



From the Department Chair, Dr. Robert Morgan

The 2017-2018 academic year promises to be one of opportunities and challenges. The year started off tragically with the fatal shooting of TTU Police Officer Floyd East Jr. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the East family. This devastating incident was obviously very stressful for the university, including our students, some of whom were locked in their research labs during the campus-wide lock down. During such times it is essential that communities pull together and I'm pleased to report that our faculty and graduate students eagerly assisted in university efforts as they volunteered to help with grief and stress response groups offered across campus. Our department's faculty and students saw an opportunity to serve, and I am very proud of their compassionate efforts.

On a brighter note, we welcome two new faculty members to the department: Ryne Sherman, Associate Professor in Social Psychology, and Paul Ingram, Assistant Professor in Counseling Psychology. They introduce themselves in the video links included in this newsletter.

Regarding our building, well, we face more challenges. Although we have the plans finalized for an expansion of our current building and we anticipated breaking ground on the expansion in February 2017, we were ultimately over budget, resulting in a delay. Dean Lindquist is initiating a capital campaign to raise funds for the additional money needed to finance the expansion. I hope you will be contacted by the college, but if not, and you wish to contribute to our fundraising efforts, please do not hesitate to reach out to me. By way of plans, this expansion will provide us between 6,000 to 9,000 square feet of additional research and office space that we sorely need. Be assured that your gifts or contributions will be put to good use and greatly appreciated.

Congratulations also to our Human Factors program which recently celebrated its 50th year anniversary with an alumni dinner at the annual meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society.

The Red Raiders football team is off to a strong start this year, and if you are in town for a game, to visit friends/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 in our department, and to learn about your time at TTU and subsequent activities.

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Introductions Edition

Faculty

Graduate Students

Plus an *Alumnus Spotlight*, *Recent News*, the *Department Reception*, and A *Mini Reunion*!

New Faculty

Our new faculty introduce themselves to the department community...



Dr. Ryne Sherman

Associate Professor
Experimental (social)

Dr. Paul Ingram

Assistant Professor
Counseling



New Graduate Students

Clinical Program



Back row: Christopher Wendel, Michael McClay, Jeffrey Cooke,
Tre Gissandaner, Antonio Pagan

Front row: Yazmine Huizar, Nikki La Rosa, Victoria Beach,
Kaley Roberts

New Graduate Students

Counseling Program



Back row: Jacob Daheim, Matthew Sharkey, Michael Vitro

Front row: Gabriela Manzo, Faith Scanlon, Iliana Gonzalez

New Graduate Students

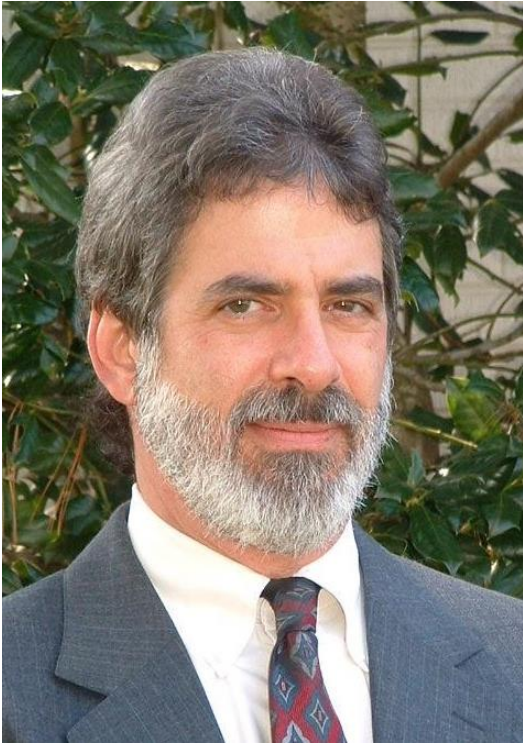
Experimental Program



Back row: Joshua Brown, Gavin Veland, Andrew Blake, Daniel Lee, Bradley Weaver, Roberto De La Rosa, Michael Penuliar

Front row: Emily Maw, Tiffany Lui, Anto Jude Mohan, Nicholas Garcia, Eleanor Foster, Phoenix Crane

Spotlight on a Distinguished Alumnus - Dr. Gary Solomon (1983)



Dr. Gary Solomon (PhD, 1983) is a distinguished graduate of our Counseling Psychology program, with a professional specialization in neuropsychology and a focus on the effects of sports-related concussions and Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy (CTE).

Gary is Professor of Neurological Surgery, Orthopedic Surgery & Rehabilitation, and Psychiatry & Behavioral Sciences, Co-Director, Vanderbilt Sports Concussion Center, Vanderbilt University School of Medicine. He is also Team Neuropsychologist for the Nashville Predators, Consulting Neuropsychologist for the Tennessee Titans, and Consulting Neuropsychologist for the Athletic Departments at Vanderbilt University, Tennessee Tech University, and the University of Tennessee. Gary is also an Associate Section Editor for *Neurosurgery*, serves on the Editorial Boards of *American Journal of Sports Medicine*, *Concussion*, *Developmental Neuropsychology*, and *Archives of Clinical Neuropsychology*, and is a Diplomate in Neuropsychology from the American Board of Professional Neuropsychology. He is the author/coauthor of at least 113 scholarly publications, with a recent example of current interest being:

Solomon G. S., Kuhn, A. W., Zuckerman, S. L., Casson, I. R., Viano, D. C., Lovell, M. R., & Sills, A. K. (2016). Participation in Pre-High School Football and Neurological, Neuroradiological, and Neuropsychological Findings in Later Life: A Study of 45 Retired National Football League Players. *American Journal of Sports Medicine*, 44, 1106-1115. doi: 10.1177/0363546515626164.

