The School of Psychology at Massey University is situated on three campuses, Albany in Auckland, Turitea in Palmerston North, and Wellington. This newsletter is issued bi-monthly and captures what's been happening and what's coming up in the School of Psychology at Massey University.

Active Links
If you are reading this newsletter on your computer the links can be clicked to access the listed webpages. Previous issues of Psychology News can be found at: http://psychology.massey.ac.nz/news/psych-news.htm

Significant Events

Marsden Success for Dr Antonia Lyons and the Flaunting it on Facebook Team

A huge congratulations to Antonia and her team (Dr Tim McCreanor, Dr Ian Goodwin, Dr Helen Moewaka-Barnes [all Massey University], Dr Fiona Hutton [Victoria University], Prof Christine Griffin [Bath University, UK] and Dr Kerryellen Vroman [University of New Hampshire, USA]) on their success in gaining a Marsden grant for their project Flaunting it on Facebook: Young adults, drinking stories and the cult of celebrity. The award is for $864,000 over three years. Here is a summary of the project goals and rationale:

Flaunting it on Facebook: Young Adults, Drinking Stories and the Cult of Celebrity

Young adults in Aotearoa/NZ regularly engage in heavy drinking episodes with groups of friends within a collective culture of intoxication to ‘have fun’ and ‘be sociable’. This population has also rapidly increased their use of new social networking technologies (e.g. mobile camera/video phones; social networking Internet sites such as Facebook and YouTube) and are said to be obsessed with identity, image and celebrity. This project explores the ways in which new technologies are being used by young people (and others, including marketers) in drinking practices and drinking cultures in Aotearoa/NZ. It investigates questions such as: how do drinking practices impact on young adults’ identities? How are drinking stories and digital images (photos/videos) used in telling these stories online and who are they shared with? How does this vary across young adults with different ethnicities (Maori, Pacific Island, Pakeha), social classes and genders? We will investigate these questions through 1) focus group discussions with friends from different backgrounds, 2) interviewing young adults individually while they demonstrate their use of new technologies, and 3) analysing popular online drinking stories/images/videos. Results will further our understanding and provide new knowledge regarding young adults, drinking cultures and new media technologies in contemporary NZ society.

An article about this can be found on the Stuff website at: http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/3063599/Researcher-gets-864k-to-study-boozy-teens
Excellence in Chronic Care Services Award for Health Conditions Team

The Massey University Health Conditions Team based the Turitea Psychology Clinic, Palmerston North, were awarded the Excellence in Chronic Care Services Award at the MidCentral DHB Health Awards. These awards were held on the 30th October at the Awapuni Racecourse. The team was congratulated on their high standard of practice and being able to demonstrate successful outcomes for children, young people and adults with chronic health conditions. This innovative service is among the first of its kind in New Zealand and provides psychological screening, assessment and treatment for people with long term cardiovascular, diabetes, respiratory, and other life limiting conditions and their families. The Service aims to improve patients' motivation, emotional state, satisfaction with life, and participation in activities, enabling patients to accept necessary lifestyle changes and improve their ability to cope with their condition in the long term. The team has been operating for two years and provides services across the Manawatu, Horowhenua, Otaki, and Tararua districts. The awards were attended by 520 people and teams from several health board and community organisations.

From the left: Shane Harvey (Turitea Psychology Clinic Director), Amber Barry (Assistant Psychologist), Kirsty Ross (Clinical Psychologist), Maria Berrett (Health Conditions Service Coordinator), Gail Shirley (Administrator for Health Conditions Service), Sarah Malthus (Clinical Psychologist), Anita Darrah (Intern Psychologist).

New Zealand Psychological Society Annual Conference 2009

This year's New Zealand Psychological Society Conference was held in Palmerston North at the Palmerston North Convention Centre from the 27th to 30th August. The conference was extremely successful, with 340 people attending and presenting in the many symposia, workshops, and sessions. At times four streams were running in parallel and presenters and question and answer sessions after presentations had to be reduced to accommodate the number of presenters. A large Massey contingent of staff and students attended and presented and many others were involved in organizational activities.

Both the School and local branch of the New Zealand Psychological Society contributed to making the conference both an academic and social success. As Academic Chair for the conference Cheryl Woolley brought the programme together and ensured that the symposia papers and workshops were positioned and themed to do full justice to the conference theme. Conflict...Process...Resolution, *Papa ... Mahi ... Ratanga.* This theme reflected the broad spectrum of psychology's role...
as it meets the many challenges posed for our profession in a changing world. It is also a reflection on emerging themes around our obligations to research and practice within ethical and socially responsible boundaries.

The conference had five streams to choose from every day, which encouraged participants to extend and update their knowledge not only in their own area of psychology, but to catch up with how colleagues in other disciplines apply psychological knowledge in the 21st century.

The local conference committee included Milja Albers-Pearce – Chairperson of the local branch of NZPsS, Cheryl Woolley – Academic Chair, Joan Barnes, Janine van Blerk, Judy Brook, Hazel Cheals, Edwin Chin, Colette Nixon, Tom Neseer, Pam Carlton (all NZPsS Central Districts branch committee members) and student assistants as follows, Evelyn Aranas, Judy Campbell, Victoria Dillon, Daniel Kerr, Angela Macfarlane, Keith Mowat, Colette Nixon, Diana Paki, Melanie Simpson, Tomoko Yamaguchi and Liz Yan.

All contributed to the success of the conference as a “friendly” event for participants as well as assisting presenters to ensure the smooth running of symposia.

The School with all campuses represented made a huge contribution by donating both keynote and invited speakers. Professor Kerry Chamberlain (Albany) spoke on the triviality of Psychological Research, very thought provoking!

Janet Leathem (Wellington Campus) presented a guest address on Neuropsychology for New Zealanders.

A wealth of talent emerged from Postgraduate student presenters who offered papers in a number of symposia. The Bicultural Symposium was well supported by presenters Michelle Waireti Maria Roestenburg, and Amanda Gregory. Two out of three presentations evaluating the Incredible Years Parenting Programme were presented by Massey postgraduate students Traceyanne Herewini and Kaye Wolland.

A Clinical Health Symposium featured presentations from the Palmerston North Psychology Clinic’s Psycho-Oncology and Health Conditions staff and clinical students. These included Colette Nixon, Phillipa Croy, Heather Heron, Don Baken, Cheryl Woolley, Maria Berrett, Sarah Malthus and Kirsty Ross.

Albany’s Bev Haarhoff presented in The Institute of Counselling Psychology symposium on The therapeutic relationship in CBT while Wellington Clinical staff and students contributed to the Clinical Adult symposium. Anxiety, depression, and everyday risk avoidance by Brett Hunt, Cognitive behavioural group therapy for anxiety-related insomnia by Fernanda de Lacerda Mottin, Duncan Babbage, Philippa Gander and Janet Leathem.

The Clinical Family Psychology Symposium, Putting the F-word in Clinical psychology, was well supported with presentations by Clare Couch (Wgtn), Lana Morrison and Cheryl Woolley.

A well timed symposium on Disasters and pandemics included a presentation by Petra Buergelt on behalf of the team, comprising herself, Doug Paton and David Johnston explored the creation of sustained influenza pandemic preparedness. Additional papers by David Johnston (Wellington Campus) and Ruth Tarrant (Wellington) on Disaster Recovery and Earthquake and Tsunami risk: A survey of Wellington intermediate school children’s understanding, perceptions, anxiety and readiness to cope. Ian de Terte and Chris Stephens presented on Psychological Resilience.

The programme next turned to a symposium on Warming the Classroom Emotional Environment chaired by Ian Evans and organised by Shane Harvey from the Psychology Clinic. A range of papers by staff and students Liz Yan, Ian Evans, Shane Harvey, Edwin Chin, Fiona Parkes, Rachel Andersen, Sarah Yee and Dr Averil Herbert featured on Thursday. The Social psychology symposium was well represented by Massey with presentations by Denise Blake Storying Adoptees’ Experiences through the Adoption Act (1955) and Valerie Perkins TOKU ĀHURU MOWAI (Where the heart is) The unique experiences of Māori adoptive mothers in the closed stranger adoption period.

The Criminal Justice Symposium produced a wealth of offerings which ran over the three days of the conference. Massey’s input included The Efficacy of Motivational Interviewing with Offenders, by Kevin Austin and Mei Williams and Saili Matagi: The redevelopment of a cultural intervention for Male violent offenders from the Pacific by Siautu Alefaio.

