Research is alive and well in the Department of Psychology. Despite inadequate research space, demanding teaching loads, and minimal funding to support student training, our faculty and students remain productive and engaged in their areas of expertise. A 2008 report from the Association of American Colleges and Universities identifies undergraduate research as a high-impact educational practice. This is not new information to our faculty. We have long recognized the educational benefits of involving students in systematic investigation and research. A quick glance at this year’s programs for the Western Psychological Association, the Society for Industrial & Organizational Psychology, and a host of other regional, national, and international conferences highlights the broad impact of our faculty and their research students. Mentoring the next generation remains a point of great pride for our Department.

This issue of our newsletter will showcase several of these research programs, their teams, and the publications resulting from their efforts. I would also like to highlight our faculty’s remarkable effort to seek (and get) external funding for their work. Based on the most recent Research Foundation report (February 2014), our faculty have submitted $15,340,141 in Federal grant proposals over the last year. Of course, the lion’s share of those proposals stem from the important work of Kevin Jordan and his group at NASA ($14,970,776), but the remaining $369,365 in proposals were from a diverse and inspiring array of topics and faculty. The table below presents many of these proposals. I hope you enjoy learning more about the scholarly efforts of our Department and, as always, we look forward to hearing from you in the future.

Kind regards,
Ron Rogers, Chair

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jennifer Gregg</th>
<th>“Moving Beyond Fear: Acceptance and Commitment Therapy for Cancer Survivors”</th>
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<tr>
<td>Dorion Liston</td>
<td>“Why the World Does Not Look Flat to Cyclops and One Eyed Pirates: The Role of Visual Motion in Human Depth Perception” and “Sensorimotor mechanisms for saccades and perception”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dave Schuster</td>
<td>“Predicting Problem Solving Strategies” - Collaborative Research with faculty from Mathematics and Computer Science</td>
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<tr>
<td>Altovise Rogers</td>
<td>Promoting Active Learning Strategies through the Flipped Class Model in STEM courses at San Jose State University” - Collaborative research with faculty from the colleges of Science and Engineering</td>
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<tr>
<td>Elena Klaw &amp; Melodie Cameron</td>
<td>“Expanding Veterans Embracing Transition (VET) Connect at San Jose State University”</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erin Woodhead</td>
<td>“Predisposing, Need, and Enabling Factors Associated with Older Adults’ Access to and Use of Mental Health Services”</td>
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<td>Ron Rogers</td>
<td>“Establishment of a University Partnership in Psychology with the Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University, Peshawar, Pakistan” - In collaboration with Peter Young from the Silicon Valley Centre for Global Studies</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annabel Prins</td>
<td>“Veterans Integration to Academic Leadership (VITAL)”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
When I was thinking about a theme for this newsletter, there happened to be a lot of announcements on our Faculty listserv about the various research accomplishments of our faculty and students. All those emails made me realize that I didn’t have to look hard to highlight all the great work going on in our department! Each semester I’m amazed at how easy it is to fill a newsletter with content about the great work our faculty are pursuing.

Our faculty are incredibly dedicated to our students, and are frequently going above and beyond the teaching load in order to include students in research, which often leads to conference presentations and peer-reviewed papers. Our faculty are also highly collaborative with SJSU colleagues and other national scholars in their respective fields, frequently submitting grants at local and national levels. I hope that the hard work of our faculty and students comes through in this newsletter issue.

I also got to hear from many of you in the past couple months when we put out a call to update us on your professional accomplishments. We plan to include alumni updates on a yearly basis in the spring newsletter. It’s very rewarding to hear how many of you look back fondly on your time at SJSU, and to hear where your psychology degree has taken you.

When you reflect on how the department has served you in your professional life, we hope that you consider donating to the SJSU Psychology Department so we can continue to thrive. Feel free to contact me at: Erin.Woodhead@sjsu.edu

Thanks for reading!
Erin Woodhead, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Dean Sheila Bienenfeld to Retire in May
April 17, 2014

Dr. Bienenfeld is retiring after 30 years of service to SJSU. She joined the SJSU faculty in 1984 and taught in the clinical psychology area until she became chair of the Psychology Department in 2004. In 2010, she became Dean of the College of Social Sciences. Dr. Bienenfeld writes, “I’m very proud of the Psychology Department, one of SJSU’s strongest and most productive. I have seen many changes at SJSU, and am optimistic about the future. I am looking forward to retirement, but will miss many of SJSU’s wonderful faculty, staff, and students.”

