

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

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Through a gift from the Martoccia family, we have established a library for graduate students and faculty in the Rawl building (see article inside). We have also developed new classroom and laboratory space in the building, and modernized several classrooms into "smart" rooms, with computer, VCR, and DVD equipment. Future plans include an undergraduate and alumni center in the building.

Finally, I became the new chair of the department in early July and have been thoroughly impressed with the work being done in the department and at ECU. I came to Greenville from the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where I was on the faculty for more than 30 years. My specialty is health psychology with research on forgiveness and health.

We look forward to hearing from you. Let us know what you are doing since you received your degree from ECU. Our web site (<http://www.ecu.edu/psyc>) is under renovation and will contain a bar for alumni news, where you can share information and photos of yourself and your family. Thank you for your support of psychology programs and psychology students.

Kathleen A. Row

Dr. Kathleen Row
Chair, Department of Psychology

WELCOME NEW FACULTY

Dr. Marsha Ironsmith

Dr. Amy Lyndon



Dr. Amy Lyndon joined the Psychology faculty as an Assistant Professor in fall 2006. She first came to ECU in 2003 as a visiting assistant professor. As an undergraduate, Lyndon was interested in gender issues and aggression. She combined these interests in graduate school by looking at violence against women with emphasis on sexual aggression and stalking. This is still her primary focus of research.

A native of Greensboro, NC, Lyndon enjoys drinking tea and reading everything including science fiction, women's studies, history, and poetry.



Dr. Cecelia Valrie

Dr. Cecelia Valrie joined the psychology faculty as an assistant professor in the fall 2006, and is no stranger to ECU. She graduated summa cum laude from ECU in 1999 with a BA in psychology and mathematics and was named Phi Kappa Phi's Outstanding Senior. Valrie received her MA (2004) and Ph.D. (2006) in Developmental Psychology from UNC-Chapel Hill.

In her spare time, Valrie enjoys reading, trying new cuisines, and traveling, especially to her hometown of Garner, NC to visit family.

HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY DOCTORATE PROGRAM

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psycho-social approach, which views health and illness as the product of a combination of factors, including biological (e.g., genetic predisposition), behavioral factors (e.g., lifestyle), and psychosocial (e.g., social support) factors.

The program is a five-year, full-time, post-baccalaureate program, and adheres to the scientist-practitioner model in which psychologists are trained to engage in scientific inquiry and to provide clinical services. The clinical behavioral medicine concentration trains psychologists to become members of primary health care teams in medical settings, community mental health agencies, and in the private practice of health psychology, as well as in the university setting. Pediatric school psychology focuses on helping children with chronic illnesses and disorders overcome academic, social and cognitive obstacles that result from health-related concerns and medical treatments.

The health psychology faculty include some who have been at ECU for a while as well as some new faces: Dr. Kathleen Row (Department Chair, Doctoral Program Director), Dr. Beverly Harju (Clinical Behavioral Medicine Director), Dr. Michael Brown (Pediatric School Psychology Director), Dr. Larry Bolen, Dr. Ervin Davis, Dr. Christyn Dolbier, Dr. Erik Everhart, Dr. Jeannie Golden, Dr. Susan McCammon, Dr. Chris Riley-Tillman, Dr. Cecelia Valrie, and Dr. Christy Walcott. Our faculty will continue to grow as we add several more health psychology faculty in the near future.

PSI CHI CLUB

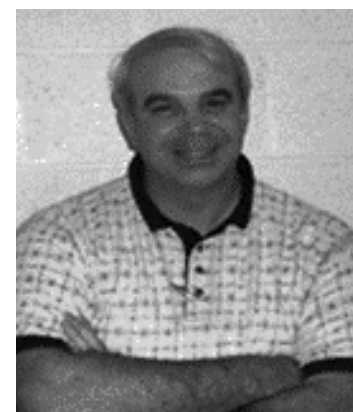
Joy Dismukes

The East Carolina Psi Chi chapter celebrated its 40th anniversary this year and welcomed 56 new members - a huge increase over the 18 inductees from 2005. The fall inductions incorporated an anniversary celebration with members, old and new, and the faculty. Dr. William Grossnickle, who founded the chapter, spoke at the celebration about starting Psi Chi at East Carolina in 1966. At the beginning of the fall, President Joy Dismukes got the new officers acquainted through a team-building activity; four of the officers (Joy Dismukes, Candice Slate, Emily Sinning, and Andrea Romero) volunteered at the school's "Pirate Palooza". The chapter updated their web site this year; it is now easier to navigate and includes a photo album along with other chapter information. Over the year the chapter held bi-weekly meetings on various grad school and careers in psychology topics. The chapter also sponsored a series of "Writing in Psychology Seminars" in the spring that were given by Dr. Melanie Elliot Wilson, Dr. Amy Lyndon, and Dr. Marsha Ironsmith. The topics included plagiarism, the active voice, and APA style. The East Carolina chapter planned and directed the spring and fall psychology department's graduate recognition ceremonies.