The inaugural Humanitarian psychology symposium immediately followed the research presentations in Military Psychology Symposium. Guest speaker Tim Williams, currently based in Gaza, was followed by Massey input from Stuart Carr and Ishbel McWha and Natasha Tassell who looked at burnout in humanitarian health workers. Our Head of
School, Mandy Morgan with Leigh Coombes organised an excellent symposium on the Family Violence Court at Waitakere. Professor Janet Leathem produced an excellent Neuropsychology for New Zealanders symposium. Isabelle Miclette won the Institute of clinical psychology's prize for best student paper for her presentation on Neuropsychological No Man's land.

A rather innovative title, Cognition in the Wild: Cognitive psychology and 'real world' phenomena chaired by Stephen Hill featured Massey papers by Andy Towers, Stephen Hill, Ross Flett, Sharyn Kennedy and Stuart Carr while Professor lan Evans chaired a symposium on Preparing Postgraduate students for professional practice which featured papers by Siautu Alefaio and Barbara Kennedy.

Finally, a symposium on Culture, Context and meaning: Qualitative research on Older People chaired by Mary Breheny featured Older Adults' Experiences of a Flood Disaster by Robyn Tuohy who received an award for Best Student Presentation, as well as a number of presentations by postgraduate students under the supervision of Chris Stephens. Presenters in this symposium included Barbara Horrell, Rachael Pond, Mary Breheny, Judie Campbell supervised by Jocelyn Handy, and Annette Henricksen supervised by Chris Stephens.

Bronwyn Sweeney collected the award for Best Student poster for Baby on Board: Sleep changes in pregnancy and postpartum and their relationship to self-reported drowsy driving behaviour while Nik Kazantsis now at La Trobe University in Melbourne ran a workshop on The Effective Use of Homework Assignments in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy.

Palmerston North administrative staff such as Michael Donnelly, Harvey Jones and our technical staff along with secretarial assistance from Melanie Robertson and Helen Page helped to support the conference in various ways.

All are now resting up from this event safe in the knowledge that the NZPsS Conference won't return to Massey for six years! We would also like to thank Heike Albecht NZPsS Professional Development Co-ordinator, Debra Ridgeway and Juliet Stone for making available 10 complimentary registrations for our student assistants. Thanks also goes to Dr Pamela Hyde, Executive Director NZPsS and Jack Austin, NZPsS President as well as other members of the Executive who contributed to the infrastructure and support to make this conference a positive experience for Massey and all other attendees.

- Item contributed by Cheryl Woolley

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### School of Psychology Presentations at the NZPS Conference 2009

**Keynote Address**
Chamberlain, K. *On the triviality of psychological research: What we do, how we do it, and how we might change it.*

**Guest Speakers**
Buergelt, P. *Creating sustained influenza pandemic preparedness: Psychosocial processes and factors influencing individual and community preparedness.*
Leathem, J. *Neuropsychology for New Zealanders.*

**Symposia**
Breheny, M. *Culture, context and meaning: Qualitative research on older people.*
Evans, I. M. *Preparing postgraduate students for professional practice.*
Evans, I. M., & Harvey, S. T. *Warming the classroom emotional environment.*
Hill, S. *Cognition in the wild: Cognitive psychology and 'real world' phenomena.*
Johnston, D. *Psychology and disaster symposium.*
Recordon, P., Morgan, M., Coombes, L., & TeHiwi, E. *Family violence court at Waitakere.*

**Presentations**
Alefaio, S. *A cultural perspective on training postgraduate students for general practice.*
Alefaio, S. *Saili Malagi: The redevelopment of a cultural intervention for male violent offenders from the Pacific.*
A complete list of abstracts can be found at: http://www.psychology.org.nz/cms_show_download.php?id=289

Around 20 of the presenters have posted up their presentations on the Slideshare website. These can be viewed at: http://www.slideshare.net/event/conflictprocessresolution
Massey University Clinical Psychology Reunion

In conjunction with the NZPsS conference, a clinical reunion to celebrate 34 years of clinical psychology at Massey and the 21st anniversary of the founding of our first Psychology Clinic was held on August 29th. People assembled for pre-dinner drinks at the Psychology Clinic hosted by our Clinic Director, Shane Harvey followed by a sit down 3-course meal at Wharerata hosted by Palmerston North Clinical Co-ordinator, Cheryl Woolley.

Apologies were conveyed by past graduates, Nick Lascelles (Hamilton, Private Practice), Jacqui Gregory (Taupo, Corrections), Ali Maginness (Tasmania), Erin Eggleston (Private Practice, Rotorua) and Alan Guy (CMH, New Plymouth) and John Watson (overseas at a conference), while Selwyn Mason (Nelson) joined us via a video of his adventures in London as a former Massey Clinical graduate working at Great Ormond St hospital. This year, in addition to graduates from the original Palmerston North Campus, Director Paul Merrick (Albany) with co-ordinators of the other campuses, Janet Leathem (Wellington) and Mei Wah Williams (Albany) and 50 clinical students and graduates from all three campuses who were attending the NZPsS conference all joined us to celebrate our 34th Anniversary. We also welcomed back Professor Kevin Ronan, who joined us from Australia for the celebrations.

Since our expansion to all three Massey campuses, we are now the largest clinical programme in the country with approximately 463 graduates distributed throughout New Zealand and 24 of our clinicians currently living and working overseas in the United Kingdom, United States of America, Canada and Hong Kong.

This year our Palmerston North programme has also been nominated for Mid Central DHB’s Health Awards, for Excellence in Training and Education. We hope you enjoy some of the reunion photos, a collection of the warm ambience reflected at our reunion dinner!

- Item contributed by Cheryl Woolley

First three graduates of the Clinical programme - 1978. Left to right, Craig MacDonald, Cheryl Woolley, and Victor Soetenik.

Ian Evans (Wellington), the Master of Ceremonies for the evening!

Left to right, Nik Kazantsis – LaTrobe University, Melbourne, Australia. Hukarere Valentine, Corrections, Hawkes Bay. Sarah Malthus, PN Clinic, Health conditions contract. Di Paki is a current student in the programme.

Left to right, Eleanor Seville, Wanganui DHB. Kevin Ronan, former Director of the programme, now at Central Queensland University, Australia. Isabelle Miclette (Albany).

Left to right, Laura Buckley, current student, Dr Rebekah Jourdain, first PN DClinPsych graduate, Dr Gillian Craven (PhD).

2009 Interns - Left to Right, Anita Darrah, Psychology Clinic, and Melanie Holdaway, Alcohol and other Drug Mid Central DHB.

and Joan Barnes local NZPsS member.

Sister Clinicians - Left to Right, Carol Huzziff, New Plymouth, Robyn Vertongen, Albany, Janet Leathem, Wellington.

Left to right, Isabelle Miclette – Albany (Best Student paper awarded by the institute of Clinical Psychology, NZPsS 2009). Gail Russell, neuro-psychologist, Janet Leathem, co-ordinator for the Wellington Campus.
Dr. Steve Stewart Williams’ Seminar

Darwin, God, and the Meaning of Life: How Evolution Undermines Everything you Knew

If Charles Darwin were alive today he’d be 200 (he was born on the 12th of February, 1809). Coincidentally 2009 is also the 150th anniversary of the publication of Darwin’s magnum opus On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection (on the 24th of November). It was thus more than fitting that Dr. Steve Stewart Williams, an evolutionary psychologist and admirer of Darwin, made time to give a presentation to the School of Psychology in August examining the implications of Darwin’s thinking on social, religious, and moral issues. Steve has previously given a version of this talk as a public lecture to a packed audience in Swansea to celebrate Darwin’s birthday – we heard it six months later but it was worth the wait.

It was no coincidence that the title of Steve’s August 12th presentation - Darwin, God, and the meaning of life: How evolution undermines everything you knew - is the same as his soon-to-be-released book which will be published by Cambridge University Press – the talk was a fascinating, whirlwind reader’s-digest-version of the core topics of the book. The talk examined the ways in which Darwin’s theory of evolution by natural selection impacts on the way we think about fundamental human religious and moral beliefs and practices. In particular Steve explored three core debates that have arisen from considerations of Darwin’s thinking: (1) that evolutionary theory undermines the existence of God; (2) that it suggests that life has no ultimate meaning or purpose; and (3) that it challenges and threatens traditional moral values. The presentation was packed full of thought-provoking ideas – many thanks to Steve for intellectual challenges and an all round mental workout.

