

Psychology

Newsletter



IUP Department of Psychology Newsletter

Summer 2022, Issue 4



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WELCOME

Welcome to the fourth issue of the IUP Psychology Department Newsletter! This year has been particularly exciting as we merged two departments into one: Psychology and Educational and School Psychology. This has created wonderful opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to collaborate in new ways. Some of those details are found summarized within this newsletter.

We hope that you continued to manage the pandemic this past academic year. Despite these challenges, IUP and the Psychology Department returned to in-person courses and many on-campus activities this past academic year.

We hope you enjoy catching up with the Department and learning about what we have been up to during the last year. We envision this newsletter as having two goals: (a) provide an update of what has happened this past year; and (b) provide a mechanism to connect with alumni and others currently or previously affiliated with the Psychology Department and former Educational and School Psychology Department.

You will find information about faculty, student, and alumni activities and achievements in this newsletter. The stories showcase the diversity of psychology and our department. We are always interested in expanding the Newsletter to include varied topics of interest. If you have information and/or ideas about what to include in future Newsletters, please let us know. Send us information about what you are doing. Email us with any feedback, information, ideas, or questions at psychology-newsletter@iup.edu

Stay safe and healthy!

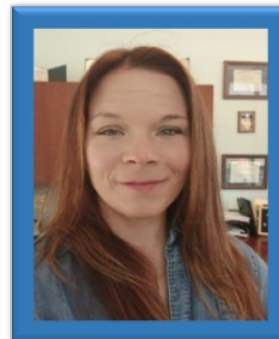


A Message from the Department Chair

Dear colleagues, friends, and alumni,

It has been another eventful year in the Psychology Department. We have had our fair share of ups and downs this year which has included saying goodbye to cherished colleagues, making some big curricular changes, and completing our first year as the newly merged Department of Psychology in the College of Health and Human Services.

In January, Dr. Catherine Raeff retired from IUP. Just one of the many contributions that Dr. Raeff made to the Psychology Department was organizing our annual newsletter. We are grateful for all her hard work to get it off the ground and thankful to Dr. Tim Runge for taking up the reins of the newsletter in Dr. Raeff's absence.



In May, we had additional retirements from Dr. Maureen McHugh and Dr. Jay Mills. We will miss their expertise and service to the department, but are excited for them to begin the next phase of their journey. Sadly, we had two colleagues pass away in May as well; Dr. Beverly Goodwin (retired 2020) and Dr. Dave LaPorte (current faculty). These losses are difficult professionally, but more so personally. Their loss is profound, but we are doing what we can to carry on their legacy. As Dr. Goodwin was intimately involved in the development of diversity training in the Clinical Psychology, PsyD program, an annual Beverly Goodwin scholarship is awarded each year to one or more students in our PsyD program who identify as diverse. In addition, the Dave LaPorte Memorial Fund was recently established to support the professional development of our students in the Clinical Psychology, PsyD program.

Despite these incredible hardships and difficult goodbyes, our department is continuing to look forward and make substantial changes to benefit our students. The Educational Specialist, EdS and School Psychology, PhD programs made significant changes to their curriculum this year. The coursework is streamlined to help students complete their degrees more quickly and provide maximum stability in course offerings. The EdS program also opened its doors to early admission possibilities for undergraduate students. This change allows IUP undergraduate students the opportunity to take three graduate courses during their senior year and start the Ed.S. program with nine credits already completed. We are excited for the new opportunities this provides our students!

Finally, as we completed our first year as the newly merged Psychology Department, the former Educational and School Psychology Department moved their offices, students, and Child Study Center to our space in Uhler Hall. Now we are a physically merged department as well. We may have a few spaces that need more organization, but most of the move was completed before the new academic year began. It is wonderful to be able to interact with our colleagues on a daily, informal basis now and to have everyone together under one roof.

Please enjoy the updates on our accomplishments and milestones from the last year. We appreciate your continued support of our department and look forward to hearing from you and seeing you again soon.

Lisa Newell, Chair of Psychology

Faculty Activities and Achievements

Dr. Pearl Berman co-presented a webinar titled *Addressing the Impact of Violence: Concrete Action Steps for Addressing Interpersonal Violence in Pennsylvania* on Wednesday, May 11, 2022. This was a free webinar for Pennsylvania residents and was co-presented with Susan Omilian, Megan Garza, Dr. Karen Rich, and Joyce Thomas. This webinar brought together a cross-disciplinary team of experts from the legal system, nursing, psychology, and social work to provide background material, and concrete action steps, for addressing interpersonal violence across the lifespan in Pennsylvania at the individual and state levels.



Dr. Stephanie Davis received a nearly \$25,000 grant from Southwest Behavioral Health Management. This Consumer-focused Analysis of Rural Hospital Aftercare Project aims to identify factors that influence the likelihood of patients obtaining appropriate services following psychiatric hospitalization. The project is a collaboration between Armstrong-Indiana Behavioral and Developmental Health Program; the Community Guidance Center in Indiana, PA; the Family Counseling Center of Armstrong County and a team of researchers at IUP, including Dr. Stephanie Davis, **Dr. Laura Knight**, and **Dr. Don Robertson** (professor emeritus). Data collection began in August 2021 and is ongoing. Several graduate student research assistants (RAs) who interview participants during their inpatient stay are also assisting in this project. RAs complete follow-up interviews with participants and their outpatient clinician after they are discharged from the hospital. The investigative team hopes the findings will inform ways to improve mental health treatment for individuals in our rural community, as ensuring continuity of care can reduce future hospitalizations.



Dr. Laura Knight co-authored a chapter titled *Explaining Dementia and Memory Loss to Young Children in Developmentally Appropriate Ways* in the book *Intergenerational Bonds: The Contributions of Older Adults to Young Children's Lives* (Editors Mary Renck Jalongo and Patricia A. Crawford; Springer). This chapter describes the different types of dementias and the symptoms experienced by older adults. The

chapter then reviews the development of young children's understanding of illness and ways that parents can talk to their children about a loved one's dementia.