Current officers: President: Candace Slate; Vice President: Jaclyn Cravens; Treasurer: Shamyia Burns; Secretary: Emily Sinning; Public Relations Chair: Abey Dessie; Faculty Advisor: Dr. Michael Brown

DURHAM TO RETIRE

Dr. Robert Denney and Dr. John Cope



Dr. Tom Durham has turned over the clinical psychology program and on September 1 will retire after 30 years on the faculty of East Carolina's Psychology Department. This will be the end of a two-generation presence at ECU for the Durham family - his dad was a professor in Business Education and Durham "grew up" at ECU. He earned his undergraduate degree from East Carolina, his Ph.D. from Florida State University, did a post doc at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, D.C., and then returned to ECU, all by the age of 24. From 1986 to 2006, he was the director of the clinical psychology program.

Durham has literally and figuratively left his mark on ECU and the field of clinical psychology. A colleague from a North Carolina clinical training program has referred to Durham as a legend within their professional organization; and if you look closely at the sidewalk in front of Messick Theater (his former elementary school), you will find the initials 'TD' engraved by a fifth-grade Tommy Durham.

He and his wife Ann have two sons and two grandchildren, who are the source of much amusement and joy. He studies Freud, loves Andy Griffith, and knows every single thing there is to know about baseball - all of it - with dates of occurrences, weather conditions and the starting line-up for both teams all the way back to 1839.

Durham has been an outstanding teacher, researcher, and a superb mentor and friend to both students and faculty. He is among the very best at clinical supervision and as an in-service trainer for professionals. Dr. Durham plans to stay in the area and continue his private practice, clinical supervisions, and in-service training when it doesn't interfere with ECU baseball.



FACULTY SPOTLIGHT

DR. TUAN TRAN

The Department of Psychology currently has the only active mammalian research facility on the east campus. This facility is known as the "Behavioral Neuroscience Laboratory" and is under the direction of Dr. Tuan Tran, an assistant professor in the department. Dr. Tran's research interests involve studying fetal alcohol syndrome (FAS) and alcohol-related neurodevelopmental disorder (ARND) using rodents as an experimental model for human clinical cases of prenatal alcohol exposure.

Children with FAS/ARND exhibit pronounced and long-lasting brain deficits that underlie their deficits in IQ, social behavior, spatial memory, and many other forms of psychological functioning. It is hoped that the experimental data gathered from Dr. Tran's lab would provide insights into the behavioral and neural deficits that are produced by early alcohol exposure, which eventually may lead to rigorous efforts to develop treatments (i.e., chemical, behavioral, or both) that may ameliorate such a preventable human problem. Current, ongoing studies include the roles of choline (an essential nutrient required for cell function) and iron in minimizing the impact of developmental alcohol exposure. These studies are collaborations with researchers at San Diego State University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison, respectively.

Researchers consist of both M.A.-seeking graduate students and undergraduate students. All students contribute to the day-to-day operations of the lab and seem to enjoy getting away from the rigors of academia, even if it's just for a few hours a day. Here they're able to explore and understand the research process and acquire invaluable experience that may guide them to seeking advanced degrees in their careers of interest. Current graduate students are Brook Cathey and Amy Ellis, and his current undergraduate students are Andrea Romero, Elizabeth Baker, Chris Richardson, and Matt Satusky. Seth Miller, a graduate Research Assistant, provides day-to-day operations.



Some members of the lab (from left to right): Dr. Tran, Amy Ellis, Brook Cathey, Elizabeth Baker

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Chris '96 and Monica '96 Grubb - married for 13 years and have an 11 year old daughter, Caitlyn. Chris is now the Region Training Manager for Sears in Product Repair. He arranges training for the techs who repair washers & dryers, etc. He is responsible for a 7-state territory. He has been there almost 5 years. Monica currently is the HR Manager for VA and NC. She's been there for 10 years and reports that, "the job gets bigger and more difficult every day! But I've always loved it and can't really imagine being any where else."

Calpernia Holloman '06 is working for Pathways to Life, Inc. as a community support worker.