Congratulations to Dr. Bienenfeld and thank you for your service to the Psychology Department and SJSU!

San Jose State Students Win Scholarships
April 17, 2014

Bonnie Nguyen, a graduate student in the Industrial/Organizational Psychology Graduate Program, won the HR Symposium Lyn Boone Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship is a national award given to graduate and undergraduate students enrolled in Human Resource and organizational development degree programs, as well as HR professionals enrolled in MBA programs with the objective of advancing in the HR field. Congratulations Bonnie!

Cemone Cowart, an undergraduate Psychology major in her junior year, won a dean’s scholarship from the SJSU College of Social Sciences. For this scholarship, applicants must demonstrate community service or participation in student organizations. Cemone is President of Delta Gamma, and works as an orientation leader on campus and at student outreach giving tours of the university. Cemone listed our own Neelam Rattan as her most influential professor during her time at SJSU. Congratulations Cemone!

Psychology Part of New BA in Organizational Studies
April 14, 2014

The new degree program in Organizational Studies is an interdisciplinary program supported by several departments in the College of Social Sciences. Two of our own faculty, Megumi Hosada and Altovise Rogers, will be teaching courses within the new program.

The goals of the program are to:
• help students understand the characteristics of diverse complex organizations in a world characterized by local-global connections;
• support skills that allow inquiry into organizations and their environments, and analysis of them, in order to contribute to effective, ethical behavior;
• develop transferable, interdisciplinary skills in research, problem solving, analysis, synthesis, presentation, communication, and teamwork;
• create educational settings that link classroom instruction with real-world problem solving;
• help students understand how organizations reflect human values and ethical considerations.
Sean Laraway wins SJSU College of Social Sciences Teaching Excellence Award

April 3, 2014

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Laraway for winning this year’s College of Social Sciences Teaching Excellence Award. This award honors one faculty member in the college who demonstrates outstanding teaching and mentoring at the graduate and undergraduate levels. Dr. Laraway truly excelled along every dimension of the selection criteria, which demonstrated a commitment to the quality of instruction through:

• Newly developed courses
• Curriculum development (initiatives, leadership, contributions)
• Grants, directly related to the enhancement of teaching and student learning
• Student supervision / Working with students, including independent studies, theses, graduate committees
• Student and peer evaluations
• Active participation in assessment, creation of learning teams, and other pedagogical efforts connected to student learning
• Evidence of pedagogical impact, including participation and leadership in workshops and seminars

Congratulations Dr. Laraway and thank you for your continued commitment to the success of our students and our department!

Shinchieh (CJ) Duh to Join the Psychology Department in the Fall

March 11, 2014

Shinchieh (CJ) Duh will be joining the department in the Fall. She is currently a Ph.D. candidate in Developmental Psychology at University of California in Santa Cruz, with interests in social-cognitive development in early childhood (0-5 years of age) and cross-cultural research. At SJSU, Dr. Duh will establish an infant laboratory and will continue her interdisciplinary research working with early childhood educators in Chengdu, China. Stay tuned for a full profile on Dr. Duh in the Fall newsletter. Welcome to the department!

Psychology Student-Athletes Work on Sport Transition Study

February 18, 2014

Full Story Here

Psychology students worked closely with Dr. Joanna Fanos on a study that focuses on the transition from high school to college football and the stresses that come with being a student athlete.

From the Spartan Daily:

A group of San Jose State University athletes are working on a study that focuses on the transition from high school to college football and the stresses that come with being a student athlete. The study was launched in Fall 2012 with the help of Joanna Fanos, a psychology professor.

The program was created by Vince Buhagiar, a senior psychology major, graduate David Fales and David Catalano, a sophomore business management major. Buhagiar, Fales and Catalano all played for the Spartan football team.