Dr Steve Stewart-Williams

Steve is a lecturer in evolutionary psychology at Swansea University in Wales and an alumnus of Massey University. Before taking up his current position, he was a Post-doctoral Fellow at McMaster University in Canada, where he worked with prominent evolutionary psychologists Martin Daly and Margo Wilson. He did his Massey Ph.D. in psychology and philosophy with John Podd, Stephen Hill, Kevin Ronan (psychology) and Jim Battye (philosophy). Steve has published scholarly articles in peer-reviewed psychology and philosophy journals. He presented his research at conferences in the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, New Zealand, Japan, and China. Apart from refereed journals his thoughts have been featured in various magazines in Vogue! See Steve’s webpage for more: http://psy.swan.ac.uk/staff/stewart-williams/.

Steve is also a signatory to Project Steve along with Steven Pinker, Stephen Hawking, and 1108 other Steves, Stephens, Stephens etc (as of September 24th). Project Steve is a “tongue-in-cheek parody of a long-standing creationist tradition of amassing lists of ‘scientists who doubt evolution’ or ‘scientists who dissent from Darwinism’ run by the US National Center for Science Education – an organisation dedicated to the defending the teaching of evolution in public schools in the United States. See http://ncseweb.org/taking-action/project-steve.
Open Days 2009

Palmerston North

Open Days are a chance for prospective students to visit the campus, participate in activities and tours, and to enquire about different study pathways. Palmerston North Open Day was held on the 8th of August and proved to be extremely successful. The School of Psychology stand was an interactive one combining mirror drawing, visual illusions and the ever popular ‘Lie Detector’ (a Powerlab System that measures heart rate and skin conductance response). Prospective students at this event seemed to be more interested in the structure of psychology degrees and study pathways than the activities, although we still had a number of blushing participants hooked up to the ‘Lie Detector’. (This exhibit attracted the attention of the press as well as prospective students – the reporter from Manawatu Standard who was covering the Open Day, returned the following week to do an additional story on the lie detector with Hope Hyslop and Dr Stephen Hill!). Psychology was very popular with many school and adult groups crowding around to ask lots of questions and taking lots of 2010 brochures. All in all the day proved to be very busy with over 2000 people on campus.

Albany

A month later it was Albany’s turn. The unfortunate weather did not appear to discourage perspective students from coming to the Massey University Albany’s Open Day on Saturday 12th September. Close to 4000 visitors came to the campus. According to John Raine (Regional Chief Executive), the vehicles coming in the gate were up 10.5% on last year.

The School of Psychology had a display in the Atrium round room along with the School of Social and Cultural studies. Mirror drawing task, designed to show the difference between Explicit and Implicit Memory, proved to be a popular activity as usual. This year the addition of the the infamous ‘Lie Detector’ (Powerlab heart rate and skin conductance response equipment) drew plenty of attention from the public. The Powerlab System was ably operated by technician Malcolm Loudon who flew up for the day from Palmerston North.

Some visitors turned their impressions of Open Day into poetry by entering the Haiku Competition, judged by English senior lecturer Dr Jack Ross. Kathryn Neale from North Shore won an iPod for her series of three, including the following one about being hooked up to the Powerlab System:

Silver syllables ensnared on screen
Lies trip on the tongue
The truth is caught in a moment

There were plenty of enquiries about both undergraduate and postgraduate psychology study options at Massey University. A huge thanks to all our staff for helping out with the Open Day, it was pretty much busy the whole day but was very well received.
Campus News on Staff Activities, Achievements, Awards, Appointments and Departures

Albany Arrivals and Departures

Anita Bellamy
As noted in the last issue, Anita Bellamy has begun work as a senior professional clinician contributing to clinical training at the Auckland campus. Unfortunately we didn’t have a photograph then but now we do! Once more, welcome aboard Anita.

News on Staff Activities, Achievements and Awards

Professor Stuart Carr
Professor Stuart Carr leads a task force of organisational psychologists working to reduce poverty. Psychologists commonly help individuals cope with personal and emotional problems. But they can also use their understanding of human behaviour altruistically to address humanitarian issues and the economic inequities underlying them, says Massey organisational psychology Professor Stuart Carr.

Professor Carr, at the University's School of Psychology in Albany, is co-leading a task force of 20 top-level industrial and organisational psychologists from high and low economies around the world to reduce poverty in developing countries. He has just returned from Britain, where he co-convened the inaugural meeting of the Global Task Force on Humanitarian Work Psychology at University College London. The task force grew from Professor Carr's Poverty Research Group at Massey's Albany campus.

To see the full article go to the following URL: http://www.massey.ac.nz/massey/about-us/news/article.cfm?mnarticle=psychologists-join-forces-to-reduce-poverty-09-07-2009

Bronwyn Clark
Bronwyn Clark has been awarded a prestigious Top Achiever Doctoral Scholarship scholarship for her research. Her research focuses on clients’ expectations and perceptions of how spiritual and religious beliefs and practices are addressed by community mental health services. She receives $92,721 to support Missing Pieces: Understanding the Influence of Clients’ Religious and Spiritual Beliefs within the Frame of Cognitive Case Conceptualisation. This research will deepen therapists' understanding of spiritual and religious concerns within a New Zealand mental health setting, by providing a structured method of incorporating these issues into assessment. As a result, clinicians will more accurately be able to devise targeted and ultimately, cost-effective interventions for their clients. Ms Clark is based at the School of Psychology in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences at the Albany campus.
News on Staff Activities, Achievements and Awards

Siautu Alefaio, Senior Professional Clinician
On Thursday 22nd October, the School of Psychology welcomed Siautu Alefaio back from her time in Samoa. The mihi was well attended by both staff and students from the School of Psychology, in addition to staff of Te Rau Puawai and our Pasifika colleagues from around the university. Such attendance reflects the high regard with which Siautu is held. The mihi was a moving event, with Siautu sharing her experiences of her time in Samoa after the tsunami.

Professor Andy Lock
Andy Lock appeared in the August issue of Massey's Defining NZ magazine where he talked about discursive therapies and the School of Psychology's discursive therapies programme which he coordinates. You can read the article on p. 12 of issue which can be retrieved from here.

Dr Andy Towers
Andy Towers was recently selected as one of only 40 junior Gerontologists from the Asia-Pacific region to attend the 2009 Seoul National University - University of Tokyo Joint Conference on Aging “Challenges and Opportunities of Aging Asia: Toward the New Social System and Culture for Aging Society”.

He was provided a full scholarship covering his airfare and lodging, Andy took part in the 5-day networking conference which involved individual research presentations, networking with world renowned gerontologists, site visits, and a research grant competition aimed at establishing an international and inter-disciplinary collaborative research project in the Pacific Rim. Held on the Seoul National University campus, the conference brought together young researchers from over 20 countries within the region, and was the perfect opportunity to establish connections with researchers in similar areas through Asia and the Pacific. Andy currently works as a research officer on the New
Zealand Longitudinal Study of Ageing, so this trip also provided a perfect opportunity to meet and discuss collaborations with staff working on sister-studies in both Korea and Japan.

Andy was very impressed with the conference and said that Seoul itself was awe inspiring. A massive city of 10 million people, there was never a dull moment, or a moment to yourself, but he has never felt so happy and safe in a big city before. It was Autumn in Seoul so the trees were a beautiful copper shade, and the university campus was very beautiful. The locals were incredibly friendly and the food was great.

For those people interested in ageing research there will be another conference next year in Singapore.

Robbie Busch
Robbie Busch (Contract lecturer and PhD student) recently presented a seminar to a group of students at the University of Calgary, Canada. Rather cleverly, Robbie’s seminar involved no overseas travel - it was successfully presented by Skype and required a very early morning wake-up call!

Dr Ross Flett, Dr Stephen Hill and Hope Hyslop
Ross, Stephen and Hope made a successful trip to New Plymouth Girls High School in late October. 50 girls attended a 2 hour presentation. Ross did a 101 smorgasboard lecture style presentation and Stephen did a memory and cognition interactive presentation which worked very well. Hope provided all the details of our offerings in the B.A., B.Sc, and the B.HlthSc.

Wellington Arrivals and Departures
Ian de Terte
Ian has now started at the Wellington Campus as Senior Professional Clinician on the clinical training team and we have a photo of him!

News on Staff Activities, Achievements and Awards
Dr Linda Jones and Ella Kahu
Congratulations to Linda Jones and Ella Kahu who have been awarded a Fund for Innovation and Excellence in Teaching grant for the ‘makeover’ of 175.102 Psychology as a Natural Science into a single semester paper for 2010.

