FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK - KRISTIN D. MICKELSON

Welcome to the new school year! I hope everyone had a relaxing and productive summer! The new year is always bittersweet - we said our goodbyes to the newly graduated MS students who are off to jobs and PhD programs and we say hello to our new incoming cohort of bright, motivated MS and PhD students. Each year, I grow more and more impressed with our current and former students. Here is just a sampling of the publications that these students are authors on (student authors in bold; faculty authors underlined):

CURRENT (MS or PhD students):


ALUMNI:


KUDOS

Samantha Bean who won the "Outstanding Student Presentation in Legal Research" for paper presented at AP-LS

Emily Denne – Law and Psychology

PhD student who received a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship worth $138,000

FIVE of our faculty who won New College Awards!

Outstanding Teaching: Mary Burleson

Outstanding Research or Creative Activity: Tess Neal

Outstanding Graduate Mentor: Kristin Mickelson

Outstanding University Engagement: Nick Schweitzer

Outstanding Service: Liza Hita

FALL KICKOFF EVENT!
**ALUMNI STORY: HANNAH PHALEN**

Hannah graduated from the MS Psychology program in Spring 2018 and worked with Dr. Jessica Salerno. She is currently in her second year in the Psychology and Law Ph.D. program here at Arizona State University and has continued her work with Dr. Salerno.

Her research interests lie in legal decision-making. Specifically, she looks at the way in which emotion and emotional evidence influences decisions by legal actors.

Hannah’s favorite aspect of the MS Psychology program is the interactions with the faculty, as they are all very approachable and easy to talk to. Additionally, the MS Psychology program taught her to self-advocate and how to discuss her research in a concise but intelligent way.

For those applying to PhD programs she advises “plan ahead. Applying to PhD programs is a lot of work and not something you want to leave to the last minute. Also, work closely with your advisor to help find the best program for you!”

In her free time, Hannah enjoys playing Dungeons and Dragons with a group of friends. Additionally, she has a cat and a dog that keep her quite busy!

Hannah has accomplished many things while here at ASU. She is currently working on a large-scale NSF funded jury deliberation study looking at whether emotionally-charged evidence influences jury decisions. She was a dual-enrollment student and completed her law degree while attending graduate school. She just graduated from law school Spring 2019. We are so incredibly proud to be able to call her an alumni of the MS psychology program.

**FALL IN PHOENIX**

- **Pumpkin Days and Corn Maze** at Tolmachoff Farms  
  Friday-Sunday in October, and Thursday-Sunday in November
- **Corn Maze and Fall Festival** at Vertuccio Farms  
  Sept. 30-Nov. 3
- **Four Peaks Oktoberfest at Tempe Town Lake**  
  Oct. 11-13
- **Desperado LGBT Film Festival**  
  Oct. 11-13
- **Dia de los Muertos Festival at Mesa Arts Center**  
  Oct. 26
- **Local First Arizona Fall Fest**  
  Nov. 2
- **Litchfield Park Festival of Arts**  
  November 2-3
- **Tempe Fall Festival of the Arts**  
  Dec. 6-8

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**WELCOME NEW FACULTY: DR. LAURA SMALARZ**

Laura Smalarz joined ASU as a faculty member August 2019. She studied Psychology and Spanish at San Diego State University, and then went onto graduate school at Iowa State University, where she studied Social Psychology under the mentorship of Gary Wells and Stephanie Madon.

Laura’s primary research program investigates eyewitness misidentification, which is a leading cause of wrongful convictions. She is particularly interested in how social factors, such as interactions with investigators or co-witnesses, can contaminate eyewitness identification evidence. Her goal as a researcher is to identify contaminants of criminal evidence and test methods that can be adopted by the legal system to prevent contamination and reduce the likelihood of future wrongful convictions.

Laura has many accomplishments to be proud of! She was able to put herself through college and get out debt free by lots of late nights serving tables. As far as an academic, she completed a fellowship at the Innocence Project in New York City. She is also most proud of getting a job at ASU!

Outside of academia, “I like to run, listen to music, play volleyball (even though I’m not very good), dance salsa, and go camping. I also love dogs. If you have a dog, please stop by! And even if you don’t have a dog, I hope you’ll stop by. I’m happy to be here and I’m looking forward to getting to know everyone!”