Dr. Jennifer Perillo co-authored an article, *A Multi-County Test of Brief Appraisal Interventions on Emotions During the COVID-19 Pandemic*, published in the journal *Nature Human Behavior*. This research was completed as part of the Psychological Science Accelerator's COVID data collection project. Together with three current PsyD doctoral students, two PsyD alums, and one (former) undergraduate student, Dr. Perillo helped aid in data collection for this global research project. Results showed both reappraisal interventions (vs. both control conditions) had consistent effects in reducing negative emotions and increasing positive emotions across different measures.



Dr. Jennifer Perillo serves on the editorial board of the leading journal in her discipline, *Law and Human Behavior*. Dr. Perillo also nominated **Natalie Ross**, PsyD in Clinical Psychology student, to serve on the student editorial board. Dr. Perillo continues to guide Ms. Ross through conducting peer review of research in forensic/legal psychology. Ms. Ross is Dr. Perillo's third member of the student board that she has mentored.

Congratulations to **Dr. Jennifer Perillo** on her election as Treasurer of the American Psychology-Law Society in August 2021. She also is now a member of the Executive Committee due to her election to this position.

Drs. Meg Reardon and Jennifer Perillo presented a data blitz titled *Jury Duty in the Time of COVID* at the American Psychology-Law Society in Denver, CO March 17-19, 2022. The present study was designed to examine how Covid-19 attitudes related to legal attitudes and trial outcomes. The authors asked participants to read a trial vignette and offer their case perceptions. Participants were also asked to collect several measures regarding general legal attitudes and their perceptions of Covid-19. Covid-19 attitudes were related to perceptions of guilt, willingness to serve as a juror, and participants' legal attitudes. The results suggest that if individuals are excused from serving on juries due to Covid-related attitudes (such as being afraid of serving in-person because of infection risk), it could result in an unfair composition on the jury that leans towards conviction.



Drs. Anthony and Jennifer Perillo co-authored an article, *Testing the Waters: An investigation of the Impact of Hot Tubbing on Experts from Referral Through Testimony*, published in the



journal *Law and Human Behavior*. This project was completed with colleagues from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. They examined the practice of “hot tubbing,” or concurrent expert testimony. Hot Tubbing is when experts on opposing sides of a case must work together to produce a joint report for the court outlining areas of agreement and disagreement about the case. It has been implemented around the world to try and reduce expert bias, but results this study suggest it is not an effective technique; the authors’ concurrent experts displayed the same level of bias as our traditional adversarial experts.

The American Psychology-Law Society (Division 41 of the American Psychological Association) has named **Dr. Anthony Perillo** its 2021 Early Career Teaching and Mentoring Award recipient, an honor for outstanding teaching and mentoring in the field of psychology and law. The Early Career Award is for those who received their PhD or JD degree within seven years. His approach to teaching and mentoring follows a pedagogy of kindness, principles that prioritize compassion for student needs. A pedagogy of kindness comes down to two things: believe students and believe in students. Through his emphasis on experiential learning and professional development, Dr. Perillo approaches his work striving to offer students an instructor and mentor they can respect and trust. Some of Dr. Perillo’s key achievements in mentoring with students include setting up a peer-review mentorship system, co-running a Forensic Journal Club with **Dr. Jennifer Perillo** for IUP’s PsyD students, two dissertation grants for his PsyD students, two peer-reviewed journal articles with PsyD students, and eight student-led national conference presentations.

Dr. Anthony Perillo received the 2022 College of Health and Human Services Award for Outstanding Advising. **Dr. Tara Johnson** received the 2022 College of Health and Human Services Award for Outstanding Teaching. Congratulations to both on their accomplishments, and we thank them for their commitment to students at IUP!



Dr. Courtney Leone co-presented a workshop with PhD in School Psychology student **Adrienne Bardo** titled *Snapchat, Instagram, Twitter, Oh My!: Supporting Mental Health in the Age of Social Media* at the 2022 Pennsylvania Association of School Nurses and Practitioners in State College, PA. The talk was about the major influence of social media for students in both the areas of student wellness and student mental health. Participants learned about the differences between the most up to date social platforms that students are currently using and how they can influence students in all aspects of their life. Participants learned to differentiate safe and unsafe social

media consumption and about best practices in addressing and promoting healthy social media use.

In Summer 2021, **Dr. Timothy Runge** received two externally-funded contracts. The first was a collaboration project with Dr. Louis Pesci (Kinesiology, Health, and Sport Science) helping to install evidence-based driver education in regional high schools and develop strategies to promote safe among by young drivers. This contract provided financial support for **Casey Hoover, Kaitlyn Mazor, and Amber Ulrich**, three graduate students in the Educational and School Psychology MEd program, as they collected data and wrote research summaries for the project. The second funded project was for the 14th annual program evaluation of the Pennsylvania Department of Education’s installment of School-Wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SWPBIS) initiative in over 1,000 schools across the commonwealth. This project was a collaboration with **Dr. Mark Staszkiwicz (IUP Professor Emerita)** and funded two graduate student workers in the EdS in School Psychology program, **Sadie Breon and Tyler Myers**. Sadie and Tyler assisted with data collection, analysis, interpretation, and report development. Their work culminated in one comprehensive program evaluation report and an executive summary. Lastly, Dr. Runge co-presented a workshop at the February 2022 conference of the National Association of School Psychologists in Boston, MA. The topic of the workshop was *High Yield Updates to Using Response-to-Intervention for Specific Learning Disabilities Determination*, co-presented with **Dr. Joseph Kovalesski (IUP Professor Emerita)** and Dr. Amanda VanDerHedyen (President of Education Research and Consulting, Inc.). Dr. Runge noted that his most rewarding experiences with these projects was including graduate students in various stages of research and publication.