A/P David Johnston
Congratulations to David Johnson who has been elected to the Royal Society’s Social Science Committee.
Professor Ian Evans

Ian has been extremely busy in the latter part of this year. Here are a collection of his recent achievements:

1. He gave a one-hour workshop for the academic staff of the Department of Management (College of Business) on how to write the Other Comments section of one’s EP (for PBRF). If anyone in the School is interested he is willing to share the workshop content.

2. He is the Chairperson of the Living Guidelines Group (LGG) for Autistic Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The purpose of the LGG is to assess recent empirical evidence on ASD to ascertain whether there is enough evidence to suggest that a recommendation in the current ASD Guideline (Ministry of Health) should be changed. The LGG functions under the auspices of the New Zealand Guidelines Group, the Ministry of Education, and the Ministry of Health.

3. He was the invited keynote speaker at the annual conference of the New Zealand Association for the Study of Intellectual Disability (NZASID) in Hamilton at the end of August. His talk was entitled: The emotional function of challenging behaviour: What if your EQ is higher than your IQ? A copy of his talk is available on request.

4. He conducted a workshop on professional ethics for the Clinical Psychology students in Wellington as part of their regular Friday seminar series.

5. He is currently serving on a number of national committees. He is on the selection committee of the Royal Society of New Zealand evaluating applicants for travel grants for new researchers to present their work at an overseas conference. He is on the FRST Postdoc Fellowship committee, and he is a member of the Accreditation Committee of the Psychologists Board.

6. Together with Dr John Fitzgerald (Director, The Psychology Centre, Hamilton), he was co-editor of a special series for the New Zealand Journal of Psychology on the role of psychology and psychologists in primary health care. He was very pleased to receive excellent submissions to the special issue from staff at the Turitea Psychology Clinic. The special issue of NZJP will be published later this year.

7. He was a guest of FRST at the annual dinner for the McDiarmid Young Scientist of the Year awards at Sky City. Ian was one of two panel judges for the Science and Society submissions. He commented that a submission from our School was very highly ranked--this was from Petra Burgelt, reporting on her doctoral research relating to the experiences of German migrants. Although it did not receive an award, the submission was excellent. Ian would like to encourage other young scientists to think of entering the competition next year.

8. Early in September he gave a keynote address at the annual training meeting of Psychological Service, Department of Corrections. He was asked to reflect on maintaining a career path, and his talk was entitled Getting your balance: how to maintain lifelong effective healthy clinical practice although the sub-title is more explanatory: A little personal history, some self disclosure, tempting current research, and the (futile?) quest for wisdom. Ian would like to thank Jude Campbell for exposing him to the wisdom literature!

9. Ian chaired a symposium based on the work of Te Aniwaniwa, his and Shane Harvey's Marsden project, at the annual conference of the New Zealand Psychological Society. Most of the presentations
were delivered by postgraduate students who have worked on the project and their presentations were outstanding, according to Ian. At the end of the session a very famous retired New Zealand academic stood up and said that it was one of the best symposia he had ever attended!

10. The six students enrolled in the PgDip Psychological Practice qualification all talked about their work at the annual conference of the NZPsS. Barbara Kennedy and Siautu Alefaio also talked about their experiences with the programme, as did one of the internship supervisors. Ian chaired the session which was well attended and generated continued interest in the initiative.

Dr Linda Jones
Linda Jones has been appointed as the College representative on a working group recently formed to achieve the Massey Pasifika strategy. Congratulations Linda.

Dental Jungle News
A lot has happened in November on the Dental Jungle project. Linda took a New Zealand Royal Society funded trip to the UK to establish a new collaboration with Professor Marie-Therese Hosey, Head of Pediatric Dentistry at Kings College, London. Linda and Marie-Therese had a week planning ways to study dentists’ responses to dental anxiety and new strategies that can be linked to the computer game. (photo) Dr Heather Buchanan (Massey University International Visiting Scholar, Nov/Dec 2008) joined the meetings for a day, and she will work on the 2010 studies too, keeping up her connection to Dental Jungle. In New Zealand, two pediatric dentists have joined the team and will run the planned studies in NZ hospital settings with dental patients.

While she was away, Masters student, Matt Williams, attended the New Zealand Post Graduate Students’ Conference at Victoria University, Wellington, presenting a paper entitled, Coping in the chair: a validation of the dental monitor-blunter scale (Williams & Jones, 2009). Matt’s attendance was supported by a Massey University award for post grad students specifically to attend and present at the conference.

Over the summer period, Tom Huggins joins the Wellington campus staff. He will work on another component of the Dental Jungle project, a dental patient ‘request form’ for older, anxious children. Tom has received a summer scholarship for this work, as the project was selected for support and funding in the recent Massey University summer scholarship funding round.

Linda is open to enquiries from intending masters students who would like to be involved with Dental Jungle studies.
New Arrivals at the Centre

Dr Kathy Stuart (photo right) as joined the Centre as a Research Officer in August 2009. Her research will explore the impact that the 2006 Canterbury snow storm, the 2004 Manawatu floods and the 2009 Auckland swine-flu pandemic have had on schools and their communities. In investigating the impact of these hazard events, the research will also inquire into the emergency management arrangements that were made before and as a result of the closures.

Karene Tipler (photo left) is working with Ruth Tarrant and David Johnston as Research Assistant, evaluating school emergency exercises. She has a Masters from Victoria University on “Risk perceptions, preparedness, and hazards education participation of Porirua school children”. Karene is planning to begin a PhD in the New Year.

Robyn Tuohy (photo right) is working part-time as a research assistant, having recently completed her Masters in the School of Psychology on “Older people’s experiences of the Kaitaia flood evacuation: a narrative study with the residents of two communities.” She was a joint winner at the New Zealand Psychology Conference award for ‘Best Student Conference’ paper. Robyn is currently working on an EQC support project preparing a report on “Improving disaster preparedness of older adults living in the community”.

Joint Centre for Disaster Research on the Move

To meet the need for more space the JCDR will move 30 metres north to T20 in February 2010.

JCDR Research Update
The latest Research Update (June) from the JCDR is now available from http://disasters.massey.ac.nz/pubs/JCDR_Update_June_2009.pdf

New JCDR Whebsite
The JCDR has a new website if you wish to explore further: http://disasters.massey.ac.nz/news.htm
Research Seminar

Steps Along a Journey: Teaching Cultural Competence in Relation to Indigenous Australians

ABSTRACT
The presentation discusses our experience of indigenising the curriculum in Australia, focusing on undergraduate psychology. The presentation starts with a brief summary of the origins of the Psychology and Indigenous Australians project. We describe the cultural competence model which underpins our teaching practices, how this works in practice in our psychology teaching, and discuss some of the issues in teaching this material, obstacles we have faced and strategies to overcome them. We include a discussion of the importance of ‘doing our own work’ (whitefella business), which we see as an essential complement to cultural awareness and understanding. The presentation ends with an account of Wendy's work in changing policy at Charles Sturt University to make cultural competence training mandatory not only for students but all staff and a discussion of current moves at the 'Universities Australia' level to introduce cultural competence into all undergraduate curricula in Australia.

On Friday 13th November, the School of Psychology at Palmerston North was fortunate to have Rob Ranzijn from the University of South Australia and Wendy Nolan from Charles Sturt University present on the issue of incorporating indigenous content into university curricula. The guests were welcomed with a mihi whakatau, followed by morning tea, and were hosted by Natasha Tassell and Jhanitra Gavala.

The seminar discussed their experience of indigenising the curriculum in Australia, focusing on undergraduate psychology. It started with a brief summary of the origins of the Psychology and Indigenous Australians project. They described the cultural competence model which underpins their teaching practices, how this works in practice in psychology teaching, and some of the issues in teaching this material, obstacles faced and strategies to overcome them.

They included a discussion of the importance of ‘doing our own work’ (whitefella business), which they see as an essential complement to cultural awareness and understanding. The presentation ended with an account of Wendy's work in changing policy at Charles Sturt University to make cultural competence training mandatory not only for students but all staff and a discussion of current moves at the 'Universities Australia' level (formerly the Australian Vice Chancellors' Committee) to introduce cultural competence into all undergraduate curricula in Australia.

Wendy Nolan (Biripi / Kattang Language Nation, New South Wales) is the Deputy Director and Senior Lecturer in Indigenous Education of the Centre for Indigenous Studies, Charles Sturt University (Australia). She acts as consultant providing cultural competence training programs to practitioners across Australia. She has received a number of research grants for her work in developing cultural competence as a pedagogical model for incorporating Indigenous content into university degree programs.

