



Tech Psych



A Newsletter for Friends and Alumni of Texas Tech

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From the Department Chair

This past academic year has been marked by change. In addition to the routine departures surrounding graduation, we celebrated the contributions of three of our retiring senior colleagues and friends, including Dick McGlynn, Bill Maki, and Ruth Maki. All have made significant and enduring contributions to the Department, the broader TTU community, along with the science and profession of psychology in general. You'll find stories on each in this issue, including a few thoughts about how they'll be spending their retirement years. As you know, new faculty usually follow retirements. This coming academic year we'll be joined by four new faculty members: Ken DeMarree, Jeff Dressel, Jessecae Marsh, and Mike Serra. Please take a moment to read and learn a little more about each and join me in welcoming them to Texas Tech and Lubbock. The transition to full-time faculty from graduate student can be an interesting one. We'll also be saying goodbye to Frank Durso; he's headed to Georgia Tech. Frank will be sorely missed.

This issue is a little longer than usual. The primary reason is that the Department is a productive one and we needed a little more space to cover some significant events over the last few months. In addition to the usual columns, you'll find several features in this issue. The program updates are also longer than usual reflecting the busy spring and summer months. You'll also find that we've featured the work of several faculty members, including Pat DeLucia, along with Susan and Clyde Hendrick. I think you'll find Pat's research intriguing, with important implications. I can't say enough about what Susan has established at the University Medical Center. Her work at the Cancer Center and now Pediatrics has afforded our students not only

invaluable clinical training, but also touched the lives of hundreds (and likely thousands) of patients and family members. Similarly, the scholarly work of Clyde and Susan has had comparable impact on the scientific front. You'll also find a feature on the HFES student chapter. The chapter recently received some well deserved national recognition. Also of interest, the clinical psychology doctoral program was recently recognized by U.S. News & World Report as one of the "top 100" clinical psychology programs in the country, a noteworthy accomplishment and the first time the program has broken the top 100 barrier. (with over 400 programs nationally).

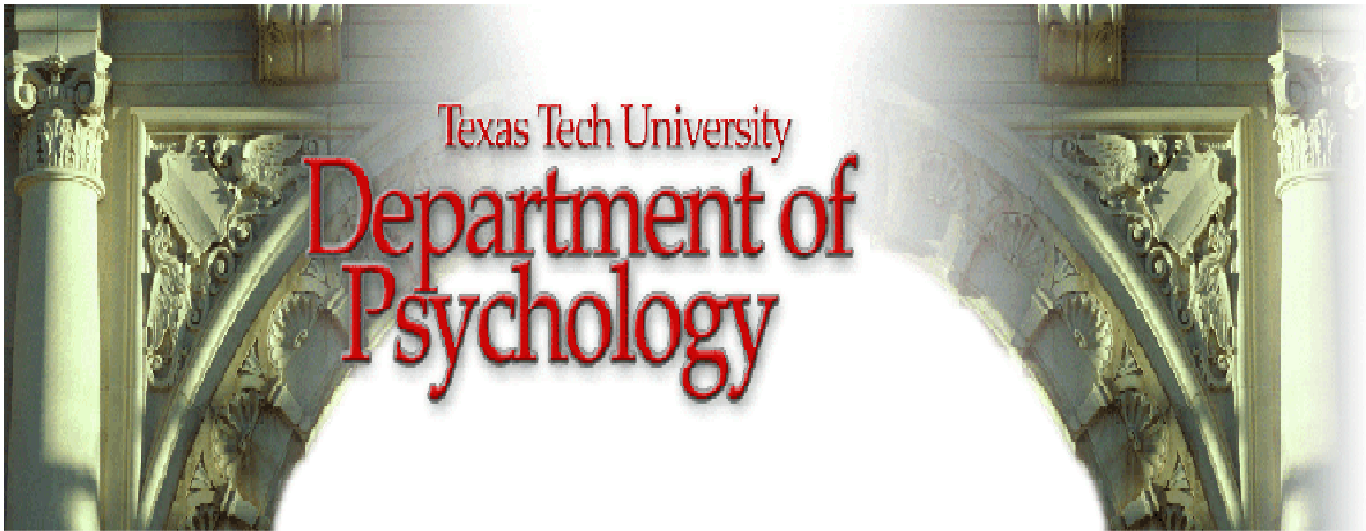
If you haven't already checked out our podcasts series on the webpage, I would strongly encourage you to do so. They include a wealth of information on a broad range of psychology-related topics and it's a popular resource on iTunes, having been the top-ranked series on the "higher education" section. It's also worth mention that several of our students have decided to join the academy, accepting academic jobs for the coming year. Please join me in wishing them the best as they start their careers.

We've included a detailed section honoring our graduate student award recipients this year. All of our graduate students do excellent work, but the ones you'll find on page 17 have simply been exceptional this past year. As you can see, it's been a busy year. This coming academic year the Department will see quite a few new faces, students and faculty alike. If you find yourself in Lubbock, please drop by the Department to rekindle an existing friendship or develop a new one.



Special points of interest:

- Faculty Research Spotlight
- Retiring Faculty
- New Faculty Members
- Updates from our alumni. Please keep in touch and send in something for the next newsletter!



Program Updates

COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM

By Shelia Garos

Well, the heat of the summer is here, and it is time for another newsletter update. Also, it is the completion of my first year as training director. It has certainly been a challenging first year. The Counseling faculty spent considerable time reviewing our policies and procedures in order to improve our program and subsequently our service to students. These changes ranged from adding more resource references to our handbook to making a change in our qualifying exam procedures. The new version of the handbook will be posted on line, later this summer.

I have enjoyed and continue to enjoy serving in the capacity of Training Director. I recently attended an Accreditation Assembly in Minneapolis where representatives from organizations such as the American Psychological Association (APA), the Association of Psychology Postdoctoral and Internship Centers (APPIC) and Council of Counseling Psychology Training Programs (CCPTP) were represented. I learned a great deal about what and how information is to be reported to the Commission on Accreditation when programs undergo self-studies, what the role of the Commission is, and how directives from the U.S. Department of Education influence accreditation of programs and the reporting of student outcomes. While this may sound very dry and uninteresting, it will be of great use to me when faced with certain administrative challenges that arise for all program directors in APA accredited programs. And yes... I did go to the Mall of America.



In addition to the press for programs to collect outcome data (e.g., internship placements, number of graduates who obtain a professional license, number of years it takes students to graduate) there is movement toward competency-based training. In short, programs are being asked to demonstrate in concrete ways, that clinicians-in-training are graduating with the skills and knowledge necessary for professional practice. Basically, are students learning what we [the program] say they are learning? One way this is accomplished is by defining what those competencies are, integrating them into the curriculum and devising concrete measures of mastery of those competencies over the course of training. This will be a focus of attention for the Counseling faculty in the coming year.

Faculty and students from all our doctoral programs are busy at the local, state, and national levels.



Program Updates Continued

Speaking of the coming year... I would like to welcome the incoming 2008-2009 class!!

Abby Diehl – BA: S. Western University; MA: TX State Univ (advisor, Dr. Richards)

Lance Dixon – BA: NE State Univ; MA: Southern Methodist Univ (advisor, Dr. Cook)

Michelle Gates – BA: Rockhurst University (advisor, Dr. Hardin)

Chris Romani – BA: Penn. State (advisor, Dr. Morgan)

Jennifer Vencill – BA: Christopher Newport (advisor, Dr. Garos)

We look forward to these students joining us next Fall.

I also want to acknowledge the achievements and activities of some of our current students. Kasi Howard received the *Helen DeVitt Fellowship* (three year award) and will be presenting a poster and symposium this summer at the *International Association for Relationship Researchers*. Lindsey Moore will be presenting a poster at the APA conference this year. Lindsey received a *Covenant Health and Sciences Research Fellowship*. Alli DeFinnis co-authored and presented a paper at the *Cognitive Underpinnings of Engineering Education Conference* with Dr. Roman Taraban. She also will present a poster at APS (*Association for Psychological Science*) in Chicago, and will present a poster and participate in a roundtable discussion at IARR (*International Association of Relationship Research*) in Providence later this year. Julianna Harris received a teaching award this spring. This is just a sample of the scholarly activities our students are engaged in

this year. Shelda Iverson-Border presented a poster at the 2008 *International Counseling Psychology Conference* and also received the Health and Social Services Fellowship for next year.

We have four students who will be completing their internship this summer. Tiffanie Fennell has accepted a post-doc position at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA. Kristen Chambliss accepted a two year post-doc at the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston. Finally, Femina Varghese has accepted a tenure track assistant professor position at the University of Central Arkansas. Congratulations!!

