

Ψ THE WABASH PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT Ψ

NEWSLETTER

Wabash College

Fall 2006

Crawfordsville, IN

FACULTY NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESTON BOST ON RECEIVING TENURE!

Brenda Bankart, Chair of the Department, is teaching Child Development and Senior Seminar this fall as well as C&T and will teach Adult



Development, Cross-cultural Psychology and Advanced Development in the Spring 2007. She presented the

results of some recent longitudinal research with **Matt Boston '06**, **Nate Price '06**, and **Jake Lundorf '07** on identity development in college students at Wabash's Ides of August, which showcases faculty scholarship. Matt presented a poster of this work at the Wabash Student Celebration of Research last January. At the same venue, **Chris Kiester '06** presented a poster on his collaborative work with Prof. Bankart on the development of agency and communion during the college years.

Peter Bankart is in Vermont on leave this semester beginning his next book project on Happiness. The 2005-2006 academic year was a productive one for Professor Bankart,

seeing the publication of his latest book *Freeing the Angry Mind* (Harbinger Press) as well as a book chapter in *Comparative Treatments of*



Anger Disorders and a book review of texts on men and masculinity. Peter also gave an invited address on "Mindfulness, Compassion, and Opening the Cognitive Gap" at the 5th International Congress of Cognitive Psychotherapy in Göteborg, Sweden.

Bobby Horton is a social psychologist who is in his 6th year at the college. He has taught the Research Methods and Statistics sequence (Psy 201/202) each of the 5 years that he has



been at the college and continues that practice this year. In addition to the Methods and Statistics sequence, Bobby also teaches the intermediate and advanced social psychology courses (Psy 222 and 322, respectively), introductory psychology (Psy 101), and the occasional all-college course.

Bobby's research focuses on issues pertaining to the self-concept and self-esteem, with a primary focus on the development of narcissism in children. In the past year Bobby has published an article on this topic (with Wabash grads, **Brian Drwecki '03** and **Geoff Bleau '03**) and has submitted a proposal to the

National Science Foundation seeking funding to continue the program of research. Bobby is also currently engaged in projects that investigate the impact of self-reflection on self-evaluation, a program of research that has resulted in one "in press" article in the *Journal of Personality*.

In personal news Bobby and his wife Naomi welcomed their second son, Whitman Stockard Horton, on January 26, 2006. "Whit" joins big brother Marshall (now 2 years old) to make the Horton house a welter of child-centered activity from which the parents rarely want to escape. Naomi balances motherhood with her role as a speech therapist to West Central Indiana's hearing impaired children, a job that takes her to the homes of children who live in four counties surrounding Crawfordsville.

Victor Karandashev is a visiting professor originally from St. Petersburg, Russia. He comes to Wabash with an extensive international research and teaching experience. In recent years, Victor has been lecturing at universities throughout the eastern US, including James Madison University, Hofstra University, Fordham University, Fairleigh Dickinson University, John Carrol University, and throughout Europe, including Frankfurt/M University, Duisburg University, and University of Zurich.



He held a Fulbright Fellowship in the United States and other fellowships at York University, UK, Stockholm University, Sweden, University of Oslo, Norway, and Frankfurt/M University, Germany.

Last year he worked as a visiting professor for Department of Psychology at Berea College, KY. This fall he is teaching introductory and cognitive psychology and senior seminar and will teach introductory and social psychology, as well as advanced cognitive psychology in the spring. His research and teaching interests are quite broad, but mostly in the field of cross-cultural, cognitive psychology and psycholinguistics.

Victor's wife, Tatiana, shares his stay here in Crawfordsville. Their two children – daughter Anna and son Yaroslav - study at St. Petersburg University, Russia.

Neil Schmitzer-Torbert is new in the Psychology department this year, and this fall he is teaching General

Psychology, Research Methods & Statistics and Physiological Psychology. Neil comes to us from his alma mater, Knox College in Illinois, where he taught in the Psychology department for a little over a year. Before that, he earned his



Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Minnesota, where he studied how learning changes the activity of neurons in the rat brain. He is hoping to continue some of this work with students who are interested in psychology and the brain. Barron Hewetson, a junior this year, is working with Neil this semester to use

video games to study how people learn to find their way around new environments. And, in the spring Neil's Advanced Physiological Psychology course will focus on learning and memory, and will be doing an experiments with rats to study how abused drugs change the way we learn new tasks.

On a personal note, Neil comes to Crawfordsville from a small town in Illinois, and he and his family have been adjusting well since they moved here in July. He is married and has a 20-month old daughter who enjoys the sounds of the trains and collecting leaves from the Wabash campus. His wife, Wendy, could do with a few less trains, but enjoys living in a home rather than an apartment, and has enjoyed a warm welcome from the college and community.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE CLASS OF 2006!