“The main basis of it is to help incoming freshmen with the transition between high school and college,” Buhagiar said. “We believe that is a struggle for anyone, but especially for athletes, because on top of the school and the social and the being away from home they have to juggle another part of their life which is athletics.”

Fanos said the study was influenced by a study at the University of North Texas titled “Helping Freshman Student Athletes Adjust to College Life Using Psychoeducational Groups,” written by Henry L. Harris, Michael K. Altekruse and Dennis W. Engels. The UNT study split students into groups from basketball, cross-country, football, golf, swimming and diving, tennis, volleyball and track and field. Groups discussed issues having to do with student athletics and the results showed that the sessions helped students adjust to the college environment, according to the study.

The SJSU transition study focuses on male football players, Fanos said. The transition group meets once a week, breaks into different groups and discusses different issues. In the Fall there will be a questionnaire given out which will assess the group members’ progress, she said.

“We hope that this season will be much more organized,” Buhagiar said. Buhagiar said it took two years for the group to create a good framework for the study. “It would be awesome if we could publish our study,” Buhagiar said. “And other teams – whether it’s the coach and academic personnel from other colleges – read it and decide that it’s a good idea and they initiate a similar project.”

The study focuses on adjusting to being away from home, not being the hero of the football team as high school students often are, dating, homesickness and other issues, Fanos said. “These football players spend a tremendous amount of time training,” Fanos said. She said student athletes often have to squeeze coursework in between sports training, classes, traveling for games and their social lives. Many students have time to do their homework over the weekend, but the football players are doing it on the bus, Fanos said. “These folks are great,” Fanos said. “I’m just very impressed with them.”

New football players often red shirt, or sit on the bench during their first season, Fanos said. She and Buhagiar both said red shirting causes athletes to feel left out, which can add to the stress of the high school to college transition. “They feel like pieces of meat,” Fanos said.

Twins Rebecca and Breanna Garcia, both junior psycholo-
This year’s challenge was “to design an object, interface, system or service intended to help us to develop and share self-awareness, understanding or appreciation for our body data,” according to organizers.

**Developing the App**

The SJSU team set out to develop an app that would foster healthy and peaceful pregnancies by motivating expectant mothers to sustain beneficial habits and behaviors.

Within the Psychology of Design Lab, the team worked hard to develop and complete an iterative research and design process that explored how persuasive design characteristics could be employed to encourage self-monitoring and motivationally sustain healthy behavior in expectant mothers. Bloom minimizes risk by providing daily goals that adapt to the changing needs of an expectant mother over the course of her pregnancy.

In addition, the app maximizes peace of mind by offering tools that augment self-awareness and facilitate enriched communication between the medical community and expectant mothers.

**Sister’s Feedback**

“I have shared the project with my sister,” Bell said. “She felt that the app is the perfect way for pregnant women to take control of their health and be proactive about any complications or issues that may arise.”

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**Jane Boyd, 1946-2014**

February 5, 2014

Jane Boyd spent many years in the Psychology department as a lecturer and is remembered fondly by her colleagues.

*From the San Jose Mercury News:*

Long Time Resident of Cupertino. Beloved wife, mother, and grandmother Jane Boyd passed away peacefully Saturday, February 2 at her home in Cupertino surrounded by family. A long-time professor at San Jose State University, Jane will be fondly remembered for her dedication to her students and her love of teaching. She is survived by her husband of 48 years, Tom, her adult children Andrew and Laney, and four grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, memorial tributes may be made to American Cancer Society in her name.
Do you Love or Hate your job?
Participate in a scientific study about technology, stress, and engagement in the workplace.

All who complete the following survey will receive a Target gift card for participation.

Go to the link below
http://tinyurl.com/http-sjsustudy
or
Scan the QR code with your smartphone to access the survey

For more details, contact: altovise.rogers@sjnu.edu
408-924-5628

Faculty Publications

Our faculty are frequently publishing in top-tier journals and other outlets. Here we share a sampling of recent faculty work (faculty contributors bolded). Below this list are conference presentations by our faculty and students at several highly regarded national and international conferences.

