











# Psycho Philes

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

Issue 97:4

April 1997

## Reminders

-  **Apr 18-20:** Frontier Fiesta Days.
-  **Apr 21:** Summer and fall registration begins.
-  **Apr 23:** Faculty meeting, 3:00 pm, Rm. 135 Heyne.
-  **Apr 23:** Thesis and dissertation due in Dean's office.
-  **Apr 25:** Graduate Student Council Picnic, Rm. 135 Heyne. Everyone is welcome, please join us!
-  **Apr 30:** Last day of classes.
-  **May 2:** Deadline for submissions to the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects.
-  **May 5-13:** Final Exams.
-  **May 17:** General and College commencement ceremonies.
-  **May 26:** Office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day.

## For Your Information

### ❖ Summer Applications for Non-Resident Tuition Exemptions

Non-resident graduate students who will be enrolled during any of the summer sessions should fill out an application for tuition exemption before the end of the spring semester. If you think you filled out the exemption form last fall or this spring, requesting waiver for both the long semesters and summer, but can't find your fully signed copy of the form, please submit your application again. You can check with the department to see if we have a copy. A word of advice - students should always keep a copy of their tuition exemption form in a safe place. It is the only proof you have that you applied for the exemption. Students should be aware that they are responsible for knowing their tuition exemption status and the cut-off dates for applying and understanding the policies regarding the exemptions. The department will continue to provide students with assistance, guidance, and reminders.

### ❖ Business Briefs

#### SUBSCRIPTIONS AND REGISTRATION FEES

JUST IN---subscriptions and registration fees may not be paid on a purchase voucher more than six weeks in advance of the subscription beginning date or of the conference/meeting starting date without acceptable justification. For subscriptions, the renewal form must be attached and a beginning and ending date must be indicated. Subscriptions may extend into future fiscal years, with the exception of sponsored project accounts that must terminate no later than the expiration date of the award. Payments for registration fees must include the full name of the organization, dates, attendees, and a statement indicating the benefit to the university.

#### TAXABLE SUB-CODES

Use of the taxable sub-codes (they will be followed by the numerals, 1099), have been causing us some headaches lately. Please contact Yolizma or Ashraf for advice before using these subcodes.

#### W9 FORMS AND REIMBURSEMENTS

Project faculty who are paying subject payments out-of-pocket and are requesting reimbursement, please ask Yolizma or Ashraf for a W9 form. The W9 needs to be filled out and signed by the vendor (or subject). Bring the W9 back to the main office for processing. This will facilitate your reimbursement payment.

April 23rd is Secretary's Day (let's just call it STAFF APPRECIATION DAY). Please remember to thank the staff for their efforts in making all of our jobs so much easier.

### ❖ Summer/Fall Research Student Appointments

Investigators, please let Mary Ordonez know who you will be supporting this summer on research funds no later than May 16. The sooner we receive

notice of your support commitments, the better chance we have of starting (and paying) those commitments on time. Please contact Mary if you will have a problem meeting the May 16 deadline.

#### ❖ Rescheduling of Clinic Forum

The Clinic Forum, "Gangs 101" (presented by Kim Ogg, Director of Mayor's Gang Office), has been rescheduled for Wednesday, April 23, 1-2:30 in the conference room of the South Office Annex Bldg. The program is approved for Level 1 Continuing Education for Psychologists (1.5 hours of credit, cost of certificate is \$3.00)

#### ❖ Re-Roofing Continues on Heyne Bldg.

The re-roofing of Heyne appears to be on track. Many of you, especially on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor have been noticing an increase in noise, vibrations, and odor. Please keep an eye on particles falling from the ceiling into equipment --- it's beginning to be a problem. Contact Montisha Hines in the Dean's office at 3-4000 with any problems. She will promptly convey your concerns to the project manager immediately.

#### ❖ Network and Computer Technical Support

User Support Technician, **Sean Woodward** is now available for support assistance M-F. You can contact Sean via the service request e-mail address at: [service-faq@fisher.psych.uh.edu](mailto:service-faq@fisher.psych.uh.edu) or by phone at 3-8531. Sean's office is located in room 201B Heyne. If your e-mail doesn't work and the voice mail is full, then contact Mani Kuffel at 3-8504 to help you get your request processed

#### ❖ UH Staff Handbooks

All department staff should have received a copy of the new UH Staff Handbook. An electronic copy of the handbook is now available on the Human Resources home page located at: <http://www.uh.edu/admin/hr>.

#### ❖ News from the College Of Social Sciences

**Professor Richard Matland** (Political Science) was the recipient of the College Teaching Excellence Award. **Chris Cookson**, graduate student in political science, was awarded the College Teaching Fellowship.

The college newsletter, **Social Circuit**, be will mailed this week. There are several good write-ups on department faculty projects and an article on the department ties to the Medical Center.

The college webpage is progressing and will be released for general viewing soon. The electronic version of **Psycho Philes** will preview on this site.

