



Department of Psychology

Spring 2016 edition

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A Message from Queen's Psychology Department Head

We are committed to our excellence and have much to celebrate!

I HAVE RECENTLY ASSUMED THE POSITION of Head of the Department of Psychology (July 1, 2015- June 30, 2018). It has been an exciting learning opportunity.

I am consistently impressed by the excellence of our undergraduate and graduate students, the dedication of the staff, and the high calibre research and commitment to teaching by our faculty. In the fall, we held a faculty retreat and have identified some critical priority areas for the department over the next few years. The primary priority is to address the urgent need to hire new faculty. Over the summer, Dr. Linda Booij, moved to Concordia and Dr. Richard Beninger retired from the department. Dr. Douglas Mewhort also retired at the end of December. We are grateful for their work over the years and their extraordinary contributions to research. Both Rick and Doug, despite retirement, are working on their research programs daily in the department!

My second priority is to review our undergraduate and graduate programs. The department



Wendy Craig, Department Head

is currently completing a self-study on its programs. All faculty have collaboratively worked on this self-study, and undergraduate and graduate students have been widely consulted. As a result, we will be reviewing the report and the data we have collected in a spring retreat and identifying how we can continue to grow and improve our curriculum to enhance student engagement and learning. We will be submitting the self-study in the spring and then will have a site visit to review the program before March 31, 2017.

My third priority is continuing to build our psychology community with students, staff, faculty, and alumni. We are committed to our excellence and have much to celebrate.

I am excited about the future for Psychology at Queen's and humbled to be the Head. Ψ

Donate to the Department of Psychology

Your gift to the Department of Psychology Trust Fund will help to enhance academic programs by providing support for Undergraduate and Graduate student initiatives. We invite you to go to www.givetoqueens.ca/psychology to make your contribution.



175
YEARS

FACULTY PROFILES

It's music to her ears



Dr. Lola Cuddy
Professor Emerita

Queen's University Professor Lola Cuddy has been honoured with a lifetime achievement award for her pioneering work in music perception and cognition

By Anne Craig,
Queen's University Communications Officer

A PIONEER IN THE FIELD OF MUSIC

perception and cognition, Queen's University Professor Lola Cuddy recently received an important honour from her peers for a lifetime of achievements. Dr. Cuddy was recognized by the Society for Music Perception and Cognition (SMPC) after spending 50 years teaching, mentoring and researching at Queen's.

The award recognizes her contributions as a researcher, her internationally recognized research findings and the guidance she provided to the society.

"Dr. Cuddy's work has made a deep and lasting impact on our understanding of diverse areas ranging from structure in music processing, to musical training and skill acquisition," says Michael Schutz, SMPC awards committee chair. "More recently her interests have led to contributions related to the processing of music in populations with neurological disorders. Beyond this research, Lola influenced a generation of scholars and her service to the field (in particular, to the growth of academic publications) has proven immensely important in creating the vibrant academic community we enjoy today."

Dr. Cuddy started her university career at United College of the University of Manitoba, where she found little opportunity to pursue research in the areas of music perception and cognition. After studying psychology and mathematics, she decided to study clinical psychology in graduate school at the University of Toronto. At U of T the opportunities to study perception and cognition led her to switch her interests to psychoacoustics, perhaps a natural progress for a musician.

In 1965, Dr. Cuddy arrived at Queen's where the 12 faculty members of the psychology department had offices located in vintage houses

around campus. In 1969, the psychology department was founded in Humphrey Hall and she was in charge of designing a psychoacoustics laboratory – which is where Dr. Cuddy found her academic home.

"I recall a sense among researchers that on a day-to-day basis we worked very much alone in our pursuits," says Dr. Cuddy. We were not part of the mainstream of psychological inquiry and, although there were exceptions, not given much attention by the field at large. We could not have predicted the burst of conference activity, collegiality and publication results that grew exponentially from 1985."

In the early 1980s, as her field of study continued to expand, Dr. Cuddy helped create and develop courses in psychology of music and psychology and the arts at Queen's.

"It is difficult to explain the rapid expansion of music perception and cognition research," says Dr. Cuddy. "One could point to technological facilities for research generally, Internet communication among researchers, and, in a somewhat more speculative vein, increased musical sophistication among students and colleagues in other fields even if they have not been formally musically trained."

