


Psycho Philes


University of Houston Department of Psychology
A Newsletter for Faculty, Students, and Staff


Issue 99:4


April 1999


Reminders


 **Graduate Students:** If you are on TF/TA/RA support for the summer, you must complete a Graduate Student Agreement and a tuition waiver ASAP. See Caroline Watkins in the main office.


 **May 3:** Last day of classes.


 **May 5-13:** Final examination period.


 **May 14:** Official closing for Spring 1999

 **May 14:** Staff meeting, 10:00 a.m. at the Clinic (room to be announced). Contact Ashraf Shafiei for agenda items.

 **May 14:** Deadline for applications to the Social Sciences Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects.

 **May 15:** College of Social Sciences commencement ceremony.

 **May 19:** Faculty Meeting, 3:00 p.m., Room 135.

 Use a **tax-exempt form** when making University purchases. See Ashraf Shafiei or Yolizma Zapata in the main office for details.

News and Notes

❖ New Department Chairman

Effective May 1, 1999 **Dr. John Vincent** will become the new Chairman of the Department. Dr. Vincent had previously been serving as both the Associate Chairman and the Director of Clinical Training. **Dr. Marco J. Mariotto** will be leaving his role as Chairman (a position he held for 4 and ½ years) to accept the position of Dean of Graduate Studies for the University. The Department congratulates and wishes him well in this new venture.

From the Academic Office

☑ Courses not in the Summer schedule:

TIME AND DAY	COURSE # PSYC	SECT#	TITLE	INSTRUCTOR
SUMMER 1				
10:00-1:00 MW	2301	06870	INTRO METHODS LAB	Neighbors
12:00-2:00 MTWTH	4322	05510	BEHAVIOR MODIFICATION	Harris
8:00-10:00 MTWTH	4325	06874	PSYC OF PERSONALITY	Stephens
ARRANGE	8397	06876	TOPICS IN DEV PSYC	Siegel
ARRANGE	7329	06877	SEMINAR IN CLINICAL PSYC	Babcock
SUMMER 3				
ARRANGE	4397	05532	VIOLENCE-WOMEN	Jouriles
ARRANGE	6396	06878	PRACTICAL APP DEVELOPMENTAL PSYC	Naus
ARRANGE	6397	06879	TOPICS IN DEVELOPMENTAL PSYC	Power
SUMMER 4				
10:00-1:00 MW	2301	06871	INTRO METHODS LAB	Neighbors
8:00-10:00 MTWTH	4321	06872	ABN PSYCHOLOGY	Daza
2:00-4:00 MTWTH	4325	06875	PSYC OF PERSONALITY	Stephens

✔ **Teaching Evaluations for Spring 1999:** The official evaluations arrived April 22nd from the Dean's Office and they are available for pick up in the academic affairs office. The completed evaluations are due back by Friday, April 30th. Please note the staff of the academic affairs office will need to get the appropriate evaluation for the individual picking up the material. Please make arrangements to pick up the materials in advance, since the evaluations will need to be signed out. The completed evaluations must be returned to the academic affairs office by a student representative and signed in by a staff member of the academic affairs office.

✔ **Final Grade Sheets** Grade sheets will go out sometime within the first two weeks of May. The grades must be completed and turned in within 72 hours after the scheduled final exam. If anything happens to the grade sheets (i.e. lost, ink marks, or rips), the forms must be re-typed on a clean form. Students cannot be added on the final grade sheets. Students must have a non-academic reason for dropping (i.e. hospitalized, family death, mental institution, and other very serious situations). If a student must be dropped, there is a special drop form, which must be completed by the instructor on each student wishing to be dropped and attached to the grade sheets.

✔ **Graduation Volunteers Needed:** It is that time of year again when commencement rolls around. The Psychology Academic Affairs Office needs volunteers to help for one hour on Saturday, May 15th from 5-6 p.m. We have about 300 students (both undergraduate and graduate) participating in the commencement ceremony and all of them must be lined up alphabetically. Dr. Patti Walden will be providing a Pizza Party complete with Cheesecake for the volunteers who participate for the commencement ceremony. We will take a poll among the volunteers as to what date after the ceremony would be best. If you are interested in helping, please email Tricia (tmspinks@uh.edu).

✔ **Graduation Participants:** You must be at Hofheinz Pavilion by 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 15th, for lining up. The ceremony will begin at 6 p.m. and everyone must be ready to go.

✔ **Special Problems for Graduate Students:** These courses are for research and a general petition must be filled out for registration. The general petition must include the description of the research being done and signed by a psychology faculty member (not adjunct). The signed forms must be turned in the academic affairs office 124-Heyne.

