Dr. Ronald F. Rogers became Associate Dean of the College of Social Sciences in January 2016. Prior to this position, Dr. Rogers served as a Professor and Chair in the Department of Psychology and has been on the faculty at SJSU since 1999. Although the faculty and staff of the Psychology Department were sad to see him leave his office in DMH, we are pleased that he has been appointed to this position and wish him the best in this new stage of his career! Dr. Lynda Heiden is currently serving as department chair in the Psychology Department.

Throughout his research career, Dr. Rogers has investigated learning and memory across multiple levels of analysis. His early research investigated cellular mechanisms of neuroplasticity thought to contribute to learning and memory. More recently, his research has focused on the scholarship of teaching and learning, including investigations of classroom-level engagement and the efficacy of a Massively Open Online Course (MOOC) in elementary statistics education. His basic and applied research interests are reflected in the wide range of courses he has taught, including undergraduate and graduate courses in biological psychology, research methods, statistics, and educational psychology.

Dr. Rogers received his M.A. and Ph.D. in Psychology from Rutgers University (1992, 1995) and a B.A. in Psychology from the University of California, Santa Cruz (1989). Before coming to SJSU, he served as a postdoctoral research fellow in Behavioral Neuroscience at Indiana University, Bloomington (1995–1999).
As you read this edition of our alumni newsletter, the Psychology faculty are in the midst of temporarily moving out of Dudley Moorhead Hall so that the building can be air conditioned over the summer and fall. I’m sure that many of you remember sitting in class in DMH and sweating through a lecture! The faculty were all pleasantly surprised to hear the news about air conditioning, though moving everyone out of DMH has proved to be quite the feat! Faculty will be housed in temporary offices in Clark Hall and in other locations throughout campus. The plan is for us to move back to DMH prior to the spring 2017 semester and start enjoying the air conditioning with the first spring heat wave!

In other news, you’ll see in the above column that Dr. Ron Rogers has moved on from department chair to Associate Dean of the College of Social Sciences. We wish him the best of luck in his new position! Dr. Lynda Heiden has been serving as our interim chair and has been elected as the new chair of the department effective in August. She has been coordinating many of the particulars about our move out of DMH and we’re very grateful for her leadership!

Earlier this semester you received an email from us about completing our alumni survey. Thanks to all of you who provided responses! The survey is still open and we encourage you to complete it if you haven’t done so already: SJSU Psychology Alumni Survey. We’d like to get as many responses as possible before the summer so we can look at the data over the summer and use it for program planning purposes once the fall semester starts.

As usual, the newsletter is full of great information about the work of our faculty and students! One of our tenure-track faculty, Dr. Dave Schuster, received a large grant from the National Science Foundation that you can read about on pg. 4. Our faculty also continue to publish regularly and present at regional and national conferences (see pg. 6). We also continue to grow our faculty with two new hires (below) – stay tuned to the fall newsletter for information on their specific interests.

Thanks for reading and enjoy the summer!
Erin Woodhead
Assistant Professor

Two Faculty to Join the Psychology Department in the Fall

We’re pleased to announce that Dr. Matthew Capriotti and Dr. Evan Palmer will be joining the tenure-track faculty in the fall in the areas of Clinical and Cognitive Psychology, respectively.

Dr. Capriotti is currently a Clinical Psychology Fellow in the Department of Psychiatry at the University of California San Francisco (UCSF). His primary line of research focuses on the assessment and treatment of obsessive-compulsive spectrum disorders (e.g., tic disorders, trichotillomania/hair-pulling disorder, and excoriation/skin-picking disorder). With colleagues at UCSF, Dr. Capriotti also conducts research on health disparities that affect lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people.

Dr. Palmer has a Ph.D. from UCLA, spent four years as a post-doctoral fellow at Harvard Medical School, and is currently an Associate Professor in the Human Factors Psychology program at Wichita State University. He studies human factors applications of visual attention, perception, and cognition.

Welcome to Dr. Capriotti and Dr. Palmer! Stay tuned for full profiles on our new faculty in the Fall alumni newsletter.
CSU Trustees Appoint Mary A. Papazian as President of San Jose State University

(January 27, 2016)
The California State University Board of Trustees has appointed Mary A. Papazian, Ph.D., as president of San Jose State University effective July 1. A seasoned higher education leader with more than 25 years of teaching and administrative experience, Papazian is currently serving as the president of Southern Connecticut State University (SCSU) in New Haven, Connecticut. She replaces Susan Martin, Ph.D., who was appointed as the interim president in August 2015. Papazian will be the university’s 29th president and the third female president in its 159-year history.

“I am honored that the CSU Trustees have chosen me as president and entrusted me to build upon the campus’ long legacy of innovation and excellence. I look forward to working alongside the many dedicated faculty and staff who guide students along their academic journey and prepare them for achievements beyond the classroom,” said Papazian.

