

Newsletter

Fall 2022



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Department of Psychological Sciences™

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Welcome to the Fall 2022 edition of the Department of Psychological Sciences newsletter!

Our department received great news over the summer. Specifically, Dean Dupras approved our request to search for 4 tenure-track Assistant Professors and 1 Assistant Professor of Practice. The former will join our Counseling, Cognition and Cognitive Neuroscience, Human Factors Psychology, and Social Psychology graduate programs; the latter will support our clinic. Those faculty searches are currently underway. In addition, Dean Dupras graciously provided our department new funding to hire a fourth full-time advisor. We appreciate Dean Dupras' support and her commitment to student success.



Fall semesters are always exciting because our department welcomes new faculty members, graduate students, and undergraduate students to campus. You can find information about our new additions throughout this newsletter. I am confident each will make a positive impact on our department community.

Shortly after the semester started, Dr. Thomas Salb and his wife Karen visited campus. Thomas is a graduate of our Counseling Psychology doctoral program who recently retired after a long and productive career as a School Psychologist. During his career, Thomas amassed an extensive professional library, which he and Karen hand delivered to our department. We are very grateful for Thomas and Karen's generous donation!

Speaking of alumni, if you are on LinkedIn, please join the **Texas Tech University Psychological Sciences Alumni Group** and encourage your fellow alumni to do so as well. We hope this group will be a hub for our tremendous TTU Psychological Sciences network and better connect its members.

Before closing, I would like to thank everyone who donated to our **Undergraduate Research Fund**. Your donations provided matching funds for three of our undergraduate students, Tina Greene, Ashlinn Peters, and Danielle Haakinson, needed to receive research funding from the Center for Transformative Undergraduate Experiences (TrUE). We would love to support many more future TrUE projects, so please consider making a donation.

If you are ever in Lubbock, please stop by the department. I would love a chance to catch up. You are always welcome here.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Keith S. Jones".

Dr. Keith S. Jones

keith.s.jones@ttu.edu

Welcome Our New Faculty Member



Will Crescioni, Ph.D.

Lecturer; Director of Undergraduate and Online Studies

Dr. Crescioni joined the department this August as the new Director of Undergraduate and Online Studies. Before joining the department, Dr. Crescioni spent eight years as an instructor at South Plains College, where, in addition to his teaching responsibilities, he helped revise assessment standards and contributed to the founding of the SPC Honors College.

In his new role at Texas Tech, Dr. Crescioni will be responsible for facilitating department outreach, recruitment, and retention efforts; overseeing assessment of undergraduate courses; chairing the undergraduate program committee; interfacing with the Honors College, eLearning, and other relevant campus organizations; and coordinating the development of new online courses.

Dr. Crescioni is originally from Slidell, Louisiana. He received his B.S. in psychology and philosophy from LSU in 2007 and his Ph.D. in social psychology from FSU in 2012. It was at FSU that he met his wife, fellow faculty member Jessica Alquist. They have lived in Lubbock since 2013 and have one daughter, Nova (4), and two geriatric cats, Shinobi (16) and Freya (14).

Geaux Tigers.

Welcome Our New Graduate Students

Clinical

Bottom row: Katie Shircliff, Lizzie Hoelscher, Libby McLean

Middle row: Alexandra Price, Carol Fadalla, Montana Baker

Top row: Ashly Healy, Haley Coronado, Lauren Elliott, Eli Halbreich



Counseling

Left to right: David Johnson, Michelle Shegedin, Ali Sapp, Emily Turkily, Lucas Childers



Experimental

Bottom row: MacKenzie Wantje, Ashley Millard, Dara Mar

Top row: Abigail Kortenhoeven, LeeAnn Whitton, Zachary Turkowski



Faculty Grants

External Funding Received

Dr. Sarah Victor

Title: Real-time study of psychotherapy, suicide risk, and resilience in transgender and non-binary adults

Sponsor: Young Investigator Grant, American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

Amount Awarded: \$90,000

Dr. Victor received the two-year, \$90,000 Young Investigator Grant for her real-time study of psychotherapy, suicide risk, and resilience in transgender and non-binary adults. Few studies have examined protective factors that reduce the risk of suicide among transgender and non-binary (TNB) people, such as community connectedness, identity pride, and psychotherapy. This study will use ecological momentary assessment to gather information on the experiences of TNB adults to understand what factors decrease risk of suicide over short periods of time in daily life. Results will inform development of affirming suicide prevention strategies for TNB people.