Now an emerita professor, Dr. Cuddy continues to supervise students and continue her research into dementia and how memory loss relates to music. She says one of her greatest research findings to date is showing how musical memory is often spared in Alzheimer's patients. She is continuing her research in this area with colleague Jacalyn Duffin (History of Medicine).

"Music engages many aspects of our lives and has many longterm benefits," says Dr. Cuddy. "It can protect us against aging and can also be used as an intervention. I've learned so much and still have so much to do." Ψ

Rick Beninger: Gone but still here



Dr. Richard Beninger

By Vern Qunisey

RICK BENINGER RETIRED ON AUGUST 31, 2015 after 35 years in the Department including a 5-year term as Head (2009-2014). Department Head Wendy Craig hosted a farewell reception at the University Club on October 12, 2015.

Harinder Aujla, a former PhD student of Rick's, now a professor at the University of Winnipeg, commented on his years in Rick's lab. He remembered working with Rick on last-minute abstract submissions and Rick's approach to research, recalling his comment after an experiment did not turn out as expected: the truth is in the data. Also attending was Robert Ranaldi, a former student who is now a professor at Queen's College campus of the City University of New York.

I recounted some little known biographical facts about Rick's time at Queen's. How, for example, his wearing of tight black T-shirts improved the attendance records of female students in his lectures. Ultimately, despite being conscientious and hard-working, Rick failed in his ambition to make dopamine a household word. I can't recall the last time that someone at our dinner table said "pass the dopamine". He did,

however, succeed in furthering our scientific knowledge about the role of dopamine in incentive learning and impressing that knowledge upon the scientific community.

Rick's long-time collaborators from the former Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology (now part of the Department of Biomolecular and Medical Sciences), Drs. Khem Jhamandas and Roland Boegman recalled the early days of their joint experiments. Khem recounted how their collaboration began back in the 1980s and the many trainees who worked on their projects investigating neural mechanisms of cell death in animal models of Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease.

Rick commented that he retired so that he could be free from teaching and administration allowing him more time to focus on his research and writing. He said he continues to supervise 6 graduate students and has had his NSERC grant renewed for 5 years. He was thankful to Queen's for its support throughout the years and for continuing to provide him with research space and access to their excellent library and internet services. Nevertheless, he said, it was the people who make up the Department of Psychology who made Queen's such a great place to work. Ψ

LEFT: Rick Beninger says a few words of thanks at his retirement reception, in October 2015.

RIGHT: Vern Qunisey regails attendees at Rick's retirement reception with fond memories and humorous stories.



GRADUATE PROGRAM

The 'Got Your Back' program



Joyce Li and Jackie Huberman

IT CAN BE VERY CHALLENGING TO deal with mental health issues, especially if you feel like you need to deal with them alone. Having peer and professional supports can make a big difference for one's sense of well-being. While many students know that there are professional mental health supports on and off campus, students with mental health issues can often feel isolated, not knowing if their friends will understand what they are going through.

In an effort to address this issue, Jackie Huberman, Joyce Li, and Abi Muere, all Ph.D. students studying clinical psychology, formed the Clinical Psychology Outreach Program (CPOP) early in 2015. With funding from Jack.org/Queen's Student Initiative Fund, the group aims to run evidence-based mental health events on campus and in the Kingston community. A number of psychology graduate students (from clinical psychology and other sub-disciplines in the department) and psychology undergraduate students are involved. Psychology faculty also showed their support as well, by advising on and participating in events (Dr. Kate Harkness delivered a talk on depression on November 17th). CPOP also partnered with other groups on campus and in the Kingston community to harness ideas and skills for promoting well-being.

From November 16 to November 20, CPOP ran the *Got Your Back!* campaign, through which they empowered the Queen's community with the information, resources, and language needed to support one another's mental well-being.

The *Got Your Back!* campaign was comprised of a week of events and an extended multimedia campaign, including 3-minute psychoeducational talks given at the start of large first- and second-year undergraduate classes by psychology undergraduate and graduate students, on effective peer support; a public talk at the Kingston Public Library, Central Branch, on the science and experience of living with depression; a poster and online campaign promoting peer support; and brief student-targeted talks and workshops on different mental health topics, developed by

graduate students. The effectiveness of these efforts will be evaluated in a research study.

