit conference at the University of Illinois in March titled *Experimental Evaluation of an Online Implicit Bias Education Program*. She also recently presented an invited workshop at STARS titled *Implicit bias: We all have it.* She has presented a workshop on implicit bias to the Central Illinois Psychological Society as well. Recently, her work on implicit identities of political independents received a media mention on the Association for Psychological Science webpage.

Congratulate Hannah Nordby on winning 2<sup>nd</sup> place on the Brookens Library Undergraduate Research Award!



Dr. Karen Reinke and Hannah Nordby

## Congratulate Dr. Marcel Yoder!

Associate Professor in Psychology Department Ph.D., University of Louisville

Areas of specialization: sport psychology, self-enhancement and person perception



The Division II Student-Athlete Advisory Committee honored Dr. Yoder for his dedication to student-athletes by awarding him the 2017 Dr. Dave Pariser Faculty Mentor Award!

Dr. Yoder will also be jointly appointed to the Psychology and Allied Health departments starting in Fall 2018!

"I see 'Make It Yours' as what kind of person you want to be, what kind of life do you want to live, and then make that yours.
Great journeys start with the end in mind, who do I want to be, and that's what I'm going to make mine."

Dr. Marcel Yoder

#### **Psychology Department Student Graduation Awards**

Samantha Morin – Psychology Undergraduate Student Marshal Eli Hahn – Outstanding Service to the Department Hailey Hawkins – Outstanding Student in Psychology

## Where Are They Headed?

Let's congratulate the following students and wish them success in their future careers!

Nia Fowler-Galloway - Master's Degree in Couple and Family Therapy at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Eli Hahn – Specialist's Degree in School Psychology at Western Illinois University

Marquiera Harris – Family Case Manager at the Indiana Department of Children's Services

Hailey Hawkins - Peace Corps in Cambodia

Eric Hines – Master's Degree with an emphasis in Student Affairs at the University of Utah



#### ask the expert >>>



#### Ms. Robin Vansacik, MSW Academic Advisor for the Psychology Department

As a College Advisor, student success is very important to me. I strive to make sure every advising appointment is constructive. So I have three C's that I like to consider at all times when working with students. I want to make sure that you feel *Connected*, *Confident*, and *Comfortable*.

Connected: How are you getting involved on campus and with the Psychology

Department? Have you taken advantage of all the resources UIS has to offer? We have so many great departments on campus, such as the Career Center, the Learning Hub and Civic Engagement just to name a few!

Confident: Are you confident with your major? Do you feel confident with your schedule? I'm here to help you with any questions you may have!

**Comfortable:** Probably the most important to me. I want to make sure you are comfortable with advising. I want you to feel you can come to me with any questions or concerns you have with your academic journey. You can rest assured, if I don't know the answer, I know who can help.

I love my role here at UIS and am grateful for the opportunity to serve as your Advisor. Never hesitate to stop by my office (where you can grab a snack) or send me an email. I am here and always happy to help.