Adjuncts, Programs, and More!

New Adjunct Faculty

We want you to meet a couple of new adjunct faculty members in the Department of Psychology.

Dr. Sherry Thrasher is currently teaching our course in Theories of Personality (PSYC 4460). Dr. Thrasher is a graduate of LaGrange College with a major in psychology. She earned her master’s degree in psychology from Springfield College in Massachusetts, the birthplace of basketball. Very appropriate because she is a huge basketball fan. She also holds a Psy.D. from Argosy University in Atlanta. She completed her internship at the VA hospital in Decatur and followed that with a two year Post Doctoral appointment in neuropsychology at Yale. She is a licensed psychologist in both Georgia and Massachusetts. She’s a good person to talk to on the topics of admission to grad school, working out, personality and abnormal psychology, basketball, neuropsychology assessment, and research opportunities for undergraduates. When you see her, welcome her back to LaGrange College.

During spring semester, Dr. John Hummel will be teaching our course in Behavior Analysis (PSYC 4470). He is recently retired from Valdosta State University and we are very happy to have him at LaGrange. His teaching, most of his research and his work experiences have all focused on behavior analysis. He was personally acquainted with B. F. Skinner and good friends with Fred Keller. Most folks have heard of Skinner but Keller was at least as important. (If you don’t know who Keller was, it would be good to look him up.) Dr. Hummel can talk behavior analysis, outdoor activities, I/O psychology, cutting grass with a weed whacker, good fiction, award winning chili, and the National World War I Museum.

Programs

Coming up on October 11, Dr. Thrasher will present a Cultural Enrichment Program in the Bailey Room at 11:15. Her title is “Why do I have this little seahorse in my brain?” This will be of special interest to students in psychology, biology, and nursing. In the spring, Dr. Hummel will present a CE Program on a topic in behavior analysis. Date and title are yet to be determined. Stay tuned.

We also hope you attended the Mentoring Monday Program by Erin Johnston on September 26. Erin is a LaGrange College graduate who is founder of and chief consultant for Johnston Jury Consulting, LLC. Check out the web site for her business.

http://www.johnstonjuryconsulting.com/JJC/Welcom e.html
PSYCHOLOGY LEADERS AND SCHOLARS

A number of psychology majors have been making an impact around campus. Psychology is well represented in the Student Government Association and on the Social and Honor Councils this year. Lauren Gledhill is serving as the 2011-2012 SGA President, Hill Daniel as the Vice President of Senate/Parliamentarian, and Grey Clevenger as the Vice President of Entertainment. Brittany Helton was named the President of the LaGrange College Social Council, and Grey Clevenger and Josh Valls are both members. Hannah Butts and Robert Harste are serving on the Honor Council, and Jordan Bradford is an alternate.

Psychology majors have also had some recent success with publication. Brittany Helton and Jenny Eby (2011) had their Survey Research class projects included in Citations: The Journal of Undergraduate Research, and Kelsey Connell, Jordan Bradford, and Taylor Baldwin have had their paper, “Christmas Spirit: A (Tongue-in-Cheek) Proposal for an Addition to the DSM-V,” originally written for the Abnormal Psychology class, accepted for publication in the Winter issue of the Eye on Psi Chi magazine.

On March 31, 2011, Kristian Perkins and Josh Shiver were inducted into membership in the LaGrange College chapter of Psi Chi: The International Honor Society in Psychology. To be eligible for Psi Chi, students must have completed three semesters of college, declared a psychology major or minor, and completed nine semester hours of psychology coursework. To become a Psi Chi member, students must also have a GPA of 3.0 or higher both in the major and overall, and must rank in the top 35% of their class. Students interested in Psi Chi membership should contact Jordan Bradford, President.

And, last but not least, Cody Furse was named 2011 May Day King!

Congratulations!

QUOTE OF THE SEMESTER

“As try again. Fail again. Fail better.”
--Samuel Beckett (author)

SUNRISE COURSES

As you make your plans for fall semester, please take note of the schedule of upper level psychology courses.

| M, W, F | PSYC 2299 Research Methods | 8:30 |
| Lab Thursday 8:00 – 9:30 |
| PSYC 3365 Sensation & Perception | 9:40 |
| PSYC 3358 Aging | 1:40 |
| PSYC 4455* Cognitive | 12:30 |

| T, R | PSYC 3302 Human Growth | 9:40 |
| PSYC 4470* Beh. Analysis Tuesday 1:00 – 4:00 |

*Completion of PSYC 2299 is a prerequisite

PSYCHOLOGY TUTORING

Fall 2011 tutoring hours are:

Jordan Bradford Tuesday -Thursday 3:00-5:00 p.m. (and by appointment)

The tutoring center is in the 24-Hour Study Center at the Lewis Library, and tutoring is free to any enrolled LaGrange College student.
Recent (and soon-to-be) graduates have been busy establishing themselves in graduate school and in the working world. Here’s what we’ve heard recently:

**Katherine Anderson** (2008) graduated from the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University with a Master’s in Public Health and dual concentrations in Health Policy and Mental Health on May 9, 2011. She has been hired as a grants-writer for the non-profit groups Bridging the Gap and ReStore Coweta in Coweta County.

