Recent Publications


Graduate Students: Greenberg, LM; Salber, KE.


Recent Presentations


Culnan, E., Mosti, M., Zamzow, J., Daly, B. P., Grandner, M., & Kloss, J. D. (2014, June). An examination of social jetlag on a college campus. Poster presented at the Associated Professional Sleep Society Annual Conference, Minneapolis, MN.


AIMEE HILDENBRAND: RECIPIENT OF THE PAIN SIG POSTER AWARD (SPPAC 2014)


**King, C., & LaDuke, C.** (Chairs). (2014, March). *Advice on early career success from successful early career professionals*. Panel session to be conducted at the meeting of the American Psychology-Law Society, New Orleans, LA.


**Dr. Daly & Elizabeth Nicholls:** Elizabeth was awarded the APA Division 54 Diversity Poster Award at the Society of Pediatric Psychology.


Awards and Grants

Alexandra P. Greenfield, Elise M. Turner and Kristina E. Patrick won first place ($75) in a competition at the Center for Academic Excellence’s Second Annual Showcase of Teaching. The poster was titled The Adaptation of Kellerization to an Introductory Level Psychology Course.

Anna Graefe was awarded the John E. Gordon Dissertation Award through the Philadelphia Neuropsychology Society. This $1,500 grant will be used to support her dissertation, “The role of cognition in simulated driving behavior in young adults with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder.”

Aimee Hildenbrand received a Pain SIG Poster Award at the 2014 Society of Pediatric Psychology (APA Div. 54) Annual Conference in March 2014.

Elizabeth Nicholls won the APA Division 54 Diversity Poster Award for her poster, "Depression, anxiety, and caregiver burden among children with spinal cord lesions and their families in Colombia, South America. The poster was presented at the Society of Pediatric Psychology Annual Conference, March 29, 2014.

Heidi Strohmaier was awarded research grants from the American Academy of Forensic Psychology ($1,000) and the American Psychology-Law Society ($750) to fund her dissertation, “Successful Psychopathy: Do Abnormal Selective Attention Processes Observed in Criminal Psychopaths Replicate Among Non-Criminal Psychopaths?” Her dissertation committee is chaired by Dr. Dave DeMatteo.

Heidi Strohmaier received an award ($150) for Best Student Presentation (novel research category) at the 2014 Annual Conference of the American Psychology-Law Society for her paper, "Incidence and correlates of animal maltreatment in a community sample.”

Jessica Zamzow was awarded the Sleep Research Society Abstract Merit Based Award and the Office of Research Travel Award, Drexel University.

Kimmie Konka won second place in the Poster Category, Graduate Humanities & Social Sciences, at Drexel College of Arts & Sciences Research days for her poster titled "Effects of Postnatal Exposure to Fluoxetine & Investigating Alternative Treatments of Postpartum Depression".

Leah Brogan was awarded $250 by the Drexel University Office of Graduate Studies Travel Award Subsidy Program to present the paper entitled Developmental appropriateness of the DSM-V substance-related disorders criteria as applied to justice-involved youth at the annual meeting of the American Psychology-Law Society in New Orleans, LA.
**Lindsey Peterson** was awarded $225 by the Drexel University Office of Graduate Studies Subsidy Program for her project "Treating anger and aggression: Mechanisms of action in the Juvenile Justice Anger Management (JJAM) treatment for girls." She was also awarded a $1500 dissertation grant from the American Academy of Forensic Psychology to fund her dissertation, "Answering the Ultimate Legal Question: A Survey of Lawyers and Psychologists."

**Mark McCurdy** was selected for the Student Poster Award and received $1,000 on behalf of the Society for Clinical Neuropsychology of the American Psychological Association (APA) for his project, "Predicting neurocognitive and neurobehavioral outcome following childhood brain tumor". Mark was also awarded the Student Travel Award by the APA ($300) for this project.

**Megan Murphy** was awarded the APA Student Travel Award 2014, $300.

**Meghann Galloway** was awarded the APA Student Travel Award, $300.

**Samantha Winter** was invited and funded by the University of Michigan to attend their course entitled "Training Course in fMRI."