Dr. Timothy Runge, in collaboration with Dr. Timothy Knoster and Ms. Danielle Empson (McDowell Institute at Bloomsburg University of PA) completed their comprehensive survey of almost 5,000 Pennsylvania educators regarding their preparedness to recognize and respond to students impacted by trauma or distress, including trauma/distress related to COVID-19. Results indicated that less than half of educators felt prepared to recognize signs of trauma in their students. Further, only 1 in 4 educators felt prepared to implement trauma-informed practices. On a positive note, the overwhelming majority of educators believe that professional development in trauma-informed practices is needed.

Busy Alumni and Students

Alumni Accomplishments

Dr. Jordan Golin, a 1996 Clinical Psychology Doctoral Graduate of IUP, received the 2022 Distinguished Alumni Award. Over the past 35 years, the IUP Alumni Association has honored 375 out of its more than 150,000 alumni with the Distinguished Alumni Award. This award is the highest award given by the IUP Alumni Association to university alumni. It is presented to alumni who have achieved distinction in their chosen fields or who have demonstrated loyal and active service to their alma mater. Dr. Golin is president and CEO of Pittsburgh's Jewish Family and Community Services, with which he has been associated since 2001. During his tenure, the



organization has grown to a \$10-million agency that serves a vital role in the community via its food bank, mental health services, job counseling and placement, immigrant and refugee settlement program, and services to the elderly. He also guided his organization in helping Pittsburgh recover from the Tree of Life Synagogue massacre by providing words of hope and healing and by arranging interventions for hundreds who suffered trauma reactions. As a licensed psychologist, Dr. Golin has maintained a private practice for over 20 years and was director of the psychology department at Sharon Regional Medical Center. He also played a key role in the development of AgeWell Pittsburgh, a nationally recognized nonprofit collaboration and an outcome measurement tool for providers working with older adults that is being implemented in multiple states. Golin, originally from Miami, received a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida and a master's from Jerusalem's Hebrew University.

PsyD Graduate Student Matches

Congratulations to the following Clinical Psychology PsyD students on their matches for doctoral internship. Below is the listing of each student, their internship site and location, and focus of their internship.

Molly Bernoski: Fulton State Hospital, Fulton, MO
Forensic Evaluation

Amanda Gernant: Iowa City VA Health Care System, Coralville, IA
Neuropsychology

Sofia Goltsberg: Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health. Canton, OH

Therapy with children, adolescents and families

Karin Hecht: Allina Health-Mental Health & Addiction Services, Fridley, MN
Hospital-based mental health services for children and adolescents

Michael Kent: Wasatch Behavioral Health, Provo, UT
Community behavioral health

Taylor Stevens: Womack Army Medical Center, Fort Bragg, NC
Assessment and treatment of active-duty military service members

Amber Wu: Rocky Mountain Regional VA Medical Center, Aurora, CO
Assessment and intervention in health psychology

We wish them the very best in their internship experience and beyond!

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<https://www.instagram.com/iupspsty/>

Student Publications and Presentations

Adrie Henry, a PsyD in Clinical Psychology candidate, was the lead author on a project examining the effects of alcohol intoxication on perceptions of campus sexual assault. In collaboration with **Drs. Anthony and Jennifer Perillo**, the authors fully crossed whether the alleged victim and perpetrator were sober, mildly intoxicated, or severely inebriated. The title of this work was *Reflecting the Times? Reexamining the Effect of Alcohol Intoxication on Perceptions of Campus Sexual Assault*, published in the journal *Violence Against Women*.

Casey Boland, a PsyD in Clinical Psychology candidate, and **Drs. Anthony and Jennifer Perillo** presented a paper titled, *People Who Committed Sex Offenses: Impact of Person-First Language in Context of Individual Processing Styles* at the American Psychology-Law Society in Denver, CO March 17-19, 2022. To explore strategies for stigma reduction, the authors examined contexts in which person-first language impacts attitudes toward people who committed sex offenses by accounting for people's information processing tendencies. Results suggest processing style impacts attitudes. Participants endorsed less-negative attitudes on measures that were framed in their preferred processing style. Surprisingly, use of person-first

language did not impact attitudes, in contrast to existing literature regarding person-first language in this domain.

Adrienne Bardo, a PhD in School Psychology candidate, led a presentation titled *Who Am I Online?: Supporting Mental Health in the Social Media Age* at the 2022 Pennsylvania Psychological Association's conference in Pocono Manor, PA. Under the mentorship of and co-presentation with **Dr. Courtney Leone**, attendees learned about different social media used by youth and adolescents and how those platforms can be used to support mental health.

IUP Scholars' Forum

The following undergraduate students presented their scholarship at the IUP Scholars' Forum on April 6, 2022, at the Kovalchick Convention and Athletic Complex:

- **Erin Wilhelm** (Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Tara Johnson**): *Adult Children's Parental Estrangement: Reasons and Complicated Grief*
- **Julia Jasiewicz** (Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Stephanie Davis**): *The Impact of Peer Emotion Socialization in Emotion Regulation and Adjustment among College Students*
- **Kaitlyn Sharkey** (Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Anson Long**): *I-Sharing: Getting Along in the Workplace*
- **Sean Bennett** (Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Jennifer Perillo**): *Examining the Consequences of Dehumanization in Justification of Police Use of Force Against Minoritized Youth*

The following graduate students presented their scholarship at the IUP Scholars' Forum on that same day:

- **Kelly Sherretts, Lauren Lucas, and Jeffrey Morris** (PhD in School Psychology candidates; Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Jenna Hennessey**): *Internalizing and Externalizing Behaviors in ADHD*
- **Sarah Gann** (PsyD in Clinical Psychology; Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Stephanie Davis**): *3 Minute Thesis Competition: "Amaru: A Golden Key to the Adolescent Mental Health Crisis"*

Student Scholarships and Awards: Undergraduate Students

- **Sean Bennett**, undergraduate Psychology major, was awarded the undergraduate Outstanding Poster Award for the College of Health and Human Services at the 2022 IUP Scholars' Forum. He presented on work evaluating how dehumanization was related to perceptions of police use of force against minoritized youth.
- **Kaitlyn Sharkey**, undergraduate Psychology major, was awarded the Outstanding Oral Presentation Award at the 2022 IUP Scholars' Forum. This work was conducted under the mentorship of **Dr. Anson Long**.