The Functional Idiographic Assessment Template-Questionnaire (FIAT-Q): Initial Psychometric Properties
SM Darrow, GC Callaghan, JT Bonow, WC Follette - Journal of Contextual Behavioral Science, 2014


Abstract
The evidence based assessment (EBA) movement stresses the importance of psychological measures with strong psychometric properties and clinical utility. The Functional Idiographic Assessment Template system (FIAT; Callaghan, 2006) is a functional analytic behavioral approach to the assessment of interpersonal functioning for use with therapies like Functional Analytic Psychotherapy (FAP; Kohlenberg & Tsai, 1991). While research has begun to demonstrate the clinical utility of the FIAT, its psychometric properties have not been explored. The present study examines the Functional Idiographic Assessment Template-Questionnaire (FIAT-Q), a self-report measure contained in the FIAT. Two different approaches are used to explore the psychometric properties and structure of the FIAT-Q, and test-retest reliability is examined. These methods are discussed along with the use of the FIAT-Q as an alternative to nosological assessment of client behaviors.

Annual Meeting of the Society for Industrial & Organizational Psychology (SIOP)

The Effect of Arab Accent on Promotion Decisions, Megumi Hosoda
The present study examined the effects of the accent (standard American English vs. Arab) and performance level (average vs. high) of a hypothetical female employee on promotion decisions. Overall results showed that the Arab-accented employee did not suffer from negative consequences once she was securely employed.

Electronic Cottage or Electronic Prison? Technology and Work-Life Balance, Altovise Rogers
A burgeoning area of scholarship, this symposium highlights research examining the consequences of use of technology to facilitate the blending of life and work. It demonstrates that individual differences and the situation can determine whether technology benefits or exacerbates attempts to align work and non-work.

Annual Convention of the Western Psychological Association (WPA)

THE EFFECT OF AROUSAL ON MULTIPLE OBJECT TRACKING (MOT), Carlos Almeida, Angela Mapanao, Katrina M. Cook, & Cheryl Chancellor-Freeland
MOOD AND MULTIPLE-OBJECT TRACKING, Brissa N. Ortega, Mitzi D. Ochoa, Michael S. Namekata, Meylien D. Han & Cheryl Chancellor-Freeland
EMBODIMENT AND COGNITIVE ENGAGEMENT IN MATHEMATICAL ACQUISITION, Cassandra Durkee
THE EFFECTS OF COMMUNICATION STYLE ON THE PERCEPTION OF INTELLIGENCE, Farah Culbertson & Sandra Trafalis
THE DEVELOPMENT AND USE OF ASSOCIATE DEGREES FOR TRANSFER IN CALIFORNIA, Mark Van Selst
THE INFLUENCE OF DOSE AND MIXER ON DRINKING DECISION AND COGNITIVE PERFORMANCE, Cindy Martinez Juarez, Manilka de Pinto, David Huynh, Eric Arambula, Ashlee Brown & Mark Van Selst
COUPLE RELATIONSHIPS CORRELATE WITH LOWER
CORTISOL REACTIVITY TO ACUTE STRESS, Michael S. Namekata, Mitzi D. Ochoa, Meylien D. Han, Yolanda O. Hunt, Ashley S. Palma & Cheryl Chancellor-Freeland

WHY DO WE CLING TO OUR CLUTTER? AN INVESTIGATION OF IMPLICIT SELF-POSSESSION ASSOCIATIONS, Clifton M. Oyamot Jr., Lee Taber, Timothy Rossomando, Blanca Tapia, Sherrie Jagolino, Raymond Tam & Iya Vargas

CLUBHOUSE MODEL EFFECTS ON FAMILY DYNAMICS OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN MEMBERS, Kelly A. K. Morita & Erin Woodhead

PERCEIVED ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AMONG OLDER ADULTS, Ralph Don H. Rueda, Nicholas Inguillo, Maria Danel Noveno, Dylan K. Fernandez & Erin L. Woodhead