Students who are leaving on internship are Zach Ward (UCLA Student Psychological Services); Jon Mandracchia and Michelle Gaines (U.S. Medical Center for Federal Prisoners, Springfield, Mo.); and Uyen Tran (VA, Central Texas).



Be sure to take a look at the awards and honors our students have received in the last quarter.



Program Updates

So... what's up with faculty lately? Several of our faculty are off duty at the moment and enjoying the summer before their teaching assignments resume. Dr. Robitschek went rock climbing in Greece!! I hope she will share her experiences (and perhaps some pictures) from her trip in the next newsletter. Dr. Hardin will be going to Hawaii this summer to celebrate her and her husband's tenure promotion this year. I will hit her up for some pictures for the next issue as well.

Steve Richards' recent and current students are doing well. For example, Melissa Santos (PhD, 2005) is the director of an eating disorders program at a hospital in Connecticut. Edyta Skarbek (PhD, 2006) is teaching at a branch campus of the University of Maryland—in Kuwait. Steve Kolar (PhD, 2008) is working as a clinician in the schools and some family therapy programs in Austin, Texas. Cynthia Willmon (MA, 2008) is pursuing her dissertation and internship applications next academic year, including a study on how people cope with depression on their own (without professional help). Annaleis Hunter (Shoemaker Scholarship winner & BA, 2009) will work with us on this research project. Andrew Friedman is pursuing the completion of his second-year project write-up, involving a study of depression and the proximity of social support, and more courses, practicum, and quals next year. Shena Wadian (MA, Ball State U, 2006) is pursuing the completion of her second-year project write-up, involving a study of depressive contagion, and more courses, practicum, and quals next year. Abby Diehl (MA, Texas State U,

2008) will begin our counseling PhD program next fall, and her research interests include depression, health psychology, and the association of depression with other problems (co-morbidity). Finally, my family is doing fine, with Dawn continuing with teaching and graduate school (MA in special education) in NY City; Jill heading into her "PhD quals year" in English at UC—Berkeley; Carol and me continuing with our jobs and home lives (but not any new hobbies—I decided not to take up Sky Diving, since I'm scared of both danger and height); and our 1-year-old Collie, Max, continuing to be adorable, friendly, and "high maintenance." Best wishes to all Texas Tech folks! Steve (6/08)

Dr. Hendrick: For this summer newsletter, I decided to write about the students and research taking place in the Close Relationships Research Group. The group meets bi-weekly during the long semesters and takes a summer hiatus (though the work goes on!). The group typically includes graduate students in Counseling Psychology and Social Psychology and an occasional Clinical Psychology student. Undergraduate research assistants are also a valued part of the group. This Spring we proudly sent off four students to graduate study, including the University of Northern Colorado, Oklahoma State University, Ball State University, and the University of North Texas. Previous undergraduate RAs have gone on to graduate study in various areas or into the work world.

Our doctoral students are easily among the most well-qualified and productive on campus.



Program Updates

Our students are engaged in a broad range of research activities.

Our graduate students are working on diverse projects, but all loosely (or tightly) related to close relationships. Alli DeFinis has developed a measure of deception in romantic relationships and plans on continuing this line of research for her dissertation. Kasi Howard is interested in emotional expressivity and how it can best be measured as well as how it can contribute to romantic partner satisfaction. She may continue this work for her dissertation. Erin Buck, new to our lab this year, is doing her dissertation research on relationship breakups, building on earlier work with Dr. Stephen Cook. She believes that breakup – like other trauma – can result in positive personal growth in many individuals. Finally, Suzy Hutcherson, also new to the lab's research, is building on her earlier work with Dr. Cathy Epkins to explore family and other correlates of anxiety and depression in young college women. Erin Logue, who has just finished her first year in the Counseling Program, is developing an infidelity measure that she hopes will be the basis for a program of research. Other students in the lab include Randy Overbeek, who will be working on his dissertation this year, and Kristin Gonzalez, who works primarily with Dr. Darcy Reich but manages to contribute a great deal to our group.

We also continue to work with former students and are currently involved with helping Dr. Tammy Zacchilli, Assistant Professor of Psychology at St. Leo University in Florida, publish her dissertation on conflict strategies and Kristen Chambliss, currently on internship and headed for a postdoc at

UT Medical Branch-Galveston, publish her dissertation on individual and relational contributors to personal well-being.

Finally, Clyde and I have some chapters and encyclopedia entries coming out, have just submitted a paper extending our research on respect, and have plans to do a review paper on respect and the family and to extend our respect research to a medical setting. We – and our lab – still think that close relationships is a fascinating topic!

Well, that wraps it up for the Counseling Division this summer. Stay cool.





Program Updates

EXPERIMENTAL PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM

Spotlight on Human Factors

By Jeff Larsen and Patricia Delucia

The Human Factors (HF) Psychology Program wishes the best of luck to Frank Durso as he pursues his career ambitions at Georgia Tech's Engineering Psychology Program. Frank has had a tremendously positive impact on our program and we are grateful for his contributions. This fall we will conduct a national search to replace Frank. On a more positive note, we welcome Dr. Jeffrey Dressel who we hired to expand our HF Program to four faculty. He will join our program in the fall and will study drivers while they converse on their cell phones. We also welcome graduate students, Craig Curtis, Jae Li, and Jason Vanderslice, bringing our total to 13 students!

Congratulations are in order several times over to Dr. Keith Jones. He was elected Secretary/Treasurer and 2009 Program Chair of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society's (HFES) Perception and Performance Technical Group. He also received the *Best Paper* award at the Texas Regional HFES Conference. His graduate student, Allyson Hall, won *Best Student Paper*. Our students also are making news. We congratulate Dr. Brian Johnson, who recently completed his PhD under Keith Jones and is now Lt. Brian Johnson Aerospace Experimental Psychologist with the U.S. Navy. We also congratulate Anand Tharanathan on his new position as Human Factors Research Scientist in the Automation and Control Solutions Lab at Honeywell in Minneapolis, Minnesota. He begins his new post in December. Arathi Sethumadhavan co-authored a paper on situation

awareness that is in press in *Human Factors*, and was appointed Newsletter Editor of APA Division 21. This year she won the Experimental Graduate Student Research Award. Finally, several students are completing internships... Tammy Ott at SIFT in Minnesota, Kerstan Mork at Sandia Labs in Albuquerque, and Allyson Hall at Perceptive Sciences in Austin. Our students repeatedly receive accolades from industry employers who remark at the excellence of their training in comparison to students in other programs.

There is no doubt that our current and former students have helped our program garner the national visibility and reputation for excellence that we enjoy. It also helps to have the distinction of being only 1 of 9 HF Psychology programs accredited by HFES, the only one accredited in the Big 12, and the only one in Texas!

I close with a note *and a request for suggestions* on education issues facing the field of HF that I grapple with as the Chairperson of the Education and Training Committee of HFES: There are numerous pressing issues that demand the expertise of HF. I will focus on two. The first is "NextGen" which is the next phase of aviation—air traffic is expected to triple in the next 20 years which will create numerous safety issues. An attempt will be made to solve these issues with new cockpit and air traffic control technologies. HF has been identified as integral to the success of NextGen. The second issue is patient safety. The rate of medical errors was estimated by the Institute of Medicine as one per patient per hospital day. HF has been identified as a key component in reducing such errors.

All of our new faculty members will be joining the experimental programs.



Program Updates Continued

The educational issue in the field of HF is that there is a shortage of experts and a shortage of faculty to train those experts. There are only 23 doctoral programs in HF Psychology in the United States. The majority of graduates from these programs are lured into the industry sector which is much more lucrative, offering new PhDs 75K-100K in starting salary (compared with 50K in academia). So who will replace HF faculty who retire? Who will advise the vendors who create the technology for NextGen? Who will design the hospital workspaces to reduce medication errors in nursing? The students in our HF program are highly sought after not only because of their excellent training but because their expertise makes a difference in the world. However, if we do not replace HF faculty in academia eventually there will not be anyone to train HF experts that industry and government need to solve pressing issues facing the world today and in the future. ***Since most of our HF alum are in industry, I pose a challenge to you: how can industry, government, and universities work together to solve this problem? Please send suggestions to me at pat.delucia@ttu.edu***



CILINICAL PSYCHOLOGY PROGRAM

By Lee Cohen

Much of the news that is going on in the division can be found elsewhere in the newsletter, so I will keep the clinical column short and sweet. The most significant news is that the American Psychological Association has safely received our program's self-study and we eagerly await word so that we can schedule our site visit for the Fall 2008 semester. I want to personally thank all of you who responded to our multiple requests for information as the data you provided was an essential component of the study. One of the most rewarding aspects of writing the self-study is getting caught up with our alumni and seeing their many impressive professional accomplishments as well as gaining a better perspective of how hard our students and faculty work in the division. There is no question, that all this hard work and success played a role in our program's impressive ranking in the U.S. News and World Report. It is also important to note that this ranking would not have been possible without the many significant contributions of our Counseling and Experimental faculty. I also wanted to take this opportunity to recognize and congratulate this year's departmental award winners from our division. Specifically, Joy Pemberton was awarded the Clinical Research Award this year and Chikira Barker, Tabatha Blount, Ryan Graham, and Valerie Hobson were all awarded teaching awards. Finally, I wanted to be sure to wish all 7 of our students who are headed off on their clinical internships the best of luck as they begin the next step of their training. You will all be missed in the department but I know we will be well-represented and you will all make our program proud!