- Mackenzie Barr**, a senior Psychology student with a minor in Professional Leadership and Teamwork and Theatre, was recently awarded a scholarship from *Psi Chi*, The International Honor Society in Psychology. Psi Chi Undergraduate Scholarships are awarded annually to help offset educational costs for outstanding undergraduate students in Psi Chi.



Mackenzie has been a member of IUP’s chapter of the Psi Chi Honor Society for 2 years, and currently serves as President. She also served as the chapter Vice President for the 2020-2021 academic year. She has received an undergraduate scholarship for \$3000 from Psi Chi. After graduating in the December 2021, Mackenzie is continuing her education by pursuing a Master’s degree in Human Services Counseling: Life Coaching through Liberty University Online.

For more details about the Psi Chi Undergraduate Scholarship, visit https://www.psichi.org/page/PsiChischolars#.YS5CUVNKj_R

Student Scholarships and Awards: Graduate Students

- Sarah Gann**, a graduate student in our PsyD program, won the Judge’s Choice award for the Three Minute Thesis Competition at the IUP Scholar’s Forum on April 6, 2022, for her presentation on *Amaru: A Golden Key to the Adolescent Mental Health Crisis*. Sarah will be working with **Dr. Stephanie Davis** to examine whether adolescents show improvements in emotion regulation and mindfulness after regularly using an app, *Amaru: The Self-Care Virtual Pet*, for 8 weeks. Sarah’s project is particularly timely as increasing number of adolescents are experiencing mental health difficulties since the COVID-19 pandemic. Sarah’s hope is that she can leverage teens’ use of cell phones to help them overcome barriers to receiving mental health treatment.



- **Kelly Sherretts, Lauren Lucas, and Jeffrey Morris** (all PhD in School Psychology candidates) won the College of Health and Human Services Dean's Award for their presentation at the 2022 IUP Scholars' Forum titled *Internalizing and Externalizing Behaviors in Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder*. Under the mentorship of **Drs. Jenna Hennessey and Mark McGowan**, their work focused on children with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) and their significant impairments in social functioning. The Student Risk Screening Scale-Internalizing and Externalizing (SRSS-IE) was used to assess internalizing and externalizing behaviors of students diagnosed with ADHD. It was found that ADHD classification differences were significant for externalizing behaviors but not for internalizing behaviors. These findings support existing literature in that assessment measures that examine rates of externalizing behaviors are a good indication of ADHD.
- Named in honor of the founder of the Center for Applied Psychology, the **Richard Magee Scholarship** honors a member of the third year PsyD class who demonstrates outstanding clinical skills, leadership among their colleagues, and service to the community and colleagues. Nominations are made by PsyD students and the Psychology Department faculty vote on which student they feel best fits the spirit of the award.

The 2022 winner of the Magee Scholarship is **Karley Richard**. Those nominating Karley noted her outstanding leadership, mentorship of junior colleagues, and strong clinical and research skills. Karley is an active member of the Psychology Graduate Student Organization (PGSO) and is currently the PGSO Vice President. She is working toward a career as a clinical psychologist in Veteran's Affairs hospitals or serving active-duty military members. Her clinical interests include trauma, substance use, depression, and anxiety. She is the chair of the Academic Outreach Committee for APA Division 51 (Society for the Psychological Study of Men and Masculinities) and with her advisor, **Dr. Maureen McHugh**, presented research at the Association for Women in Psychology (AWP) conference and at Psychology Day. The faculty of the Psychology Department congratulate Karley on her many accomplishments and are pleased to award this scholarship to her.

NCAAP Talent Show

Erika Jackson, sophomore psychology student in the Cook Honors College and Psychology Honors Program, received a standing ovation at the fall NAACP Talent Show for her poem, *The Disease of White Supremacy*. Erika is also an active member of several organizations on campus including Collegiate Women in Progress, Students Against Racism, and NAACP- IUP Chapter.

The Disease of White Supremacy

By: **Erika Jackson**

It's a pandemic

The disease of white supremacy
Is the reason why "I can't breathe"
Echoes in the streets
When fighting to be truly free
Looks like an attack on police
But we need safety

It's a pandemic

They try to straighten our curls
Whip us to be tamed by the world
Sever off the initial tongue
So, we can speak the lies they've spun

It's a pandemic

Disintegrated our history
Hiding from us our ancestry
Of Kings and Queens with
the boldest brew of melanin
Intelligence from Yah
Weh too heaven sent

It's a pandemic

They've masked oppression
As mass incarceration
Cut our family ties
To rid us of our bloodline

We're in a pandemic

lasted over forty decades
Harsher than the bubonic plague
Because white history tends to ricochets

And hit us 3 times
in the back like Antwon Rose
And hit us 3 times
in the back like Antwon Rose
And hit us 3 times

in the back like Antwon Rose

we see similarities
mid cops and slave patrol
you got black bodies lined up
to serve on death row

We're in a pandemic

I hear the click clack
of the lock on your chains
I feel the sorrow
crushing my windowpane
I see death causing
stress on our mental health
But your black sister
could feel the pain you felt

We're in a pandemic

So, mask up
Tie your shoes
March the streets
Storm the rooms
'Rect your speech
Call the news
Fall in line
Before we die
By the disease of white supremacy

Psi Chi/Psychology Club



Psi Chi is the International Honors Society in Psychology. IUP's chapter of Psi Chi also functions as our Psychology Club. We aim to make the content of our meetings relevant to a broad audience and welcome everyone to attend meetings, whether or not students are official members. We were excited to return to campus this year and resume having bi-weekly meetings in-person.