Rob Ranzijn (School of Psychology, University of South Australia, Australia) is a Senior Lecturer in Psychology and the leader of the Psychology and Indigenous Australians project team which has been working since 2004 to incorporate cultural competence and Indigenous content into undergraduate psychology, by means of curriculum guidelines developed by the project team and seminars, workshops and conferences on relations between psychology and Indigenous Australians.

- Item contributed by Natasha Tassell
Upcoming Conferences

Australasian Society for Behavioural Health and Medicine 7th Annual Scientific Conference (Brisbane 2010)

The 7th Annual Scientific Conference of the ASBHM will be held in Brisbane from February 10th to 12th at the Novotel Hotel. The ‘track themes’ for the conference include:

**Track Themes**
- The Challenge of Health Behaviour Change
- Achieving Equity: Determinants & Distribution of Health
- Linking Research, Policy and Practice
- Healthy and Unhealthy Behaviours
- Unhealthy Behaviours
- Chronic Disease Prevention and Management
- Intervention and Program Evaluation
- Quality of Life Issues
- Psychophysiology/Psychoneuroimmunology

For further information please go to: [http://www.asbhm.org/conference.html](http://www.asbhm.org/conference.html)

**Emotion Laid Bare Christchurch 21st National Conference of the NZCCP**

We are pleased to present the brochure and registration form for the 21st national conference of the NZCCP, 6 and 7 February 2010, Hotel Grand Chancellor, Christchurch plus pre-conference workshop, post-conference workshop and student symposium.

**Pre-Conference Workshop: 4-5 February**

To register for the conference and/or workshops go to [http://www.nzccp.co.nz/events/conferences/nzccp-national-conference-2010/register-for-the-2010-conference/](http://www.nzccp.co.nz/events/conferences/nzccp-national-conference-2010/register-for-the-2010-conference/)

**2010 International Gambling Conference: Gambling in the 21st Century: The Implications of Technology for Policy, Practice and Research**

24 - 26 February 2010, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Auckland, New Zealand

Hosted by the Problem Gambling Foundation of New Zealand, the Gambling and Addictions Research Centre at Auckland University of Technology, and Hapai Te Hauora Tapui Maori Public Health

Closing date for submission of abstracts: 27 November 2009

Early Bird registration discounts close: 17 November 2009. Further conference details can be found on the [AUT](http://www.aut.ac.nz) conference website.
Staff and Student Publications

Journal Articles


Book

Professor Andy Lock / Professor Tom Strong

“An amazing accomplishment. Andy Lock and Tom Strong succeed in drawing together an enormous range of scholarship to shape current dialogues on social construction. With their articulate, well-balanced, and personalized accounts of these wide-ranging contributions, this impressive work will be an invaluable resource for scholars and students alike.” Kenneth J. Gergen, Senior Research Professor of Psychology, Swarthmore College, and author of *Relational Being*.

“Andy Lock and Tom Strong skilfully situate current approaches to social constructionism within an unbroken flow of work stretching back into the history of western thought as well as into places where it should develop further. Their work opens up whole new realms for possible empirical inquiries in the future. This is an exceptionally comprehensive survey that any psychologist interested in social constructionism should own. The authors are to be commended.” John Shotter, Emeritus Professor of Communication, University of New Hampshire.

Conferences/Workshops


Other Publications


IMPORTANT! Please send information about in press or published research to H.L.Page@massey.ac.nz. We will include research outputs information that you forward to Melanie Robertson. However, since outputs information does not include in press or in preparation research we’d still like you to keep us updated directly about such material.

Please let Melanie Robertson know if you do not wish your outputs to be released in the Psychology News.
For your PhD study what did you study and what did you find out?
I looked for evidence of rebound effects that might follow the suppression of perceivers' stereotypes of those in poverty. Specifically I wanted to see if people who suppressed their stereotypes of those portrayed in aid advertisements would experience rebound effects.

There is plenty of research to show that suppressed thoughts (think ‘white bear’), and similarly suppressed stereotypes, can rebound and subsequently become more intrusive and dominant in people’s thinking.

I used both cognitive and behavioural measures of stereotype rebound in four experiments to see if those who suppressed their stereotypes were subsequently more stereotypical in their thinking and behaviour than controls. Unlike other published rebound research, people in my study who suppressed their stereotypes of the poor were less (rather than more) stereotypical in their thinking and chose approach rather than avoidance behaviours. In an implicit measure of stereotyping (computer-based response times) suppressors were more inclined to associate positive, rather than negative attributes with members of the poor target group.

We explained these findings using with the Stereotype Content model - this model proposes that the content of social stereotypes varies on two dimensions: Warmth and Competence. It seems that the content of most social stereotypes is not uniformly negative but often ambivalent (i.e., contains both positive and negative attributions).

I found that rebound effects may follow the suppression of people’s stereotypes of the poor and also that they can be positive as well as negative (a finding not reported in the literature before).

It is important to consider the positive, as well as the negative outcomes of stereotyping - most research is conducted with social groups that are seen in a negative light. Using the ‘developing poor’ as a target group seems to produce different stereotypical responses in perceivers, something that charities and aid advertisers may need to take into account.

What was the best part of doing a doctoral thesis?
I think that the best part is that for much of the time, you are outside your comfort zone and your learning and understanding is stretched to another level. Because of that, I didn’t much mind the difficult or boring bits. It’s also nice to know that you have time to ‘do’ real research and that you have a good excuse to read and read and read. I enjoyed the research (finding out more) aspect and the experimental side, which also accounts for the ‘difficult’ bit…………

What was the most difficult aspect of completing your doctorate?
My thesis was difficult because we didn’t really know how the results from the experiments would turn out. It was a real shock when at first the findings weren’t what we anticipated – we expected to see negative rebound effects and the positive rebound effects seemed hard to explain (for a while). It was also challenging theoretically and caused me a quite a few headaches. Not knowing exactly what results the experiments (after all the planning and work) might produce was always a bit unnerving.

There is often much mystique around the PhD oral - could you tell us about your experience.
I think that it’s worse thinking about the oral than actually doing it. But it was challenging and like everything I guess the best thing you can do is to anticipate questions and prepare well (although by then you already know a lot about your subject).
I appreciated the support from my supervisors during the oral and the examiners also made sure the process was friendly and relaxed. My convenor was wonderful and his advice was really helpful in the run-up.

What advice would you offer those thinking of embarking on doctoral study in psychology?
Similar to what others say – choose a subject that you really like or are interested in and a supervisor(s) you can work with. It's extremely helpful if you define your question clearly and set limits around it at the beginning (something I didn't do initially). That should save many hours of reading, writing and thinking - not that that's ever wasted! Most important of all – make sure that you enjoy the process………..

What are you doing now that you have completed the PhD?
I haven't embarked on another big project (yet). I'm still doing some business psychology work and assisting on a really interesting research project. I'd like to do more applied work and am thinking about working in a cognitive/social psychology role next year - after I've had a summer holiday.

Where would you like to be working in 2 - 3 years time?
Not sure – I really like cognitive psychology (especially the automatic cognitive processes that drive behaviour) and would like to be working with children or adolescents – so probably something that would combine the two. I’d love to be involved in research as well – that’s what doing a PhD does to you.

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Graduate Profile #2: Dr Bev Haarhoff

For your PhD study what did you study and what did you find out?
As a practicing clinical psychologist and coordinator of the Postgraduate Diploma in Cognitive Behaviour Therapy my PhD was clinically focused. I recognized that if I was to complete it within reasonable time limits the topic would need to dovetail with and enhance my professional life. My thesis, entitled “The map, the navigator, and the explorer” evaluated case conceptualization as a core competency acquired in psychotherapy training. In addition, the impact of a self-practice/self-reflection manualised training intervention, designed to improve the quality of case conceptualization in trainee Cognitive Behaviour Therapists was explored. A case conceptualization is often described as the “map” which the therapist uses to plan and negotiate therapy (the navigator). It draws together precipitating, predisposing, and maintaining factors contributing to a client’s presenting problems, and includes protective and resilience factors which might help the client with the problem. Self-practice refers to practicing psychotherapy interventions on oneself as therapist, and self-reflection is reflecting on this experience (the explorer). This form of personal therapy is often seen as helpful in increasing the therapist's self-understanding and utilization of his her chosen psychotherapeutic model (in this instance CBT).