#### 📁 Teaching Evaluations

Pick up your teaching evaluations April 28th in Rm-122. Each instructor must have a student representative from each course bring the completed evaluations back to Rm. 122 Heyne.

#### 📁 Summer and Fall Registration

Summer and fall registration begins April 21st. All students who wish to take special problems courses must fill out a general petition and have their faculty advisor signature prior to enrollment/registration. Bring all completed general petitions to the academic advising office in room 122 Heyne.

#### 📁 Thesis and Dissertation

Completed thesis and dissertations are due in the college for binding on April 23rd. If you need an extension, please contact the dean's office at 743-4000 or go to room 104 Heyne.

#### 📁 May Commencement

The commencement ceremony begins at 7:30 pm on May 17, 1997. All students participating must arrive at Hofheinz by 6:30 pm for line-up.

#### 📁 Volunteers Still Needed for Graduation

Volunteers are needed to aid the academic advisors with graduation on May 17, 1997 at 6:30 pm. Volunteers will assist in lining-up all graduates participating in the commencement ceremony. Please contact Tricia Spinks ([tmspinks@uh.edu](mailto:tmspinks@uh.edu)) if you can help out.

#### 📁 TATF Schedule and Book Orders

The TA/TF schedule and book orders will be out in your boxes by April 21st. The book orders are coming out late due to scheduling, so please get the orders in ASAP. If you have any problems or concerns about the schedule, please let Tricia know.

**Psycho Philes** is published the 3rd week of each month. Your submissions should be received in the main office by the end of the 2nd week of each month and can be sent to Mani Kuffel at: [mkuffel@bayou.uh.edu](mailto:mkuffel@bayou.uh.edu), or put in the department mail drop box, room 105 Heyne. All submissions are subject to editing for space and content.

## Fellowship/Scholar Opportunities

### Jacob K. Javits Fellowships

Awarded to students of superior ability, selected on the basis of demonstrated achievement and exceptional promise to undertake graduate study leading to a doctoral degree or MFA in selected fields of the arts, humanities, or social sciences. Eligibility is limited to students who at the time of application have no more than 30 semester hours or 45 quarter hours or equivalent of graduate credit applicable to the eligible field of study. Additional

## From the Academic Office

restrictions apply. The stipend for academic year 1997-98 is \$14,400. For application materials and additional information, contact: Uri Z. Monson, Jacob K. Javits Fellowship Program, U.S. Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, SW, Portals Bldg., Suite 600, Washington, DC 20024-5329, tel: (202) 260-3574.

### **Fulbright Scholar Program**

The Fulbright Program is accepting applications for the 1998-99 lecturing and research awards. The application deadline is August 1, 1997. Application materials will be available from Mani Kuffel and the UH Academic Programs office within the next couple of weeks.

## **What's New In Research**

Social Psychology doctoral student, **Donald Dement**, received the 1997 Sigma Xi Graduate Student Research Achievement Award for his submission, "Differential Effects of Gender in the Prediction of Substance Use by Evidence of Problem Behavior."

Distinguished University Professor of Psychology **Dr. Richard Evans** was in Washington, D.C. this month to continue discussions with Smithsonian Institute officials regarding the display of his videotape series, 'Dialogues with Notable Contributors to Psychology' in the institutes archives.

**Dr. Lynn Rehm** is having a Canadian spring. It all started on January 24 when he gave an invited address on "Empirically Supported Psychotherapies" to the Ontario Psychiatric Association in Toronto. On April 3 - 6, Dr. Rehm attended the Board of Directors meeting of the Association of State and Provincial Psychology Boards, in Lake Louise, Alberta. Later this month, April 17-19, he will be back in Canada representing APA at a trilateral (US, Mexico & Canada) meeting on mobility of psychologists under NAFTA representing the APA, in Ottawa. Dr. Rehm closes out his Canadian spring as the featured speaker at a conference on the future of the Boulder model of training in psychology, "Polishing the Boulder," at the University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario, June 5 & 6.

**1997 Biennial SRCD Meeting in Washington D.C.** **Dr. Alex Siegel**, Director of the Developmental Program, had much to be pleased about during the April 3-6, 1997, Society for Research in Child Development meetings held in Washington, DC. Dr. Siegel reports that the Department of Psychology and UH were both well represented on the program at the biennial meetings. The following faculty and students in the Developmental program were authors/co-authors on ten different presentations: **Beth Burns, Jessica Hartos, Marika Wissel-**

**Littman, Jill Anderson, Rebecca Robertson, Colleen Carlson; Drs. Johnson, Manke, Naus, Power, and Siegel.**

It was the biggest SRCD since the founding of the organization in 1933, with upwards of 5600 attendees. Both faculty and graduate students reported that they networked extensively, and had a positive, if fairly intense, intellectual and social experience. Despite the intensity, several faculty and students managed to escape the crowd briefly, and were sighted in the vicinity of the National Zoo and the Smithsonian.

