Once again, the Psychology faculty have been recognized by the Saint Joseph’s community and beyond for their professional excellence. This year, Dr. Clare Conry-Murray received an SJU Faculty Merit Award, recognizing the excellence of her scholarship. Dr. Jodi Mindell received the Outstanding Educator Award from the Sleep Research Society. Please congratulate Drs. Conry-Murray and Mindell for their impressive accomplishments!

I am also pleased to announce that Dr. Pat Garrigan received a much-deserved promotion to the rank of professor. Pat’s appointment will begin in the fall of 2017. Please join me in congratulating Pat for this promotion, which represents many years of hard work!

Also of note, Dr. Elizabeth Becker was recently appointed to be the director of Saint Joseph’s Behavioral Neuroscience minor, taking over for Dr. Philip Schatz who served as director for the first 6 years of the minor. This interdisciplinary minor is sponsored by the Psychology Department. We wish Dr. Becker the best of luck in growing the minor!

If you are in Post Hall this summer, you will notice construction in progress on the third floor. The project is the renovation of Post 302 into a flexible, state-of-the-art computer classroom. The ultra-flexible seating and the extreme technology will be used by the Psychology faculty to support the most innovative teaching imaginable!

2017 PSYCHOLOGY AWARD WINNERS

Maria Spirk was the recipient of the Henrik S. Arnesen Psychology Award. A Psychology major, Ms. Spirk also completed a minor in Justice and Ethics in Law. A Presidential Scholarship recipient, Maria made Dean’s List for eight consecutive semesters. She also participated in Saint Joseph’s Honors Program. Maria is a member of Phi Beta Kappa, Psi Chi, the international Psychology honor society, and Alpha Sigma Nu, the Jesuit honor society. She served as Opinions Editor for The Hawk, winning the prestigious Keystone Press Award for Editorial Writing. Her ultimate goals include a career in government and a law degree.

Michelle King was this year’s recipient of the PLS Psychology award. Michelle graduated in September 2016 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. Prior to SJU, Michelle earned an Associate’s degree in Health Studies from Delaware County Community College. Michelle is a member of the Alpha Sigma Lambda Honor Society and the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. During her time at SJU, Michelle was an active and highly valued member of Dr. Matthew Anderson’s psychology student lab group, assisting in the conduction of a variety of research projects related to animal behavior. The majority of her work with Dr. Anderson has focused on avian behavior, with a particular emphasis on Caribbean flamingos. Michelle works full-time as a Program and Activities Coordinator for a residential senior community and plans to pursue graduate work in psychology.

Linda Muller received this year’s Graduate Psychology Award. Linda matriculated to Saint Joseph’s University in 2015 following completion of an undergraduate degree in Psychology at Ursinus College. As a student in the Psychology Master’s Program, Linda earned a 4.0 GPA while completing her thesis work on potential environmental factors that may contribute to parental attentiveness and serving as a teaching assistant. Linda plans to gain more research experience prior to applying for further graduate study.
Q&A with Christina Rossetti, Psychology Graduate, Class of 2017

What kind of research experiences did you engage in while at SJU? Over the summer of my sophomore year, I was Dr. Conry-Murray's research assistant in her Developmental Psychology Lab. I conducted interviews with children, coded interviews, and utilized SPSS statistical software during my time as a research assistant. I was also a research assistant for Ariel Williamson at CHOP in the sleep lab during my junior year. I obtained this internship from Dr. Mindell, who is Ariel's mentor at CHOP. I worked at CHOP for one year and utilized REDCap and EPIC to code patient files for Ariel's research project.