Congratulations to our students and faculty on their many accomplishments!

Faculty Research Spotlight: Dr. Patricia R. DeLucia

While you are tracking the softball as it travels toward home plate you decide that it is time to swing the bat...

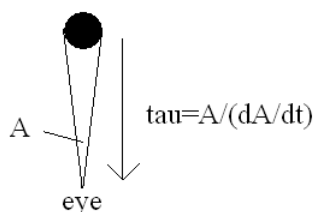
While you are driving along a road the car ahead of you slows down and, suddenly, you decide that it is critical to step on your brakes...

While your doctor views your internal organs on a video monitor during your gall bladder surgery he or she decides just how far to move the fiberoptic scope so that your artery does not get punctured...

Performance in all of these situations relies upon visual perception. By studying performance in these real-world situations, we can better understand the mechanisms that underlie visual perception. By better understanding visual perception, we can improve performance in these real-world situations. This is the essence of human factors psychology: the integration of basic science with applications to the real world. This has been the essence of my research at Texas Tech University. The following sections summarize various research projects that have been conducted in my laboratory in collaboration with outstanding graduate students including Eston Betts, Jennifer Blume, Gregory Liddell, Les Meyer, Kerstan Mork, Tammy Ott, and Anand Tharanathan.



Visual Perception of Collision. Your decision of when to swing the bat at the ball is a perceptual judgment about when the ball will hit the bat, known in the literature as a judgment of *time to contact* (TTC). In the three-dimensional world, TTC is computed by dividing distance by velocity. However, it has been shown that TTC is available in the two-dimensional pattern of light that reaches the eye or optic flow. This quantity is known as *tau* defined as the ratio of an object's optical size to its rate of optical expansion (see figure below). Tau-based models of performance have been highly influential and prior results suggest that people can use tau in various tasks. Such models raise doubts about traditional (cognitive) theories of depth perception because they do not require mental processes or pictorial depth cues. However, my research demonstrates that depth cues and cognitive processes can influence TTC judgments despite the presence of tau. For example, observers reported that a large far (computer-generated) approaching object would reach them before a small near object that was specified to arrive sooner by tau. Judgments were consistent with the depth cue of relative size rather than with tau. My findings have been recognized as a "challenge to the autonomy of tau." My work has implications for the design of cockpit displays and has been funded by NASA-Ames Research Center.



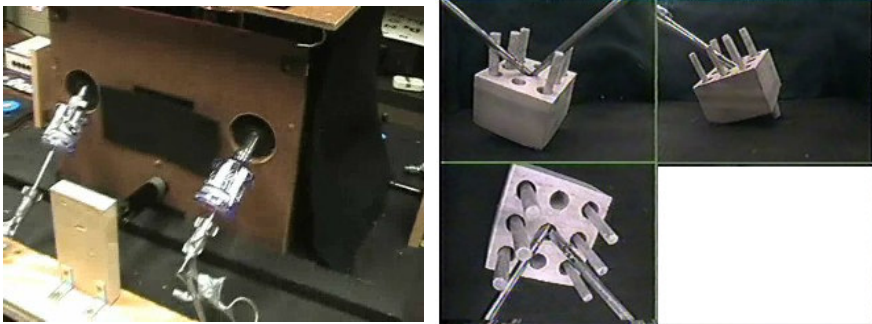
Perceptual Factors in Driving and Implications for Models of Space Perception. Your decision of when to step on the brakes of your car is a judgment of when you would collide with the car ahead—a judgment of time-to-contact. Rear-end collisions account for 25% of all accidents. To avoid such collisions, drivers must detect that the car ahead of them is decelerating. The driver may rely on brake lights. Alternatively, before the brake lights illuminate, the driver may notice the car slowing down due to its growth in the visual field (i.e., optical expansion). Our research using driving simulations (see figure below) indicates that the type of information that drivers use depends on how far ahead the lead car is located. This suggests that the processes that underlie space perception depend on distance. Recently, I incorporated this idea into a conceptual model of space perception which is based on recent neuropsychological and neuroimaging studies. According to this model the perception of very far distances is served by cognitive processes and the perception of very near distances is served by non-cognitive (direct) processes. The model also incorporates task parameters and the presence and nature of motion, resulting in a multidimensional model of space perception.



Perceptual Factors in Minimally-Invasive Surgery. Your doctor's ability to perform surgery safely depends on his or her ability to perceive the relative depth between the gall bladder and the surrounding arteries and tissues. The performance of surgery with the use of fiberoptic cameras has brought great benefits to patients, including less injury and faster recovery. However, it makes the job more difficult for surgeons who have to rely on fewer depth cues and a narrower field of view. In short, it is more difficult for the surgeon to move the surgical instruments through the anatomical spaces. Our research aims to apply what we know about depth perception to develop surgical displays. For example, using a surgical simulator, we examined whether three separate views of space—a top view, frontal view, and side view (thus providing more depth information than a single display), would improve perceptual-motor performance (see figure below). Our results show that observers relied upon

the top view and did not utilize the other views. In addition, the side view was detrimental to performance. Our most recent work in this area suggests that the multiple displays that surgeons use in the already cluttered operating room can be integrated into one split-screen display without a detrimental effect on performance.

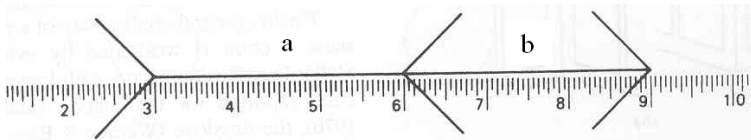
Faculty Research Spotlight: Dr. Patricia R. DeLucia (Continued)



Visual Memory for Moving Scenes. As you drive, you take your eyes off the car ahead to view other parts of the traffic scene. While you do so you presumably keep track of the car ahead in memory. If you remember the lead car as being farther away than it really is, you may follow it too closely and cause a rear end collision. My research shows that observers' memories for moving three-dimensional scenes are distorted in systematic ways. These results

extended prior studies of visual memory which were limited to static displays. The implication is that there is a common mechanism that underlies memory for static and moving scenes. Furthermore, my results show that optic flow information due to (simulated) self motion does not eliminate memory distortions obtained with static scenes. This research has important implications for models of scene memory and for transportation safety.

Visual Illusions. Some theories have argued that visual illusions occur only with static, impoverished laboratory displays. My research shows that illusions can occur with three-dimensional objects and moving observers and can even affect judgments about collisions. Therefore, illusions can have adverse consequences for human safety and it becomes important to predict the occurrence of illusions. This requires theory. I developed a method to evaluate how well several different theories predict the Mueller-Lyer illusion (Shown in figure below; line "a" is equal in length to line "b", but "a" appears longer). Unlike prior studies which evaluated directional predictions, I evaluated quantitative predictions, which are more critical to evaluations of theory (Meehl, 1967). My results demonstrated difficulties for perspective and centroid theories of the illusion.



Patient Wait Time and Patient Satisfaction. Satisfaction with healthcare has a direct impact on a patient's compliance with medical treatment and willingness to attend follow-up visits with healthcare providers. At the request of a local cancer treatment center, we conducted a study on how long it took patients to complete their visit at the center, and how satisfied they were

with their wait time. Unlike other studies of patient wait times which asked patients how long they waited, we measured each individual patient's wait time with a stop watch. In addition, we measured wait times for each component of the visit (reception desk, triage, clinic exam room, etc). Our results replicated prior studies which showed that longer wait times were associated with lower ratings of satisfaction with wait times. New in our study was that longer wait times were also associated with satisfaction with other aspects of the visit. Most important, the longer that patients waited for the doctor in the clinic examination room, the less satisfied they were with the time they spent with the doctor. The implication is that as doctors are pressured to spend less and less time with their patients, they should minimize the time that patients have to wait to see them.

