

**From the Department Chair, Dr. Robert Morgan**

The 2016-2017 academic year promises to be an exciting one. We have a lot of new faces in the department and will soon be receiving a facelift to our building. First, the new faces. It is my pleasure to introduce to you eight new faculty that joined our department this fall. See their highlights on pages 2-5.

Regarding our building facelift, yes, it is true — we really are expanding. We will be adding two floors over the northern extension. Groundbreaking is currently scheduled for February 21, 2017, with move-in scheduled for November 28, 2017. This expansion will provide additional office and research space. We are obviously very excited about this project, and appreciate the College of Arts and Sciences and the greater TTU commitment to growth in our department.

As you will see in this edition of the newsletter, the College of Arts and Sciences has a fund raising campaign entitled "**Unmasking Innovation.**" This is an exciting time at TTU, specifically in our college and our department, so now is the time to consider your donations (and just in time for end-of-year tax savings).

If you are in town for a game, to visit friends or family, or for business, please let me know you are coming. I would like to meet with you, share more about all that is happening here, and learn about your time at TTU and subsequent activities.

Best Wishes,
Bob
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Introductions Edition**New Students****New Faculty**

Plus, Psi Chi, our latest grants, recent news, and a new campaign...

New Graduate Students



Clinical

Top: Casey Thornton, Jordan Gette, Lauren Pascarella

Bottom: Zohal Heidari, Kelsey Maloney, Chelsy Simmons, Amber Marrow

Counseling

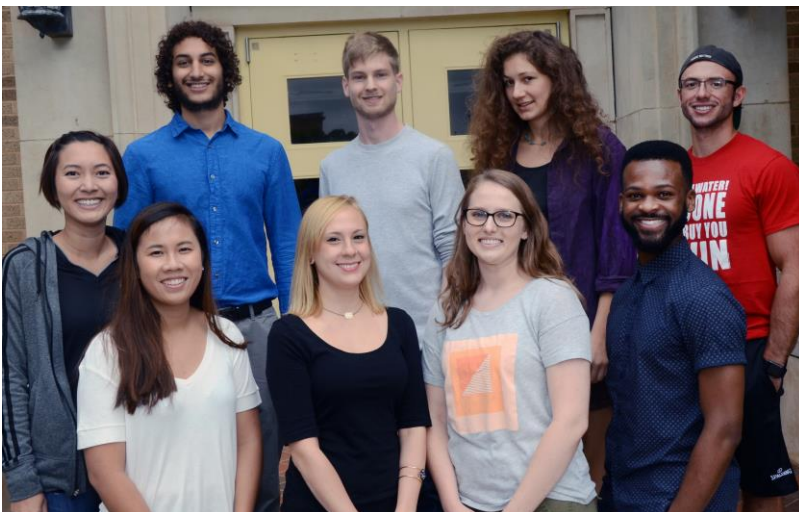
Left to Right: Daisy Aceves, Lexie Brown, Monika Gaspar, David Winograd, Teresa Gobble



Experimental

Top: Nadeem Dabbakeh (*Cognitive*), David Newton (*Human Factors*), Sage Maliepaard (*Social*), Alec Stinnett (*Social*)

Bottom: Tran Le (*Social*), Theresa Nguyen (*Human Factors*), Ashley Garcia (*Social*), Carlee DeYoung (*Cognitive*), Anthony Foster (*Social*)



New Faculty

Dr. Matthew Cribbet

Clinical | Assistant Professor

I am very excited to be an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychology at Texas Tech University. I did my graduate work in Clinical and Health Psychology at the University of Utah and completed a Clinical Internship at the University of Rochester School of Medicine and Dentistry. I moved here following a sleep research post-doctoral fellowship at the University of Pittsburgh. My research focuses on sleep and difficulties with emotion regulation as factors that impact cardiovascular health. I am also interested in how romantic couples' sleep patterns influence their cardiovascular health. I enjoy teaching courses in statistics, clinical psychology, and health psychology.



Dr. Jenny Cundiff

Clinical | Assistant Professor

I am a clinical psychologist by training, and I specialize in providing psychological interventions in medical populations (e.g., chronic pain, sleep). Perhaps not surprisingly then, I enjoy teaching Health Psychology and Behavioral Medicine at the graduate and undergraduate level among other courses. In my research, I examine how our social lives (e.g., interpersonal stress) influence our heart health. I am particularly interested in why being lower on the social ladder (e.g., less money, less education, less power, less prestige) is associated with poorer health. I am also interested in identifying recurring behavioral patterns in couples that may help explain the link between marital quality and heart health.