"I think psychology graduate students are uniquely positioned to participate in the mental health conversation on campus," Joyce adds. "We are excited to be using our knowledge and skills in evidence-based practice to develop and evaluate this initiative, and to improve student support on campus. We had a passionate team of graduate students, undergraduate students, and faculty in diverse areas of psychology helping with various aspects of *Got Your Back!* It has been wonderful to see the department and other campus groups rally together to work towards a common goal. We look forward to building on this campaign together in future years."

"The program received overwhelmingly positive responses from the Queen's and Kingston communities", Joyce says. "Many faculty members within and beyond our department were very supportive in allowing us to speak with students at the beginning of lectures, and in donating their time and expertise to our psychoeducational workshops and public talk. We were delighted to see graduate students, staff, and faculty attending our workshops, in addition to undergraduate students, and we were pleasantly surprised that the majority of attendees at our community talk were members of the general Kingston community."

The events were well-attended and organizers were pleased with the reach of the program. Together, about 630 people were reached directly through events and with the help of the multimedia campaign, 6500 people in total were reached. The organizing committee considers this a great success for the first year of the initiative.

"We definitely have plans to run the initiative again next year, provided we can access funding again", Jackie concludes. "We are also interested in hosting events through CPOP throughout the year, such as community talks on different mental health-related topics." Ψ

www.gotyourbackqueens.ca

Congratulations MSc and PhD grads

The department extends congratulations and best wishes for the future to all of our 2015 MSc and PhD graduates.



Front row: (left to right): Allisha Patterson, Sylvia Magrys, Adam Heenan, Kevin Rounding

Middle row: Abigail Muere, Chloe Hudson, Irene Hong, Kalee DeFrance, Mark Khei, Geoffrey Harrison, Matthew Kim, Professor Ron Holden

Back row: Professor Wendy Craig, Amanda Shamblaw, Haykaz Mangardich, Thomas Reid, Professor Leandre Fabrigar

Other graduate students to convocate in 2015

include: Mary Elizabeth Acreman, Lisa Bradford, Audrey Hagar, Megan Mahoney, Charelle Leigh O'Dunn-Orto, Andrew Michael Smith, and Sam Yoon.

Welcome new 2015-2016 graduate students

A warm welcome to all of our new 2015-2016 MSc and PhD graduate students!



Seated: (left to right): Zeinab Ramadan (CLIN), Erika Peter (BBCS), Tanya Tran (CLIN), Stacey Reyes (CLIN), Steven Lamontagne (BBCS).

Standing: Simone Cunningham (CLIN), Alexandra Tighe (CLIN), Daniel Hargadon (CLIN), Karen Lee (BBCS), Alison Crawford (CLIN), Phillip Aucoin (BBCS), Caitlin Atkinson (CLIN), Harmony Driver (SOC), Suzette Fernandes (BBCS).

Not pictured: Madelaine Gierc (CLIN), Emily Hong (SOC), Shana Needham (SOC), Cindy Suurd Ralph (SOC).

Congratulations to our grad students receiving awards in 2015-2016. This year 42 students received awards ranging from \$3823 to \$35,000. Award recipients were Phillip Aucoin, Katrina Bouchard, Jaclyn Cappell, Julian Chiarella, Anja-Xiaoxing Cui, Simone Cunningham, Maddie D'Agata, Kalee DeFrance, Victoria DellaCioppa, Prateek Dhamija, Stephanie Gauvin, Madelaine Gierc, Daniel Hargadon, Geoffrey Harrison, Irene Hong, Jackie Huberman, Chloe Hudson, Robyn Jackowich, Tara Karasewich, Sophie Kenny, Adrijana Krsmanovic, Laura Lamb, Steven Lamontagne, Nida Latif, Pauline Leung, Joyce Li, Jessica Loughheed, Haykaz Mangardich, Melissa Milanovic, Abigail Muere, Amy O'Neill, Rachael Quickert, Zeinab Ramadan, Stacey Reyes, Vanessa Schell, Lyndall Schumann, Amanda Shamblaw, Alexandra Tighe, Thomas Vaughan-Johnston, and Seamas Weech.