The evaluation of the content of the CBT case conceptualizations produced by the 26 participants (graduates of the postgraduate diploma) showed predisposing factors and psychological mechanisms received the most attention from the participants. The majority of the participants however failed to pay attention to socio-cultural, biological and protective factors. The therapeutic relationship was also found to a neglected area. As far as the quality of the case conceptualisations was concerned, most of the participants produced ‘good enough’ case conceptualizations.

The effect of the self-practice/self-reflection training intervention on the quality of the participants’ CBT case conceptualizations was qualitatively evaluated using thematic analysis. Increased theoretical understanding of the model, self-awareness, empathy, conceptualization of the therapeutic relationship, adaptation of clinical interventions and clinical practice were the most important themes identified, with all of the participants reporting that they found the SP/SR workbook helpful in consolidating their CBT case conceptualization skills.

What was the best part of doing a doctoral thesis?
The completion! I learnt a lot and gradually experienced a sense of mastery and achievement. Because I was in full time employment over the entire period I honestly did not experience the excitement I think I might have experienced had I had more focused time available.
What was the most difficult part of completing your doctorate?
I experienced many difficulties! Maintaining an interest in a very circumscribed area of study was probably the most significant. The more you read the more interesting areas to research reveal themselves. I am very involved in clinical work and clinical supervision and topics of interest continually present themselves. I am by nature interested in many things so I sometimes became bored and uninterested in my topic. I have a very busy life so finding stretches of uninterrupted thinking and writing time was impossible. I often became frustrated and sometimes discouraged by this.

There is often much mystique around the PhD oral – could you tell us about your experience?
I had a very pleasurable experience. I was lucky to have a wonderful convener who worked hard to put me at ease and thoroughly dispelled any mystique by talking me through the process before the day. My supervisors were both also very supportive and I felt very well nurtured and as though everyone wanted the best outcome for me. I knew the topic well and after an initial bout of stage fright and loss of speech I thoroughly enjoyed the questions and discussion.

What advice would you offer those thinking of embarking on doctoral study in psychology?
Think hard about your choice of topic. It needs to be something you feel passionate about but also a topic that interests your potential supervisors. In retrospect I would have liked to have been part of a research group investigating parts of larger whole. It can be a very lonely process and having interested “sounding boards” is important and they are hard to find. Think about your personality. Are you an autonomous or dependent person? Do you need a lot of reinforcement or are you a self-starter? Think about your interpersonal style and that of your supervisor. Are you well matched temperamentally? Ask other people about their experiences and find out what the main research foci in the department are. Don’t go off on too much of a personal tangent.

Will you attend a graduation ceremony?
I will be graduating in May 2010. My oral exam was scheduled after the Auckland graduation dates in 2009. I believe it is very important to graduate formally as it marks your achievements in a celebratory public way. It is a personal view. I completed all my study in the late 70’s and early 80’s when it was “uncool” to graduate and be seen as part of the “establishment” so I opted out. I have regretted it ever since!

What are you doing now that you have completed your PhD?
I continue to the same job I was employed to do during my PhD. I am a senior lecturer in the School of Psychology at Massey University. I am the coordinator of the Postgraduate diploma in CBT. This is a two year diploma attended by mental health practitioners. I am currently consolidating my work on the PhD and hope to publish two journal articles on the results in the near future. I continue to pursue my interest in transfer of clinical training and I am currently co supervising a PhD thesis evaluating transfer of clinical training in graduates from the Postgraduate diploma. My interest in case conceptualization continues and I run regular workshops for the Massey University Psychology Centre on the topic.

Where would you like to be working in 2-3 years time?
I am sure that I will remain happily employed in my current role.

Doctoral Confirmation Events

Congratulations to …

Shelley James and Brett Hunt successfully completed their confirmation events and have had their doctoral enrolments confirmed. Confirmation events continue to provide each campus with regular seminars where the doctoral students present to staff and students. These events are an important milestone in the doctoral journey and it is great to see them being so well supported within the School.

New Doctoral Enrolments

New enrolments - we welcome the following doctoral students and wish them every success in their studies:

Ann Rogerson - August - Ann is working with Mandy Morgan and Leigh Coombes on the topic of feminist contributions to the emergence of the field of ‘the psychology of women’ and considering how sexual differences have been taken up and submerged in the production of gender neutrality.

Cara Tipping Smith - August - Cara is studying cognitive aging in New Zealand’s population and is being supervised by Fiona Alpass, Chris Stephens and Dianne Gardner.
Oral Examinations

Congratulations to **Brian Tuck** who successfully defended his PhD thesis in August. The thesis was titled *Putting Humpty Dumpty together again: A testifying of the embodied nature of human experience* and was supervised by Mandy Morgan and Andy Lock.

Congratulations to **Alicia Moxon** who successfully defended her PhD thesis in August. The thesis was titled *The effectiveness of a brief psycho-educational intervention for people with schizophrenia and their families*. The thesis was supervised by Kevin Ronan and Ross Flett.

Congratulations to **Simon Bennett** who successfully defended his PhD thesis in August. The thesis was titled *Te Huanga o te Ao Maori. Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Maori clients with depression - Development and evaluation of a culturally adapted treatment programme*. The supervisors involved were Ross Flett and Duncan Babbage.

Congratulations to **Clare Couch** who successfully defended her DClinPsych thesis in August. The thesis was titled *Balanced parenting with young children: Relationship focused parent training within a dialectic framework*. The work was supervised by Janet Leathem, Duncan Babbage and Susan Watson.

Congratulations to **Niki Murray** (nee Culligan) who successfully defended her PhD thesis in August. The thesis was titled *Dispositional coping styles and adult literacy: Exploring stress and coping in adult vocational training environments*. The work was supervised by Fiona Alpass, John Podd and Frank Sligo.

Congratulations to **Muriel Christianson** whose examination was successfully concluded in September. Muriel’s work was completed on the Wellington campus under the supervision of Janet Leatham and the topic was *Efficacy of Cognitive Behavioural Therapy for Clients who have sustained a Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)*.

Congratulations to **Susan Street** whose examination was successfully concluded in September. Susan’s work was also completed on the Wellington campus under the supervision of Ian Evans who assisted with the earlier supervision of John Spicer and Stephen Hill. The thesis was titled *Two Agent-Based Models of Trust in Social Networks*.

**Rebekah Jourdain** had her Doctorate of clinical Psychology oral at the unusual time of 4.30 pm on Tuesday October 5th. She passed with flying colours. Rebekah’s thesis was entitled *“Psychological Fallout”: The Effects of Nuclear Radiation Exposure*. Congratulations Rebekah.

Congratulations to **Natasha Tassell** who successfully defended her PhD thesis in October. The thesis was titled *Motivation and Wellbeing in Humanitarian Health Workers*. Natasha’s supervisors were Ross Flett and John Podd.

Congratulations to **Andy Towers** who had his oral examination in November. Andy’s is based at the Manawatu campus and was supervised by Ross Flett and Stephen Hill. His thesis was titled *Consolidating Mistakes of the Heart and Mind: Toward a Dual Process Theory of Regret*.

Congratulations to **Hukarere Valentine** who successfully defended her DClinPsych thesis (titled *Kia ngawari ki te awatea: The Relationship between Wairua and Maori Wellbeing - a Psychological Perspective*). Hukarere was supervised by Ross Flett and Dr Te Kani Kingi.

Other Student News

**Isabelle Miclette**

Congratulations go to Isabelle Miclette who was awarded the Institute of Clinical Psychology’s prize for the best student presentation at the New Zealand Psychological Society Conference.

**Robyn Tuohy and Bronwyn Sweeney**

Congratulations to two health psychology students who won the New Zealand Psych Society student prizes at the NZPS conference: **Robyn Tuohy** won the joint NZPsS Best Student Conference Paper for her contribution to the ageing research symposium entitled: *Older adults' experiences of a flood disaster: Making sense of an extraordinary event*. **Bronwyn Sweeney** won the prize for best poster for her poster entitled: *Baby on Board: Sleep changes in pregnancy and postpartum and their relationship to drowsy driving*. Bronwyn was notably an undergraduate health psychology
student and the first psychology major graduate in the Bachelor of Health Science in Wellington. Robyn has just completed her MSC with an endorsement in health psychology. Congratulations to both!

Health Psychology Practicum Student: Trish Niland

As part of the endorsement in Health Psychology Masters students complete a Health Psychology Practicum paper (175.879) which involves at least 240 hours working in a community health agency under supervision. Here is a summary of one student's experience:

Trish worked at Family and Community Services (FACS) which is part of the Ministry of Social Development. She was based in the SKIP (Strategies with Kids, Information for Parents) team.