**Tammy Beckman** (2003) has finished her Ph.D. at the University of Southern Mississippi and has been named a visiting professor of psychology there for the 2011-2012 academic year.

**Drew Carter** (2011) is working on his Master of Arts in Teaching at LaGrange College while serving as the graduate assistant wide receivers football coach.

**Shirley Harrington** (2003) is a Data Analyst in the Enrollment Services Department at Auburn University. She audits all the undergraduate applications for the University and creates reports for the college from these data.

**Elsa Johnson** (2008) is currently in her second year of the Master’s of Social Work program at the University of Georgia. Last semester she completed an internship with Goodwill North Georgia’s Workforce Development Office, and this year she is working with the Oconee County Schools.

**Nick Langley** (2010) was accepted into the Master’s program in Applied Developmental Psychology at Clayton State University where he began classes this fall.

**Sarah Newland** (2010) spent her summer completing an internship in the Human Resources Department at Goodwill Industries of Middle Tennessee, Inc., as a part of the requirements for her Master’s degree in Industrial/Organizational Psychology at Western Kentucky University. As a part of her internship she helped launch the new online Applicant Tracking System and worked on an internal I-9 audit.

**Jennifer Putnam** (2010, psychology minor) is finishing her MA in Medieval Literature at York University in York, England. Last May she completed exams in Palaeography, Middle Welsh, and Latin, and she is currently finishing her thesis on dream theory in Malory’s Le Morte DArthur.

**Melissa Smith** (2005) began her psychiatry residency at Emory University on July 1.

**Liz Spotts** (2008) graduated from The Ohio State University in August with a Master’s degree in Special Education, specializing in Applied Behavior Analysis. Her thesis was titled “The Effects of Computer-Based Practice on the Acquisition of Basic Academic Skills in Children Who Have Moderate to Intensive Educational Needs: A Systematic Replication.”

**Megan Steele** (2003) is beginning a Master’s program in Vocational Rehabilitation at the University of Wisconsin – Stout.

**Jessica (Schmitz) Waldrop** (2007) has been accepted into the doctoral program in Industrial-Organizational Psychology at St. Louis University.

**Hillary (Palmer) Wooten** (2005) received her M.S. in Marriage and Family Therapy from Valdosta State in 2007 and is currently working toward licensure as a Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in the state of Florida. She is currently employed as a therapist at the Tallahassee Memorial Hospital Behavioral Heath Center where her work centers largely on individual short-term crisis stabilization but also includes some family therapy and group work.

**Cole Zimmerman** (2008) is currently working in advertising at the Zimmerman Agency in Tallahassee, FL. In this position he has worked with accounts including Aflac and Cooper Tires.
When did you graduate and what are you doing now?

I graduated in May of 2010, and am now beginning my second year at the University of West Georgia pursuing a master's degree in Speech-Language Pathology (SLP). I have a graduate assistantship in the College of Education School Improvement Doctorate program, which pays for my tuition each semester and covers some living expenses as well.

What do Speech and Language Pathologists do?

SLPs work with people with a variety of communication disorders in public and private schools, clinics and hospitals, physician's offices, rehabilitation centers, nursing homes and private practice. I plan to begin my career in a hospital, and hope eventually to open my own private practice. There's a high demand for SLPs and it's a career that pays well.

What will you have to do to complete the program successfully?

The master's program in Speech-Language Pathology at UWG is a two or three year program that requires 52-60 hours of course work, an internship or externship, 400 clinical hours, and passing certification requirements.

Do you have any advice for other students who might be interested in going to graduate school?

Applying for graduate school can seem difficult, and be stressful at times; however, one important thing I have learned is it is never too early to start the application process. You can begin by looking at school websites and call the admissions office. Ask about admission requirements, scholarship opportunities, assistantships, loan information, deadlines etc. The earlier you know this information, the less stressful and less difficult the application process will be.

I also met with the staff in the career center and they helped me prepare for my interviews. There are a lot of resources on campus (career center, test-prep classes, graduate school fairs, internships) that you should take advantage of!

How does your graduate program compare to your undergraduate program?

The reading material, studying, homework/papers, and tests are about similar to the work I did as an undergraduate. One thing that I took for granted at LaGrange was the small class sizes and student/teacher relationships. The class sizes are much larger and the professors do not know their students individually at UWG.

Is there anything you wish you’d done differently as an undergraduate?

I wish I had gotten to know the other psychology majors earlier. There were people that I never really got to know until the end of my senior year and I regret that. I would have also completed the daily reading assignments for Dr. Haas' Behavior Analysis class.

Anything else you’d like to say to our current students? Any words of wisdom?

School is important, but you'll never get these four (or five) years of college back. As much as you want to graduate and get out of LaGrange, you will miss it when you are gone. Enjoy the time with your friends, because once you graduate it is hard to continue to keep in touch with everyone.