Performance in Nursing. In collaboration with the Transdisciplinary Research in Patient Safety Team (TRIPS), a joint effort of TTU and TTUHSC, I have developed a line of research on performance in nursing. The Institute of Medicine has identified the work environment of nursing as critical in the delivery of safe patient care. Nurses spend the most time with patients compared with all other health care providers. Their performance has a direct impact on the quality of health care that patients receive and thus patient outcomes. The nurse's critical task is patient surveillance—monitoring changes in the patient's status to prevent declines in health. However, due to the design of the work environment, nurses spend only about 25% of their time in direct contact with patients. In addition, they engage in multiple tasks at once, shift their attention from one patient to another frequently, and rely heavily on prospective and procedural memory. In short, they have heavy cognitive loads. Yet, they are frequently interrupted which degrades cognitive performance. There is a pressing need to redesign the work environment of nurses to increase efficiency so that they can spend more time with patients. Our research team hopes to contribute to improve the work environment of nurses so that patient safety can be enhanced.

Human Factors Program Development. A significant amount of my effort has been in the development of the human factors program. Over the past 16 years our program has risen grown in size and stature and currently enjoys a national reputation and full accreditation from the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (one of only 9 doctoral psychology programs in the nation!). For more information about the program please see: <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/psychologyhumanfactors/humanfactors/home.htm>

For more information about the field of human factors, see www.hfes.org

Human Factors Ergonomics Society TTU Student Chapter

Local Human Factors Ergonomics Society Chapter Receives National Recognition

The Human Factors Ergonomics Society (HFES) is a national organization comprised of local and student chapters. There are no local chapters in Lubbock, but there is a student chapter at Texas Tech University comprised of psychology and industrial engineering students. Dr. Keith Jones is one of the faculty advisors for the organization and psychology graduate student, John Morris, is the president of the organization.

The purpose of the HFES is to supplement materials learned in the classroom and to provide students with experience in human factors. According to Dr. Keith Jones, "HFES provides a fuller training that students would not be exposed to outside of publications." Recently, the organization went to Austin, TX and visited a consulting firm to see how the company operates. The organization also encourages students to network and build community culture in the field of Human Factors. It provides mentorship in a group setting that facilitates student professional development. During the HFES meetings, the society brings in guest speakers to discuss working in the industry such as Texas Tech alumni in the workforce, traffic engineers, and prominent researchers from other universities. The HFES is involved with community service and continues to take part in Habitat for Humanity. Furthermore, the HFES has participated in Arbor Day for the past few years by planting flowers on campus.

A couple of years ago the TTU chapter of the HFES set a goal to be nationally recognized by the organization. Different award levels are given to a chapter based on the number of activities the chapter participates in. In October 2007, the HFES at TTU received a **silver recognition** for participating in activities such as volunteering, field trips and collaborations. The chapter has a goal of receiving a gold recognition next year by increasing the activity of the chapter on campus and in the community. Receiving recognition from the national HFES organization provides members with visibility in the field of human factors. Only a few student chapters receive any level of recognition nationwide!



Arbor Day 2008

Texas Regional HFES conference

Along with four other chapters in Texas, the Texas Tech University Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Student Chapter hosted and participated in the first-ever Texas Regional Human Factors and Ergonomics Society conference on April 18, 2008 in Austin, Texas. The purpose of the conference was to provide an opportunity for members of the human factors community around Texas to come together and share information about current research, new ideas, and innovations. Other conference attendees and participants consisted of ergonomics engineers, designers, and developers from companies such as Lockheed Martin, NASA, United States Air Force, AT&T Labs, Raytheon, SA Technologies, Texas Transportation Institute, and universities including Texas A&M, Rice, University of Texas at San Antonio, and the University of Houston-Clear Lake.

The keynote speaker was Loren Shriver, a former astronaut who is currently the Vice President of Engineering and Integration, and Chief Technology Officer for the United Space Alliance. A special guest speaker was Jeff Kelley of Microsoft, and current President of the national Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. Numerous presentations and posters were exhibited, with members of the Texas Tech Student Chapter contributing six posters and two presentations; posters were given by Paul Derby, Eston Betts, Jacob Fleming, John Morris, Chris Sader, and Arathi Sethumadhavan, with lecture presentations by Dr. Keith Jones (faculty advisor) and Allyson Hall. The research presented by members of the Texas Tech Student Chapter spanned a variety of topics, including patient satisfaction, study replication, air traffic control, website usage, video games, robotics, and training. In addition to their marvelous participation in the conference, Texas Tech Student Chapter representatives received the Best Paper (Keith Jones) and Best Student Paper (Allyson Hall) conference awards.



Human Factors Ergonomics Society (Continued)

While in Austin, Student Chapter members toured facilities at Perceptive Sciences, AT&T Labs, and Applied Materials. Both Perceptive Sciences and AT&T Labs, pursue the goal of enhancing the usability of products and systems using a variety of methods to ensure that members of the intended user populations can successfully interact with them. At Applied Materials, human factors and ergonomics knowledge is used to ensure safety.



Our members met with representatives at each of the businesses to discuss the role of human factors and ergonomics in the workplace and to see aspects of the profession in practice. Human factors professionals at Perceptive Sciences and AT&T Labs consider human behavior by observing people as they interact with various forms of technology. For AT&T Labs, the focus is on products that are developed in house. Perceptive Sciences, a consulting firm, assesses human behavior with respect to client products. Their clientele range from JC Penney to the State of Texas. The emphasis at Applied Materials is on the concordance with guidelines set forth by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). Applied Materials is a manufacturing facility that is part of the \$300 billion-dollar per year semiconductor industry.

Along with the facility tours in Austin, the Texas-wide conference collaboration has led to increased exposure of the research talent residing in the Departments of Psychology and Industrial Engineering and Texas Tech. The Texas Tech University Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Student Chapter was commended for its participation and assistance in organizing the first-ever regional HFES conference in Texas. Due to the success of the conference, organizers are planning future regional conferences across Texas on a two or three year basis. Members of the student chapter made valuable contacts and learned first-hand from professionals working in the academic, governmental, and industrial sectors. This contact has resulted in the development of internship opportunities at all of the facilities toured.



Dr. Susan Hendrick: Cancer Center and Pediatric Program



cancer survivors.

Clinical and counseling psychology graduate students and Dr. Hendrick began working at the SCTRC as counselors in July 2004. This partnership was welcomed and well received by the staff of the center from the beginning. Based on the need for the counselors and the positive relationships created with patients, families, and the SCTRC staff, Dr. Hendrick wanted to make sure that the partnership continued when the GPE grant ended in July 2007. Dr. Hendrick collaborated with SCTRC administrators and successfully created a self-sustaining affiliation with the center. In turn, Dr. Hendrick watched the program grow from one quarter-time assistantship to two paid quarter-time assistantships and a practicum of five students within the psychology department.

Currently, the clinical and counseling psychology students are working in the chemotherapy infusion area, bone marrow transplant unit, oncology inpatients, radiation area, and most of the general clinics at the SCTRC. In addition to supervising the graduate students, Dr. Hendrick personally provides counseling at SCTRC lung cancer clinic. However, even with the growth of the partnership it is still a stretch to try to cover all of the areas of the center in need of counseling. Dr. Hendrick and her team provide counseling in a range of environments from scheduled sessions to mini interventions to providing a healing presence. They have also presented two Oncology Grand Rounds, focusing on patient-health provider communication. Dr. Hendrick and the graduate students working at the SCTRC provide crisis intervention, preventive care, and “curb-side counseling” to the patients and their families.

The partnership with the SCTRC and the psychology department has been a great success, but it took a lot of learning and adjusting to grow accustomed to the routine of the center. First, the communication and confidentiality policies are different in the healthcare setting. Counselors learned how to effectively communicate with cancer patients and have assisted in strengthening the communication between the healthcare team and their patients. It was also challenging for the cancer center team to adjust to the less stringent confidentiality policies of the SCTRC. Patient records are more accessible and case presentations consist of a team of physicians that discuss detailed patient information. While providing services to patients and families, the counselors are often interrupted by nurses and doctors, which changes the flow of the session. Additionally, Dr. Hendrick and the graduate students have found giving a patient or family member a hug is not only accepted but common in the healthcare environment. Touch helps in the healing process.