SKIP is the government's positive parenting initiative. It works with parents of children from birth to five, supporting them to bring up their children in a positive way, using love and nurture and limits and boundaries. SKIP's vision is that all children in New Zealand are raised in a positive way, with parents and caregivers who feel confident about managing children's behaviour as part of a loving, nurturing relationship.

SKIP develops and distributes resources such as pamphlets, posters, DVDs and training modules for parents and those who work with them, builds the capacity of local and national organisations to work effectively with parents and manages a Local Initiative Fund. This fund enables communities to develop collaborative projects that promote positive parenting.

Trish compiled an archive of all the SKIP materials, resources and documents that have been produced since the project started in 2004. She consulted with the SKIP team, made suggestions about various options then checked back with staff before settling on a format and making it happen. Trish interviewed each member of the SKIP team and waded through files, documents and publications to produce an overview of SKIP. This will be developed into a resource which describes and illustrates how SKIP works as a community development initiative.

The biggest piece of work which Trish undertook involved scoping the needs of parents of adolescents. She planned and then took part in a number of focus groups and interviews, in a range of communities around New Zealand, with parents and people who work with them. The information obtained from this exercise will be used to inform FACS' future work.

Petra Buergelt

At the beginning of this year, Petra published her MA thesis as a book together with her MA supervisors A/Professor Mandy Morgan and Dr Regina Pernice. The intent of this book is to inspire people to live their migration dream and to empower and enable them to migrate more powerfully. To make the book widely available, Petra is in the process of promoting and distributing the book to make it available as a resource for Western migrants to New Zealand.

From the cover: The book presents an empirically grounded reconstruction of the migration process – emigration and immigration - of contemporary German migrants from their own perspective. In an inspiring story, the authors show how migrants developed their dream to migrate, how they enlivened this dream, and how they started their new life. The story also gives insights into the various challenges migrants faced as they realised their dream, the benefits they gained as they lived their dream, and how they chose the path most conducive for the fulfilment of their future dreams. Throughout the story, the psychological and social factors that contribute to health/well-being or to distress, and that influence the decision whether to stay in New Zealand or to return to Germany, are made explicit. Although the migration process is exemplified by the experiences of German migrants to Aotearoa/New Zealand, the book will also provide a valuable resource for people who intend to migrate or have already migrated from Western countries to New Zealand or Australia. Family members or friends of migrants, migration advisory agencies, counsellors, policy makers, migration researchers and qualitative researchers may find this book of value too.
In 2007-2008 Petra also was the lead researcher in a team made up by Professor Douglas Paton and A/Professor David Johnston that investigated the psychosocial processes and factors influencing preparedness for a bird flu outbreak. The findings have been presented to the Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management, Ministry of Health and Ministry of Social Development. The report has been published at the Joint Disaster Centre website: http://disasters.massey.ac.nz/pubs/GNS/SR_2009-09_Factors_influencing_pandemic_preparedness.pdf

Ephra Garrett Award Recipients
Congratulations to all of the recipients of this year’s Ephra Garrett Awards: Melissa Rangiwananga, Aroha Baker, Yvonne McGarvey, John-James Carberry, Laura Buckley, and Alamein Newth.

Kimberly Good
From September 16th–19th Kimberly attended the European Association of Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies (EABCT) 2009 annual conference held in Dubrovnik, Croatia. Kimberly presented her preliminary doctoral findings that examine the relationship between stress and depression in adults presenting with first-episode depression who are receiving CBT as treatment. She also attended a pre-conference workshop presented by Frank Dattilio on Comprehensive CBT with Couples and Families. The conference was a fantastic experience and Kimberly tells us that the location was amazing.

Kimberly has also recently been awarded a Claude McCarthy Scholarship for 2010 to help support her travel to a conference next year to present her completed doctoral research.

Laura Buckley
Congratulations to D.Clin Psych. student Laura Buckley who has been awarded two research scholarships recently – one from the Maori Education Trust and another from the New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women.

“I have also been lucky enough to receive two research scholarships, thank you for your support with my applications. I have received some funding from both Maori Education Trust and the New Zealand Federation of Graduate Women.”

Ministry of Tourism Masters Scholarships
Ministry of Tourism will be offering scholarships to Masters students undertaking a research-based thesis on a topic relevant to the tourism industry. Five scholarships of $15,000 will be available for the 2010 study year. The principle of the scholarships is to encourage New Zealand residents to undertake Masters level research on the tourism industry, with both academic quality and industry relevance. The Ministry will accept students studying for a Masters qualification in any subject (not just tourism-related), who are doing research that is applicable to the tourism industry. For further information go to: http://awards.massey.ac.nz/massey/admission/scholarships-bursaries-awards/other-scholarships/search-results/search-results_home.cfm?page=award_display&scholarship_id=483

Wellington Post-Graduate Research Day: Psychology through the Ages
We are pleased to announce the annual Wellington Post-Graduate Research Day for 2009: Psychology through the Ages. We cordially invite you to attend this event and support our presenters.

When: December 10th, 2009
Where: Executive Suite, 5B14, Wellington Campus
Time: 11am till 5pm

RSVP: Jack Noone (j.h.noone@massey.ac.nz) or Ella Kahu (e.r.kahu@massey.ac.nz) ASAP!
The diversity in student research is clearly evident with presentations covering areas such as childhood emotion in the classroom, the effects of torture on brain function, ritual abuse, and ethnic differences in cognitive ability and job performance. But despite its diversity, our research is united by a focus on the different stages of the lifespan. *Psychology through the Ages* reflects a body of research ranging from childhood to parenting, working life and retirement.

In addition to student research, a series of guest presenters will cover topics such as publishing from theses, undertaking a PhD, the Diploma in Professional Practice, and working outside of academia. We would like to thank Dr Antonia Lyons, Professor Ian Evans, and Mr Paul Fitzmaurice for sharing their expertise.

The research day runs from 11am to 5pm in the Executive Suite (5b14) and is followed by a BBQ for psychology students and staff (rear courtyard, Block 5)

### Programme of Events

11.00am **Jack Noone & Ella Kahu** Welcome

11.10am **Paul Fitzmaurice** Finding a job outside of academia

11.30am **Psychology in childhood**
*Maria Ulloa* Emotional interactions between preschool children and their teachers: How they influence classrooms environments and learning experiences  
*Sylvia Pack* New Zealand counsellors talk about ritual abuse: A discourse analysis

12.15pm Lunch

1.00pm **Ian Evans** Diploma in professional practice

1.20pm **Psychology in parenthood**
*Celia Falchi* Breaking through the “Cinderella Bias” barrier: Exploring the development of a healthy positive stepparent / stepchild relationship  
*Vickie Amor-Porter* The effects of positive affective priming on Māori mothers’ attributions for children’s misbehaviours and appropriate methods of discipline

2.00pm **Antonia Lyons** Getting published: Who, why, where, and how

2.30pm **Psychology in adulthood**
*Brett Hunt* Anxiety, depression, and everyday risk avoidance  
*Fernanda Mottin* Cognitive-behavioural group therapy for anxiety-related insomnia  
*Catherine Mann* Cognitive ability, job performance and ethnic group differences in New Zealand

3.45pm Afternoon tea

4.00pm **Ian Evans** Doing a PhD

4.15pm **Psychology in adulthood**
*Bahrie Veliu* Neuropsychological sequel of torture  
*Venessa Green* How important is exercise and social interaction for recovery from a cardiac event?  
*Jack Noone* Developing a measure of retirement planning: A thesis by paper

5.15pm BBQ
Social Psychology

International Canoe Polo Successes for Shane Harvey

Dr Shane Harvey was selected to represent the New Zealand Vets at the Oceania Canoe polo competitions in Penrith, Australia on the 3rd-5th of October where the team won Silver (losing to Australia). The following weekend was the World Masters. Shane joined a New Zealand team and won gold! Well done Shane! Here are some photos from the World Masters competition:

The Grand Final is viewable on Youtube at: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KBh4aOoW4Y
Motorsport Champion Jennifer Stillman

Dr Jennifer Stillman is excited at the prospect of joining in a new race series for Classic Japanese cars. Her first outing with the group was in November at the New Hampton Downs circuit currently being constructed in North Waikato. She has been racing in grass-roots motorsport events at Taupo and Pupekohe since 2003, with her 1989 turbo MX5 (that’s number 59 in the accompanying photos). She says she continues to view optimistically the idea that you can teach an old dog at least a few new tricks!