Psychology Club offered meetings on some of our most requested topics, including information on the GRE and how to prepare a resume and CV and a discussion of different types of graduate degrees in psychology. We utilized Zoom to host several speakers throughout the year. Two of our speakers were alumni: **Ms. Kayla Gmoser** (undergraduate alumni) spoke about graduate school in Industrial-Organizational Psychology and **Dr. Matthew Ferchalk** (graduate alumni of DEd in School Psychology program) discussed the field of school psychology. Ms. Michelle Jordan talked about The Arc, a local organization that provides

support for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities, and Dr. Scott Glassman discussed the growing field of positive psychology.

These informational meetings were interspersed with opportunities for students to interact with each other and take a break from studying, including watching psychological thrillers, having a visit from the therapy dogs (see photos), playing trivia with faculty and teaching assistants, and making Valentine's Day cards for the residents of Bethany's Place, a local assisted living and nursing care facility (see photos). Lastly, we resumed our annual club fundraiser of selling IUP Psychology merchandise. Students were able to purchase t-shirts, sweatshirts, and joggers to show their school spirit.



Psi Chi inducted 22 new members into the honor society on April 26, 2022 (see photo). To be eligible students need to be a Psychology major or minor, have an overall GPA of 3.3 or higher and a Psychology GPA of 3.0 or higher. Congratulations to our new members:

Amber Abrino, Anastasia Benc, Kelcie Bensinger, Carly Brewster, Michaela DeCarlo, Kennedy Dorman, Anna Fitzgerald, Kimberly Franciscus, Sydney Greitz, Meghan Grill, Brooke Henshaw, Christina Horst, Lauren Lampel, Madeline Marsh, Morgan McNaught, Lejla Nakicevic, Hannah Simmons, Ivy Slope, Anna Vibostok, Victoria Walter, Bailey Walters, and Morgan Zagorski.



Top row left to right: Jacob Walko (President), Kennedy Dorman, Amber Abrino, Kelcie Bensinger, Mikaela DeCarlo, Anna Fitzgerald, Kimberly Franciscus, Sydney Greitz, Brooke Henshaw, Morgan McNaught. Bottom row left to right: Erin Wilhelm (Social Media Coordinator), Lyndsay Killian (Secretary), Hannah Simmons, Bailey Walters, Ivy Slope, Lejla Nakicevic, Madeline Marsh, Lauren Lampel.

Honors Program

Every January, **Dr. Tara Johnson** (coordinator) invites Sophomore Psychology undergraduates to apply to the Honors Program in Psychology, and they are selected in March. The honors program is a 4-semester rigorous program that consists of two semesters of independent research and two honors seminar courses. The new class is strong with an average overall GPA of a 3.86 and includes **Kelcie Bensinger, Lauren Croyle, Jacob Drexler, Meghan Grill, Erika Jackson, Sophia Johnson, Morgan McNaught, Taylor Smallwood, and Joshua Stover**. These students will begin their honors thesis research in the Fall with the support of a Psychology faculty member.

Many of the current honors students presented their research ideas to the department on Wednesday, April 27th during the **Psychology Colloquium**. These students and their faculty advisors included:

- **Christina Horst (Dr. Tara Johnson):** *Understanding the Roles of Forgiveness and Reconciliation Among Estranged Adult Children*

- **Jacob Walko (Dr. Jenna Hennessey):** *Exploratory Factor Analysis of the WRAML-2 with Academically At-Risk Students*
- **Riley Morrison (Dr. Mark Palumbo):** *Perceptions and Cognitive Ability*
- **Hannah Burtner (Dr. Mark Palumbo):** *Cognitive Ability and Perceptions*
- **Summer Skillen (Dr. Maureen McHugh):** *Romantic Beliefs and Femininity Ideology in Relation to Viewing The Bachelor*
- **Nicole Bakaitis (Dr. Mark McGowan):** *The Prevalence and Fatality Rate of School Shootings Across Rural, Suburban, and Urban Communities*
- **Sean Bennett (Dr. Jennifer Perillo):** *Exploring the Relationship between Children Maltreatment, Social Dominance Orientation, and Support for Police Use of Power*
- **Olivia Rager (Dr. Jennifer Perillo):** *Examining the Influence of Racial Stereotypicality on the Relationship Between Disgust and Dehumanization in Predicting Jurors' Capital Sentencing Decisions*
- **Madysen Hall (Dr. Anthony Perillo):** *Prodromal Symptoms of Bipolar Disorder and Borderline Personality Disorder: Impact of Sexual Abuse History on Clinical Impressions*

Several honors students are graduating in May or August and have either presented last Fall (December 3rd) or are presenting this Spring during Psychology Day (April 29th). These students will be recognized during the Psychology Department's Graduation Ceremony. These students and their faculty advisors include:

- **Caitlin Borrelli (Dr. Tara Johnson):** *The Effect of Gender on Reasons and Outcomes of Estrangement*
- **Erin Wilhelm (Dr. Tara Johnson):** *Adult Children's Parental Estrangement: Reasons and Complicated Grief*
- **Blaze McCusker (Dr. Anthony Perillo):** *Perceptions of Masked Referral to Combat Adversarial Allegiance in the Courtroom: A Survey of Forensic Clinicians*
- **Isabel Valle (Dr. Anthony Perillo):** *Perceptions of Masked Referral to Combat Adversarial Allegiance in the Courtroom: A Survey of Attorneys*
- **Dominique Harris (Dr. Anthony Perillo):** *Assessing Issues of Race and Racism in Law Enforcement Suitability Evaluations*
- **Julia Jasiewicz (Dr. Stephanie Davis):** *The Impact of Peer Emotion Socialization in Emotion Regulation and Adjustment among College Students*
- **Sasha Aquino (Dr. Meg Reardon):** *Underrepresented Interactions: Perceptions of Police Use of Force and Interactions of Suspect Race and LGBTQ Status*
- **Kaila Dean (Dr. Meg Reardon):** *Police Use of Force with Persons who have Mental Illness*
- **Rebecca Ettore (Dr. William Farrell):** *The Relationship Between Social Connectedness and Mental Health During Covid-19 Pandemic*
- **Alexis Tavalisky (Dr. William Meil):** *College Students' Social Isolation, Mental Health, and Substance Use During the Covid-19 Pandemic*

Congratulations to the many accomplishments of our Psychology Honors students and their faculty mentors! And many thanks to Dr. Johnson for coordinating this program.