**Stephanie Manasse** was awarded the $500 Adelaide M. Delluva Student Travel Award from the Association for Women in Science - Philadelphia Chapter to support travel to the International Conference on Eating Disorders.

**Taylor Agate** was awarded $300 by the Council on Brain Injury for his project, "Post-Acute Outcomes of Concussion."
Service

Aimee Hildenbrand was elected to serve as the Graduate Student Representative for the Drexel University Department of Psychology.

Alice Thornewill was elected Vice President of the American Constitution Society and Secretary of the Criminal Law Society.

Chris King was chosen as the American Psychological Association of Graduate Students Division Student Representative Network (APAGS-DSRN) Outstanding Division Award (chaired APA Division 41 Student Committee and authored award application) ($1000).

Daniel Smith began his final year as volunteer coordinator and student member of the conference committee for the National Academy of Neuropsychology.

Debbie Green continues to serve as the Volunteer Coordinator for the American Academy of Clinical Neuropsychology (2009-present).

Elizabeth Nicholls was chosen to serve as a Student Advisory Council member for APA Division 54—Society for Pediatric Psychology.

Jaymes Fairfax-Colombo is serving as Dean's Scholar for Torts for 2014 Summer Law School session, Inaugural Lead Editor of Drexel Law Review Online and is a member of the Symposium Committee for Drexel Law Review, with Symposium entitled: Beyond Reproach: Becoming an Expert on Expert Witnesses.

Mark McCurdy was nominated as the Annual Programs Representative of the Student Liaison Committee for the International Neuropsychological Society and will help coordinate student-focused events for the society's future meetings.

Meghann Galloway received recognition for outstanding service as a Rape Crisis Counselor on the RAINN online hotline.

Peter Hitchcock was chosen as the Associate Editor, Frontiers in Evolutionary Psychology and Neuroscience.

Taylor Agate was chosen as the MS Representative
Personal News

**Alexa Bonacquisti** married Zach Powers on April 26, 2014!

**Danielle Brinckman** married Chris Bosenbark on June 28, 2014!

**Elizabeth Nicholls** got engaged to fiancé, Billy Walker!

**Leah Brogan** got engaged to fiancé, Kyle Murray, on February 13, 2014. The two are set to get married in the fall of 2015!
Other Accomplishments

Alice Thornewill finished her first year in law school in the top 10% of her class and organized a Death Penalty Panel at Drexel Law School this Spring.

Chris King successfully defended his thesis and graduated from law school.

Daniel Smith successfully defended his master’s thesis and obtained his MS degree.

Danielle Brinckman successfully proposed her dissertation, “Attention and Executive Functioning Profiles in Children Following Perinatal Arterial Ischemic Stroke,” in May 2014.


Elizabeth Nicholls successfully proposed her dissertation in February 2014, entitled "Relationships between Parent Problem-Solving Abilities and Child and Parent Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Symptoms after Pediatric Injury."

Emily Haney-Caron successfully defended her thesis, "The relationships between academic achievement and the independent functioning, emotion regulation, and decision making components of developmental immaturity among adolescent girls in residential juvenile justice facilities” on April 28, 2014.

Jessica Zamzow successfully defended her thesis, "A Comparison of Chronotype on Indices of Executive Function and Impulsivity” and proposed her dissertation, “An Examination of the Association between Sleep and Neurocognitive Function in Multiple Sclerosis.”

Joshua McKeever won the Joseph Becker Research Award at his internship at the University of Washington.

Joshua McKeever successfully defended his dissertation, entitled "Prospective Memory Acquisition in Multiple Sclerosis," on May 20th, 2014.

Kristin Salber matched for internship at the Syracuse VA

Megan Murphy successfully defended her master’s thesis entitled "A Survey of Forensic Mental Health Professionals with Experience Conducting Criminal Responsibility Evaluations." She also graduated from law school and completed a law co-op at the Montgomery County Public Defender’s Office.
Meghan Colosimo successfully proposed her master’s thesis at the end of April.