AWARDS

Dr. Niko Troje



Dr. Niko Troje

NAMED AFTER THE PRUSSIAN EXPLORER, geographer, and botanist, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation promotes academic cooperation between excellent scientists and scholars from Germany and colleagues around the globe. The foundation's portfolio of funding programs ranges from postdoctoral fellowships to bring international young researchers into Germany to the Humboldt Professorship which endows high profile international researchers with a 5 Million Euro research grant to establish themselves at a German university.

Nikolaus Troje has been a Humboldtian since he first came to Queen's Department of Psychology in 1997 from his native Germany. Equipped with a two-year Humboldt research fellowship he spent two years as a visiting scholar working with Psychology professor Barrie Frost. Troje went back to Germany in 1999, but then joined Queen's again in 2003 as Canada Research Chair in Behavioural Sciences with appointments in Psychology, Biology, and the School of Computing.

Today, Dr. Troje is a well established vision scientist whose achievements have been recognized by multiple awards including the NSERC's E.W.R. Steacie Fellowship in 2008.

In 2015 Dr. Troje received another recognition from the Humboldt Foundation, the prestigious Humboldt Research Award. The award is granted in recognition of a researcher's entire achievements to date to academics whose fundamental discoveries, new theories, or insights have had a significant impact on their own discipline

and who are expected to continue producing cutting-edge achievements in the future.

The Laudation acknowledges Dr. Troje as a scholar who "is internationally well-known for his work on the perception of biological motion, the intriguing ability of the human visual system to retrieve detailed information about actions, intentions and identity of other persons from the way they move."

"I am happy and grateful for this recognition, Dr. Troje says. "My thanks go to my ingenious colleague Karl Gegenfurtner from the Justus-Liebig University in Giessen, Germany, and all the colleagues who supported the nomination. They also go to the many students that contributed to the work that this award recognizes".

The 60,000 € lifetime achievement award was accompanied with an invitation to spend research time in Germany. Last year, Dr. Troje worked for 5 months at the Max-Planck Institute for Intelligent Systems located in the historic university town of Tübingen. Later in the year, he spent time at the laboratory of Karl Gegenfurtner at Justus-Liebig-University in Giessen. Dr. Gegenfurtner had spearheaded Dr. Troje's nomination for the Humboldt Research Award.

While Troje loves life in Canada and work at Queen's he also plans to spend more time in Germany and hopes to intensify German-Canadian connections between graduate students and established researchers alike. Ψ

LEFT: Prof. Helmut Schwarz, President of the Alexander-von-Humboldt Foundation presents the award to Dr. Troje.

RIGHT: The award ceremony took place on March 27 2015 in Bamberg, Germany. Dr. Troje is shown with Marie Gervais-Vidricaire, Ambassador of Canada to Germany, and Prof. Dr. Karl Gegenfurtner who nominated Dr. Troje for the award.



Psychology Faculty



Christopher Bowie Dr. Bowie received a Canadian Institute for Health Research operating grant to study whether cognitive rehabilitation techniques for depression can be delivered remotely using web-based cognitive training, cognitive-behavioural and motivational interviewing strategies with telehealth, and a user manual for promoting engagement with cognitively activating tasks in everyday life. Chris is also a lead investigator on a \$10 million Alzheimer's Disease prevention project. The project combines transcranial direct current stimulation with the cognitive rehabilitation procedures developed in Bowie's laboratory. This is the largest dementia study ever funded and will include a range of biomarkers to assess risk and treatment response for a large group of older individuals who are at risk for Alzheimer's Disease.



Kate Harkness Dr. Harkness received funding from the Ontario Mental Health Foundation and the Canadian Biomarker Integration Network for Depression (CAN-BIND) through the Ontario Brain Institute to study stress-biomarker relations that predict different symptoms in major depression. Kate's goal in this project is to examine the interactions of stress and neuroimaging, neuroendocrine (hormone), and neuro-immunological biomarkers to understand this heterogeneity in depression. The ultimate goal of this research is to provide information that will allow for the development of treatments that are individually tailored to people's unique pathophysiology.