✔ **Special Problems for Undergraduate Students:** These courses are for research or special assignments for undergraduates with a GPA=3.00 or higher and completion of PSYC 2301 Introduction to Methods. General petitions must be filled out for registration. The general petition must include the description of the work being done and signed by a psychology faculty member (not adjunct or a graduate students). The signed forms must be turned in the academic affairs office 124-Heyne.

✔ **Book Orders for Summer and Fall 1999:** Book orders are due to Sherry by Friday, April 30th. This is a quick turn around, but keep in mind the sooner the books are ordered, the less difficulty with getting the books on the shelves for the students.

✔ **Desk Copies:** Instructor and TAs who need desk copies, please come by the academic affairs office to fill out the desk copy request form.

✔ **Thank You Peer Advisors:** From April 12th – 23rd, the Psychology Academic Affairs Office has had to pleasure to have the first semester of Peer Advisors. We would like to thank and recognize the individual Peer Advisors who helped many students and not to mention the office. These Peer Advisors are Rachaeya Ruaysamran (Peer Advisor Chair), Ken Abbott, Jr., Nada Balius, Michelle Colvard, Michelle Long-Teague, Brett Needham, Michael Read, Caroline Sorensen, and Allan Stoler. We look forward to the next Peer Advising session in the Fall semester. Thank you all for your hard work, many students really appreciated you and so did the Psychology Academic Affairs Office.

✔ **Fulltime Status for Graduate Students:** As a reminder, the following Graduate Full-Time Status Policy is in effect for all Psychology graduate students. Students in the Clinical Psychology Program, are required to take 12 semester credit hours each long semester, and 9 semester credit hours during the summer for the first four years of graduate students. Thereafter, full-time status will be maintained by registering for the minimum number of hours required for full-time doctoral status at the University (9 semester credit hours for each long semester and 6 semester credit hours for summer). For students in the other three department doctoral programs, the full-time enrollment requirement is 12 semester credit hours during each long semester and 9 credit hours for summer for the first two years of graduate student or until the student has finished the departmental core courses. After completion of the core courses, full-time status will be maintained by registering for the minimum number of hours required for full-time doctoral status at the University

(9 semester credit hours for each long semester and 6 semester credit hours for summer).

A general petition initiates approval for the following full-time equivalency exceptions and certifies that a student has completed the requirements as stipulated above. General petitions are available through the department's academic affairs office.

Exceptions

- 1) Graduate students in their last semester and taking only dissertation hours may register for 3 credit hours.
- 2) Clinical graduate students engaged in full-time internships may register for 3 credit hours during their internship.
- 3) Other unusual detailed in a memo directed to the department chairman form the appropriate program director.

Exceptions must be submitted at least 4 weeks prior to the official 1st day of classes to ensure that approval at all levels has been granted. Students are responsible for understanding all UH and departmental policies. We will be checking graduate students' enrollment status in the coming week. All students not in compliance will be contacted. Non compliance may result in immediate termination of employment or there action.

GSC Announcements

The GSC constitution and web page are ready! We hope to have the former mounted on the GSC bulletin board and the latter uploaded on the Psychology Dept. web page as soon as possible. Thanks to Amy McQueen, we also have standardized sign-up forms for potential research participants. Under consideration are inter-program brown bag luncheons. If we have faculty and student support for such an exchange of ideas, the GSC is willing to help organize it. Although we will not meet as regularly in the summer, we will continue to represent student needs. So please feel free to contact any of us. Any donations of general reference items (e.g. journals, extra desk copies, etc.) for the GSC office (122b) will be greatly appreciated.

Aruni Nanayakkara

THE GIF FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q: What is the GIF?

A: The Graduate/Instructional Facility and it is intended for psychology graduate student/lecturer use only. It replaced departmental plans for a bullpen (for teaching assts. and fellows) through negotiations conducted by the GSC. In return the department has certain expectations on how we put the GIF to use.

Q: Where is it located?

A: In suite 122 Heyne, former home of the academic advising office.

Q: What does it consist of?

A: A computer lab which has our mailboxes, GSC office/lounge 122b, Conference room 122a. The computer lab will have seven new computers and a printer.

Q: What is the undergraduate computer lab?

A: The undergraduate computer lab refers to 122c and it is connected to the GIF computer lab through a one-way access door. Thus, we will have access to it from the GIF but not vice versa. There will be five computers and a printer located here.

Q: What is the GSC office/lounge for?

A: We have never had a lounge area for ALL graduate students. We now have a chance to fraternize across programs and a microwave and coffeemaker donated by Dr Ellis to facilitate such interaction. It is thus an area for informal use only. It contains 6 lockers for those of us who need secure storage to place our valuables.