Did you do internships or study abroad? Other than assisting at CHOP and working in Dr. Conry-Murray’s lab, I interned at Rossetti & DeVoto under Louis DeVoto in the summer of 2015 and interned at Burlington County Probation Division in the summer of 2016. At Rossetti & DeVoto, I conducted legal research on LexisNexis, created medical timelines and trial boards. I also attended seminars, depositions, and mediations. At Burlington County I completed the duties of a full time probation officer for 1000 cases. I also got to attend court periodically and sit in on sessions with the mental health probation officer, which was particularly interesting given my psychology background. I did not study abroad for an entire semester, but my freshman year I went on the Spain Study Tour as a part of my Spanish minor. This was an experience that allowed me to step outside my comfort zone and gain valuable knowledge about another culture and myself.

Any other special experiences at SJU that helped you? Getting involved with service as much as possible on campus definitely fueled my passion for helping disadvantaged populations. I was on the Executive Board of SJU Make-A-Wish, volunteered at the ELS Language Center, and was a mentor in the Big Brothers Big Sister Program. Participating in these organizations was a highlight of my SJU experience, because I got to witness firsthand how one person can make a direct impact on the lives of many.

Where else did you get in to law school? I was accepted to Delaware Law, Rutgers, Villanova, and Drexel all with full tuition scholarships or the highest scholarship offered. I received a half tuition scholarship to Temple, and I was waitlisted at Penn.

Why did you choose Villanova? I felt most at home on Villanova's campus and wanted to attend a law school with a strong sense of community like Saint Joe's. Villanova Law has a strong Health Law program, which will allow me to work with the mentally ill and other disadvantaged populations in clinics as a law student. The variety of courses offered and strong alumni network also played a role in my decision.

What kind of law do you want to specialize in? While I am not 100% sure what type of law I would like to practice, I know that I want to represent disadvantaged populations. Right now I am most interested in health law, because it will allow me to tie my passion for both psychology and the law into one career. I want to make a direct impact on others and represent those who are underrepresented.

How do you think psychology will help you in law? Psychology will play a huge role in my legal career. I would like to represent those who are mentally ill and mistreated. A psychology background is particularly beneficial for this kind of work, however, I believe that psychology permeates all aspects of the law. From jury selection to relating and empathizing with clients to body language when presenting a case on trial, an understanding of psychology is very advantageous in all parts of the legal field.

Psychology Majors Inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society:

Congratulations to the following Psychology Majors, inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society, the nation's oldest academic honor society, founded in December of 1776:

Juniors: Emily McClellan, Emma Seeley, Matthew Unger

Seniors: Mary Kate Deacon, Amanda Leithead, Christina Rossetti, Maria Spirk
Psi Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology, was founded in 1929 with the hope of engaging students in the field of psychology, fostering academic excellence and advancing the science of psychology. The name, Psi Chi, represents the Greek words *Psyche* and *Cheires*. *Psyche*, which symbolizes the mind, suggests scholarship and enrichment of our minds. *Cheires*, which symbolizes hands, stands for fellowship and research. Both of these symbols are placed at the center of the Psi Chi seal, which indicates that scholarship and fellowship are at the center of the Psi Chi mission. The Saint Joseph’s chapter of Psi Chi seeks to uphold the mission of the greater society by hosting various events that will educate students, provide students with resources and will unite those with a strong interest in the field of psychology. The Faculty of the Psychology Department offer their congratulations to the following students as well as their families!

**Sophomores:** Angela Barone, Lauren Critelli, Abigail Carlino, Brittany Keim, John Kilkenny, Amelia Martinie, Stephanie Mignon, Caitlin O’Connor, Margaret O’Day, Kaitlin Ryan, Claire Sweeney, Allison Sene

**Juniors:** Angelo d’Antonio-Bertagnolli, Nicolina Bickhart, Olivia Cicalese, Alexander Gill, Julia Krasny, Emily McClellan, Conor Neville, Cecelia Rubertone, Patrick Ryan, Emma Seely, Paulina Syracuse