Valerie Kuhlmeier In 2015 Dr. Kuhlmeier received an NSERC Discovery Grant for her study of the early understanding of goals in social contexts (2015-2020) and a SSHRC Insight Grant to study routes to early selective helping 2015-2020. Val, along with Dr. Mary C. Olmstead, also received funds through the Queen's Faculty of Arts and Science Course Redesign Project Competition to engage in a redesign of PSYC 205 (Introduction to Comparative Cognition) and to create a new fully online version of this course. This course will serve as a prerequisite for two new, third-year laboratory courses that will soon be developed. In fall of 2014, Drs. Kuhlmeier and Olmstead were encouraged to include PSYC 205 in a FAS proposal for MTCU funding as part of the Ontario Online Initiative (OOI). In January 2015 they received word that PSYC 205 was one of the 12 FAS courses that were selected by the Ontario government to receive development funding.



Jordan Poppenk In 2015 Dr. Poppenk was named a 2015 "rising star" by APS. The Rising Star designation recognizes outstanding psychological scientists in the earliest stages of their research career post-PhD whose innovative work has already advanced the field and signals great potential for their continued contributions. He also received an NSERC Discovery Grant to investigate the relationship of human memory to variability in function and neuroanatomy along the hippocampal long axis.



Caroline Pukall In May 2015 Dr. Pukall received the 2014-2015 Department of Psychology Teaching Award, Queen's University. In September of 2015, Caroline received the 2015-2016 Society for Sex Therapy and Research (SSTAR) Health Professional Book Award for *Human Sexuality: A Contemporary Introduction*. This book, published by Oxford University Press, is the first Canadian human sexuality textbook that consists of chapters written by experts in various areas of sexuality. A second edition is expected in 2017. Dr. Pukall will be receiving her award in person at the SSTAR 2016 meeting in Chicago in April.

Amanda Shamblaw



Amanda Shamblaw

by Adenike Ogunrinde

AMANDA SHAMBLAW, CURRENT

doctoral student in The Mood Research Lab in the Queen's Psychology Department and **2015 Vanier Scholarship recipient**, has had a strong interest in depression focused research ever since she took her first psychology course at the University of Western Ontario. Amanda started her M.Sc. at Queen's University in 2013 where her research has been focused on the relationship between maternal depression and children's theory of mind. Amanda states, "I was drawn to Queen's University so that I could work under the supervision of Dr. Kate Harkness, a leading researcher in the area of depression."

When I asked Amanda if she always knew she wanted to pursue a Ph.D. in Psychology, she said no with a slight chuckle. She started her undergraduate degree in Nursing, but said that it wasn't until she took psychology electives in the 2nd year of her undergraduate degree that she decided to do a 2nd undergraduate degree in psychology – remarkably, while simultaneously working full-time as a nurse. Amanda knew she "enjoyed nursing", but having been galvanized by undergraduate psychology research and statistic courses she knew she "loved research much more".

Amanda's research interests centre on the intergenerational transmission of depression. Her master's thesis focuses on the relation between maternal depression and the social-cognitive development of preschool children. She is examining how physical touch, vocal characteristics, and talking about the minds of others contribute to this relation. For her Ph.D. project, set to start in the fall, Amanda will be extending her research to focus on infants, in particular how postpartum depression affects infant attachment through both reciprocal attachment and infant neurological factors.

One thing Amanda particularly loves about her research is the rewarding feeling that comes from developing and running her own study,

"to have questions and then be able to answer them". In addition, Amanda is optimistic that her research will help both fill a gap in understanding the effect intergenerational transmission of depression, and provide a basis of knowledge for developing effective interventions that can be targeted at a very young age.

Accordingly, "excitement" is the way Amanda described how she felt upon first hearing she was a Vanier Canadian Graduate Scholarship recipient. When Amanda was asked what she felt it was about herself that enabled her to qualify for such a prestigious scholarship, passion was at the forefront of her response. "I love what I do, and I think that is really important. For me [research] doesn't feel like work; I really enjoy it". In general, Amanda is also a strongly motivated individual, simultaneously working in research, engaging in clinical work, promoting interprofessional practice by acting as Co-President for Queen's Health Interprofessionals Society, and volunteering for organizations like Loving Spoonful. By keeping involved in the community, Amanda feels she is becoming a "well-rounded scholar, allowing [her] passion for helping people to drive [her] work."