Among our 28 graduates this year we have four men working as therapists in the mental health field, five currently enrolled in graduate programs, one enrolled in Wabash College's Fifth year teaching program, one teaching high school, and one completing a summer internship in a Dental Lab.



AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Summa Cum Laude
Douglas Cameron Berry

Magna Cum Laude
Aaron Jay Hollowell
Wesley Aaron Jacks
Cum Laude
John Richard Maddox

Glee Club Senior Award
Steven Anthony Zusack

**D. J. Angus-Sciencetech
Educational Foundation Award**
Garth Thomas Cheek

**Distinguished Senior in
Psychology**
Douglas Cameron Berry

**George Lewes Mackintosh
Fellow**
Douglas Cameron Berry

**Community Service Award for
Outstanding Work**
Raul Gonzalez

Louis Catuogno Piano Prize
Steven Anthony Zusack

**John Maurice Butler Prize for
Scholarship and Character**
Wesley Aaron Jacks

Initiation in Psi Chi
Douglas Cameron Berry
Henry Clay Conner
Philip Wilbon Eubanks
Peter Jared Fenimore
Kevin Michael Hancock
Aaron Jay Hollowell
Wesley Aaron Jacks
Luke Allen Lukasik
John Richard Maddox
Thomas Mark Server

PSYCHOLOGY STUDENTS PRESENTED THEIR RESEARCH

Congratulations to **Charlie Hoogland '06** whose article "Male and Female Fraternity Stereotypes and Their Favorability to Independent and Fraternity Males," was published in the 2006 issue of *Horizons*. The *Horizons'* 2006 Staff included **Luke Lukasik '06**, Senior Editor and Psychology Editor, and **Kyle Sell '06**, Psychology Editor.

At the 2006 Wabash Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work the following psychology majors made presentations ...

Garth T. Cheek '06, Charles H. Ray '06, and Thomas M. Server '06 (C. Thompson) Glucose Tolerance in Rats Given Repeated Glucose Injections during Infancy

Kyle Sell '06 (Horton) Internalization of Higher-Order Values: The Impact of Parenting Techniques on Value Acquisition

Gabriel Surface '06 (Bost) Memory Suggestibility Under Stress

A VIEW FROM THE WORKING WORLD: HOWARD BAILEY '06

Howard is a Transitional Case Manager at Wabash and at Wabash Valley Hospital. He shared the following with us about his new career:

“Wabash Valley Hospital is a great company to help one transition from college into the work field. At Wabash Valley, they also provide a way for employees to excel in other areas by offering internships and helping with graduate school. For those graduate students who are interested in psychology or social work, Wabash Valley offers opportunities to work with children, adults, and adolescents in the mental health field. We provide school and home base case management services. At Wabash Valley, I am a Transitional Case Manager. I work with children, adolescents, and adults. I help people who are trying to adjust to different transitions in their lives such as children going into foster care or out of foster care, children whose parents have recently divorced, teens who needs assistance coping in new school environment, adults who are trying to gain custody of children, and/or low functioning adults who are trying to maintain a job or clean house. A typical day for me is going in the field and visiting clients in their homes. I schedule seeing my clients once per week and as needed, depending on whether the client is low or high maintenance. I also attend court hearings on behalf of clients, offering recommendations to the Judge on what I think is best for the case. After all that is said and done, I head back to the office to ventilate with the other case managers about my day and complete necessary paperwork for my clients. In answer to the question: "How are you enjoying your new position?", I love my job but it can be stressful because coordinating and implementing a treatment plan that is effective for a mental health client can be a little difficult...progress is hard to come by. I've learned that treatment is a step-by-step process. But what I love most about my job is that I get to help others achieve goals that wouldn't be reached without our services. Our mission: We strive to provide the best mental health care in a cost-effective manner.

P.S. My job allows time for me to still be the diving coach at Wabash College☺”

PSYCHOLOGY DEPARTMENT COLLOQUIA 2006-2007

Friday, September 15th: Dr. Scott Powers gave a talk at **12:10 in Baxter 114**. He is a Pediatric Psychologist and Director for Child Behavior and Nutrition Research at University of Cincinnati Children's Medical Center.

Friday, November 3rd: Dr. Arthur Miller is giving a talk at **4:15 in Baxter Hall**. Dr. Arthur Miller is a Social Psychologist and Professor at Miami University (Oxford, Ohio). Dr. Miller is a renowned social psychologist whose "Current research focuses on reactions to diverse theoretical explanations of violence and genocide, specifically in terms of impressions of the theorists' position on the moral responsibility of perpetrators." (Taken from his website) Dr. Miller also

edited the text that Professors Horton and P. Bankart used in their Psychology of Violence course last year. *Reception following at 5:15 in Rogge Lounge*

Friday, February 23rd: Dr. Matt Hertenstein is giving a talk at **4:15 in Baxter 114**. He is a Developmental Psychologist and Assistant Professor at DePauw University. *Reception following at 5:15 in Rogge Lounge*

Monday, March 19: Dr. V. S. Ramachandran, Professor of Psychology at the University of California at San Diego. He has done extensive research in the fields of cognitive psychology and neuroscience.