Department Activities, News, and Events

Department's Latest Addition

Congratulations to **Drs. Anthony and Jennifer Perillo** on the arrival of their first child, **Isabella Josephine Perillo**, on September 25, 2021.

Faculty Pursing Other Adventures

Dr. Derek Hatfield

Submitted by Dr. Laura Knight

As the Psychology Department prepares to bid farewell to Dr. Derek Hatfield, I would like to offer my sincere appreciation for the support and mentorship he has provided his students and his colleagues over the years. As one of the beneficiaries of his mentorship and support, I'm grateful



for the opportunity to reflect on his many contributions to both our graduate and undergraduate programs. Dr. Hatfield wore many hats in the Psychology Department over the years: clinical psychologist, teacher, psychotherapy researcher, mentor for developing professionals, advisor, negotiator, and always, champion of students. He throws a mean axe, takes Fantasy Football trash-talking to new levels, and boy, does he like hotdogs! He will be greatly missed by his colleagues as he embarks on new adventures in private practice.

Dr. Hatfield approached his many roles from the perspective that an educator helps students develop the critical thinking skills that will enable them to be successful at whatever they pursue in life, and he embodied this philosophy in all of his endeavors. He is more interested in *why* students think the way they do than he is in *what* they think, and at IUP, he endeavored to create an educational environment that fostered learning and thinking. In class, he was open to discussing difficult issues and he made himself approachable and available to students. Out of class, his door was always open. During his time at IUP, he has been a role model and shining example of student-centered education.

As the fearless leader and Director of Clinical Training for the PsyD program, Dr. Hatfield was a tireless advocate for students. His roles in the doctoral program ranged from clinical supervisor of the adult psychotherapy clinic to Director of the Center for Applied Psychology, commissioner of our fantasy football league, and doctoral program coordinator. Dr. Hatfield is a skilled psychotherapist and supervisor (and a middling fantasy player). His students appreciated that he encouraged them to think for themselves and bring their personalities into the therapy room. They noticed that he created a relaxed atmosphere in often stressful circumstances and was professional and responsible, but also knew how to have fun. His sense of fun led Dr.

Hatfield to challenge his colleagues and students to bowling competitions and hotdog eating contests (the latter of which, he won). Through fun times and difficult ones, Dr. Hatfield led the PsyD program through with a great deal of heart and an iron stomach. The PsyD program owes him a debt of gratitude and is a better, stronger program for his efforts.

Faculty Retirements

Dr. Catherine Raeff

Submitted by Dr. William Meil

After graduating from The Johns Hopkins University, earning her Ph. D. from Clark University, and completing a National Institutes of Mental Health Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Applied Developmental Studies, **Dr. Catherine Raeff** embarked on an academic career at IUP that has been anything but ordinary. Her early scholarship was marked by studies of individualism and collectivism and how they influence development in culturally specific ways. Rather than developing a niche area of expertise like most academics, she later turned to addressing human behavior in more encompassing ways through theoretical frameworks for thinking systematically and integratively to consider larger questions in psychology. She emphasized questioning conventional practices and assumptions and developing alternative systems for viewing behavior that focus on holism, dynamics, variability, and multi-causality. These ideas are best exemplified in her three acclaimed books including the recently published *Exploring the Complexities of Human Action*. She has been remarkably productive in her scholarly work publishing more than 25 journal articles and book chapters and presenting at more than 15 professional conferences.



Dr. Raeff also valued her place in the classroom and was known for her meticulous course preparation and encouraging students to think critically through their writing. Outside the classroom she served as a mentor to graduate and undergraduate students. Even farther outside the classroom, Dr. Raeff enjoys traveling, biking, pottery, and photography particularly photographing old water towers on the roofs on New York City skyscrapers. She also collects paintings and a visit to her house throughout the years has been like a visit to one of western Pennsylvania's best art museums. In her retirement Dr. Raeff is starting a Substack newsletter *It's Complex*, which she hopes to launch in May. We wish Dr. Raeff all the very best in her retirement!

Dr. David LaPorte

Submitted by Dr. Anthony Perillo

Dr. David LaPorte announced his retirement to be effective after the Spring 2022 semester. Dr. LaPorte was a mainstay in the IUP Psychology Department for 27 years, joining the faculty in 1995. During his tenure he was a leader in clinical training for the Clinical Psychology PsyD program. He served as Director of Clinical Training (DCT), PsyD Practicum and Internship Coordinator, and the long-term supervisor of the Assessment Clinic from across his time at IUP.



Although he wore many hats at IUP, Dr. LaPorte contributed greatly to clinical psychology training, particularly in psychological assessment. He taught, trained students, and researched a number of different behavioral health issues, including neuropsychology, psychosis, forensic psychology, and eating disorders. During his time at IUP, he contributed to numerous professional articles, books, media outlets, and dissertations. His 2015 book, “Paranoid: Exploring Suspicion from the Dubious to the Delusional,” was called “a lively good read” by Dr. E. Fuller Torrey of the Stanley Medical Research Institute.

Throughout his time at IUP, Dave (as he was known by his colleagues) showed a great passion for the practice of clinical psychology. He ran his own private practice outside his full-time faculty work, and he made it a priority to integrate his outside professional experience into the training of his students. Dave had particular expertise in neuropsychological assessment and was an outspoken proponent of this work. He would tell any faculty or student who’d listen that all psychological issues come back to the brain, and he’d jokingly (we think) tell students that assessment was the “real work” of psychologists.