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BIRTH CONTROL USE AND SALIVARY CORTISOL LEVELS, Matthew A. London, Angela Mapanao & Cheryl Chancellor-Freeland

MORAL JUDGMENT AND STRESS, Meylien D. Han, Brissa N. Ortega, Mitzi D. Ochoa & Cheryl Chancellor-Freeland

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SELF-COMPASSION AND STRESS, Gali Levi-McClure, Brissa N. Ortega, Mitzi D. Ochoa, Yolanda Hunt, Moema Gondim, Michael Namekata, Ashley Palma & Cheryl Chancellor-Freeland

PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATE STUDENT EXPECTATIONS FOR WORKING WITH OLDER ADULTS, Veronica Crystal Naranjo, Ralph Don Hernandez Rueda, Diana Chavez & Erin L. Woodhead

Faculty Accomplishments

Lynda Heiden was elected to a second one-year term as Chair of the Academic Senate.

Ellyn Herb presented a workshop to members of the Santa Clara County Psychological Association on April 6th entitled “Eating Disorders Across the Weight Spectrum.” She is also a co-presenter at the upcoming Binge Eating Disorders Association’s conference on April 25, in Denver, CO with a presentation entitled, “Up Yours! Coping With Weight Stigmatizing Remarks.”


Alumni Profiles

We caught up with a few of our alum to see what they’ve been up to since graduating from SJSU. Send an email to the newsletter editor if you’re interested in contributing a profile to an upcoming newsletter!

Quintino (Tino) Mano, Ph.D.

1) What program were you in at SJSU and when did you graduate?
I majored in Psychology, graduated in 2003, and had the benefit of being an undergraduate research assistant in Dr. Rogers’ Laboratory for the Cellular Analysis of Behavior.

2) What are you up to now in your professional life?
I completed a postdoctoral fellowship in neuropsychology at the University of California, San Diego and recently accepted a tenure-track faculty position in the Department of Psychology at the University of Cincinnati. This new position involves research, as well as teaching and mentoring PhD students in clinical neuropsychology.

3) Did you envision doing this type of job while you were at SJSU?
I envisioned myself as a psychology professor, mainly doing clinical neuropsychology research.

4) What were your interests in psychology while at SJSU, and are they the same now?
While at SJSU, I was broadly interested in neuroscience and psychopathology. Currently, my research program utilizes fMRI and neuropsychology methods to investigate dyslexia across the lifespan.

5) What was your favorite class at SJSU and why?
My favorite class was Biopsychology, taught by Dr. Rogers, mainly because the class covered different levels of analysis (e.g., neuron, brain circuit, behavior).

6) What was your most memorable moment as a student?
My most memorable moment was giving a research presentation in front of other students and professors (probably most memorable because of amygdala modulation of hippocampus).
7) Describe your experience in the SJSU psychology department in one sentence.
My experience in the SJSU psychology department was full of opportunity and excellent mentorship!

James McGaugh, Ph.D.

1) What program were you in at SJSU and when did you graduate?
The "program" was simply a major in psychology.

2) What are you up to now in your professional life?
I am a Research Professor of Neurobiology and Behavior and a Fellow of the Center for the Neurobiology of Learning and Memory at the University of California, Irvine. I was the Founding Chair of the Department in 1964 and Founding Director of the Center in 1982.

3) Did you envision doing this type of job while you were at SJSU?
No.

4) What were your interests in psychology while at SJSU, and are they the same now?
Experimental and physiological psychology. They are the same, but with an emphasis on Neurobiology.

5) What was your favorite class at SJSU and why?
My favorite class was experimental psychology with Edward Minium. He was a terrific teacher with high standards.

6) What was your most memorable moment as a student?
Most memorable moments include first meeting of Psi Chi after my election (at Dr. Telford’s home), election to and performance (baritone solo) at honorary music society (I started out as a major in drama and minor in music).

7) Describe your experience in the SJSU psychology department in one sentence.
The classes at SJSU were terrific and did a terrific job of preparing me for graduate study at UC Berkeley, where I received my Ph.D. May 1, 1657.