The pediatric program at the University Medical Center (UMC) heard about the psychology department affiliation with the SCTRC while raising money for different projects. Soon after, a representative of the UMC Foundation contacted Dr. Hendrick and asked her to supervise a similar partnership. In the fall semester of 2006, the “Rushing Fellowship” was the first fellowship given to a psychology graduate student in pediatric intensive care and pediatrics under the supervision of Dr. Hendrick. Then, in 2007, a second position was filled by a psychology graduate student counselor, and services were extended to NICU. The program continues today and has been another successful collaboration in the community.

Dr. Clyde Hendrick and Dr. Susan Hendrick



During the early years of the Hendricks' marriage, Dr. Clyde Hendrick was Chair of the Department of Psychology at the University of Miami in Coral Gables, Florida. Dr. Susan Hendrick had a private practice as a psychologist in Coral Gables and also taught part-time and consulted at Baptist Hospital in Miami. After awhile, they decided they would like to find a way to work together, merging Clyde's philosophical/theoretical interests and Susan's applied interests. Both were influenced by a book called *The Colors of Love*, by John Alan Lee, so they decided to begin working in that area. They spent several years at Miami and at Texas Tech refining their Love Attitudes Scale, which has a short form and has been published in numerous languages.

Along the way they wrote one of the first books in the relationship area, *Liking, Loving, & Relating*, published by Brooks/Cole in 1983. About that time, Dr. John Harvey, Chair of the Department of Psychology at Texas Tech, facilitated TTU's hiring of the Hendricks in 1984. Clyde came to TTU as Dean of the Graduate School and Susan as a Visiting Assistant Professor in Counseling Psychology. Clyde was Dean for 11 years, and Susan was Director of the Counseling Program for nearly 10 years, with a year break. During this time they developed other measures such as the Sexual Attitudes Scale, Susan developed her Relationship Assessment Scale (a satisfaction scale widely used in relationship research) and wrote and edited additional books, including a handbook called *Close Relationships*, published by Sage in 2000 and Susan's undergraduate text, *Understanding Close Relationships*, published in 2004 by Allyn & Bacon. In 1996, Dr. Clyde Hendrick was selected as a Paul Whitfield Horn Professor, and Dr. Susan Hendrick received the same honor in 2005.

They collaborated also in raising a blended family of three teen-agers (now all grown) and more recently are enjoying their role as grandparents to Harrison, 9, and Luke, 6. Their "hobby" is the every-Friday date with their grandsons, and many other times spent with their grandsons as well.

In addition to producing their own scholarship, the Hendricks have worked with many undergraduate and graduate students during their years at TTU, chairing numerous dissertations. Dr. Clyde Hendrick is also the Associate Director of the Institute for Studies in Pragmaticism, housed in the TTU library and fostering the work of philosopher Charles Sanders Peirce.

Most recently the Hendricks have been working with the construct of respect, which is much talked about but little studied. They have developed a measure of Respect Toward Partner and have papers published and under review that broaden the literature on relational respect. They have several current and potential projects and hope to take their respect research to the medical environment, assessing how patients value research.

David Rudd described their respective contributions to the Department as "invaluable", noting that their national and international reputations have not only "helped raise the profile of the Department of Psychology, but also made it far easier to recruit high quality doctoral students and faculty" to Lubbock.



Students Accept Academic Jobs!

Dr. **Ingrid Bayer** will be working at the University of Akron as a tenure-track Assistant Professor beginning in the Fall of 2008. She will be a faculty member of for the Department of Counseling Psychology which is a collaborative program with the Department of Psychology and is a highly ranked APA-accredited doctoral program. Ingrid Bayer graduated from the Counseling Psychology program at TTU in December 2007 and worked under Dr. Chris Robitschek. Her husband, **Arne Weigold**, graduated in May 2008 from the Cognitive Psychology program under Dr. Ruth Maki and will also be working at the University of Akron in the Department of Psychology as a part-time instructor.

Dr. **Jared Dempsey** accepted a tenure-track faculty position at Oklahoma State University beginning in August of this year. Jared will be an Assistant Professor in the APA-accredited doctoral Clinical Psychology program. Jared graduated from the Clinical Psychology program in 2007 under Dr. Lee Cohen. His primary research interests include addiction and comorbid mental health disorders. Furthermore, Jared's clinical interests include social phobia, panic disorder, and posttraumatic stress disorder.

Dr. **Femina Varghese** accepted is a tenure-track position as an assistant professor in the Department of Psychology and Counseling at the University of Central Arkansas. Femina graduated from the Counseling Psychology program at TTU under Dr. Erin Hardin. She will be teaching and mentoring doctoral students in the Counseling Psychology program as well as continuing her research program on offender employability. Since the Department of Psychology and Counseling is new, she will be a part of the program's development.

Welcome to Our New Students!

<u>Clinical</u>	<u>Undergraduate Institution</u>	<u>Advisor</u>
Brianna Bennett	Emporia State (BA/MA)	Harter
Christine Gardner	Univ. of North Texas	Epkins
Danielle Jahn	Univ. of Florida	Curkrowicz
Kelly Katuls	California State: San Bernardino	Mumma
Cortney Mauer	Univ. of Florida/American U (MA)	Mumma
Chloe Menon	Univ. of Southern California	Harter
<u>Counseling</u>		
Abby Diehl	S. Western U/Texas State U (MA)	Richards
Lance Dixon	NE State Univ./SMU (MA)	Cook
Michelle Gates	Rockhurst Univ.	Hardin
Chris Romani	Penn State	Morgan
Jennifer Vencill	Christopher Newport	Garos
<u>Experimental</u>		
<i>Cognitive</i>		
Benjamin England	Western Connecticut	Taraban
<i>Human Factors</i>		
Jae In Lee	Chu-Ang Univ.	Dressel
Michael Vanderslice (MA)	TTU	DeLucia
<i>Social</i>		
Alicia Catlette	Ohio Univ.	Larsen
Adam Randell	East Central Univ.	Reich



We wish all our students—old and new—the best of luck and greatest success at the various points in their careers.



Incoming Faculty



Dr. Kenneth DeMarree went to graduate school at The Ohio State University and will be joining the Social Psychology program at TTU in the fall. His research interests include attitudes and persuasion, social cognition, and the self. Currently, he is examining how accessible constructs (e.g., a primed stereotype) can affect our own behavior and judgments. In the future, Dr. DeMarree plans to continue his current research, develop new research, and collaborate with TTU students and faculty.

Dr. DeMarree will be teaching introductory social psychology course at the undergraduate and graduate level, and undergraduate statistics. Additionally, he will be teaching a graduate seminar on the self, which will provide an in depth overview of research on the self (e.g., self-esteem, self-regulation, self-knowledge, etc.) as well as a look at some of the current hot topics and controversies in the field.

According to Dr. DeMarree, his goals at TTU are to become successful by developing a program of research he can be proud of, developing his skills as an instructor, and contributing to the advancement of the field of social psychology.

Dr. Jessecae Marsh, a new faculty member in the Applied Cognitive experimental program, recently graduated from Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut. Her research interests are in the fields of categorization and causal reasoning. Specifically, she is interested in how the causal theories people hold affect the way they interact with the world and their reasoning about categories. Dr. Marsh has applied this focus to investigating mental health clinicians' reasoning. Recently, she investigated how the expertise of a clinician affects their memory for patient information. She is currently collaborating with a faculty member at the University of Maryland to investigate how clinicians use the context in which diagnostic features are presented to evaluate a patient. In the future, Dr. Marsh plans on pursuing research to further investigate how the specific theories clinicians hold affect their recollection of patients. Furthermore, she is interested in looking at how ambiguous information about a patient is interpreted depending on the theory held by the clinician.

In addition to continuing her research, Dr. Marsh will be teaching a graduate seminar in categorization. The course objectives are to provide students with an understanding of the classic findings in the categorization field and discuss new directions in the field. At the undergraduate level, she will be teaching Introduction to Statistics and Cognitive Psychology.

Dr. Marsh's main goal for the coming academic year is to establish her research lab at TTU. Once her lab is established, Dr. Marsh plans on creating an exciting and productive research program within the field of Applied Cognitive psychology.

Dr. Michael Serra completed his Ph.D. at Kent State University in Ohio. He will be working as an Applied Cognitive faculty member after the completion of post-doctoral research position at Columbia University. His main research focus is on metacognition, which is thinking about cognitive processes. Specifically, his research interests include how people learn and study and ways to improve learning and studying. He is also interested in multimedia learning—in particular why adding diagrams to text improves people's memory and understanding of what they have read. Dr. Serra is expected to seek funding from the IES (Institute of Education Sciences) during his first year at TTU to fund research examining metacomprehension for multimedia materials.