Dave strongly advocated for clinical students and prioritized their experience and future job prospects above all else. Thanks to his pushing local courts and judges to allow students who led assessments to speak for their own work, some of Dave’s assessment clinic students testified in court as expert witnesses, a high achievement almost unheard of during graduate school. His dissertation students routinely landed top-notch neuropsychological internships across the country, and the Psy.D. program was ranked #2 in the country during his time as DCT (something he proudly let applicants, students, and people in the hallway know).

Outside the classroom, Dave’s colleagues appreciated his energy, his gregarious baritone, his love for SCUBA and Italy, and insistence on people knowing the word “data” is plural for “datum.”

Dr. Maureen McHugh

Submitted by Dr. Pearl Berman

Dr. Maureen C McHugh, Distinguished University Professor, will retire in June 2022 after 35 years of service to IUP. Dr. McHugh was hired in 1986 by a university committee to initiate a Women's Studies Program at IUP. For the first decade, her appointment was ½ Women's Studies and ½ Psychology. Under her leadership, a Women's Studies Program and a minor in Women's Studies was established. She also led a successful



Committee for Gender Balance in the Curriculum, and the first Chair of the President's Commission for Women at IUP. She served as the President of the Women's Consortium of the PASSHE and worked to establish Women's Studies at each of the 14 campuses. Her work for Women's Studies was acknowledged by the Jane Leonard Award, and the establishment of the Maureen C. McHugh Award given to faculty for contributions to Women's Studies at IUP.

Dr. McHugh has been acknowledged as a Pioneer in the Teaching of Psychology of Women (Association for Women in Psychology [AWP], 2009). She brought her courses Psychology of Women and Psychology of Human Sexuality to IUP and taught them to over 2,500 students. She also taught special topics courses including Women and the Future, Women in Science, and Women and Shame. She and Dr. Pearl Berman established the Child and Adult Advocacy Studies (CAAST) minor at IUP having attended a week-long training with Victor Veith. Dr. McHugh designed the course Gender and Violence as a key course in the minor. Dr. McHugh continued to train as an instructor, attending workshops on pedagogy and teaching. Most recently she developed a diversity course for Psychology majors, Identity and Interaction in a Diverse World, and an upper-level Diversity course, Communication, Collaboration and Community in a Diverse World, to be included in several minor courses of study.

Her most important contribution to the PsyD Program has been the mentoring of many IUP graduate students. Dr. McHugh has served as dissertation Chair for 25+ students. Most of the students (22+) who have worked with/for Dr. McHugh have presented at national conferences and/or co-authored papers, posters, reviews, or book chapters with her. Dr. McHugh has been actively involved and served as President of two national associations (AWP and Division 35 of the American Psychological Association). Through her involvement, many students have been introduced to professional networks and opportunities. Dr. McHugh's mentoring of students and colleagues was recognized by AWP; she was awarded the Florence Denmark Excellence in Mentoring Award (2008).

On a less professional note, those of us who have worked with Dr. McHugh will greatly miss her fantastic sense of humor, her wonderfully-planned baby showers and argy bargyies and her deep concern and compassion for others.

Dr. Jay Mills

Submitted by Dr. William Farrell

After earning a doctoral degree in Counseling Psychology from the State University of New York at Buffalo, **Dr. Jay Mills** began his career at IUP as a Faculty Psychologist in the Center for Counseling and Psychological Services. Over the next 19 years Jay earned tenure, was promoted twice to the rank of Professor, and served as the Assistant Director, Training Director, Director, and Chairperson of the Counseling Center/Department. He was board certified in Counseling Psychology by the American Board of Professional Psychology in 1994. In 2006 Dr. Mills joined the Psychology Department where he has played an integral role in both the undergraduate and doctoral programs. With over 50 scholarly works, Dr. Mills made substantive contributions in numerous domains including clinical supervision, trauma, substance use, psychological ethics, and psychotherapy. Dr. Mills also taught over 20 different courses at IUP on topics as varied as research design and analysis, the history of psychology, personality, abnormal psychology, therapeutic techniques, and the psychology of music. Dr. Mills's extensive service contributions include serving on the Clinical Training, Curriculum, and Admissions Committees for the psychology doctoral program, spearheading revision of the undergraduate psychology curriculum, and serving on the Institutional Review Board for Human Subjects Research for 30 years (including 20 years as Co-Chair, and five years as Chair).



Colleagues and students alike often comment on the tremendous breadth and depth of knowledge that Dr. Mills brings to his scholarship, teaching, and service. In addition to his academic degrees in Psychology/Counseling, Dr. Mills has Master's degrees in Student Administration and Exercise Science. He also recently earned a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Music (euphonium). Beyond his experiences as a practicing psychologist, Dr. Mills has also been a rugby player, martial artist, bouncer, pilot, and motorcycle enthusiast (and much more). He also has a keen sense of humor and ability to raise the spirits of colleagues and students. In his retirement, Dr. Mills is moving to upstate New York to be closer to his daughter (a faculty member at Saint Lawrence University) and grandchildren. He also plans to continue his music, scholarship and teaching at SUNY Potsdam.

In Memory



Dr. Beverly J. Goodwin

Written by Dr. Anita Brown Catus

Dr. Beverly Goodwin was born in Los Angeles, CA on June 12, 1953, and passed away on May 17, 2022, at Shadyside Hospital, Pittsburgh, PA of a heart-related problem. She is survived by her husband of 38 years, William Ray, her brother Robert Goodwin, Jr., her sisters Brenda Goodwin and Judy Goodwin, nieces Kimberly Fullard, Nicole Lee, and Joy Taylor, and nephew Yussuf Haid. She was particularly fond of her many great nieces and nephews, Kennedy Fullard, Troy Fullard, Ajana' Lee, Marcel Lee, Robert Lee and Asah Grant. She was predeceased by her parents, Robert Goodwin, Sr., and Lucille Goodwin, and her sister, Carolyn Goodwin.