Alumni Updates

In April, we put out a call through SJSU’s Alumni Relations department to send us your updates about professional accomplishments since our last Alumni Updates section in the Spring 2013 newsletter. I thoroughly enjoy hearing from our alumni, especially since many of you tell us about how our program has shaped your professional accomplishments.

Richard Gambatese (MA in Psychology, 1976; BA in Psychology, 1973). After graduating, Richard was hired as a Mental Health Rehabilitation Counselor for the Santa Clara County Mental Health Department. He worked in the area of substance abuse at the Mountain View Methadone Clinic. During this time he earned his MA in Psychology. He also taught some courses in substance abuse offered through Foothill College. He then moved on to a position as the Clinical Director for the Contra Costa County Methadone Detoxification Clinic in Martinez. He then moved onto positions at Bristol Myers Squibb Corporation and Amgen. He is currently retired and lives with his wife in Austin, TX.

Mark A. LaScola (1985 MS in Marriage and Family Therapy). In 1990, Mark started ON THE MARK, a boutique consultancy specializing in business transformation and organization design solutions. Since then, the company has grown to become one of the world’s premier consultancies providing this solution to companies and government agencies world-wide, completing over 370 successful transformations and redesigns on five continents, over 32 different countries with some of the most successful businesses in the world. We are located in London UK and Phoenix, AZ.

Rosemary A. Lutus, MFT (1982, BA with Great Distinction in Psychology with Women’s Emphasis; 1985, MS in Clinical Psychology). Rosemary continues to have a full-time private practice in Los Gatos as a Licensed Marriage Family Therapist. She enjoys working with adult Individuals as well as Couples. She can be reached at www.RosemaryLutus.com or 408-356-4888.

Gregory Sancier (1989, MS Clinical Psychology). After graduation, Greg went on to earn his Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at Western Graduate School of Psychology in Palo Alto in 2002. During that time, he was working full time as a Police Officer for the San Jose Police Department. Upon earning his Ph.D. he was transferred to the Crisis Management Unit (CMU) which resolved issues, both within the community of people with Mental Illness, as well as those within the ranks of the Police department, who were suffering from the effects of Mental Illnesses such as: Depression, PTSD, Bipolar Disorder, to name only a few. Greg also worked in a collateral assignment for 28 years as a Hostage Negotiator on the S.W.A.T. team. He retired in 2010 after a 32 year career in law enforcement. He is now a Crisis Consultant and actively trains people in CIT techniques. Presently he is also consulting for the Santa Ana Unified School District, which recently secured a collaborative grant with the Creative Technologies Institute (CTI) at USC and Dr. Albert “Skip” Rizzo, to develop VR technology which will train school districts about issues regarding: Danger Assessments, CIT training, Suicide Prevention, Active Shooter, to name a few.

Joanne Shurter (2007, MS Clinical Psychology). Joanne completed a post-graduate certificate program in 2013 with the Masterson Institute in psychoanalytic psychotherapy. Joanne
has a private practice in San Jose, where she specializes in the treatment of personality disorders and trauma.

SJSU Psychology Undergraduate Program Alumni Updates

Curtis Ashford (2011, Psychology). Curtis writes, “SJSU gave me the skills required to start, operate, and elevate my start up http://memtrax.com/. Working with doctors and developers I was able to create an incredible online memory screening test that has been used to help identify and treat dementia’s like Alzheimer’s disease. For more information please visit the website or view our press pack! http://www.threegirlsmedia.com/2014/01/08/memtrax/”

Jonathan Broadwell (2010, BA Psychology). After graduation, Jonathan moved to Utah and worked as a Mental Health Tech at a residential treatment facility for children and adolescents diagnosed with Autism/Asperger’s. In 2011, he gained employment at the University of Utah Neuropsychiatric Institute where he worked as a Psychiatric Technician and began doing research with Dr. Ken Critchfield on a unique form of therapy called IRT (Interpersonal Reconstructive Therapy). He applied and was accepted to the Educational Psychology graduate program at the University of Utah, but instead decided to pursue a post-baccalaureate pre-med program. He has completed that and is currently studying for the MCAT and preparing to apply to medical schools this summer.