The Department of Psychological Sciences

New Faculty

Dr. Pamela Dubyak

Research Assistant Professor

I study ways of improving weight loss programs. In the past, I have studied ways of helping people reduce their substance use, insomnia, and chronic pain. I received my PhD in Psychology with a focus in Clinical Health Psychology from the University of Florida's Department of Clinical and Health Psychology. Courses that I have enjoyed teaching before include Personality, Child Psychopathology, and Health Psychology.



Dr. Eric Greenlee

Human Factors | Assistant Professor

I conduct research using neurological and physiological measures to gain additional understanding about how people are affected by challenging, attention-demanding tasks. I am especially interested in tasks that require extreme vigilance, or sustained attentional focus, such as air traffic control, cyber network defense, and driving. My lab's applied neuroscience approach provides objective estimates of task-related stress, workload, and fatigue, which can be used in concert with subjective and performance measures to assess and improve the mental state and performance of individuals and teams as they are actively engaged in various real-world tasks.



New Faculty

Dr. Lindsay Rice Greenlee

Research Assistant Professor

My research focuses on two main areas: gender stereotyping and the use of online media. My most recent research examines the processing of gender role stereotype information and how this affects our perceptions of other people. Gender stereotypes tend to be resistant to change and can affect many areas of our lives including hiring decisions, educational decisions, and even how we select our friends. In addition to research on gender, I also research methods of social influence used online. Broadly speaking, techniques for influencing others online can be different than tactics used in-person.



Dr. Shin Ye Kim

Counseling | Assistant Professor

My research program examines the intersections of gender, culture, health, and psychological well-being in both domestic and international populations, with a specific interest in work and career. Current research topics are work-family interface from a men and masculinity perspective, efficacy of multicultural counseling, and psychological intervention for chronic pain. My clinical interests include health psychology (especially chronic pain management and consultation liaison psychiatry), psychiatric emergency, and psychodynamic psychotherapy.



New Faculty

Dr. Adam Schmidt

Clinical | Assistant Professor

The Pathways to Resilient Youth Development (PRYDE) lab conducts research in the areas of neuropsychology, child psychology, and forensic psychology. Research in the PRYDE lab examines positive development (or resilience) across populations, contexts, and outcomes but much of our work focuses on justice-involved youth and youth experiencing traumatic brain injuries. Although we take a translational, multidisciplinary approach to these issues and use a variety of experimental strategies, our research is grounded in neuroscience and neuropsychology. We are particularly interested in understanding the interactions between cognitive abilities, neurobiology, and psychosocial environment on positive development; exploring the role played by psychopathology and neurocognitive functioning in the outcomes of justice-involved youth; and clarifying the impact of protective factors on treatment response.



Dr. Miranda Scolari

Cognitive | Assistant Professor

The human visual system is best conceived of as a limited capacity processor: we can only take in and process a finite amount of information at a time. The natural environment, however, contains a wealth of visual input that far exceeds processing capacities. How, then, do we attend only to important information while ignoring the clutter? My research broadly explores the functions and limitations of the human visual system in the face of such perceptual challenges. I am particularly interested in how mechanisms of attention recruit regions of the brain that process visual input in order to facilitate behavioral goals.



Psi Chi



Psi Chi is an international honor society in psychology whose purpose is to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship for individual members in all fields of study, but especially in the field of psychology. Eligibility requirements include completing at least 9 hours of psychology courses and maintaining at least a 3.0 GPA. Its current goal is to recruit at least 100 active members in the next couple of years. For spring of 2017, Psi Chi is planning on having faculty members and graduate students speak to members about what their field involves, what kinds of research they are conducting, and answering any questions the students may have. In the past Psi Chi has had workshops that help students with GRE, personal statements, and CVs.

If interested in joining Psi Chi, contact the club president at mizuka.yasuoka@ttu.edu for more information.

Latest Grants

MIKE C PARENT, PhD, Assistant Professor, Principal Investigator. DR. ILAN MEYER, UCLA, Co-Investigator; DR. SARI REISNER, Co-Investigator, Boston Children's Hospital. ***Minority stress, substance/alcohol use, and non-prescription testosterone use among transgender female-to-males.*** National Institutes of Health: National Institute on Drug Abuse. 9/16-8/17. Total costs: \$122,863 (Direct cost: \$85,973; Indirect cost: \$36,890).