Dr. Beverly Goodwin earned her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology at the University of Pittsburgh (1983). She began her career at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) in 1986 as a faculty member in Psychology and as staff member of the Student Counseling Center. As a faculty member, Dr. Goodwin taught graduate and undergraduate courses in Diversity Issues in Psychology and in Personality. She was often sought out as a dissertation supervisor and was a valuable mentor to students within the program, especially for students of color. During her tenure at IUP, Dr. Goodwin served in various administrative roles in the Psychology Department's doctoral program in Clinical Psychology. From 1997-2003, she was Director of the Center for Applied Psychology, which provides training experiences for doctoral students while providing clinical services to the community. From 2003-2010, she was Director of the Clinical Graduate Program. In connection with these roles, Dr. Goodwin represented IUP with the National Council of Schools and Programs of Professional Psychology. On the national level, Dr. Goodwin served on the accreditation committee of the American Psychological Association (APA) auditing graduate programs across the country. Dr. Goodwin was also involved with the Association for Women in Psychology (AWP), serving on the Executive Committee of the organization. Clinically, Dr. Goodwin's work was primarily with women of color at the Alma Illery Medical Center, a community care center in East Pittsburgh. She also published on the inclusion of women of color in Psychology textbooks and on issues of special concern to Black women. She was awarded Professor Emerita status upon her retirement from IUP in 2020.

Outside academia, Beverly enjoyed crocheting, knitting, and especially quilting, where she continued a family history of creative expression. She and Ray also enjoyed going to the movies.

Her friends and colleagues will remember Beverly as a woman with a great laugh who often told jokes and stories. She spread positive energy and was warm and empathetic. Her friends teased her that she was such a great listener that strangers would share their life stories with her waiting in line at department and grocery stores. Her faith was important to her, and she maintained an active prayer list for those who needed uplifting and help. She was a good soul.

In lieu of flowers and expressions of sympathy, please contribute to any of the following charities/organizations: Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, World Vision, American Diabetes Association and Pitzer College.

Dr. David LaPorte

Originally Published by Reading Eagle

David John LaPorte, PhD, aged 68 years old, and born in Reading, PA on May 9, 1954, passed away in his home on May 13, 2022, surrounded by his loving daughter, her partner, and his wife, in Pittsburgh, PA after a prolonged struggle with cancer. He is survived by his beloved children, Megan J. LaPorte, Kelly Knickelbein, Kyle Zilles, Micaiah Rucker and Desmond Rucker; his grandchildren Graham and Genevieve Knickelbein; as well his dear sister and her husband, Joan LaPorte and Gary Shuman; and his cherished wife, Dana Gold. He was preceded in death by his parents Dolores and Carmen LaPorte.



Dave was a passionate learner who earned a PhD in Neuropsychology at Temple University. Throughout his career as a professor at Indiana University of Pennsylvania he inspired and mentored thousands of students with his wit, insight and love for psychology and the brain. Additionally, he had a successful private counseling practice helping countless individuals who struggled with mental health and other cognitive challenges.

In his free time when he wasn't reading, he was hiking, biking, scuba diving, or at home cutting wood to stoke fires on the deck. His greatest joy was sharing the world with friends and family, traveling on adventures to Italy, France and so many other destinations. He is mourned by many loved ones around the globe, including family in Italy and France.

If you would like to do something other than opening a good bottle of Brunello or cracking a cold Belgian beer— served at room temperature of course —consider a donation to support the Great Allegheny Passage Conservancy, where he loved to hike and bike throughout the years. www.gaptrail.org/support-the-gap/donate/ A celebration of Dave's life will be held on July 23rd at his home in Pittsburgh, PA. Arrangements by Wolfe Memorial, LLC. www.wolfepgh.com

IUP's David LaPorte Memorial Fund

Dr. David LaPorte was a neuropsychologist who taught at IUP from 1995 until he passed away in 2022. He was a beloved faculty member in the Psychology Department who was known for his agile mind, incisive wit, and compassionate heart. He was respected for not only his expertise in the field of neuropsychology, but also his innovative work bringing mental health resources to rural communities. His charm, stubbornness, and passion for mental health established necessary

connections between IUP and Indiana Regional Medical Center that will continue to enhance the training of physicians and psychologists for generations to come. Dr. LaPorte often operated in the role of institutional compass; guiding everyone around him to do the right thing for our students and community. And while his passions included reading, hiking, biking, scuba diving, traveling around the world, and talking about paranoia and superstitions, his driving passion was mentoring his students. He was a self-described “mama bear” in advocating for his students and the PsyD program. The Dave LaPorte Memorial Fund is being established to continue to support Dave’s treasured program and its students in the ways he would have wanted to himself.

The fund will be used to support the professional development of students in the PsyD in Clinical Psychology program. The allocation of these funds will be overseen by the Clinical Training Committee in the Psychology Department at IUP. The use of these funds can be flexible and based on current needs, but may include:

- Scholarships for PsyD students
- Travel to postdoctoral internship interviews for PsyD students
- Dissertation costs for PsyD students
- Travel to professional conferences for PsyD students
- Membership in professional organizations for PsyD students
- Computer-based neuropsychology assessments used for training students in the Center for Applied Psychology

Click here to access the donation page for The Dave LaPorte Memorial Fund:

<https://securelb.imodules.com/s/894/bp21/project.aspx?sid=894&gid=1&pgid=951&cid=1644&dids=1114&bledit=1&sort=1&appealcode=4829%2fC2025%2f2023AFAFFINITY%2fAF23+%4004232310%2f%4000006217>

If you would like to support the Psychology Department, please consider donating to the Psychology Department Enhancement Fund, which is used for academic events and awards. Please go to iup.edu/givetopsychology

Please contact us!

We would love to hear from you!

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Or contact the Department Chair

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