Emily (Gray) Stapleford '04 is working toward a MSW at Florida State University and is on an internship at Shand's Hospital in Gainesville, FL.

Tiffany (Stowe) Hinton '02 is working at Henrico Schools in VA as an Educational Specialist. She is working on a Ph.D. in applied developmental psychology at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Kristina Kmiecik '05 is one of the two nominees from ECU for the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation Graduate Scholarship. She's applied to Columbia and NYU for speech & language pathology.

Randy Mizelle '85 works for Progress Energy. He and his wife Amanda have been married 15 years and live in Holly Springs, NC with their 2 children, Tanner (10) and Kylie (7).

John Fleenor '81 is a Group Director for Research & Innovation at the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, NC. John received a Ph.D. in I/O psychology from NCSU. Julie Boyd Fleenor is a project coordinator for the Neuropsychological Program in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at Duke. In addition to her master's from ECU, Julie received an MS in Rehabilitation Psychology from UNC Chapel Hill. Julie and John live with their young son, Jacob, on their horse farm near Mebane, NC.

SEND US YOUR INFORMATION!

We would love to have an update from you, so please send any good news, photos, program, and year of graduation to psycalum@ecu.edu.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Linda J. Allred, December 26, 2005



Taught graduate courses in measurement theory, statistics, and a wide variety of other topics. Longtime member of the Faculty Senate and Faculty Assembly and served as Director of the Women's Studies program. Allred was an active researcher. To read more about Dr. Allred, visit <http://www.ecu.edu/psyc/Faculty/Allred/Allred.htm>.

Dr. Charles Moore, March 25, 2006



Retired from the Psychology Department in 1999 after more than 30 years teaching at ECU, primarily for the graduate program. Moore focused on teaching behavior therapy and psychodiagnosis at the graduate level and abnormal psychology and introductory psychology at the undergraduate level.

He specialized in behavioral treatment of anxiety and mood disorders and in the use of the MMPI as an assessment tool.

Alumni Membership

By becoming a member of the Alumni Association, you are supporting alumni programs and scholarships and showing your commitment to excellence at ECU. In return, you will receive additional communications about East Carolina and alumni events in your area. You will also receive discounts on dining, travel, and entertainment nationwide. Best of all, you will have pride in membership. The East Carolina experience creates a sense of passionate pride among alumni and friends. Every member of the ECU family has an inner Pirate and we say embrace and let it show!

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Degree(s) & Department _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____

E-mail _____

Joint Member _____

Birthday _____ Class Year _____

Degree(s) & Department _____

E-mail _____

MEMBERSHIP TYPES

Annual Memberships:

Pride

Individual: \$35 Joint*: \$50

Lifetime Memberships:

Forever Pirate

Individual: Full: \$750 Installments: \$200 semiannually for 2 years

Joint*: Full: \$1,000 Installments: \$275 semiannually for 2 years

Senior Forever Pirate (60 or older)

Individual: \$500 Joint*: \$750

Centennial Memberships:

Centennial Pirate (paid in full) \$5,000

Centennial Pirate (installment) \$2,500 initial payment with balance due within 6 months

*spouse living at the same address

PAYMENT OPTIONS

Check enclosed payable to East Carolina Alumni Association

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Signature _____

Please fill out and fax to 252-328-4369 or mail to:
Taylor-Slaughter Alumni Center • 901 East Fifth Street
East Carolina University • Greenville, NC 27858-4353
800-ECU-GRAD • PirateAlumni.com



Derek '98, Heather '97, and future Pirate Olivia Stepp

“For Derek and me, East Carolina has been a family experience; from my parents, our siblings, and all our friends to hopefully someday our daughter, Olivia.”

Join Derek and Heather Stepp as members of the East Carolina Alumni Association. Membership in the Alumni Association helps to provide quality programs and services such as Pirate Career Calls and the Pirate Alumni Network, traditional activities such as Homecoming and reunions, alumni and faculty awards, and student scholarships. As a member, you will join the ranks of alumni like the Stepps who demonstrate their pride, dedication, and commitment to East Carolina University. Join today!

“Joining the Alumni Association and supporting East Carolina in this way just made sense; our membership only strengthens our connection and the pride we share for East Carolina.”

~Heather Stepp '97



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Ψ PSYC INFO

SUMMER 2007

The Alumni Newsletter of the Department of Psychology in the
Thomas Harriot College of Arts & Sciences at East Carolina University

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Alumni and Friends:



Welcome to the first semi-annual newsletter for former students of the undergraduate and graduate psychology programs at East Carolina University. We hope to establish a stronger connection with our alumni, through periodic updates on what is happening in the Department of Psychology.