Q: What is the conference room for?

A: For teaching fellows and assistants to meet with their students, for study groups, for research use. We will have to come up with a system of reserving the area. The filing cabinets are for storing teaching-related materials.

Q: Why does the conference room not have a door or a phone?

A: We asked for three phones but the dept. had money for two. It does not have a door because university policy forbids undergraduates to meet with their teachers behind closed doors.

Q: Can we receive phone messages?

A: Yes, each phone has ten voice-mail slots. The dept. is currently getting the voice-mail set up. The messages will need to be deleted.

Q: How do we get access to the GIF?

A: The GIF will remain open during the hours of 8-5. For access at other times you will need a key which will also provide access to the undergraduate lab and GSC office. You will need to fill out a contract that specifies that you will maintain GIF security. If you do not already have a key, please inform your area representatives.

Q: When are the computers going to be there?

A: The computers and printer are already here. Sean will set them up once he gets through working on the Y2k problem.

Q: Why was our semester party in the GIF this year?

A: Unlike 135, this is OUR facility!

COME CHECK OUT THE GIF!!

What's New In Research

❖ NIH Issues FAQ on Modular Grants Program

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) has issued a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document on modular awards. NIH is moving to modular proposals/awards for several of its programs, including individual investigator research projects (RO1s) which have a maximum budget of \$250,000 per year (direct costs). A projected two-year experiment within NIH, the Modular Grants Program is a new approach to receiving proposals for most grant programs. NIH has created a website specifically for the Modular Grants Program: <http://www.nih.gov/grants/funding/modular/modular.htm>. From this site, users can access the FAQ document, sample budget justification pages, sample checklists and sample application forms.

Federal Grants News for Colleges and Universities, 4/99

Dr. Linda Acitelli was recently selected as one of "several prominent relationship researchers" to answer this question: How best to conceptualize and assess relationship quality, a central issue in the relationship field. Dr. Acitelli's response was featured in the Spring 99 issue (Vol. 16, No. 1) of the ISSPR (International Society for the Study of Personal Relationships) Bulletin. Other featured researchers were: Art and Elaine Aron, Tom Bradbury, Bram Buunk, Frank Fincham, Garth Fletcher, Norval Glenn, Susan Hendrick, John G. Holmes, Pat Noller, Dan Perlman, and Harry Reis.

Dr. Scott Carvajal, a recent graduate of the Social Psychology Program, has been awarded the first Martin E.P. Seligman Award for Outstanding Dissertation Research on Optimism and Hope from the APA. Congratulations are due Scott and his dissertation committee (**Dr. Richard Evans, Chair**, and **Drs. Tom Power, Susan Nash**, and Greg Getz) for this singular honor. Scott will be presenting his research at the APA Convention in Boston in late August.

Dr. Richard Evans, and his son, **Dr. Randolph Evans**, were featured in the Houston Chronicle on April 8, 1999 for their research on the injuries of theater performers. The findings of these studies have been published in the American Journal of Public Health, Medical Problems of Performing Artists, II, and Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

Dr. Dale L. Johnson, Professor of Psychology and Chairman of the APA Task Force on Serious Mental Illness, and **Dr. Gordon L. Paul**, Hugh Roy & Lillie Cranz Cullen Distinguished Professor of Psychology, will present a workshop on effective nonpharmacological treatments for people with diagnoses of schizophrenia at the upcoming NAMI

20th Anniversary Convention in Chicago on July 2, 1999. NAMI (The National Association for the Mentally Ill) is the largest grassroots advocacy organization for the seriously mentally ill, with affiliates in every state and major city. Dr. Johnson is a past president and national board member of the organization and is actively working on formation of international chapters.

Dr. Roy Lachman participated as a distinguished speaker in the "Litigation Management: Business Relationships and Innovative Practices for the 21st Century" program of the ABA (American Bar Association), held April 30-May 1, 1999 in Cambridge Massachusetts.

As chair of the Licensing Examination Committee, on April 9 to 11, **Dr. Lynn Rehm** attended the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards in Whistler, British Columbia.

On April 15 to 17 **Dr. Lynn Rehm** attended the Trilateral Forum on Professional Psychology in Mexico City. This is a small group of psychologists and government regulators from the US, Canada and Mexico who have been meeting for the last few years to discuss the implications of NAFTA for the education, training, and regulation of psychology in North America. Dr. Rehm represented the APA Board of Educational Affairs.

PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, & WORKSHOPS

Acitelli, L.K. (1999, April). Are communicating and relating synonymous? Paper presented in a "Spotlight" Symposium at the combined Southern/Central States Communication Association Conference. St. Louis, MO. The conference referees ranked this panel as #1 of all panels submitted to the Interpersonal Communication division.

Craig, D. D., & Tetrick, I. E. (1999, May). Psychological contracts and temporary workers: the assumption of the transactional contract. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Atlanta, GA.

Da Silva, N., Tetrick, I. E., Jones, A. P., Slack, K., Latting, J., & Beck, M. (1999, May). Development and validation of an organizational learning assessment instrument. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Atlanta, GA.

Davis, R. N. (in press). Web-based administration of a personality questionnaire: Comparison to traditional methods. Behavior Research Methods, Instruments, & Computers.

Davis, R. N., & Nolen-Hoeksema, S. (in press). Cognitive inflexibility among ruminators and nonruminators. Cognitive Therapy and Research.

Duckworth, M., Hale, D., Vuong, M., & Haertlein, P. (1999, April). Social Moderators of Distress in Children Exposed to Community Violence. Paper presented at the annual meeting of the Southwest Psychological Association. Albuquerque, NM.

Gakovic, A., St. Clair, I. J., & Tetrick, I. E. (1999, March). Psychological contracts: A factor in understanding stress during organizational change. Paper presented at the I/O and O/B Graduate Student Annual Meeting. Fairfax, VA.

Garrido, E. F. & Acitelli, L. K. (in press). Relational identity and the division of household labor. Journal of Social and Personal Relationships.

Hodgins, H. S., & Knee, C. R. (1999, April). The intergrating self and the regulation of ongoing experience. Paper presented at the Rochester International Conference on Human Motivation. Rochester, NY. This paper will be included in an edited volume on the conference. Dr. Knee also served as Session Chair for the conference program on Applied Issues.

Miller, P., Jouriles, E., McDonald, R., Peters, B., Ezell, E., Marsh, W., & Norwood, W. (1999, April). Marital violence and physical child abuse in a women's shelter sample. Presented at the Society for Research on Child Development. Albuquerque, NM.

Mueller, I., Da Silva, N., Townsend, J.C., & Tetrick, I. E. (1999, May). An empirical evaluation of competing safety climate measurement models. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting for the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Atlanta, GA.

Peters, B.R., Atkins, M.S., & McKay, M.M. (1999). Adopted children's behavior problems: A review of five explanatory models. Clinical Psychology Review, 19, 297-328.

Sauter, S. L., Hurrell, J. J., Fox, H. R., Tetrick, L. E., & Barling, J. (1999). Occupational Health Psychology: An Emerging Discipline. Industrial Health special issue "Occupational Stress" of Industrial Health, Vol 37, No 2 (April).

Shore, I. M., Tetrick, I. E., & Barksdale, K. (May, 1999). Transactional and relational exchange relationships. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Atlanta, GA.

Shore, I. M., Tetrick, I. E., Shore, T. H., & Barksdale, K. (1999, May). Construct validity of measures of Becker's side bet theory. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Atlanta, GA.

Slack, K., Jones, A. P., Tetrick, I. E., Da Silva, N., Latting, J., & Beck, M. (1999, May). The role of personal and group innovation in perceived group effectiveness. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting for the Society of Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Atlanta, GA.

Spiller, L., Marsh, W., Peters, B., Miller, P., & Jouriles, E. (1999, April). Examining the effects of cumulative risk factors on children of battered women. Presented at the Society for Research on Child Development. Albuquerque, NM.

Tetrick, I. E., & Craig, D. D. (1999, May). Temporary workers' exchange relationship with their agencies and their clients. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology. Atlanta, GA.



Edward Garrido, one of our social psych grad students, has skillfully turned his Senior Honors Thesis into an article that was recently accepted for publication in the *Journal of Social and Personal Relationships* (See "What's New in Research" for the citation). This is a rare accomplishment. Congratulations, Edward!

Tom Pickering (one of our academic advisors) left our department on April 23. He will be working for R. Christopher Goodwin and associates in New Orleans, LA as a Field Archaeologist. Tom earned his MA in Archaeology from UH in December 1999.

On Tuesday, April 20, **Dr. Lynn Rehm** appeared on the Debra Duncan Show, a local morning TV talk show on Channel 13. The topic was Postpartum depression. Two women who had experienced depression were also guests and questions were taken from the studio and home audiences.

On The Lighter Side

How many research participants does it take to screw in a lightbulb?

At least 300 if you want it to have adequate power...

PsychoPhiles is published monthly. Submissions should be sent to Suzanne Kieffer at kieffer@uh.edu or directed to the business office. All submissions are subject to editing for space and content.