Finally, Amanda mentions, "the Vanier scholarship is an incredible honour and affords me the opportunity to disseminate my work more broadly." Amanda explains, "Psychologists are conducting ground breaking mental health research and it is the recognition of this research that will ensure future investment and funding in the area of mental health." Long term, Amanda is optimistic about her future as a researcher, "I want to conduct research that will help the lives of many." She hopes to obtain a long-term career as a researcher and eventually use her skills to advocate for policy change in the area of mental health care.

One can only imagine how far her intellect and astounding diligence will take her. Ψ

Note: This story originally appeared on the Queen's School of Graduate Studies website

Amanda Shamblaw is among the new Vanier Scholars to lead the way in research

UNDERGRADUATE NEWS

Undergraduate Program Update



Dr. Jill Atkinson

PSYCHOLOGY UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES

remain a very popular option among ArtSci students. In addition to the highly competitive Major, we are seeing rapid growth in the Biology-Psychology Specialization. Psychology students make up a large portion of those going on international exchange in their third year and are also actively engaged in student government and the wider community.

Student Engagement

We continue to see the redesign of courses with an increased focus on active learning. Two of our larger second year courses are moving to a blended model replacing an hour or two of lecture with interactive online material. The freed up class time is then used for small labs or tutorials in which students work together in groups applying what they have learned to solve problems.

Thesis course

Starting in 2014, when we hosted the Ontario Undergraduate Thesis Conference, we have been piloting new approaches to undergraduate thesis presentations and evaluations - one that allows our 4th year students to share their research with a broader audience and which better aligns with the types of skills (paper and poster presentations) that they will need in the future. Instead of defending their theses behind closed doors to three faculty members, the thesis experience now culminates in a Research Day in which students display their research posters with the opportunity to share their

work with all the members of the department. The day includes a keynote address followed by refreshments, a wonderful way to celebrate this capstone experience!

Online learning

In addition to these on campus changes, many of our online offerings have been redesigned and new courses developed with active learning at the fore. We are creating opportunities for those studying online to interact with one another and with psychological phenomena. Instructors check in with students via podcast or vodcast, providing feedback on assignments, summaries of recently taught concepts, and/or teasers to introduce upcoming material.

Looking forward

I want to acknowledge the contributions of our wonderful core of adjuncts, our graduate students who serve not only as TAs, but also work alongside us as course developers and Teaching Fellows, and to our undergraduates who serve as facilitators and mentors to our 1st year students. A big thank you to our DSC executive who work so constructively with the undergraduate office to help improve the program.

If it were not for the creativity and hard work of all these folk, delivering and improving such a large and varied undergraduate curriculum would not be possible. Ψ



Dr. Jason Gallivan

Welcome Dr. Jason Gallivan

We are very pleased to welcome Dr. Jason Gallivan to the Department of Psychology. Jason joined the Brain, Behaviour, and Cognitive Sciences program as an assistant professor this January. He received his MSc and PhD in Neuroscience from the Brain and Mind Institute at the University of Western Ontario. Jason then completed a postdoctoral fellowship in the Centre for Neuroscience Studies here at Queen's. Jason's research lies at the intersection of perception, cognition, and action and is broadly focused on understanding how sensory information is integrated, influenced by cognitive factors, and transformed to guide actions. His research combines a wide range of tools and techniques to understanding how the brain flexibly controls behaviour. He has been recognized by top awards including the NSERC Banting Postdoctoral Fellowship, a CIHR Fellowship (amongst other scholarships and fellowships), and three CIHR Brain Star awards for publications of outstanding quality and impact. Jason is an experienced teacher and supervisor. He has supervised a number of undergraduate and graduate trainees and received a nomination for a graduate teaching award while at the University of Western Ontario

Dr. Randy Flanagan, Professor

ALUMNI PROFILES



Dorita Chang, PhD (Neuroscience) '10

While I was formally a graduate student in the Centre for Neuroscience Studies during my years (2006-2010) at Queen's, my activities and home lab (BioMotionLab, PI: Niko Troje) were based in Psychology. Through the many collaborative interactions with peers from the Brain, Behaviour and Cognitive Science (BBCS) program in Psychology, stimulating course work, and the unique environment offered by the Queen's Biological Communications Centre (QBCC), I left Queen's with the tool set required to advance my scientific maturity. After obtaining my PhD in 2010, I received a Marie Curie International Fellowship to further my training in the Vision Sciences at the University of Birmingham, UK (2010-2013). I then moved on to complete another postdoc at McGill Vision Research in Montreal (2013-2015). I am now a Lecturer in Psychology at The University of Hong Kong.