External Funding Received

Dr. John Cooley

Title: Initial Evaluation of a Brief Preventive Intervention for Aggressive-Victims

Sponsor: American Psychological Foundation (APF) John and Polly Sparks Early Career Grant for Psychologists Investigating Serious Emotional Disturbance

Amount Awarded: \$22,000

Dr. John Cooley was recently selected as a recipient of the 2022 American Psychological Foundation (APF) John and Polly Sparks Early Career Grant for Psychologists Investigating Serious Emotional Disturbance. This will provide \$22,000 to support an ongoing project entitled “Initial Evaluation of a Brief Preventive Intervention for Aggressive-Victims.” The goal of this project is to evaluate cognitive-behavioral skills groups for youth who are both victims and perpetrators of peer aggression using a randomized controlled design. Participants will include a diverse sample of third- through fifth-grade students from two local elementary schools. Those identified as aggressive-victims based on self- and teacher-reports will be randomly assigned into intervention and control groups. This project has the potential to significantly advance the literature on preventive intervention approaches for peer victimization and aggression during middle childhood.



Faculty Grants & Awards

External Funding Received

Dr. Jonathan Singer

Sponsor: Washington State Department of Health

MPIs: Dr. Singer and Dr. Loggers

Amount Awarded: \$100,000

Dr. Singer (MPI) and Dr. Loggers (MPI) received a \$100,000 grant from the Department of Health in Washington State to investigate barriers to engagement in death with dignity (DWD). Further, we will aim to understand the end of life experience (EOL) of terminally ill Washington residents, from the perspective of multiple stakeholders, determine barriers to DWD access for Washington State residents with terminal illness, and identify methods to improve the quality of the EOL experience for both terminally ill patients and their loved ones, including DWD. Lastly, we aim to develop and file a report to the Washington State Legislature.



2022 Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development Center Spotlight Award

Dr. Michael Serra

The Teaching, Learning, and Professional Development Center is pleased to announce the 2022 TLPDC Spotlight Awards in recognition of faculty, instructors and staff who have been involved with the Center's work and contributed to services, programs, and initiatives to enhance the teaching and learning culture at TTU. We sincerely appreciate their active engagement and support of the TLPDC! This annual award features individuals nominated by the TLPDC staff and gives us an opportunity to highlight special colleagues we are honored to work with at Texas Tech. We recognize these recipients for their "above and beyond" efforts and for their contributions to the work of the Center and the institution at large.



Faculty Research & Support Funding for Diversity Program at TTU

Dr. Caroline Cummings

The Faculty Research & Support Funding for Diversity Program is intended to help increase faculty engagement in diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. Dr. Cummings is currently planning to organize multiple events this year for faculty to attend. Those events will entail having a consultant come in and give presentations about providing culturally-informed mentorship to students and conducting culturally-sensitive research, among other topics.



Undergraduate TrUE Award Recipients



*Tina Green, Dr. Paul Ingram,
and Ashlinn Peters*

Congratulations to the following Psychological Sciences undergraduate students who received funding for their projects from the Center for Transformative Undergraduate Experiences (TrUE), along with matching funding from the Department of Psychological Sciences.

As part of their projects, each student is responsible not only for designing the study, but also submitting the Institutional Review Board (IRB) documents, scheduling participants, conducting analyses, assisting in conducting clinical interviews, and presenting their findings at conferences — skills which will help prepare them for graduate school.

Tina Greene, working with mentor **Dr. Paul Ingram** and the PATS lab, is examining how well those with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) can be identified effectively using the newest version of a widely used psychological test, the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory–3's (MMPI-3). Preliminary data already being gathered from undergraduate students will be expanded to include a sample of veterans, who are especially at risk for PTSD and, because of this funding support, will create better generalizability and support of the veteran population. Tina's research is part of her TTU McNair's project and will advance Veteran Affairs (VA) and Department of Defense (DOD) mental health practices because of her focus on veterans.



*Dr. Nick Borgogna,
and Danielle Haakinson*

Ashlinn Peters, also working with mentor **Dr. Paul Ingram** and the PATS lab, is examining the ability to identify and diagnose various forms of eating disorders (e.g., Anorexia Nervosa, Bulimia Nervosa, Binge-eating, etc.) using the MMPI-3. Her preliminary data is gathered from college students and funding is enabling her to recruit non-college Lubbock community members with potential eating disorder diagnoses. Ashlinn's work will help shape the diagnosis and treatment of those across the country with eating disorders.

Danielle Haakinson, working with mentor **Dr. Nick Borgogna**, received the award for their project titled Examining Minority Stress Processes Over Time in the Prediction of Mental Illness in Non-Cisgender Individuals. The minority stress framework is the premier model for understanding sexual and gender minority peoples' mental health disparities and specifies that minoritized groups experience additive distal (discrimination) and proximal (internalization) stressors, explaining the disparities. While research on these processes is robust, it is overwhelmingly cross-sectional. Danielle sought to address these issues by examining how minority stress mechanisms predict mental health outcomes in a sample of only non-cisgender individuals over time. The hypothesis is that a significant mediation effect will be observed, such that distal stress indicators predict proximal stress indicators, combining to predict increases in depression and anxiety symptoms.