The objective of the project is to describe relationships among minority stress, body image distress, impulsivity, and use of substances/alcohol and non-prescription testosterone among transgender female-to-male (FTM) persons. FTMs are male-identified individuals who were assigned female sex at birth. FTMs report elevated use of substances and alcohol and some FTMs may use non-prescription testosterone to achieve a level of muscularity surpassing what could be obtained by use of prescription doses of testosterone. Minority stress and body image distress may contribute to transgender FTMs' substances/alcohol use to cope with stress, and non-prescription testosterone use to alter their body to a more masculine presentation. Also, impulsivity has been implicated as a moderator of relationship between general stress and use of substances/alcohol such that individuals with higher levels of impulsivity are more likely to use and abuse substances/alcohol compared to those low in impulsivity. The aims of the research are to (1) describe the association between minority stress and body image distress, and substance/alcohol use among transgender FTMs and assess whether this relationship is moderated by impulsivity, (2) describe the association between minority stress and body image distress, and non-prescription testosterone use among transgender FTMs and assess whether this relationship is moderated by impulsivity, and (3) describe the relationship between substance/alcohol use and non-prescription testosterone use among transgender FTMs. Results of the research can help to inform future research and interventions focused on substance/alcohol use and use of non-prescription testosterone among this population.

AKBAR SIAMI NAMIN, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Principal Investigator. RATTIKORN HEWETT, Co-Principal Investigator; KEITH S. JONES, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Co-Principal Investigator. ***SBE: Medium: User-Centric Design of a Sonification System for Automatically Alarming Security Threats and Impact.*** National Science Foundation. Total cost: \$889,150.

This project will develop a system that automatically selects sounds that can warn Web users when they are experiencing a cybersecurity threat, which will enhance Web accessibility. To do so, project personnel will create two databases: (1) a repository of sounds tagged with metadata regarding their conceptual and emotional characteristics, and (2) a repository of cyberattacks also tagged with metadata regarding their conceptual and emotional characteristics. All meta-data will be crowd-sourced. The final system will be utilized to select candidate sounds that can be used to warn Web users about a cyberattack. Candidate sounds will be tested with users who do and do not have visual impairments.

Recent News

Announcing the new Dr. Darcy Reich Scholarship



On September 12th 2014, the department lost a great colleague, friend, and loved one, Dr. Darcy Reich. We remember Darcy fondly, and are proud to announce a new scholarship in her name, endowed in the Department of Psychological Sciences.

The Dr. Darcy Reich Scholarship is for Department of Psychological Sciences graduate students, preferably studying Social Psychology, who maintain a GPA of 3.0. Students will also be selected based on financial need.

We owe a special thanks to Drs. Michael Serra and Jeff Larsen (now at University of Tennessee) for their fund raising efforts to complete the endowment of this very meaningful scholarship.

Texas Tech HFES Student Chapter Receives Gold Status Yet Again



Our **Human Factors and Ergonomic Society Student Chapter** is slated to receive its 9th consecutive GOLD level award from the HFES awards committee, which will be presented officially at the 2016 HFES Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

The HFES Student Chapter works to develop professional skills and opportunities of students interested in Human Factors and Ergonomics. The GOLD level award recognizes the many wonderful activities put on by the chapter throughout the year, as well as the time and effort put in by its dedicated members.

Contribute to the Department

There are many ways to make a gift to the Department of Psychological Sciences. Can we count on your financial investment in the students and faculty of the Department? Funds may be used for a variety of purposes including scholarships, graduate dissertation support, research, service, and outreach initiatives.

Please contact Dr. Robert Morgan (chairperson) with inquiries:

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Unmasking Innovation Campaign

"Let us make the work of our college fit the scope of our country. Let our Thinking be in worldwide terms." —*Former Texas Tech President Paul Horn*

Following Dr. Horn's vision, the College of Arts & Sciences has big aspirations to continue to build upon its roles as an educator of a 21st century workforce and a leader in innovation and research within the global community.

www.depts.ttu.edu/artsandsciences/Campaign | youtu.be/3aQ5_DYRwyY



Unmasking Innovation

THE CAMPAIGN FOR ARTS & SCIENCES