Tess Clifford, PhD '11

Following my graduation in 2011, I accepted a position as the Psychologist with the Autism Intervention Program at Pathways for Children and Youth in Kingston where I was able to focus on working with young children with autism and their families. In this position I was a supervisor with the Kingston Internship Consortium, and thoroughly enjoyed supervising interns and working with the internship team. In September 2014, I returned to Queen's as the Acting Director of the Psychology Clinic. I am enjoying the continued focus on supervision and training, as well as the opportunity to work with a wider variety of clinical issues and a diverse range of client populations.



Kristen Dunfield, PhD '10

I was a graduate student in the Department of Psychology from 2004-2010. After my time at Queen's I completed a post doctoral fellowship at the Ohio State University, then made my way back to Canada as an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Concordia University. I look back on my years at Queen's as some of the happiest, most challenging and most fulfilling years of my life. I was supervised by Drs Stanka Fitneva (for my MA) and Valerie Kuhlmeier (for my PhD) and I will always be grateful for their ability to see me as both a student and a human. Indeed, even when my ideas pulled us all in new directions, they always gladly supported and encouraged the pursuit of exciting questions. As I look back, I believe this broad base of opportunities and support is the thing that sets Queen's apart - and keeps it so near and dear to my heart. Specifically, across areas, departments, and even institutions, I was always encouraged to follow my curiosity, and was given the tools to successfully do so. This had led to a large network of incredibly supportive mentors who I still call on regularly and am grateful and proud to now consider friends.



Christopher Humphries, ArtSci'08 - BAH

Following my time at Queen's I completed an MBA at Dalhousie and spent 3 years doing strategy/business planning and project management work for an IT consulting company. Today I am an Account Manager at an Ad Tech company and can confidently say that what I learned in psychology has been very helpful in my career thus far. For example, the solid grounding in statistics that every psych student receives has enabled me to do sales analysis and speak with data scientists and statisticians - something increasingly important with the rise of Big Data. While completing my degree I volunteered in Dr. Ji's Culture & Cognition Lab. My work with Dr. Ji was the highlight of my time in psych, as it significantly improved my critical thinking, gave me a practical understanding of how effective social research is conducted, and provided insight into the subtle but powerful ways culture shapes our thinking.



Nicholas Smith, Arts'96 - BAH

In my third year of undergrad, I took an electroacoustic composition course in the School of Music at Queen's. My experience there helped me to get a summer research assistant position in Lola Cuddy's Music Perception lab. After doing my honours thesis with Lola, I decided to continue with music perception research at the University of Toronto, working with Mark Schmuckler. I then did a postdoctoral fellowship at McMaster University, with Laurel Trainor. I continued to be interested in pitch and sound patterns, but from a developmental perspective: Infant-directed speech is as much about the music as the words. After my postdoc I took a Staff Scientist position at Boys Town National Research Hospital in Omaha, where I direct the Perceptual Development Lab. My research now focuses on mother-child vocal interaction, but many of my current experiments still use the computer music software that I used to run my first experiment in Lola's lab.



Louise Wasylikiw - PhD '02

I graduated from Queen's in 2002 having completed both an M.A. and Ph.D. in the department of Psychology under the supervision of Dr. Cynthia Fekken. Currently, I am a faculty member at Mount Allison University and I am extremely fortunate to be in a career that I love. Dr. Fekken, as a mentor, significantly contributed to where I am today but my gratitude extends to many others from the graduate secretary and her welcoming smile to dissertation committee members (most notably Dr. Leandre Fabrigar). As a graduate student, I was given the opportunity to work with others (e.g., Dr. Ronald Holden and lab mates), work as a research assistant (with Dr. David Murray), and acquire teaching related skills not only as a TA but also as a course instructor. Such experiences were invaluable.