“Interim President Susan Martin and former President Mohammad Qayoumi provided the transformative leadership that built the campus’ reputation as an academic powerhouse, providing highly qualified graduates for Silicon Valley companies. Dr. Papazian envisions partnering with faculty, the campus community and external stakeholders to expand this sound foundation and bolster educational opportunities for students,” said CSU Trustee Rebecca D. Eisen, who served as the chair of the Trustees’ Committee for the Selection of the President. “She has extensive academic leadership experience and a knack for connecting campus, organizational and political leaders to higher education. Best of all, she has a long history of always putting students first.”

Papazian has served as president of SCSU since 2012, leading a campus of 11,000 students and overseeing an operating budget of $210 million. While her career at SCSU is marked with many accomplishments, one of her significant contributions to the university has been her personal commitment to student success. As a result of her efforts, the campus expanded outreach to feeder community colleges, bolstered the campus’ advising staff, launched an online advising tool, and developed summer scholarships for undergraduate research to enhance student engagement. In response to workforce needs, she actively supported new undergraduate programs in sports management, respiration therapy and utilities management, graduate degrees in cyber security, materials science and applied physics, and an accelerated MBA program.

Papazian led the university through the final phase of a successful academic accreditation process and was instrumental in the university receiving full approval by the Connecticut Board of Education for its teacher preparation program. In addition, she stabilized the campus’ leadership team, implemented the Work/Life Balance Initiative for employees and established the first President’s Commission on Campus Climate and Inclusion aimed at enhancing conversations around the university’s core commitment to social justice, equity and inclusion. She is also responsible for transforming the learning environment for students by overseeing significant physical plant expansion projects ranging from the completion of the renovation of the School of Business complex and renovation and expansion on the library to the construction of a new Academic Science Lab Building and a new environmentally-sound parking structure. In addition to reshaping the campus’ academic programs and physical environment to facilitate student success, Papazian expanded the university’s community engagement by cultivating stronger ties to SCSU’s feeder K-12 school districts, donors and other partners. Under her leadership, the campus began the planning phases, in partnership with New Haven Public Schools, to place a K-4 magnate school on campus. Furthermore, she worked to foster a spirit of civic responsibility and
David Schuster Receives NSF CAREER Award

SJSU Assistant Professor David Schuster (Department of Psychology, College of Social Sciences) has received the prestigious National Science Foundation CAREER Award for his proposal “CAREER: RUI: Understanding Human Cognition in Computer Network Defense.”

Dr. Schuster earned his Ph.D. in Psychology specializing in applied experimental and human factors psychology from the University of Central Florida in 2013. His research interests include the cognitive aspects of cybersecurity, situation awareness in human-automation teams, the impact of video games on task performance, and perceptual training for real-world pattern recognition.

The Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER) Program offers the National Science Foundation’s most prestigious awards in support of junior faculty who exemplify the role of teacher-scholars through outstanding research, excellent education and the integration of education and research within the context of the mission of their organizations.

Kevin Jordan Submits Cooperative Agreement Proposal

Kevin Jordan recently submitted a 3-year, $7.8M cooperative agreement proposal to the US Army Aviation Development Directorate at the NASA Ames Research Center. The title is “Advanced Rotorcraft Research: Adaptive Autonomy, Future Lift Systems, and Human-Centered Display Design.”


**Faculty Publications**

**Faculty Presentations**


**Student Achievements**

Mitzi Ochoa, a second year graduate student in our M.A. program, was awarded a $2000 research grant this semester from the SJSU College of Social Sciences to complete her thesis. Mitzi is working with Cheryl Chancellor-Freeland and her project is titled “The role of Stress Hormones and Power Posing in Decision-Making.”

**Donate to the Department**

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.*
## Presentations

**Faculty and Student Presentations at the Annual Convention of the Western Psychological Association (WPA)**

Several faculty and students present each year at the annual meeting of the Western Psychological Association. Below is a list of all presentations at the conference from the Psychology Department. This year the conference was held in Long Beach, CA.

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<td><strong>Alcohol and Stress Effects on Stroop Interference</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Handshakes and Stress</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Trust, Reciprocity, Fairness, and Mind Reading Under Stress</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Power in the Person: The Effects of Personality Factors on Power Posing</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Homelessness—Emerging Trends &amp; Themes</strong></td>
<td>Amanda Olson and Neelam Rattan</td>
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**A Comparison of Mood Intervention Effects on Body Dissatisfaction: A Pilot Study**  
Gabrielle Rodgers, Danielle Samuel & Mark Van Selst

**Is Decisional Strategy Associated with Treatment Choice in a Hypothetical Lung Cancer Scenario?**  
Preston Brown, Victor Kwan, Michael Vallerga & Erin Woodhead