On Friday, September 15th, Dr. Scott Powers '85, Pediatric Psychologist and Director for Child Behavior and Nutrition Research at University of Cincinnati Children's Medical Center talked to us about his research on nutrition intervention programs with children diagnosed with Cystic Fibrosis.

Mark Ellis '08

It was truly amazing to hear how Dr. Scott Powers, a Wabash Alumnus, is doing his part to change the world. The University of Cincinnati Children's Medical Center is very lucky to have Dr. Powers. His passion is evident through what he has accomplished and how he has grown the Pediatric Psychology Department at the Medical Center. His study on cystic fibrosis and its effects on children's energy will be groundbreaking if all continues to go well over the next few months and years. The best part about his

intervention program is that there is so much teaching and learning going on between the experimenters and the parents. It is key to every child's health and upbringing for the parent to be present and his study makes the parents be aware.

I take for granted putting on and losing weight for my athletics and also how I eat, but these children truly have to learn to adjust their diets and eat as much as possible. The irony of the situation is that America's children are so overweight and it is apparent that these children just

need to eat and eat. The data graphs Dr. Powers showed demonstrated the point that this was not an overnight change in diet; it took 8 weeks of gradually introducing new foods with more energy density. It was amazing how the proof was sitting right in the data.

It's been said that you enter Wabash as a boy and leave a Man. Dr. Powers is no exception. I can't get over how dedicated and in love with his work he is. I can just imagine watching him work with the children because of the sense of humor he seemed to have.

Carl I. Thompson Retires

Carl I. Thompson's retirement at Commencement in 2006 marked the end of his 24th year at Wabash, 19 of those having been spent as chair of the department.

Carl joined the Wabash College faculty in 1982 as full professor and chair of the Psychology Department having already established a productive 15-year long research career at the Milton S. Hershey Medical Center's College of Medicine at the Pennsylvania State University.

By conservative estimate, Carl has delivered more than 1800 lectures at Wabash to beginning psychology students. In fact, at least 60% of all of the college's alumni who have graduated since the mid-1980s have taken at least one course from Carl, and no one can recall a single instance when any natural or man-made disaster has kept the show from going on.

As department chair, Carl has overseen the hiring of at least ten faculty in the psychology department, and the inauguration of the first Distinguished Senior in Psychology award. Carl led the renovation of poorly utilized space on the third floor of Baxter into efficient teaching and laboratory space. He has seen an aviary built in the attic and pigeon feathers flying in the basement lab; he has ministered to students bitten by rats and to faculty struggling with review portfolios.



What is perhaps less well-known about Carl is that during the course of his career he has been among the most highly published of our colleagues. His research interests have ranged from the behavioral effects of methadone exposure in rats, to the causes and effects of various types of eating disorders in obese mice, to the effects of early insulin exposure on subsequent insulin sensitivity. Even in retirement Carl will be writing up the most recent of his research studies just completed with several of his students. These students will join the more than two dozen with whom Carl has already published, the sixteen students he has sponsored at six iterations of the Annual Celebration of Student Research, Scholarship, and Creative Work, and countless others he has mentored in his office and in his capacity as member and chair of the Pre-Health sciences Admissions Committee. No doubt, mentoring so many Wabash students who are now practicing medicine in Indiana will be a real plus in Carl's retirement years.

The College, the Department, and countless alumni owe Carl much for his years of dedicated service, and we will miss him as he leaves to undertake his next life course adventure. We're sure it will include lots of time spent with family and nurturing the newest generation of Thompsons. We wish Carl well and thank him for so many years of contribution to the Wabash mission.

2006 ALUMNI UPDATE

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone #: _____ - _____ - _____

Email: _____

Other Information:

Please send your contact information to Dr. Brenda Bankart at bankartb@wabash.edu

Contact Information:

Brenda Bankart, Dept. Chair
bankartb@wabash.edu
(765) 361-6328

Peter Bankart (*sabbatical*)
bankartp@wabash.edu
(765) 361-6325

Preston Bost (*sabbatical*)
bostp@wabash.edu
(765) 361-6248

Bobby Horton
hortonr@wabash.edu
(765) 361-6476

Victor Karandashev
karandav@wabash.edu
(765) 361-6286

Neil Schmitzer-Torbert
torbertn@wabash.edu
(765)631-6076

Newsletter Layout by David Herring '07 and edited by Psychology Department and David Herring '07.