Through the help of Dr. Jane Winer, former professor of counseling psychology and long time Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, we caught up with Gary as he arrived in Boston to give an invited talk on CTE at the National Academy of Neuropsychology (nanonline.org). He offered this about his future activities:

On October 1 I became the Senior Medical Advisor for the Department of Health and Safety of the NFL. I will be involved in education, research, and programmatic work. The new Chief Medical Officer is Allen Sills, the neurosurgeon who recruited me to Vanderbilt 6 years ago to help him start the Vanderbilt Sports Concussion Center. I will remain in Nashville and at Vanderbilt Medical School. I have closed my neuropsych testing practice after 33 years (methinks that's enough testing for anyone), and will still see primary care sports concussion patients, teach residents and medical students, and do research.

We concluded our visit with the following story:

Jane Winer and Dick Haase were my advisors at TTU, and Roger Greene was chair of my dissertation, and I greatly valued what I learned from them. I particularly enjoyed playing on the softball team with the graduate students (sponsored by Orlando's restaurant). Honestly, though, my fondest memory of TTU was the fact that they admitted me and gave me a chance. I had very mediocre GRE scores, but I explained in my application that if GRE scores were being used to predict academic, clinical, and research success, that my scores were a false negative since I had completed a MS degree (academics), published a paper (research), and worked post-MS degree in mental health settings for 3 years (clinical), and therefore I was "error variance". I think that led Dick Haase to believe I understood statistics.

Recent News

Raider Red stopped by the Department of Psychological Sciences table at the Majors & Minors Fair.

He posed for a picture with **Dr. Lindsay Greenlee** and picked up one of our cool Psychological Sciences pins!



Tori Skilling, a recent Psychological Sciences graduate, was **interviewed by the Daily Toreador**.

In the interview, Tori discusses her time at Texas Tech and how it lead to her joining the Dallas Mavericks Dance Squad.

Megan Witt, a senior undergraduate Psychology major, recently served as an intern in Washington DC for Congressman Pete Sessions.

In **this video**, Megan talks about her goals for the future, and how Texas Tech, and the Department of Psychological Sciences has helped along the way.



Recent News



Dr. Christine Robitschek, an associate professor in the Counseling division, was **interviewed on Fox34**, about coping with stress motivated by the Las Vegas shooting, or other recent unsettling events.

Dr. Robitschek's research focuses largely on the role of Personal Growth Initiatives in dealing with traumatic events.

Dr. Michael Serra, an associate professor in the Experimental – Cognitive area, was interviewed as part of **an article by The Hub@TTU**.

The article discusses studying behaviors – specifically cramming and staying up all night. Dr. Serra's work focuses on the metacognitive aspects of learning and studying.



Dr. Keith Jones, associate professor in the Experimental – Human Factors area, is part of a research team working to create warning sounds for visually impaired computer users. The team's efforts were recently featured on **Texas Tech Today**.

Obituary for Dr. Robert P. Anderson (1924 – 2017)

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Dr. Robert P. Anderson, who died on June 18, 2017, just 4 days shy of his 93rd birthday. He was born in Chicago, Illinois on June 22, 1924, and was the youngest of three children born to Edwin and Ruth Anderson. He was married to his wife, Iris, for 71 years, and is survived by sons Merrill and Stephen, and grandchildren Nathan, Spencer, Mélanie and Lindsay. Dr. Anderson led a prolific life and was a pioneer in his field. He proudly served in the US Army from 1944 to 1945 and was a survivor of the Bastogne siege during the Battle of the Bulge. He completed his doctoral studies in Counseling Psychology from the University of Chicago and moved to Lubbock with his family in 1955 to accept a faculty position at Texas Tech.

As a professor and practitioner, Dr. Anderson was highly influential. He was the first psychologist to establish a private practice in Lubbock and was an early researcher in the field of learning disabilities and dyslexia. His efforts led to the creation and founding of one of the first educational programs aimed at addressing the needs of learning disabled students. In addition, he played a major role in establishing licensing regulation for Texas psychologists in the 1960's. He was a member of the State Board of Examiners of Psychologists and served a term as the President of the Texas Psychological Association. In addition, he was an adviser to many doctoral students through the years. The Department of Psychology Sciences at Texas Tech would like to both acknowledge and commemorate Dr. Anderson for all his contributions to the field.

Department Reception

This September, the annual department reception was held at Dr. Marshall's home. There was Cajun-style seafood and live jazz. Good times were had by all.



A Mini Reunion

For those alumni old enough to remember, back in 1973 the department Men's Faculty/Graduate Student basketball team won the League Championship Trophy.




Four of its member got together recently:

Drs. Philip H. Marshall [55], Bill J. Locke [11], Charles (Chuck) Halcomb [Manager],
and Richard P. McGlynn [13].



Words From On High



There must be an easier way
to check out this department!

[*www.depts.ttu.edu/psy*](http://www.depts.ttu.edu/psy)



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.

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