Peter Hitchcock successfully proposed his master's thesis.

Samantha Winter successfully proposed her master's thesis entitled "EEG Prefrontal Asymmetry in Weight Gain Prone College Students" on May 30th, 2014

Stephanie Manasse successfully defended her master's thesis, "An Investigation of the Neurocognitive Profile of Binge Eating Disorder."
Welcome New Faculty!

**Fengqing (Zoe) Zhang, PhD** is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology. Prior to joining Drexel University, she obtained her Ph.D. degree in Statistics at Northwestern University. Her general research interests lie in neuroimaging data analysis and quantitative research methods including hierarchical models, multivariate analysis, generalized linear models, data mining, and Bayesian modeling. She is particularly passionate about statistical modeling and methodological development for social, behavioral, and biomedical related problems. She collaborates with the Communication Neural Systems Research Group in School of Communication and the Applied Neuromarketing Group at Northwestern University. Some of the working topics include brain decoding, fMRI data analysis, segmentation of MRI images with white matter lesions, imaging mass spectrometry data biomarker selection and classification. In addition to these projects, Dr. Zhang collaborates with other faculty in the department on projects related to treatment development for weight loss maintenance and eating disorders. Dr. Zhang teaches both graduate and undergraduate courses in the Department of Psychology, including Data Mining in Behavioral Research, and Introduction to Biostatistics in Psychology. Other potential courses include Neuroimaging Data Analysis, Applied Bayesian Inference, and Meta-analysis.

**Nancy Raitano Lee, PhD**, is a child clinical psychologist whose research focuses on the cognitive and neuroanatomic correlates of developmental learning disorders. Much of her work has focused on the neuropsychology and neuroanatomy of Down syndrome and sex chromosome aneuploidies. She has also completed research on the comorbidity between speech, language, and reading disorders as well as the neuroanatomic correlates of individual differences in cognitive abilities, such as vocabulary knowledge and executive functioning. A final area of research and clinical interest for Dr. Lee is in the identification of comorbid autism spectrum disorders in children with different genetic syndromes, particularly Down syndrome. Dr. Lee’s teaching interests fit largely into two areas – the study of the developing child and using neuropsychology as a tool to diagnose developmental learning disorders. Thus, Dr. Lee looks forward to teaching classes such as developmental psychology, abnormal child psychology, neuropsychological case conceptualization, child assessment, and lastly genes and behavior. Dr. Lee is also very interested in providing clinical training and supervision to doctoral students, particularly in the diagnosis of learning and attentional disorders as well as intellectual disability and autism spectrum disorder. She would also enjoy supervising cases involving the treatment of childhood emotional and behavioral disorders, particularly within the context of comorbid developmental disability.
An Interview with Dr. James Herbert, Interim Provost of Drexel University

The Department of Psychology is excited to announce that Dr. James D. Herbert was selected to serve as interim provost of Drexel University for the 2014-2015 academic year. Dr. Herbert has headed the Department of Psychology since 2012 and directs the Anxiety Treatment and Research Program. He previously served as associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences and director of clinical training for the doctoral program in clinical psychology, and in 2008-09 served a very successful term as interim head of the Department of Biology. He was president of the faculty of MCP Hahnemann University at the time of the merger with Drexel and played a key role in forging the University we know today. He has published more than 150 papers and conducted NIH-funded research.

1) What exactly is the role of the Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs?

The Provost is charged with directing the academic operations of the entire university. This entails everything from managing the academic budget, overseeing the development of new programs and the ongoing evaluation of existing ones, overseeing curricular matters, developing and implementing various policies affecting students and faculty, and space and research infrastructure development and allocation. The Provost works very closely with the President, Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer, and the other Senior Vice Presidents to develop and implement the university’s strategic plan. The deans of each college report to the Provost, as do a team of Associate Provosts, each of whom oversees specific areas of the academic mission.

2) What initiatives will you be working on during your tenure as interim provost?