In Spring 2009, Dr. Serra will be teaching a graduate course on learning. At the undergraduate level, he will be teaching research methods in the fall and spring. Additionally, Dr. Serra plans on teaching a range of classes including: research methods, intermediate statistics, cognitive psychology, and general psychology.

Dr. Serra's goals at TTU include conducting and publishing his own research, growing as an instructor, receiving funding for his research, and becoming a full member of the Psychonomic Society.

Dr. Jeff Dressel was unavailable this summer, but we'll have a story on him in the fall issue!



Graduate School Rankings



Congratulations to the doctoral clinical psychology program for being one of four Texas Tech University graduate programs recognized and ranked by the U.S. News and World Report. Nationally ranked (92nd), the clinical Ph. D. psychology program is classified in the top tier. Additionally, the program is ranked fourth in the state of Texas. Over the past five years, the program has moved up 22 slots and this is the first time the program was ranked in

the top 100 in the country. The rankings are based on academic quality, peer-rated by administrators and faculty from accredited programs. Keep up the good work!

Dr. Jeff Larsen's Research on Happiness Covered In the Popular Press

A recent paper in *Psychological Science* by Dr. Jeff Larsen and Amie McKibban, a former graduate student in social psychology has been featured on websites around the world, including those of USA Today, Yahoo News, and the Canadian Broadcasting Company. Larsen and McKibban tested the maxim that "Happiness is not having what you want, but wanting what you have" by asking Texas Tech undergraduates to indicate whether they had and how much they wanted 52 different material items (e.g., a car, a stereo, an apartment). Larsen and McKibban used these data to estimate how much each participant wanted what they had and had what they wanted. Results indicated that the maxim is both right and wrong: Those who want more of what they have tended to be happier, but so did individuals who have more of what they want.

Podcast Series

The TTU Psychology podcast series is one of the top ranked iTunes Higher Education podcasts! Created by Dr. Frank Durso and with the help of graduate students, Allyson Hall, Kristin Goodheart, Liz Schmidlin, and R. B. Watts, the series currently has 21 featured psychology related podcasts. These podcasts include: humor, road rage, divorce, virginity, depression, teamwork, giftedness, domestic abuse, what to do with a BA in Psychology, Uninhabited Aerial Vehicles (UAV), smoking, phobias, navigating therapy, sleep hygiene, time to contact, love and relationships, suicide, using technology, dealing with stress, persuasion, and eating disorders, and interracial relationships. Each podcast consists of a short audio clip that includes interviews from Texas Tech faculty, other experts in the field, and individuals with personal experience in the subject matter. Using the psychology podcasts to share information can be a useful supplement to the classroom and has even been used by a teacher in Japan. The podcast series has helped promote current research including the research in the TTU psychology department. Visit the psychology department website or iTunes Higher education to listen.

FELLOWSHIPS

Marshall Bewley, Tanecia Blue, Kristin Goodheart, David Heckler, Shelda Iverson-Borders, Lindsey Moore, Sandra Rodriguez-Siuts, and Rocio Villarreal were all awarded the Graduate School's Health and Social Services Fellowship for the

2008-2009 academic year. The fellowship is for full-time graduate students in the field of health and social services who are interested in working in West Texas.

AWARDS

Joy Humphreys received the TTU Horn Professors Graduate Achievement Award after being nominated by Dr. Stephanie Harter and Dr. Sid O'Bryant and submitting letters of recommendations from Dr. Judy O'Jile of the University of Mississippi Medical Center and Dr. John Lucas of the Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville. The award was created for graduate students at TTU who are actively involved in original research or creative activity and production of new and important outcomes recognized beyond the university. Joy received the Horn Professors Award because of her extensive research experience, numerous publications and presentations, involvement in several original research projects, and participation in research with other scholars throughout the country.

Valerie Hobson placed 2nd and Joe Vanderveen placed 3rd in the Education and Psychology division of the Graduate School Poster Competition.

Jakie Diggs, Lauren Mason, Joelle Lowe, Tanner Guinn, and Jennifer Vazquez were the winners of the Spring 2008 Research Methods poster competition receiving a perfect score from the judges! The winners will have their names added to the plaque of Research Methods poster winners in room 301 of the psychology building.

Kristin Wood, an undergraduate student at Texas Tech University, recently received the Honors Student of the Year Award. Kristin graduated this May with a double major in Psychology and Spanish and two minors in Biology and Communication Sciences.

Additionally, Kristin received a \$5,000 Phi Kappa Phi fellowship that she plans to spend on graduate school expenses. Kristin submitted a personal statement, letters of recommendation and other materials similar to a graduate school application in order to receive the competitive fellowship. Therefore, it is not surprising that Kristin was actively involved in the psychology department, gaining experience in the research labs of Dr. Hardin, Dr. Larsen, and Dr. Young. Kristin completed her Honors Thesis under Dr. Larsen entitled "On Ambivalence: A facial electromyographic investigation of mixed emotions." She also participated in a panel about applying to graduate school held by the Honors College in which she explained the application process and gave advice to future applicants. Kristin will be attending the Psychological and Brain Sciences Ph. D. program at Dartmouth College in the fall. She will be working under Dr. Catherine Norris researching in the field of social neuroscience.



Graduate Student Research Awards

Recipients of this year's graduate student research awards included Joy Pemberton (clinical), Femina Varghese (counseling and *not pictured*), and Arathi Sethumadhavan (experimental). All have done outstanding work, with impressive publication and presentation records. Be sure to take a look at the publications in this issue to get a better idea of what type of research our students are doing.



Joy and Lee



Arathi and Jeff

Graduate Teaching Awards

Our graduate students do an outstanding job in the classroom. Each year, faculty members vote on those that perform at an exceptional level. This year's recipients include the following: Chikira Barker (Outstanding Instructor for Psychology 1300), Tabatha Blount (Outstanding Advanced Instructor), Cynthia Willmon (Outstanding Advanced Instructor), Valerie Hobson (Psychology 1300 *Extra Mile Award*), Kristin Gonzalez (Psychology 1300 Best New Instructor), Julianna Harris (Psychology 1300 Best New Instructor), Ryan Graham (Outstanding Course Teaching Assistant).



Chikira Barker and Erin



Valerie Hobson

The positive feedback about the classroom performance of our graduate students is extremely positive and continuous, both from formal and informal sources. Teaching evaluations rival faculty and students' comments continue to praise their knowledge, energy, organizational skills and passion for psychology.



Kristin Gonzalez



Tabby Blount



Ryan Graham



Julianna Harris



Cynthia Willmon



Recent Faculty, Staff, and Student Honors and Awards

Please take a look at our monthly news updates on our web page at www.depts.ttu.edu/psy for a complete listing of faculty publications, presentations, appointments, awards and other honors.

Kelly Cukrowicz passed the Texas oral licensing exam.

Tiffanie Fennell accepted a position at the Louis Stokes Cleveland Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, an APA accredited postdoctoral residency in Clinical Psychology with a special emphasis on primary care and mental health integration.

Chris Robitschek was reappointed to the editorial board of the *Journal of Career Development* for a two year term.

Arathi Sethumadhavan was appointed as the Newsletter Editor of Division 21 of the American Psychological Association.

Joaquin Borrego served as a Grant Reviewer, *Mental Health Services in Non-Specialty Settings*, National Institute of Mental Health, National Institute of Health.

Joaquin Borrego was asked to serve on Subcommittee on Research for Working Group on Adapting Latino Services for the National Child Traumatic Stress Network (NCTSN).

Rosemary Cogan successfully completed the national examination for certification as an IRB Professional (CIP).

Stephen Cook was asked to provide advice and mentoring at the "Early Career Professionals Mentoring Event" at the International Counseling Psychology Conference in March, 2008.

Kelly Cukrowicz: Extramural Travel Support from the Office of Research Services was awarded in the amount of \$903 to support travel to the NIH Regional Seminar on Program Funding and Grants Administration.

Pat Delucia was nominated to chair the program for the Toronto meeting of APA for Div 21 Applied Experimental and Engineering Psychology.

Pat Delucia was appointed to the editorial review board for Volume 6 of Reviews of Human Factors and Ergonomics (an annual publication series by HFES).

Chris Robitschek was awarded an External Research Promotion Award (\$860.00) from the TTU Office of Research Services, to attend the NIH Regional Training Seminar: Program Funding and Grants Administration in San Antonio.

