FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

We are excited to bring you our second issue of the newsletter. We are welcoming our newest cohort of ground MS Psych students - these students hail from Arizona to California, Texas, China, and Dubai!

Our online MS programs continue to grow rapidly; this Fall we have 123 active students in General Psych and 251 in Forensic Psych.

New this year is our colloquium speakers series; we will be bringing in two external speakers to present. Students and faculty nominate and vote on who they want to hear. We have two great speakers this year - Eric Hehman in Fall and Scott Lilienfeld in Spring.

Have a great Fall semester!!
- Kristin D. Mickelson, Program Director

KUDOS!

Congratulations to Mary Burleson, who received an Outstanding Faculty Mentor Award from the Faculty Women’s Association!

Congratulations to Deborah Hall and Jess Salerno who both attained tenure this year!

A big congratulations to Tess Neal for being the 2018 recipient of the American Psych-Law Society (APA Div. 41) Early Career Teaching and Mentoring Award!

Kudos to everyone who presented at conferences over the summer:
Hayley Anderson (IARR); Laura Malouf (IARR); Selena Quiroz (IARR); Samantha Roberts (CogSci); Kaitlyn Schodt (IARR).

WELCOME, 2018 COHORT!

We would like to offer a warm welcome to the incoming 1st-year students!

Here are a few tips and pieces of advice from the 2nd year students:

"Communicate openly with your advisor about where you’re at - like the amount of guidance you require or if you’re feeling lost when things are getting too overwhelming, talk to your advisor about it freely. Many times new students think they need to multitask a lot of things alongside classes to display competence, and it’s easy to forget that they can talk to their advisor (or other faculty) when things are starting to get stressful. Also, give yourself some time to figure things out...take it one step at a time! " - Prachi

"One thing I wish I’d known at the beginning of the program is to branch out and seek advice and mentorship from other professors, not just your advisor! And always keep a good statistician professor or TA in your group." - Sallie

"Failure is not only optional, it’s required. You won’t learn unless you try and make mistakes. Admit when you make a mistake; don’t be afraid to ask for help. Remember: no one else knows what they’re doing." - Laura

"If you feel like you’re the only one who’s stressed and overwhelmed, trust me, you’re not." - Sam

"I see it all perfectly; there are two possible situations – one can either do this or that. My honest opinion and friendly advice is this: do it or do not do it - you will regret both." - Sasha (quote by Søren Kierkegaard)
**FACULTY BIO: NICK SCHWEITZER**

Nick’s research takes a social-cognitive approach to thinking about scientific and expert evidence; specifically, he looks at how people (e.g., jurors, judges, lawyers) evaluate the quality of science-based evidence (e.g., a DNA report, neuroimages that claim to show mental disorders, studies that link a chemical to birth defects). Currently, he is researching how machine learning algorithms that purport to predict re-offending in criminals will affect people’s willingness to parole that person.

Nick attended a small liberal arts college for undergrad where, if it weren’t for his intro to statistics course, he would have nearly failed out! Thankfully, Nick became interested in psychology research through his stats course, which eventually led him to pursue a PhD in Social Psychology at ASU (which was his top choice for grad school). He shared that he generally loved grad school, as “the academic stuff was interesting, of course, but it was also where I met the vast majority of the people who are now my good friends”. After graduating, Nick accepted a job at ASU’s New College where he has now been a faculty member for 10 years. He is also the director and founding member of the Psychology & Law PhD program.

The Psychology & Law PhD program is focused on psychological research that has some relevance to the legal system. Like the MS Psychology program, the Psych & Law program is interdisciplinary in nature in that a variety of frameworks (e.g., social, cognitive) are used to approach research questions. The program accepted 3 students (Hannah Phalen, Kristen McCowan, Emily Denne) into the inaugural cohort, and anticipate having about 15 people in the program at any given time.

Outside of academia, Nick enjoys watching TV (and eating while watching TV), reading random things on the Internet, replaying Legend of Zelda video games, and obsessively cleaning/organizing his house. Occasionally, you might even catch him squeegee-ing his office window!

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Join us for our weekly **Brownbag Presentations** on Wednesdays from 12-1pm in CLCC 199, where you can hear about the research being conducted and join in on the lively Q&A! Remember, attendance is mandatory for all students in the program!

Starting this Fall, we will be having one guest speaker each semester during Brown Bag.

- **Eric Hehman**, Assistant Professor of Psychology at McGill University and director of the Seeing Human Lab, will be joining us on October 10th.
- For the Spring 2019 semester, **Scott Lilienfeld**, Professor of Psychology at Emory College of Arts and Sciences, will be joining us (date TBD). Additionally, we will be having 2 faculty speakers, **Jessica Salerno** and **Nick Duran**, for the Fall semester.

*Mentor-Mentee Facebook Group*

We now have a Mentor-Mentee group! The group will be a place to talk about ideas, share advice and experiences, and learn together! There will also be 3 e-meetings per semester, each covering specific topics. To be added to the Facebook group, please email Kaitlyn (kschodt@asu.edu).

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**GRADUATED STUDENT STORY: AGNES BUCKO**

Agnes graduated from the MS Psychology program in Spring of 2017 and is currently working on her PhD in Exercise Science at the University of South Carolina and as a graduate assistant in the Children’s Physical Activity Research Group and the Behavioral Biomedical Interface Program.

While in the MS Psychology program, Agnes presented at a number of local and national conferences, including SPSP, ASU ISSR, Meeting of the American Pediatric Societies, Midwestern Psychological Association, WPA, and ASU’s School of Behavioral and Social Sciences Symposium. Additionally, Agnes served as the Behavioral Medicine Lab Manager and GPSA Director of Research, and was selected as the class of 2017 Outstanding Graduate Student for the College of Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences and won 1st place at the Fall 2016 ISSR Poster Contest at ASU.

Agnes loved the “small campus” feel of ASU West and the amount of support available to students. She also loved the indisciplinary nature of the program and camaraderie within the program; specifically, she shared that “while everyone was very bright and wanted to do well, the atmosphere was very supportive and welcoming. There was a great sense of camaraderie, and every professor was open to helping you when you asked. The classes within the program were small, so you could get a lot of individual attention if you needed it, and you could ask for more information if you were interested in going beyond what was taught in the classroom. This was also a really great way to create friendships amongst other students in the group, because you interacted with a lot of the same people.”