Jessica Gipson (2013, BA Psychology). Jessica was accepted in the Clinical Psy.D. program at the Adler School of Professional Psychology before graduation and moved to Chicago, IL, last August. Her anticipated completion of the program will be in 2018. She plans on going into the field of Forensic Psychology and hopes to work with the court system and the incarcerated population.

Jimmy Gordillo (2004, BA in Psychology and Spanish). Upon graduating from SJSU, Jimmy started his Multiple Subject credential in Mexico through a partnership between CSU International Programs, SJSU, SDSU, and the Tec de Monterrey, Campus Queretaro. He writes, “This was such an amazing experience getting back to my roots, all the while learning pedagogy in another country and participating in fieldwork in rural communities in Mexico! This amazing experience was my entry into teaching a culturally relevant curriculum; now going into my 10th year in education! To this day, that experience guides my practice and dictates where I’m heading professionally.” Currently, Jimmy is working as one of the Vice-Principals/Teacher on Special Assignment at a Charter School based out of San Diego, California. In his current role, he is working with students ages 5-8 in developing different modes of instruction via technology. He is creating blended learning environments where students have access to different computer programs such as Fast ForWord and Reading Assistant (the first, reprogramming how the brain learns through a kid-friendly series of games; the second program works to coach students as they practice their reading, correcting words they do not know, or do not know how to pronounce.). These cutting edge technologies are just some of the ways Jimmy is using technology to help students in blended learning environments.

Jamie Halteh (2013, BA Psychology). Jamie is now working in the payroll department for support.com who works with other companies such as Comcast and AOL for IT support.

Bill Hefley (1982, BA Psychology). Dr. Bill Hefley’s latest book, “The Outsourcing Professionals’ Guide to Corporate Responsibility”, co-authored with Professor Ron Babin of Ryerson University in Toronto, has been released. Dr. Hefley’s paper “An American Perspective on Labor Unions and Corporate Social Responsibility”, co-authored with Dean John Delaney and Professor Kim Gleason of the Katz Graduate School of Business at the University of Pittsburgh, has been accepted at the 8th International Symposium on Multinational Business Management, Nanjing, China.


Jose Pinel (2012, BA Psychology). Jose was accepted to Alliant International University’s MA-MPT program in San Francisco. He will be starting a trainee program at the Bill Wilson Center in September. In the past, he volunteered for the hotline crisis center at the Bill Wilson Center. Jose will also be participating in Alliant’s cultural immersion program. Students will stay in Mexico City for five weeks taking Spanish courses, taking cultural tours, learning about traditional healing practices (Temezcal), and having an opportunity to earn a certificate in Latin American Family Therapy.

Nancy Joan Bloss Ray (1956, Psychology). Joan writes, “I remember my years at San Jose State with great fondness. I met my husband Jack Ray there. He lived in the Sigma Nu House that was across the street from my housing. He sang bass in my ear in chorus class with Dr. Erlandson, and we enjoyed singing Barbershop a cappella harmony for most of our lives. We were married 45 years until his death in 2001. After graduation, I went to work as the Eureka County School District Psychologist on the Hoopa Indian Reservation. I accepted a permanent position teaching Psychology at San Joaquin Delta College in 1976 and loved it until I retired in 2000. In 1994 I took a year’s sabbatical leave to prepare to teach gerontology. In my summative report, one of my recommendations to the Board of Trustees was to establish a campus lifelong learning program. They agreed, and in 1998 we began to offer a full program of classes, tours, leadership, social and volunteer opportunities. I’ve had the great satisfaction to see it grow these past 15 years as their Curriculum Chair.” Thanks to Joan’s work, she was recently honored with Stockton Institute for Continued Learning’s outstanding service award.

Amelia Shaw (2013, BA Psychology). After three months of job hunting, Amelia came across a job working for Easter Seals Bay Area, with children that are dealing with low to serve autism. In the past year she has become more familiar with the techniques and clinical effects of Applied Behavior Analysis. She writes, “My experience in the last year has allowed me to...”
The Psi Chi National Honor Society and Department of Psychology at San Jose State University are proud to sponsor the Spartan Psychology Association Research Conference (SPARC), held annually each spring.