Susan Hendrick's close relationships research group, has the following students accepted to graduate school for Fall 2008:

Leslie Faulkner – MA program in Clinical Psychology at Ball State University

Matthew Terry – Master's program in Psychology at University of North Texas

Aaron Wallis – Doctoral program in Clinical Psychology at University of Northern Colorado

Rich Zamora – Master's program in Counseling Psychology at Oklahoma State University

Marshall Bewley, Tanecia Blue, Kristin Goodheart, David Heckler, Shelda Iverson-Borders, Lindsey Moore, Sandra Rodriguez-Siuts, and Rocio Villarreal were awarded the Graduate School's Health and Social Services Fellowship for the 2008-2009 academic year.

Pat Delucia was appointed 2009 Program Chair, APA Division 21, Applied Experimental and Engineering Psychology.

Erin Hardin was selected as a recipient of a *Professing Excellence* award from University Student Housing "in recognition of excellence in teaching and service to the students of Texas Tech University."

Stephanie Harter was elected to the faculty senate from Arts and Sciences.

Joy Humphreys received the Horn Professors' Graduate Achievement Award.

Dr. Brian R. Johnson was sworn in as a Navy Aerospace Experimental Psychology.

Keith Jones's lab won "Best" awards at the first Texas Regional Human Factors and Ergonomics Society One Day Conference. Dr. Jones won "Best Paper" and **Allyson Hall** won "Best Student Paper".

Keith Jones was elected Secretary/Treasurer of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society's Perception and Performance Technical Group.

Keith Jones was elected Program Chair of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society's Perception and Performance Technical Group (for the 2009 conference in San Antonio).

Jon Mandracchia was awarded the American Academy of Forensic Psychology Dissertation Grant in Applied Law & Psychology

David Rudd was appointed to the editorial board for the Encyclopedia of Child Behavior and Development, Springer Publishing.



Congratulations Erin!

David Rudd was appointed to the PDV Foundation National Advisory Board, a foundation targeting federal mental health policy.

Dr. Ingrid Weigold accepted a tenure-track Assistant Professor position with the APA accredited, PhD Collaborative Program in Counseling Psychology at the University of Akron. Dr. Weigold graduated from our Counseling Program in December 2007.

Kelly C. Cukrowicz was competitively selected to attend the NIMH-sponsored Summer Research Institute in Geriatric Psychiatry at the University of Pennsylvania from July 19th to July 25th.

David Rudd served as a visiting faculty member at Madigan Army Medical Center and University of British Columbia.

Joe Vanderveen was the recipient of a 2008 American Psychological Association (APA) Student Travel Award.

Zach Ward received a 2008 Summer Dissertation Research Award from the Graduate School.

Kristin Wood was named the Honors Student of the Year for 2008 at the Spring Banquet of the Honors College. Kristin graduated this May with a major in Psychology and will start her PhD this fall at Dartmouth University.





Congratulations to a Very Productive Department! Publications February –May 2008

February

Borrego, Jr., J., Feinberg, M. R., Reicher, S., & **Barker, C. H.** (in press). Parent child interaction therapy with domestic violence populations. To appear in *Journal of Family Violence*.

Dressel, J. Cellular phone use while driving: A methodological checklist for investigating dual-task costs. *Transportation Research Part F: Traffic Psychology and Behaviour*.

O'Bryant, S. E., **Humphreys, J. D.**, Smith, G. E., Ivnik, R. J., Graff-Radford, N. R., Petersen, R. C. et al. (in press). Detecting dementia with the Mini-Mental State Examination (MMSE) in highly educated individuals. *Archives of Neurology*.

Maki, W. S. (2008). A database of associative strengths from the strength sampling model: A theory-based supplement to the Nelson, McEvoy, and Schreiber word association norms. *Behavior Research Methods*, 40, 232-235.

McGlynn, R. P. (in press). Brainstorming. In *Encyclopedia of giftedness, creativity, and talent*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.

Randolph-Seng, B., & Reich, D. A. (2008, February). *Automatic components of social identity processes*. Poster presented at the 9th annual meeting of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, Albuquerque, NM.

Rudd, M.D. (in press). The fluid nature of suicide risk: Implications for clinical practice. *Professional Psychology: Research & Practice*.

Rudd, M.D. (2008). Depression & Suicide: A Diathesis-Stress Model for Understanding and Treatment. In B. Moore and A. Freeman (Eds.), *In Harm's Way: A Psychological Treatment Handbook for Pre- and Post-Deployment*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

Rudd, M.D. (in press). A Cognitive Model of Suicide. In K. Michel & D. Jobes (Eds.), *The Aeschi Papers: The Therapeutic Relationship with Suicidal Patients*. Washington, DC: American Psychological Association.

March

Bade, M. K., & Cook, S. W. (2008). Functions of Christian prayer in the coping process. *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, 47, 123-133.

Cukrowicz, K. C., Ekblad, A. G., Cheavens, J. S., Rosenthal, M. Z., Lynch, T. R. (2008). Coping and thought suppression as predictors of suicidal ideation in depressed older adults with personality disorders. *Aging & Mental Health*, 12, 149-157.

Durso, F. T., & Sethumadhavan, A. (in press). Situation awareness: Understanding dynamic environments. *Human Factors*.

Larsen, J. T., & Cohen, L. M. (in press). Smoking attitudes, intentions, and behavior among college student smokers: Positivity outweighs negativity. *Addiction Research and Theory*.

Randolph-Seng, B., Nielsen, M. E., Bottoms, B., & Filipas, H. (in press) The relationship between ethnicity, Christian orthodoxy, and mental health. *Mental Health, Religion, & Culture*.

Taraban, R. (in press). An impoverished machine: Challenges to human learning and instructional technology. *Behavior Research Methods*.

VanderVeen, J.W., Cohen, L.M., Trotter, D.R.M., & Collins, F.L. (In Press). Impulsivity and the role of smoking-related outcome expectancies among dependent college-aged cigarette smokers. *Addictive Behaviors*.



Publications February –May 2008

Continued

April

- Cordero, L., Rudd, M. D.,** Bryan, C. J., & Corso, K. A. (2008). Accuracy of general practitioners' understanding of the FDA black box warning label. *Primary Care & Community Psychiatry*, In Press.
- Davis, K. A., & Epkins, C. C.** (in press). Do private religious practices moderate the relation between family conflict and preadolescents' depression and anxiety symptoms? *Journal of Early Adolescence*.
- Joiner, T. E., Petty, S., Perez, M., Sachs, N., **Rudd, M.** (2008). Depressive Symptoms Induce Paranoid Symptoms in Narcissistic Personalities (But Not Narcissistic Symptoms in Paranoid Personalities). *Psychiatry Research*, 159, 237-244.
- Larsen, J. T.,** & McKibban, A. R. (2008). Is happiness having what you want, wanting what you have, or both? *Psychological Science*, 19, 371-377.
- Maki, R. H., Weigold, A.,** & Arrellano, A. (2008). False memory for associated word lists in individuals and collaborating groups. *Memory & Cognition*, 36, 598-603.
- McGlynn, R. P.,** Harding, D. J., & Cottle, J. L. (in press). Individual-group discontinuity in group-individual interactions: Does size matter? *Group Processes and Intergroup Relations*.
- Palmieri, P. A., **DeLucia, P. R.,** Peterson, L. T., Ott, T. E., & Gree, A. (2008). The anatomy and physiology of error in adverse healthcare events. In G. T. Savage & E. Ford, *Advances in Health Care Management, Volume 7, Patient Safety and Health Care Management*.
- Randolph-Seng, B.,** & Nielsen, M. E. (in press). Opening the doors of perception: Priming altered states of consciousness outside of conscious awareness. *Archiv für Religionspsychologie*.
- Reich, D. A.,** & Mather, R. D. (2008). Busy perceivers and ineffective suppression goals: A critical role for distracter thoughts. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 34, 706-718.
- Romero, L. E., & Epkins, C. C.** (2008). Girls' cognitions of hypothetical friends: Are they related to depression, loneliness, social anxiety and perceived similarity? *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships*, 25, 311-332.
- Yates, M. A., Markham, J. A., Anderson, S. E., **Morris, J. R.,** & Juraska, J. M. (in press). Regional variability in age-related loss of neurons from the primary visual cortex and medial prefrontal cortex of male and female rats. *Brain Research*.

May

- Blount, T. H., & Epkins, C. C.** (in press). Exploring modeling-based hypotheses in preadolescent girls' and boys' cognitive vulnerability to depression. *Cognitive Therapy and Research*.
- Cukrowicz, K. C.,** Duberstein, P., Vannoy, S., Lynch, T. R., McQuoid, D., & Steffens, D. C. (in press). Course of suicide ideation and predictors of change in depressed older adults. *Journal of Affective Disorders*.
- Feixas, G., Erazo-Caidedo, M. I., **Harter, S. L.,** Bach, L. (2008). Construction of self and others in unipolar depressive disorders: A study using repertory grid technique, *Cognitive Therapy and Research*, 32, 386-400.
- Rudd, M.D.** (in press). The fluid nature of suicide risk. *Professional Psychology: Research & Practice*.
- Rudd, M.D.** & Bryan, C. (in press). Suicide risk in primary care. Springer Publishing (to be released in spring of 2009).



