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Dr. Robinson-Riegler would like to thank the EAs “For all of their hard work this past year, and for the spirit they brought to the department.”

Psychology Gets Green

Dr. Elise Amel, Dr. Christie Manning, and Dr. Britain Scott have been busy promoting conservation psychology topics and research this year. Most recently, these three faculty members, along with student researchers, have been collecting data on sustainable behaviors at The Living Green Expo and the Cinco de Mayo Expo. Dr. Amel, Dr. Manning, and Dr. Scott were also joined by Dr. Bock at a presenta-

tion at the Upper Midwest Association for Campus Sustainability in Decorah.

The group was also recently quoted in two APA Monitor articles. Dr. Amel was also interviewed by the Star Tribune for an article about what it means to “be green”. In addition, Amel, Scott, and Manning have earned a \$10,000 grant for their work from the Northern Environmental Trust. The group has given over two dozen talks this

year including conferences, campus and public presentations. Follow these links to learn more about this group’s amazing work!

Star Tribune Article:

<http://www.startribune.com/lifestyle/18003109.html?page=1&c=y>

APA Monitor Articles:

<http://www.apa.org/monitor/2008/03/planet.html>

http://www.apa.org/monitor/2008/03/green_planet.html

You Say Goodbye And I Say Hello: EA Changeover

Graduation is near and that means it’s time to say goodbye to this year’s Educational Assistants and hello to the new gang! All five of our current EA’s are seniors and will be graduating!



Chuck Harmston, Jen Rutkowski, Lynsey Miron, Shannon Martin, and Betsy Johnson

Congratulations and good luck to the 2008-2009 Educational Assistants:



Jake Forsman, , Brittni Peterson, Sara Padley, Nikki Arola. (Not pictured: Amy Gosselin & Jessica Connelly)

The Psych department has a lot to be proud of this month. Look at all of these awards!



University-wide Awards

Four psychology students have received **Young Scholars Awards**: Scott Dillon, Joe Grundtner, Amy Gosselin, and Annie Gatto. The Young Scholars Program awards individual grants to undergraduate students at the University of St. Thomas who are interested in spending an entire summer working closely with a professor on a significant research project or creative activity. Scott and Joe are sponsored by Dr. Bock. Amy is sponsored by Dr. Robinson-Riegler and Annie is sponsored by Dr. Chalkley. These grants are designed to give students the time and resources they need for meaningful reflection and in-depth inquiry into a problem or issue of interest both to them and their faculty mentor.

Scott will be examining male college students' percep-

tions of female attractiveness, using an evolutionary psychology framework. Joe will be researching the extent to which gender, year of study, and expected course grade influence students' ethical development while they are taking an ethics course. Annie will be researching how children and parents resolve communication challenges when making big family decisions as parents age. Amy will be investigating the association between personality and autobiographical recall, and the degree to which that association impacts encoding or retrieval of those memories.

Aubrey Strenger, Mai Cha Vang, Clemon Dabney, and Amy Westmoreland have been chosen to receive **McNair Scholars Awards**. The purpose of the McNair program is to award grants to institutions of higher

learning for projects designed to provide disadvantaged college students with effective preparation for doctoral study.

Amanda Sesker was awarded the **Luann Dummer Center for Women Grant**. Amanda designed a proposal under faculty advisor Dr. Elise Amel on a research topic called "A Comparative Study of Irish and American College Students' Perspectives on Feminism." Amanda was awarded a \$4,000 stipend and will present her research next spring semester at the women's center.

Leah Streitman was awarded an **Aquinas Fellowship**. The Aquinas Fellows Program awards scholarships to junior and senior undergraduates who have demonstrated a commitment to the ideal of vocation in their lives.

Departmental Awards

Senior Courtney Sekevitch was the recipient of the **Departmental Service Award**. The purpose of this award is to recognize students who, over the course of their college education, have displayed excellence in service related to psychology. Eligible students are seniors who have participated in unpaid internships, initiated

or implemented creative innovations, served the Psychology Club, tutored, and/or engaged in volunteer work during their academic experience.

Senior Betsy Johnson was the recipient of the **Winton Award**. The purpose of this award is to recognize an individual student who has displayed broad excellence in psychology by establishing an

outstanding academic, research, and service record, as well as demonstrating the enthusiasm and dedication to the field of psychology just as Dr. Winton did while on the faculty here at UST.

WAY TO GO!!

Conference News

MUPC

Fifty-two psychology majors presented at the Minnesota Undergraduate Psychology Conference on Saturday, April 26th at Hamline University. Twenty-five total posters were presented as well as one oral presentation.