**The Effects of Priming and Body Posture on Stress and Memory in Adolescents**  
Bob Kelly, Gabrielle Freeland, Rose Morgan (Minarets High School), Mitzi Ochoa & Cheryl Chancellor-Freeland

**Performance Rating: Trier Social Stress Test**  
Mitzi Ochoa, Brissa Ortega, Christian Lappin & Cheryl Chancellor-Freeland

**Why Do People Reject Evidence When It Contradicts Prior Beliefs?**  
Gregory J Feist & Zachary A. Caddick

**Marijuana Attitudes, Perceptions, Use and Academic Achievement**  
Kristi Sadler

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**Mediator of Relationships Between Perceived Underemployment and Outcomes Among Immigrants**  
Cassandra Mori, Michael West, Tanjit Singh & Megumi Hosoda

**Mediator of Relationship Between Perceived Discrimination and Job Attitudes**  
Shelley O’Neil, Kristi Sadler, Thao Nguyen & Megumi Hosoda

**The Interactive Effects of Attributes of Applicants on Employment Decisions**  
Elizabeth Ortega, Jesse Campbell, Kevin Murray, Bonnie Nguyen & Megumi Hosoda

**Facebook, Puzzles, and Other Distractions: Are People Escaping the Self?**  
Lee Taber, Eldita Tarani & Clifton Oyamot
Alumni Profiles

Diana Gallegos, Ph.D.

1) What program were you in at SJSU and when did you graduate?
I graduated from SJSU in May of 2002 with a major in Psychology with honors and a minor in Biology.

2) What are you up to now in your professional life?
I earned my Ph.D. in neuroscience in 2008 from the University of Iowa (UI), and completed a two-year post-doctoral fellowship and a research position in the Center on Aging at the UI. I now specialize in yoga for disabilities. In private practice, I teach yoga to individuals with traumatic brain injuries, stroke, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, dementia, amputations, and scoliosis. I also teach yoga at an adult day care to individuals with developmental disabilities, and traditional yoga classes in Iowa City. It is my heartfelt passion, joy, and life work to bring the healing benefits of yoga to others and into healthcare.

3) Did you envision doing this type of job while you were at SJSU?
No. My plan was to get into a neuroscience Ph.D. program to become a researcher in neuroscience. However, when I experienced the healing and therapeutic benefits of yoga in myself during medical issues, my passion became sharing this healing practice with others. I soon realized my purpose was not to be in the lab, my purpose was to share yoga. My background in psychology and neuroscience has really helped me to work with individuals with disabilities, to do professional presentations to help bring yoga into healthcare, and to collaborate with the university.

4) What were your interest in psychology while at SJSU, and are they the same now?
My interest was in psychobiology/neuroscience, research methods, and statistics. I also enjoyed participating as editor and VP for Psi Chi and as Chair for SPARC in 2001. I continue to be interested in the brain, the mind-body connection, and staying current in research.

5) What was your favorite class at SJSU and why?
I enjoyed so many classes! However, the classes that prepared me most for graduate school were the required classes in the honors program.

6) What was your most memorable moment as a student?
My most memorable moment as a student was the psychology department's graduation day and having my supportive family and friends there to celebrate! My other memorable moment was when I went up to my favorite teacher/mentor, Dr. Ron Rogers, and told him I was thinking of applying to a masters program and he said, “you’re going to go on and get a Ph.D.!” Never in my life would I have imagined this for myself. I was never a good student in elementary, middle, or high school. And when I went to a community college to speak to a counselor about what classes I needed to take to apply for SJSU, she said there was no way I'd ever get accepted into college. This sounded familiar though, as my high school counselor told me I wasn’t “college material”...but they were wrong, and Dr. Rogers was right! I was accepted into SJSU and finished with an overall 4.0 GPA, and I was accepted into 4 outstanding doctoral programs. Forget those that discourage you, and listen to those that encourage you -even if at first it’s only yourself and/or your family! Get involved in the supportive psychology department and follow your passion. You can do anything you put your mind to! And remember to take care of yourself and enjoy
the journey. Go for nice walks, rest, and maybe give yoga a try!

7) Describe your experience in the SJSU psychology department in one sentence. The psychology department at SJSU for me was like a warm, welcoming, and encouraging family!

Simon Howard

1) What program were you in at SJSU and when did you graduate?
I graduated in May 2010 with a BA in Behavioral Science with a concentration in Psychology.

2) What are you up to now in your professional life?
Currently I am in the process of completing my Ph.D. in Social Psychology at Tufts University. In the Fall of 2016 I will join the faculty of Marquette University as an Assistant Professor of Psychology. I will teach courses such as social psychology, research methods, and psychology of race and racism. In addition, I will continue to do research on how race and sociocultural beliefs associated with race influence our interactions, memory, perceptions and judgments.