Drexel is not the kind of place where a Dean or Provost serving on an interim basis can simply “keep the trains running on time,” so-to-speak. Our university is far too dynamic and forward-moving for that approach. I am still in a transitional role, and will not assume full responsibilities as Interim Provost until mid-September; I am currently working closely with Provost Mark Greenberg, who has been very helpful in getting me up-to-speed during this transition period. Nevertheless, some of the areas I will focus on are already becoming clear. For example, we need to clarify and strengthen the working relationship between the Provost’s Office and the Offices of the President and the CFO. We need to examine the day-to-day operations of the Provost’s Office itself to maximize efficiencies and best practices. Together with Randy Deike, our new Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Success and others, I plan to
undertake an analysis of the Drexel network (i.e., the satellite campus in Sacramento and our partnerships with local community colleges) to clarify the mission and functioning of these programs. At the President’s request, I am currently completing a white paper on steps we can take to enhance faculty retention. Building on the Program Alignment and Review process initiated by Provost Greenberg and working closely with the Faculty Senate, we need to examine the organizational structure of various academic units. We need to strengthen the process by which academic (and especially research) space is developed and allocated in order to maximize the utility of limited resources, and to foster cross-disciplinary collaborations. A major project over the next two years is the rollout of our new “response centered management” (RCM) budget process, which represents a radical departure from our traditional budgeting practices. We will need to work very closely with the CFO’s Office to ensure that the RCM model results in its intended consequences, while anticipating and mitigating any negative impacts. Working with Vice Provost Lucy Kerman, the deans, and others, we need to strengthen the connections between the academic programs and the initiatives and partnerships with our local neighborhoods in order to help realize President Fry’s vision of Drexel becoming the nation’s most civically-engaged university. These are just a few of the projects that I anticipate over the coming year; I’m sure that others will also develop in the coming weeks and months. Overall, my goal is to continue enhancing Drexel’s academic success, and to set the stage for the recruitment of the best possible permanent Provost to lead our academic mission in the coming years.

3) What does your promotion mean for the College of Arts and Sciences, and the psychology department in particular?

As Provost, my job is to promote the functioning of the entire university, without favoritism to any particular unit. Nevertheless, my experience as a faculty member, Department Head, and Associate Dean working with Dean Murasko has sensitized me to the academic perspective in ways that have already proven valuable in the current position. Moreover, I am well aware of the challenges and opportunities faced by the College of Arts and Sciences, most of which it turns out are not unique but are shared by other colleges and schools. A particularly exciting project is the re-envisioning of the organizational structure of the social sciences and humanities departments (outside of psychology), and I am hopeful we can make concrete progress on this initiative over the coming year. In terms of the psychology department, we are fortunate that the department is in relatively good shape. The pressing space issues we faced for over a dozen years are now resolved with the renovation of Stratton Hall. Our budget is adequate for our core mission, despite the recent university-wide reductions. We have a fantastic team of program directors who not only run their respective programs extremely well, but who closely coordinate their efforts with one another. Kirk Heilbrun is ideally suited to step back into the role of department head during my service in the Provost’s Office, and I can’t thank him enough for his able leadership. Most importantly, our faculty is competent, hardworking, and collegial, which in turn sets the stage for success for our students.
4) What is the day-to-day job of the Provost like?

I typically begin the day by working through any pressing emails that have come through overnight. My meeting schedule begins between 8:00 and 9:00 AM and consists of back-to-back meetings, typically in half-hour increments; these meetings continue until around 5:30 PM. In a sense, my workday then begins around 5:30, when I start tackling the day’s email and phone calls. No two days are alike. In addition to scheduled meetings regarding issues involving research, budgets, space, academic programs, etc., there is also a great deal of troubleshooting of unexpected issues that arise every day. For me personally, the most gratifying part of the job is actually getting things done – that is, being able to bring an issue or problem into focus, and then seeing it through to resolution. Of course, it’s always a team effort, and we are fortunate at Drexel to have extremely talented senior leadership with whom I am enjoying working. As a lifelong student, it’s very important to me that I continue to learn. Despite the workload and often breakneck pace of the job, the thing I appreciate the most is the ability the position affords to learn new things each day and to grow professionally and personally.