Above: Students Michael Healy, David Sandvold, and Samantha Schmit

Below: Students Sara Padley, Anne-marie Stiles, and Katie Flicker



MidBrains Undergraduate Neuroscience Conference

Eleven psychology students presented at the second annual MidBrains Undergraduate Neuroscience Conference at Macalester College on Saturday, May 3rd. The conference is a joint effort of the MidBrains Neuroscience Consortium- a network of faculty from undergraduate neuroscience programs in the upper Midwest. This event provides a forum for under

graduate students in the Midwest to present research findings, to attend research lectures and special panels, and to meet other undergraduate students interested in the neurosciences.

Right: Katelynn McConnel, Sarah Wozniak, and Megan David presenting research at MidBrains



In addition to these local conferences, several faculty members and students have been presenting their research at regional and national conferences

- Dr. Buri and psychology alum Amy Gunty have presented research at several conferences including the CAPS Conference in Arizona, the meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association in Chicago, and the annual meeting of the Association for Psychological Science in Chicago. Amy and Dr. Buri will also be presenting at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Boston this August.
- Dr. Buri and psychology alums Amy Gunty and Stephanie King will be presenting their research on maximizers vs. satisfiers at the annual convention of the American Psychological Association in Boston this August.
- Dr. Tauer and junior Sara Padley will be presenting their research on the role of parenting styles in young athletes' goals, sportspersonship, and motivation at the Association for Psychological Science convention in Chicago.
- Dr. Chalkley and students Elizabeth Johnson and Mark Molyneaux will also be presenting at the APS convention in Chicago on their research on preschoolers' item recognition and location recall. Co-authors on the project are Chuck Harmston, Joshua Brix, Maya Brandl, and Megan Robb.



**Good luck at
Augsburg Dr.
Beckmann,
you will be
missed!**

Congratulations to adjunct professor Dr. Beckmann on his new position at Augsburg College in the fall. Dr. Beckmann will be teaching Alcohol, Other Drugs, & Behavior, Research Methods, and Cognitive in the fall and Sensation and Perception, General Psych, and Research Methods in the Spring.

Dr. Beckmann says he will take with him many fond memories of students and adventures at UST such as:

- * Cleaning out the back "rodent" room of the old Physio Psych lab before teaching it in 2006.
- * Doing cockroach dissection in the Neurobiology lab for the same class.

Faculty Find New Positions

* Giving lectures with PowerPoint files that were created on a Mac... only to find out that none of the illustrations appeared on the slides when shown from a PC!

* Bringing students to what must have been designed as a "secret" room in the Library for Jan Orf's tour of journal database searching and having to station myself at a strategic corner on 3rd floor to keep most of them from getting lost!

* Generous and enthusiastic students who cut me a big break one year when I had to prep 4 classes, 3 of them brand-new to me, and kept me on track when they knew more about a particular concept than I did!

* Many discussions with fellow faculty members about mutual challenges, student successes and mysterious workings of the Administration.

Two UST psychology alums have also found new teaching positions. Dr. Sarah Gervais will be teaching at the University of Nebraska and Dr. Tom Tiegs will be teaching at Creighton

New Year, New Board



Psi Chi has a new executive board!

Look to these folks for information on next year's meetings and how to become a Psi Chi member.

President: Billy Dodge

Vice President: Amy Westmoreland

Secretary: Lisa Ott

Treasurer: Aubrey Strenger

Service/Fundraiser: Megan Most

Congratulations!

Good Luck!

Congratulations Graduating Seniors!

Daryl Holloway

Shannon Martin

Jami Reeve

Americo Abrego

Betsy Johnson

Kathryn McGuire

Brian Reider

Kimberly Aune

Taylor K. Johnson

Brittany McKeever

Maria Rode

Jennifer Beedle

Taylor M. Johnson

Lynsey Miron

Jennifer Rutkowski

Jennifer Burke

Lyndsay Kearney

Rachel Myers

Emily Schwartz

Anne Carpentier

Matthew Knutson

Nicholas Newstrom

Courtney Sekevitch

Elise Cirelli

Rachel Koskey

Shannon O'Hara

Annemarie Stiles

Olivia Darrah

Katherine Krank

Kelsey O'Rourke

Caitlin Thayer

Ashley Ekman

Patricia Lee

David Ostergaard

Carolyn Tibbetts

Matthew Endres

Sarah Lind

Shana Persson

Katie Flicker

Kerin Logstrom

Helene Pflaum

(*Sorry if we missed you! This is everyone who was on the list at the time of publication!)

Charles Harmston

Christina Mann

Aleyyah Ramadan

University of St. Thomas- Psychology Department

University of St. Thomas
Psychology Department
2115 Summit Avenue
Mail #JRC LL56
St. Paul, MN 55015

Newsletter written and edited by Lynsey
Miron and Jennifer Rutkowski, Psychology
Department Educational Assistants



Have a WONDERFUL Summer!
We'll see you back here in the Fall!