SPARC began in 1957 as a unique opportunity for both undergraduate and graduate students in psychology to gain valuable experience in presenting their research, building relationships with other students and faculty, and broadening their knowledge of cutting-edge research from numerous areas of psychological science.

Through the years, SPARC has grown to become one of the preeminent regional forums for student presentations in psychology. What was once an afternoon’s worth of talks in a classroom has evolved into a full 1-2 day program of events, including multiple oral presentations sessions, poster presentations, and invited presentations from distinguished scholars in psychology and related fields.

This year the conference occurred on May 8 and was coordinated by Assistant Professor Altovise Rogers. Dr. James McGaugh was invited to be our keynote speaker (see his alumni profile on pg. 7). Dr. McGaugh established the SPARC meetings in the 1950s, called SPAM at the time: Spartan Psychology Association Meeting.

We include some photos below to highlight the great work of our students and faculty!

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SPARC began in 1957 as a unique opportunity for both undergraduate and graduate students in psychology to gain valuable experience in presenting their research, building relationships with other students and faculty, and broadening their knowledge of cutting-edge research from numerous areas of psychological science.

Through the years, SPARC has grown to become one of the preeminent regional forums for student presentations in psychology. What was once an afternoon’s worth of talks in a classroom has evolved into a full 1-2 day program of events, including multiple oral presentations sessions, poster presentations, and invited presentations from distinguished scholars in psychology and related fields.

This year the conference occurred on May 8 and was coordinated by Assistant Professor Altovise Rogers. Dr. James McGaugh was invited to be our keynote speaker (see his alumni profile on pg. 7). Dr. McGaugh established the SPARC meetings in the 1950s, called SPAM at the time: Spartan Psychology Association Meeting.

We include some photos below to highlight the great work of our students and faculty!

SPARC Photos

SPARC Photos

SPARC Photos

SPARC Photos

SPARC Photos

SPARC Photos

SPARC Photos
Please join alumni and friends in supporting Psychology at San José State University. In an era of extraordinarily limited resources, your tax-deductible gift goes a long way to help our mission of delivering a high-quality education each year to more than 5000 students who enroll in our Psychology courses.

Just as important, your gift is extremely encouraging to today’s faculty and students. For when you give, you show your pride and belief in what we do.

To provide your tax-deductible gift online, visit this link (or copy and paste http://www.sjsu.edu/psych/Donate/index.html into your browser). Click on the “Give Now” button and follow the instructions. To provide your gift by mail, please make your gift check payable to Tower Foundation of SJSU and mail to: Tower Foundation of SJSU, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0257. Please be sure to include a note that your gift is for the Psychology Department and students.

On behalf of all of our Psychology faculty and students, sincere thanks.

This month in the History of Psychology

Never missing an opportunity to teach about psychology, we have added a new feature to the alumni newsletter that highlights quotes from well-known figures in psychology and important dates in the history of psychology. Professor Laree Huntsman contributed the quote for this newsletter:

May 1, 1657: The Salpêtrière asylum was opened in Paris. It originally housed “undesirable” individuals of all kinds and, in the 1830s, was the site of some of the first humanitarian reforms in care of people with mental illness.

May 8, 1919: Leon Festinger was born. Festinger’s theories of cognitive dissonance and social comparison processes have had lasting influence on social, personality, and motivational psychology. He was awarded the APA Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award, 1959.

May 6, 1945: Abraham Maslow began his “good human being” notebook, recording the characteristics of exceptionally well-adjusted college students. His hierarchical theory of self-actualization developed from these observations.

May 1, 1978: The Behavior Analyst, the journal of the Association for Behavior Analysis International, was founded. Scott W. Wood was the journal’s editor.

“Everyone knows what attention is. It is the taking possession by the mind, in clear and vivid form, of one out of what seem several simultaneously possible objects or trains of thought. Focalization, concentration of consciousness are of its essence.”

William James (1890) – author of the first psychology textbook

Psychology Department Newsletter  May 2014  Vol. 2, Issue 1