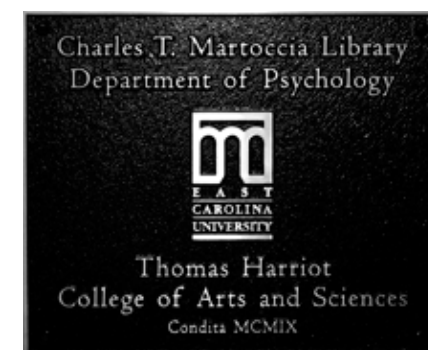
The biggest news in the 2006-07 year is the start of a doctoral degree program in health psychology, with our first

students enrolling in the fall of 2007. The program will train students in two tracks: clinical behavioral medicine and pediatric school psychology. We invited more than 20 well-qualified applicants to visit the campus in March, then extended invitations to eight of them to become the first class of doctoral students. We are now actively seeking graduate assistantship funding and tuition remissions.

Several faculty members have been involved in a number of interesting and meaningful research projects and grant programs. Erik Everhart has received external grant funding for research on sleep disorders, and Chris Riley-Tillman on assessment of social and emotional behaviors in school children. Susan McCammon and Michael Brown received scholar-teacher awards from the university.

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MARTOCCIA LIBRARY DEDICATED



In the Spring of 2006, the Psychology Department dedicated the Martoccia Library, named for Dr. Tom Martoccia, who was a beloved member of the psychology department faculty from 1961 to 2000. The creation of this library was made possible through a generous endowment by Martoccia's wife Carol, and their two sons Randall and Douglas Martoccia, as well as faculty contributions.

Martoccia was an excellent scholar, teacher, and researcher and his library reflects awriter used to address all psychological inquires (on a 3 x 5 card, no less!), and equipment he used to demonstrate the early history of psychology.

Not only did Martoccia love psychology, he is a part of it's history. In the library are

personal letters written to Martoccia from Margaret Mead and Edwin G. Boring, early pioneers of the field. Martoccia was at his best in a discussion-based seminar class. His Saturday morning graduate classes would continue long past the three-hour class time. A brilliant scholar and a caring mentor, Martoccia was a valuable resource for students and colleagues alike. Martoccia's family has created a space to continue his legacy by providing what has become a central gathering place for graduate students to work and discuss psychology.



HEALTH PSYCHOLOGY DOCTORATE PROGRAM

Dr. Christyn Dolbier

In the Fall of 2007, the Department of Psychology is starting a new Ph.D. program in health psychology with concentrations in clinical behavioral medicine and pediatric school psychology. Health psychology is the educational, scientific, and professional contribution of psychology to a) understanding the etiology, promotion, and maintenance of health, b) the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation of physical and mental illness, c) the study of psychological, social, emotional, and behavioral factors in physical and mental illness, and d) the improvement of the health care system and formulation of health policy. The program is based on a bio-

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ADDICTED TO LOVE

“You go to my head with a smile that makes my temperature rise/like a summer with a thousand Julys/You intoxicate my soul with your eyes” ~ Gillespie/Coots

Most people think of love as a mysterious, indescribable experience. Researchers, however, are interested in pinning down the chemistry of love, and by chemistry, we literally mean the brain's chemicals. Using both animal and human participants, researchers have found that dopamine and serotonin are linked to love, romance, and sexual attraction. Wang et al. (1999) found that female prairie voles had favorite male voles as partners. This favoritism was accompanied by a 50 percent increase in dopamine in the nucleus accumbens, which is an area in the brain that is linked with addiction and craving in humans. When scientists reduced dopamine levels in these prairie

voles, these voles no longer preferred that partner. When their dopamine levels were again increased, these female voles preferred only the new males who were present at the time (Gingrich et al., 2000). What about humans? Anthropologist Helen Fisher and psychologist Art Aron used functional magnetic resonance imaging machines (fMRI) to get a picture of the human brain in love. Using participants who were “madly in love” and who stared at a photo of their loved one or a stranger, Fisher et al. (2003) found the active part of the brain is the caudate nucleus, a component of the reward system. The caudate nucleus helps perceive, prefer, and anticipate a reward; it is the area activated in addicts who think about their drug of choice. The dopamine-producing ventral tegmental area (VTA) was also quite active, resulting in increased attention, energy, reward motivation, and feelings of elation. “Addicted to love” clearly takes on a new meaning!