Lela Williams - ArtSci'01 - BScH Psyc

After earning my BScH at Queen's in 2001, I went on to complete my Ph.D. in Family Studies and Human Development in 2006. I am currently an Associate Professor and Coordinator of the School of Social Work Tucson at Arizona State University. My research is on the prevention and reduction of adolescent risk behaviors, primarily in the area of substance use, dating violence, and pregnancy, and the development of efficacious interventions. I first became interested in research after working with Dr. Alistair MacLean, first as his research assistant and later as an honours thesis student. As an undergraduate student, I received impeccable training and more importantly, gained a passion and excitement for research. That experience impacted me tremendously. It not only influenced my drive in my own line of research but sparked my commitment for my students to find theirs.



Catherine Yang, ArtSci'08 - BScH Bchm/Psyc

I worked in home care as an occupational therapist for 9 months in 2013-2014 and am currently taking care of the family real estate business. I am currently looking for an occupational therapist job in either the school health, hospital or community settings. When I was completing my minor in psychology at Queen's, Dr. Valerie Kuhlmeier offered me a volunteer position in the infant cognition lab where I gained experience learning how infants interact with the world. This provided me with foundation knowledge to potentially become an occupational therapist in school health, helping children develop important skills through play. All the phone calls to recruit participants and interaction with families also helped me develop my communication skills to better build therapeutic rapport with clients. Dr. Valerie Kuhlmeier contributed to making me the occupational therapist I am today - providing quality care to clients with compassion and always listening to the clients' needs.

We want to hear from you

In each Queen's Psychology Newsletter, we publish a section on the activities of our graduates. If there has been a special event that you wish to share with your friends, or you would just like to let other alumni know what you have been up to, please drop us a line. We will try to include your item in our next issue.

A FINAL WORD...



2015-2016

AGSIP executive:

Back: Laura Lamb, Geoffrey Harrison, Robyn Jackwisch, and Chloe Hudson

Front: Stephanie Gauvin, Kalee DeFrance, Jackie Huberman, and Vanessa Schell

The Association of Graduate Students in Psychology (AGSIP)

by Kalee De France and Jackie Huberman,
AGSIP Co-Presidents

GRAD SCHOOL CAN GET BUSY AND

we can sometimes forget just how amazing and talented we all are. AGSIP wants to make sure that everyone takes a moment to recognize how much all of our hard work has paid off.

Special congratulations to the 14 students in our department who were awarded with new provincial and/or federal scholarships this year. We also want to congratulate Sara Furlano for being awarded with a prestigious Autism Research Training Award, and Amanda Shamblaw for being awarded with the Vanier Canadian Graduate Scholarship. We are all so proud of your successes!

AGSIP also extends warm welcomes to all graduate students new to the department this year. We have brought together students through numerous events, including a new “Welcome to Kingston” scavenger hunt, an outdoor picnic pot luck, our annual wine and cheese, and an interdepartmental Hallowe’en Party. We have also been working to integrate community work into our events.

Remember, AGSIP is here for you! We advocate for psychology students at departmental and SGPS meetings and we have set up a new Master’s defense timeline workshop this year to help answer questions and better prepare Master’s students for the thesis process. If you have any suggestions, questions, comments, or concerns, don’t hesitate to get in touch! Ψ

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The Dr. Kevin Parker Memorial Fund

WITH THE SUPPORT OF KEVIN’S

family we have developed the Dr. Kevin Parker Memorial Fund. Our goal is to develop a bursary for graduate students in Clinical Psychology to fund participation in clinical training workshops, with a special focus on clinical supervision. Donations will be used to support the development of this award, or support students and/or the Psychology Clinic in other ways.

Dr. Kevin Parker was a well-known and respected psychologist, supervisor, teacher and mentor in the Kingston community. He was the Director of the Psychology Clinic at Queen’s from 2007-2013. Prior to 2007 he was a psychologist at Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services at Hotel Dieu Hospital, as well as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychology at Queen’s University. Kevin was a

true scientist-practitioner, involved in a number of research projects and often sought out as a statistics consultant, while also providing excellent clinical service to many children, adolescents and families. Kevin is remembered fondly by his trainees for his straightforward communication, quirky sense of humour, and metaphors for every situation. Many of us are lucky to have learned so much from Kevin. His influence has spread beyond those he supervised directly, to those who have been supervised by his trainees. We are thankful for this opportunity to continue to remember Kevin and carry on his passion for mentorship and clinical training.

Donations can be made at <https://www.givetoqueens.ca/give/index.php/project/action/view/project/732> Ψ