In Memoriam



Clyde A. Hendrick, Ph.D., Horn Professor Emeritus

July 13, 1936 - August 6, 2022

Dr. Clyde Hendrick (pictured with wife, Dr. Susan Hendrick, Horn Professor Emeritus and former Chairperson of our department) was a prolific and internationally recognized scholar in social psychology who made numerous significant contributions in the areas of attitude change and close relationships. He served as Chair of the Department of Psychology at the University of Miami from 1977 to 1984, and assumed the role of Dean of the Graduate School at Texas Tech University in 1984. He served in that post until 1995, when he returned to regular faculty duties.

Please read **Clyde Hendrick's Contributions to Social Psychology**, an invited contribution written by Richard P. McGlynn, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus.

You may also read Clyde's full obituary [here](#).



Hannah Beth Woodlee

November 4, 1996 – July 30, 2022

Hannah graduated from Texas Tech in 2019, earning a bachelor's degree in Psychology before settling in Boulder, Colorado to pursue a master's degree. Hannah had many friends and family who will always remember her beautiful smile, love of board games and family, her nurturing heart for animals, and fun-loving spirit. She was a very gifted artist, winning several awards and expressing her talents through many different mediums. She was a loving daughter, sister, granddaughter, cousin, and friend to those she knew, who will carry her spirit within them forever.

You may read Hannah's full obituary [here](#).

Clyde Hendrick's Contributions to Social Psychology

Clyde A. Hendrick, Ph.D., Horn Professor Emeritus

July 13, 1936 - August 6, 2022

Invited contribution by

Richard P. McGlynn, Ph.D., Professor Emeritus

My first encounter with Clyde Hendrick was in the form of a rejection letter for an Assistant Professor position at Kent State in 1969. Less than two years out of graduate school at the University of Missouri, he was apparently stuck with the job of fielding applications. In those days, in a kind of hazing ritual, Assistant Professors were given more service assignments than senior faculty.

At that point, Clyde had published two commentaries and a short methodological piece, but he was soon to be recognized as one of the most productive young social psychologists. Eventually, he would produce twelve books and over 250 journal articles and other items. He also contributed extensively to editorial work and leadership in the field.

Clyde's graduate mentor, Judson Mills, was a student of cognitive dissonance theory creator Leon Festinger, but Clyde's early work was eclectic: impression formation (his dissertation topic), persuasion, similarity-attraction, group dynamics, etc. He focused on resolving conflicts in the literature with methodological rigor.

Around this time he also published *The Nature of Theory and Research in Social Psychology* with Russell Jones, a highly original textbook despite the mundane topic. I later told him that his sophisticated discussion of experimental vs. correlational research was an intellectual triumph, but he disowned his former point of view. I came to realize it was quintessential Clyde to continually rethink and take a fresh look at seemingly settled issues.

My second encounter with Clyde was at the 1975 APA convention in a packed room. Clyde was sitting on a table with his handsome grin, shoulders forward, arms and legs spread, as people crowded around. Eight years into his career, he had just been named editor of the new *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin* by APA Division 8. Within two years he became department chair at the University of Miami where he began to build a powerhouse around the theme of health psychology, a move many departments would emulate. If his administrative work at Miami diminished his research, the setting also provided opportunities as seen in his publication, "Social and emotional effects of geographical relocation on elderly retirees."

Clyde moved on to become Dean of the Graduate School at Texas Tech in 1984. Up to that point he had contributed substantively to a broad variety of topics across social psychology, but his inquisitive mind had never focused on a single area for long. That changed with his collaboration with Susan Hendrick beginning in the early 1980s that became a blockbuster research program centered on the concepts of love and relationships. (That collaboration was so close that their individual contributions cannot be separated.)

The studies that kicked off the program, particularly, *A theory and method of love* (1986) are superb examples of how to do both theory and method in social relationships. The development over the years of the Love Attitudes Scale along with the Sex Attitudes Scale and a number of more specific measures was thorough and rigorous. Further research established a network of conceptual connections with other relationship phenomena.

Those of us who worked with Clyde lost a great friend and colleague. The fields of social psychology and close relationships lost a giant.

Announcements & Final Notes

Join our TTU Psychological Sciences Alumni Group on LinkedIn

Find the group [here](#).

Join our Alumni Advisory Council

The department's Alumni Advisory Council is composed of business, government, academic, and professional leaders who are interested in our department's vitality. The council works with the department to strengthen our instructional and research programs, improve our facilities, expand our base of support, and better serve our alumni. If you are interested in serving on the Council, please contact Dr. Keith S. Jones at keith.s.jones@ttu.edu.

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.

To make a donation, please visit our [donate page](#).

Follow us throughout the year on social media!