Yet More Baby News!

Kirsti (PhD student in Palmerston North) and Ady Chapman were delighted to have a new baby boy on the 16th October, at home. All are very well and healthy - Derowen Ahi Chapman was 7lb 11oz. A wee brother for Talwyn.

Anne Ormsby would like to pass on the following words “From the Ormsby family could you please thank Mandy and the school for the lovely gifts. And thank you ladies for the visit. Much love Anne, Tahiwi and baby Shaye.”

The accompanying photo was taken from a visit to the hospital by staff at Palmerston North. Now that Anne has been at home for a while she reports that Shaye is a very healthy eater!
Psychologists Outside of the School of Psychology

In this column Psychology News talks to psychologists with Massey connections who do not reside in the School of Psychology.

If you have suggestions of suitable candidates for future issues please let us know. Suitable candidates include psychology researchers or psychologists who work at Massey outside of our School, or who have a Massey connection but work outside of the university.

Dr Steve Stewart-Williams

Can you tell us about your background in psychology – how did you end up where you are?
I started as an extramural student. I was playing in a band in Wellington at the time and keeping some pretty strange hours, so extramural study really suited me. In my second year, I came across Robert Wright’s book The Moral Animal, which introduced me to evolutionary psychology and was a real turning point. In particular, I was impressed by the ev psych explanation for the typical differences between men and women in their sexual behaviour. Unfortunately, no one at Massey was working in that area when I started my PhD, so I began a project on the placebo effect instead. But I soon realised that my true love was evolutionary psychology, and changed my thesis topic midway through. It was a bit of a risk but it turned out well, as I ended up landing a lectureship in ev psych at Swansea University. So I’m really grateful to John Podd (my PhD supervisor) for encouraging me to change course.

What about your background in general - where did you come from? Do you have any non-psychological interests, hobbies, or quirks that you feel like sharing?
I really love music; I surround myself with it most of the time. I actually considered trying to make a career out of music at one point – I even made an album of songs I’d written – but in the end I gave it all away for a career in academia. I had some good times playing music, though. I was in a band that opened for Head like a Hole (remember them?) in front of 1,000 people, and I once jammed with a band that played with the Beatles at the Cavern Club.

Another hobby is travelling. I’ve done a safari in Kenya; taken the greyhound buses across the US; and eaten salted chicken cartilage in Japan (believe it or not, it’s really good). We were back in NZ in August on holiday, and while we were there I did the Skyjump off the Sky Tower; that was a really amazing experience.

At present you work in the UK and in the past have worked in Canada. Can you tell us something about that and how the various people you have met have affected your work?
After getting my PhD, I moved to Canada with my wife and kids to do a post-doc in evolutionary psychology. That was with Martin Daly and Margo Wilson, two of the biggest names in the field. They were great people to work with, and great people full stop. They accepted me into their lab with only a few weeks notice (long story), and took it in their stride when we accidentally set their kitchen on fire while house sitting for them.

What areas of psychology interest you most? What have you researched and what are you currently researching, if any?
I’ve done research in various areas – the placebo effect, altruism, human mating – but the main thing I’ve been working on lately is a book called Darwin, God, and the Meaning of Life. It looks at the implications of evolutionary psychology for some of the most important questions in philosophy, like whether there’s a God, whether human beings are superior to other animals, whether life has any ultimate meaning, how we should treat other animals, etc. All good fun.

What would you like to do with your psychology in the future? Future research? Teaching? What directions would you like to take it in?
I am working on a new project but it’s in its early stages right now so it’s top secret. Sorry!
What about working with students?
Most of the students I'm supervising at the moment are doing work on human mating. I've got one PhD student doing content analyses of dating websites. She's looking at sex differences in people's willingness to pursue someone who's already married. I've got another PhD student looking at how people react to feedback about their attractiveness (i.e., feedback that they're hot vs. not so hot), and how that affects their sexual inclinations (i.e., their desire for a committed relationship vs. multiple partners).

Favourite books
I don't know about favourite books but I do have a few favourite authors: Bertrand Russell, Richard Dawkins, Daniel Dennett, Steven Pinker, Peter Singer. Actually, I do have a few favourite books: *Love You Forever* by Robert Munsch (it's a kids' book; quirky but touching); and *Created from Animals* by James Rachels.

Favourite films/TV
I try to watch all the Oscar winners and nominees. I particularly enjoy supernatural thrillers like *The Sixth Sense* and *The Others* – weird cos I don't believe in any of that stuff. *Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind* was a great film (even though Jim Carrey was in it). *Before Sunrise* and *Lost in Translation* are favourites as well.

Favourite meal
I mainly like meat, especially a good steak (awkward cos I'm sympathetic to the ethical arguments against eating meat). I like creamy foods and chocolate. My favourite dessert is Crème Brûlée. Uh oh, starting to feel hungry...

Favourite saying / proverb / place?
I've got a few...

“Existence is but a brief crack of light between two eternities of darkness”
*Vladimir Nabokov*

“Here's something to think about: How come you never see a headline like 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?”
*Jay Leno*

“When you think of the long and gloomy history of man, you will find more hideous crimes have been committed in the name of obedience than have ever been committed in the name of rebellion.”
*C. P. Snow*
People in the School of Psychology
Interview with Angela McNaught

Dr Angela McNaught
Senior Lecturer and Clinical Psychologist, Massey University Auckland

Angela McNaught joined the Massey staff at Albany in the middle of this year.

What did you do before taking up your position with the School of Psychology?
For the past seven years I have been working as a Clinical Psychologist at Counties Manukau District Health Board, while I waited on someone to leave the Massey CBT programme so that I could rush in and take their job. Initially I worked in an Adult Community Mental Health Team and for the latter three years I was the sole Clinical Psychologist covering the majority of Middlemore Hospital for the Psychiatric Liaison team. Actually, I really liked this work, particularly for the variety of people with different presentations that you see.

Why did you choose to come here?
Someone finally left the CBT programme.

Tell us about your background in psychology - where did you study? What aspects of psychology interest you?
Do you have a background in any other disciplines or professions?
I did my undergraduate study in Psychology and Education at Otago University, in the good old days when you got to train rats in mazes. I initially thought I might be a school teacher, turns out I was wrong. I then took some time off to travel overseas, before returning to study at Massey in Palmerston North. I finished my PhD there under the superb guidance of A/P John Spicer, before completing my PGDipClinPsych at Albany and Counties Manukau DHB. In terms of my psychological pursuits, I am interested in the application of CBT (obviously), but also in death and dying, sleep difficulties, therapist characteristics and the therapeutic relationship, and the psychological predictors and consequences of bariatric (Lapband) surgery. Previous “professions”: I used to take death notices from funeral directors for the local newspaper over the phone (for fun and pocket money), I worked in advertising (in the heady 90s, just after the really heady days of the 80s), I worked for a merchant bank (actually more fun than it sounds, no really), and I worked in the haberdashery department of a big department store for the princely sum of $1.99 an hour (not so much a profession as adolescent slavery). P.S. I’m younger than I sound.

Do you have any plans for how you would like to develop 175.761 and 175.762 over the next couple of years?
Not yet.

What is your favourite thing about your work?
Is it clichéed to say being paid? I like the moment when students are willing to overcome their anxiety and finally try something that turns out better than they anticipated, that’s very rewarding.

What’s your favourite book?
Impossible question, the women from the Albany Psych Department book club might banish me (again) for my answer, especially since I’ve already tried to introduce a Woman’s Day reading group … However, I loved Perfume by Patrick Susskind, Pride and Prejudice by Jane Austen, Dirt Music by Alan Winton, and more latterly Mr Pip by Lloyd Jones. And GQ, but just for the pictures.

What is the last movie you saw?
Run Fat Boy Run. An amusing take on running a marathon, but don’t take this as a recommendation.

Favourite food? Anything else you could tell us about yourself, i.e., favourite saying, proverb if there is one? Or perhaps a favourite place?
Food: There are the three c’s: coffee, cheese and chocolate, none of which I could live without. Seriously. Sayings: “The time to begin most things is 10 years ago” – Mignon McLaughlin. She also wrote “Anything you lose automatically doubles in value”, perhaps especially your marbles.
The team at Psychology News wishes everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Next Issue

The next issue (Vol 5, No 1, February/March) of Psychology News will be produced in late March 2010. If you have any news, or fabulous photos, or research and publication information that you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please send the information to Helen Page, H.L.Page@massey.ac.nz before the end of March.

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