**Seniors:** Michael Ayella-Silver, Kylie Newman, Jamie Palmer, Ariana Pinto, Maria Spirk, Kayla Winters, Lauren Volpone

**Graduate Students:** Keri Gladhill, Jennifer Hill, Autumn Jones, Amanda Schlosnagle

**2017 Psi Chi Officers:** Nicholas Ambrulavage (President), Kristen Lanzilotta (Vice President), Emma Seely (Secretary), Conor Neville (Treasurer)

**Psi Chi Inductees**

**Freshmen:**

- Angela Barone
- Lauren Critelli
- Abigail Carlino
- Brittany Keim
- John Kilkenny
- Amelia Martinie
- Stephanie Mignon
- Caitlin O’Connor
- Margaret O’Day
- Kaitlin Ryan
- Claire Sweeney
- Allison Sene

Dr. Jodi Mindell launched the website BabySleep.com, which provides comprehensive and expert-based information on baby and toddler sleep that is freely available to the public. It was created by the Pediatric Sleep Council (chaired by Dr. Mindell), a group of international experts who want to provide accurate and up-to-date information on sleep in young children for parents and caregivers. They also kicked off the creation of Baby Sleep Day (every March 1st, to bring attention to the importance of a good night's sleep.

Dr. Elizabeth Becker participated in the 4th Annual Brain Awareness Week Event, in March 2017. 5th and 6th graders from Gompers Elementary School came to SJU to learn about the brain.

Dr. Philip Schatz served as a Panel Member for the topic "What is the difference in concussion management for children as compared to adults" at the 5th International Consensus Conference on Concussion in Sport in Berlin Germany in October 2016.
Recent Faculty Publications:


Mindell JA, Lee C & Sadeh A. (2017). Young child and maternal sleep in the Middle East. Sleep Medicine, 32, 75-82.


Note: Bold denotes SJU student co-authors

Alumni Notes:

Amy Phillips (BS 2013, MS 2014) was part of a family tradition of attending SJU. Her grandfather, her parents, and her several brothers (the last one graduated in 2016) were all Hawks. Amy’s mother was even a psychology major! Amy is currently a Project Director at Kantar Health, doing marketing research for pharmaceutical companies. Amy appreciates her research and statistical training from our program which put her skill set above many of her marketing colleagues.

Have News or Suggestions?

Feel free to contact the editors with any information, updates, or other material:
Philip Schatz: ppschatz@sju.edu
Alex Skolnick: askolnic@sju.edu
Undergraduate & Graduate Psychology Students Present Their Work!

In 2016-2017, Student Research was presented widely at PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARLY meetings


Anastasio PA, Gray M. (2017, May). “I’m not nice and neither are you:” Psychological entitlement and the role of assumed similarity in person perception. Poster presented at the annual Association for Psychological Science conference, Boston, MA.


Westhead S, Ciampaglia AM, Shih JH. (October, 2016). Examining the impact of problem-solving focused support versus co-rumination on negative affect. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Association for Behavioral Cognitive Therapies, New York, NY.


Undergraduate & Graduate Psychology Students Present Their Work!

In 2016-2017, Students also presented at local conferences around Philadelphia, including Saint Joseph’s own Sigma Xi Conference

(Below are Student projects not already listed above)

Annual Philadelphia Psi Chi Research Day at the University of Pennsylvania in April, 2017

**1st Place winner of BEST POSTER**

Leithad A, Becker, E. Transmission of Parental Behavior in the California Mouse.
**3rd Place Winner of BEST POSTER**

Deacon MK, Skolnick A. Emotions and Risks when Traveling Abroad.


Lanzilotta K, Skolnick A. Women who do not Say “Yuck!” Are Women Evaluated Differently based on their Response to a Disgusting Situation?

Rubertone C, Bickhart N, D’Cruz G, McManus S, Nieves S, Toth F, Skolnick A. Does Disgust Keep People Safe from Illness?

Annual Sigma Xi Conference at Saint Joseph’s University in April, 2017


Melendez G, Anderson M. Learning and Memory in Budgerigars via the Novel Object Recognition Task.