3) Did you envision doing this type of job while you were at SJSU?
Before the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Scholars program, I would have never envisioned I would be doing what I am doing, primarily because I had no idea how academia, graduate school and research worked. Being a first generation college student I did not really know the inner workings of academia and I lacked the cultural capital that is necessary to get one on the graduate school/professorate trajectory. After the McNair scholars program, however, I was armed with the cultural capital and the confidence I needed to believe that I could pursue a doctorate and one day be a professor. But even as it happening, finishing graduate school and landing a faculty position, there is still part of me that cannot believe it is actually happening.

4) What were your interests in psychology while at SJSU, and are they the same now?
My general interest in psychology while I was at SJSU was driven by an overall curiosity about the mind and human behavior; I wanted answers to the question, “Why do we do what we do?” In addition, I wanted to use my knowledge in psychology to combat anti-Black racism and oppression; I just did not how I how to about doing that. Today, I believe my interests in psychology are more or less the same, I still want answers to that fundamental question and I am still dedicated to use my knowledge of social psychology to combat anti-Black racism and oppression.

5) What was your favorite class at SJSU and why?
My favorite class that I took at SJSU was a psychology of prejudice class with an adjunct professor, Dr. Russel Arias. He forced us out of our comfort zones and encouraged us to deal with our own prejudices that we held. The class discussions and conversations that were sparked were difficult for some individuals to have but they were necessary.

6) What was your most memorable moment as a student?
There are too many! But, I would definitely say among the most memorable moments at SJSU, had to have come with the friends I made in the dorms, Joe West, and Campus Building B (Mo, Drew, Anthony, Wil, Leonna).
Evan Brown, Psy.D.

1) What program were you in at SJSU and when did you graduate?
I was in the Psychology Behavioral Science Double Major program at SJSU and I graduated in 2007.

2) What are you up to now in your professional life?
I completed my doctorate in Clinical Psychology from Pacific University in August 2014 and I have been working at a Federal Prison in Oklahoma as a Staff Psychologist for the past year. It is very interesting work and there doesn’t seem to be a day that is exactly the same. It seems that I could be running a group on one day and then down in the Special Housing Unit the next doing a Suicide Risk Assessment or attempting to deescalate a situation where an inmate is acting out. I really enjoy what I do.

3) Did you envision doing this type of job while you were at SJSU?
I never thought I would be working as a psychologist in a prison or even as a psychologist when I graduated from SJSU. I was very interested in federal law enforcement when I graduated and even completed an internship with the FBI during my time at SJSU. I wanted to get a Masters degree before I applied to the FBI and I was still interested in human behavior; specifically, why criminals act the way they do, and I went to get my Masters in Forensic Psychology at John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York City. While at John Jay, I did an internship at a forensic state hospital, working with patients who were not competent to stand trial or who were hospitalized after receiving an insanity acquittal. During this internship, I became really interested in working from the treatment side of things and decided to get my doctorate in psychology to do so. During my doctorate program I had practicum placements at a state prison, which led me to applying for an internship with the Federal Bureau of Prisons and now I am starting my career with them.

4) What were your interests in psychology while at SJSU, and are they the same now?
My interest in psychology was mostly with criminal behavior, but I was interested because I wanted to work in law enforcement and I thought knowing about human behavior would be really helpful for that. I went on to do a masters in forensic psychology for the same reasons. I am still interested in law enforcement, and sometimes do some “what if” thinking, but my interests have mostly grown toward the treatment side of things. I sort of went from wanting to catch and arrest criminals to doing rehabilitation with guys who were arrested by FBI agents. So I just went to the other side of things.

5) What was your favorite class at SJSU and why?
My favorite class was the DSM at the Movies class taught by Dr. Eldred. It was a lot of work, but also a lot of fun. It really helped me to understand diagnosing better and I still remember the specific symptoms of diagnoses better because of that class.

6) What was your most memorable moment as a student?
My most memorable moment was when I helped Steve Del Chiaro with a presentation he does on memory with one of his classes. He had me come in after one of his classes started and yell at him for being inappropriate with my “sister” or something like that, to demonstrate how eye-witness testimony can become hazy when several people see something when they are taken by surprise. Anyway, I remembered it because he let me yell anything I wanted at him and accusing him of being inappropriate with my sister was a blast!

7) Describe your experience in the SJSU psychology department in one sentence.
A relatively small department that allowed me to become interested in psychology better than I ever expected do to a great staff.
The Psi Chi National Honor Society and Department of Psychology at San Jose State University are proud to sponsor the the Spartan Psychology Association Research Conference (SPARC), held annually each spring. This year the conference was on April 26 and was coordinated by Assistant Professors Altovise Rogers and CJ Duh. Benjamin Levy, Ph.D. from University of San Francisco was invited to be our keynote speaker. We include some photos from this year's SPARC event to highlight the great work of our students and faculty!