Dissertation Defenses
March 2008 through June 2008

Erin Buchanan, “Differential Effects of Association and Semantics on Priming and Memory Judgments.” Committee Chairperson, William Maki

Michelle Gaines, “An Examination of the Combined use of the PAI and the M-FAST in Detecting Malingering among Inmates.” Committee Chairperson, Robert Morgan

Brain Johnson, “After Brainstorming, When is the Best Idea Selected?” Committee Chairperson, Keith Jones

Stuart J. Spendlove, “The Role of Ethnic Identity, Other Projective Factors, and Acculturative Stress in At-Risk Mexican American Adolescents.” Committee Chairperson, Joaquin Borrego

Femina P. Varghese, “Understanding the Factors that Affect Employability of Soon-to-Be Released Prisoners.” Committee Chairperson, Erin Hardin



Retiring Faculty...

Dr. Ruth Maki

Dr. Ruth Maki began working at Texas Tech University in 1997 as the chair of the psychology department. Her research at TTTU has been primarily in the field of meta-comprehension. Particularly, Dr. Maki is interested in individuals' abilities to judge how well they have learned and how well they will remember information.

Currently, Dr. Maki is working on research projects with her graduate students, Curtis Craig and J Rudine, on students' abilities to judge how well they can learn statistical concepts. In their most recent study, college students read about statistics topics and judged how well they thought they would do on a statistics test. Dr. Maki's research lab found that participants who have never taken a statistics course were able to predict their test scores with some accuracy. In contrast, participants who had previously taken a statistics course were not able to predict their scores on the test. Dr. Maki and her students suggest that relearning some of the statistical concepts may disrupt the ability for students to discriminate what they know from what they do not know. Another part of the study was administering mini-tests throughout the statistics lessons with either multiple choice questions or calculations. Participants who took either mini-test performed well on the mini-test due to testing immediately after learning. However, participants who took the calculations mini-tests performed worse on the final test than participants who answered multiple-choice questions and than students who did not take any mini-tests during learning. According to Dr. Maki and her students, these findings suggest that embedding calculations into statistics lessons may hurt a student's ability to perform well on a final test.

In addition to her research, Dr. Maki has made significant contributions to the psychology department by serving as the department chair for eight and a half years. Dr. Maki created the undergraduate advising office, providing additional jobs for graduate students and hiring the head advisor, Maggie Durham. Furthermore, Dr. Maki strengthened the graduate program by finding funds to increase the number of half-time assistantships. Finally, she hired 10 of the current faculty members: Drs. Borrego, Cohen, Durso, Garos, Hardin, Jones, Larsen, Morgan, Reich, and Young. Dr. Maki stated, "These faculty members have helped set high expectations for the program, raised the bar for future faculty members, continue to produce high-quality research, and have helped stabilize the department."



After retirement, Dr. Maki plans to move with her husband to Green Valley, Arizona where she will finish working on research projects with her graduate students. Additionally, both of the Maki's intend to participate in brown bags and colloquia at the nearby University of Arizona. Dr. Maki would like to emphasize the strength of the psychology department due to the dedication of the students, faculty, and alumni. Furthermore, she would like to thank the alumni for their support and hopes that present and future alumni will continue to contribute to the psychology department's success.



Retiring Faculty Continued

Dr. Bill Maki

Dr. Maki's academic career began as a faculty member at North Dakota State University researching attentional and visual information processing. After exploring these processes, his research began to shift towards a more interesting idea of memory judgment of words and what types of mental structures words activate. Dr. Maki's research interests at Texas Tech University included: what individuals know about their own memory systems, how words are put together in memory, how well individuals judge the relationships between words, and the network reconstruction of word relationships.



Through the investigation of these research interests, Dr. Maki has found that the basic technique people use to relate words together are to make judgments about words. For example, when you ask a college student the first word that comes to mind after you say "keg," they are likely to respond with the word "beer." However, keg and beer do not share similar properties. Therefore, Dr. Maki was interested in how words are put together in an individual's memory if the words do not share common properties. He has found that words are related in a complex network that can be classified into three distinct categories of word knowledge: associative, semantic, and thematic. Associative word knowledge is how words are put together in an individual's memory. Furthermore, semantic word knowledge is how words are related to each other. Finally, thematic word knowledge is higher-order word knowledge than associative and semantic in which an individual connects words together based on a theme using a complex set of ideas. Dr. Maki has investigated each of these word knowledge areas throughout his career.

Dr. Bill Maki began working in the TTU Experimental Psychology Program in 1997 and retired in May of this year. Reflecting back on the past 11 years, Dr. Maki stated, "My most memorable moments at Texas Tech were with the graduate and undergraduate students and having them be partners with me in the research enterprise." Recently, Dr. Maki chaired Erin Buchanan's dissertation and supervised Jessica Cooper's undergraduate honors research project.



Over the next couple of years, Dr. Maki will be wrapping up a couple of his own research projects. Additionally, he will be adjusting to retirement in Green Valley, Arizona with his wife Dr. Ruth Maki. When asked about his feelings on retirement, Dr. Maki stated that he is excited about having more time to travel with his wife. In fact, the Maki's plan on caravanning to Mexico with a local dive shop in Tucson, Arizona that is about an hour away from their new home. The Maki's are also looking forward to taking a three week trip to Indonesia in November where they will be diving throughout the New Guinea and Bali areas.

The Maki's new backyard!



Retiring Faculty Continued

Dr. Richard McGlynn

Dr. McGlynn began his career at Texas Tech University in 1969 and will be retiring this year. Looking back at his time in the psychology department, Dr. McGlynn stated that the most rewarding experience was working with graduate students. In fact, he served as chair to 31 graduate student dissertations throughout his career at TTU. For the last half of his time at Texas Tech, he also taught a core course taken by most graduate students. According to Dr. McGlynn, his interactions with students played an essential role in his career satisfaction. As a faculty member for nearly 40 years, he says he was never bored because each year brought new, young faces to the psychology department.



In addition to recalling his work with students, Dr. McGlynn stated that he will always remember fondly the development of the social psychology program. Dr. McGlynn contributed to the social program's growth to its current four social psychologist faculty and eight doctoral students. When he started in the department there was only one social psychologist and only one student in experimental psychology was doing research in the social area. Dr. Clyde Hendrick came to Texas Tech as Dean of the Graduate School in the 1980s and by 2002 when the program grew to four social psychologists and 8-12 students, social psychology had become an established specialty within the department. Dr. McGlynn is not only proud of the growth of the program; he is also impressed with the high-quality faculty and students that the social psychology program comprises.



Dr. McGlynn's research interests center on group problem solving and decision making. Recently, he has been researching hypothesis generation as a phase of group problem solving. Specifically, he is studying group idea generation and brainstorming in contexts where the hypotheses can be used to solve problems and are constrained by accumulating evidence. He has found that groups are better at generating hypotheses in these contexts than they are in situations where originality is all that matters. He has also found that brainstorming is not particularly helpful in the process of induction.

After retirement, Dr. McGlynn plans on relocating to Chicago, but does not have any specific plans once he arrives. He is looking forward to being closer to his grandchildren and spending more time with them as well as helping the Cubs bring home a World Series title.





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Where Are They Now?

Scott Hutchens (1998, Experimental Psychology), Associate Professor of Psychology at Delta State University, was presented the 2007 S. E. Kossman Outstanding Faculty Award during the 80th Spring Commencement at Delta State University. Delta State recognizes exceptional performances by professors through the annual selection of one outstanding faculty member. Scott is the 25th winner in the award’s 25-year history. As the Kossman Award recipient, Scott delivered the 81st DSU 2007 Fall Commencement keynote address. Scott offered wisdom and advice to the graduating class with his address, “Off the Wall Comments.” Scott has been at Delta State since 1998 and is the Coordinator of the Psychology Program. Scott and his wife, Beth (1995, Elementary Education), currently reside in Cleveland, Mississippi with their children: Zachary Alan (8), Scottie Elisabeth (6) and Zoey Annelise (2).



<http://www.depts.ttu.edu/psy/psychologypodcast>

New Babies in the Department!

Pete Randolph-Seng



Ari Jane Ashton



William Rockford Trotter

