

We've Got Issues

Willamette University Psychology Department Newsletter

From the Chair

Greetings!

Another academic year has come to a close, and with it the culmination of four years of hard work on the part of our graduating seniors. We congratulate all of them and wish them the very best as they move toward the next important phase of life: gainful employment. Juniors are busy planning their senior internships, and several of our sophomores are gearing up for a semester of study abroad, either in the fall or spring. We welcome our first year students and look forward to hosting them as newly-declared majors in our research methods sequence next year.

We had five honors recipients this year; four Phi Beta Kappa inductees; and two awardees each for our Paul M. Evans and Noel F. Kaestner awards. All can be found on page 2 of this newsletter. We are also delighted that two of our majors – junior Leila Mitsunaga and sophomore Alia Yassen – have been selected for participation in Willamette's Science Collaborative Research Program (SCRIP) by Prof. Courtney Stevens.

Speaking of Courtney, this past year also marks her inaugural year being with us. She took her undergraduate degree in linguistics from Reed and her Ph.D from the University of Oregon. She came to us by way of Sarah Lawrence College in New York and we are delighted to have her as a member of our department. We have also enjoyed the contributions of two visiting professors this year: Prof. Emily Hodell (WU '02) and Prof. Carmen MacMillan. Although Carmen leaves us at the end of the semester Emily will return in the fall to offer courses in Introductory, Psychology & Law, and Social Cognition. In her short time here she has developed an impressive following among students, many of whom describe her passion for her subject matter as “infectious.” This fall we will embark on a search for our 8th colleague, someone with background and training in the area of personality psychology.

We wish you all the best finishing up the year, best of luck on your finals, and we'll look forward to seeing most of you back next fall. Seniors, please remember to bring your families to the Psychology Department Open House on Graduation Day, this Sunday, May 17th from 12:00–1:45 pm outside the Psychology offices on the second floor of Smullin. And once again, please accept our sincere congratulations for all your good work!

- Mark Stewart



NEW FACULTY...

As a native Oregonian, I'm excited to be back in my home state and teaching at Willamette. My undergraduate years were spent at Reed College, where I studied Linguistics. But I was always interested in the practical application of this research, which brought me first to a computer science lab (to study speech recognition technology) and ultimately to graduate school in Cognitive Neuroscience (to study how the brain processes language).

I loved graduate school because it allowed me to combine my interests in linguistics, psychology, and neuroscience. I worked in a large lab and studied brain development in children with developmental disabilities and the changes that occurred in the brain following different types of training. My graduate advisor gave me the best piece of advice I've ever been given: Find what you love, and you'll never have to work a day in your life.

I spent the next few years in New York City, trying to figure out how not to work. Although I never made it big on Broadway, I did continue my research at Cornell's medical school and also taught at Sarah Lawrence College. I found I loved both teaching and research, so if I didn't want to work, I had to find a way to do both at the same time. Fortunately, Willamette refuses to pay me a salary unless I both teach and produce some scholarly works. In all seriousness, it's the perfect match for me. I've enjoyed my first year at Willamette and look forward to meeting and working with more students in the years to come.

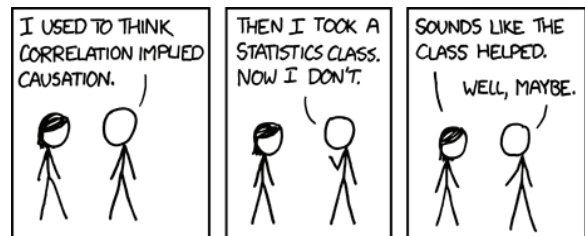
May you never work a day in your life,
Courtney Stevens

Volume 9, Issue 1

May 2009

Inside this issue:

Current Student News	2
Fall 2009 Courses	4
From the Chair	1
Mark Your Calendar	4
New Faculty	1
Open House	3



Current Student News...

**Phi Beta Kappa
inductees**
Leah Congdon
Rebecca Demarest
Hayley Freedman
Kalia Gurnee

Paul M. Evans Award
Rebecca Demarest
Mari Miyazaki

Noel F. Kaestner Award
Kalia Gurnee
Acacia McGuire



Congratulations to those receiving department honors for their Senior Projects.

Hayley Freedman
Improving Outcomes for Adults with Asperger Syndrome:
The Case for Strengths-Based Case Management

Stephanie Good
The Relationship Between
Employment Interviews and Bias

Kalia Patience Gurnee
Bilingual Education Positively Affects the
Social-Emotional Development of Young Children

Acacia McGuire
The Psychological Implications of Sexual Assault Accusations

Tara McLauchlan
Growing Up Delinquent:
The Need for Familial Structure and Role Modeling for Black Urban Youth

Congratulations to our 2009 graduates...

Marley Abel
Cirbi Anthony
Christopher Beeger
Maria Burri
Tara Campbell
Clare Chedester
Andrew Clark
Leah Congdon
Jessica Cortez
Garrison Coy
Rebecca Demarest
Molly Fillion
Hayley Freedman

Stephanie Good
Kalia Gurnee
Byron Hadley
Autumn Helmick
Kelsey Herb
LaShawna Holcomb
Jenna Krueger
Elizabeth Lopez
Julia Mazur
Acacia McGuire
Sarah McKean
Tara McLauchlan
Elizabeth Meek Jurich

Rachel Mitchell
Mari Miyazaki
Shannon Murray
John Nixon
Sara Ridgeway
Alexandra Riley
Kelsey Rogel
Simone Schnabler
Alexander Sepenzis
Kelsie Shaphren
Jennifer Snider
Patricia Wille
Carrie Winkler
Bernadette Worden

You're Invited!

What: Open house

Who: Graduating psych majors and their families

When: Sunday, May 17th 12:00pm—
1:45pm

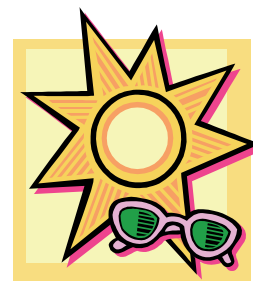
Where: Smullin Hall, 2nd Floor



Willamette University Psychology
Department Newsletter

Honey Wilson, Editor
220 Smullin Hall
503/370.6520

Have a Great
Summer!



www.willamette.edu/cla/psychology

Psychology Department—Fall 2009 Courses

Mark Stewart

Professor & Chair
208 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6661
mstewart@willamette.edu

*Research Methods & Analysis I and labs,
Fundamentals of Neuroscience*

Jim Friedrich

Professor
259 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6435
jfriedri@willamette.edu

*Research Methods & Analysis II and labs,
Major Internship I*

Meredy Goldberg Edelson

Professor
253 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6133
medelson@willamette.edu

*Introduction to Psychology, Women & Gender,
Major Internship I*

Sue Koger

Professor
201 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6341
skoger@willamette.edu

*Biopsychology, Seminar: Conservation Psychology,
Major Internship I*

Jeremy Miller

Assistant Professor
260 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6964
millerj@willamette.edu

College Colloquium, Special Topic: Cognition, Evolution & Society, Seminar: Psychology of Human Memory

Courtney Stevens

Assistant Professor
252 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6427
cstevens@willamette.edu

Introduction to Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience

Melissa Witkow

Assistant Professor
254 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6425
mwitkow@willamette.edu

*College Colloquium, Introduction to Psychology,
Developmental: Adolescence*

Emily Hodell

Assistant Professor
ehodell@willamette.edu

*Introduction to Psychology, Psych and Law,
Social Cognition*