The developmental group was not alone in representing the department. Also in attendance and presenting at the meetings were clinical members **Drs. Ernest Jouriles, Melanie Duckworth, Nanette Stephens, Renee McDonald,** and graduate students **Danielle Hale, Michelle Nguyen, and Laura Spiller.**

### **ARP, ATP, and TD&T Briefing**

There will be a Coordinating Board Briefing on Monday, April 28, 1997 at 11:00 am in Rm. L2D2, Engineering Lecture Hall for PIs interested in submitting a proposal. ARP, ATP, and TD&T programs are designed to support basic and applied research and technology transfer. Notices of intent are due June 12, 1997; proposals are due July 10, 1997; and awards will be announced October 16, 1997.

### **Tighter Compliance to OMB Circular A-110**

The Office of Sponsored Programs has notified colleges and departments of tighter adherence to OMB Circular A-110 "Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals and Other Non-Profit Organizations." The circular requires institutions to have paid and liquidated all expenses and encumbrances within 90 calendar days following the account expiration date. The federal agencies will not reimburse institutions for any adjustments after the 90 day grace period. Generally, as a department we are getting much better in preparing for grant close-outs. However, we still process far too many expenditure reallocations and this could cause us problems in the future. Mary Ordonez and Yolizma Zapata will begin to contact PIs 90 days prior to grant expiration to assist them in providing a "clean" and timely close-out to their accounts. Please contact Mary Ordonez at 3-8505 if you have any questions.

## **PUBLICATIONS, POSTERS, PRESENTATIONS, ETC.**

● **Duckworth, M. P., Moody-Thomas, S., Fick, A. C., Hayden, J., Nguyen, L. T., & Hale, D. D.** The impact of violence exposure on coping responses of children and adolescents. Poster presentation given

at the Society for Research in Child Development, Washington, DC, April, 1997.

●Duckworth, M. P., Hale, D. D., Nguyen, L. T., Moody-Thomas, S., Fick, A. C., & Hayden, J. Interpersonal violence event parameters contributing to stress reactions in children. Poster presentation at the Society for Research in Child Development, Washington, DC, April, 1997.

●Hale, D. D., Duckworth, M. P., & Nguyen, L. T. Levels of violence exposure and availability and use of coping strategies in distressed and non-distressed children. Poster presentation given at the Southwestern Psychological Association, Ft. Worth, TX, April, 1997.

●Johnson, D.L. "The effects of early otitis media with effusion on child cognitive and language development at ages three and five," and "Parent-Child Development Centers for infants and conduct problems in early adolescence: The perils of prevention." Poster presentations at the Society for Research in Child Development, Washington, DC, April, 1997.

●Nash, S., Dement D., Lewis, H., and Photiades, J. "A Self-Efficacy-Based Typology of AIDS Risk Behaviors," Differential Effects of Gender in the Prediction of Substance Use by Evidence of Problem Behavior," and "Condom Purchases: A Self-Efficacy Model." Poster presentations at the Society of Behavioral Medicine 18th Annual Scientific Sessions, April 16-19, 1997, San Francisco, CA.



**Vaishali Subramaniam**, advising assistant II in Dean's Office, left her position last month to take a position as full-time mother. For the immediate future, the college will not be re-filling the vacancy.

**Brian Woodward**, Financial Coordinator in the Dean's Office, will be leaving to take a position as Analyst at Andersen Consulting. Brian's last day is April 25. He will begin his position at Andersen in June. In this new position, Brian will be working in process competency which is the part of Andersen that designs and implements business systems for clients. Brian and his fiancée, **Dana Duran** (law major), are looking forward to this new phase in their lives. Between the break in jobs, Brian plans on completing his undergraduate degree in Political Science (May graduate), enjoy some well-earned rest and relaxation, and make plans for building a house in December. Brian will be sorely missed by our business staff. Congratulations and best of luck!

## HISTORY LESSON

The 'Car Talk' show (on NPR) with Click and Clack, the Tappet Brothers have a feature called the 'Puzzler', a recent 'Puzzler' was about the Battle of Agincourt. The French, who were overwhelmingly favored to win the battle, threatened to cut a certain

body part off of all captured English soldiers so that they could never fight again. The English won in a major upset and waved the body part in question at the French in defiance. The puzzler was: What was this body part? This is the answer submitted by a listener:

Dear Click and Clack, Thank you for the Agincourt 'Puzzler', which clears up some profound questions of etymology, folklore and emotional symbolism. The body part which the French proposed to cut off of the English after defeating them was, of course, the middle finger, without which it is impossible to draw the renowned English longbow. This famous weapon was made of the native English yew tree, and so the act of drawing the longbow was known as "plucking yew". Thus, when the victorious English waved their middle fingers at the defeated French, they said, "See, we can still pluck yew! PLUCK YEWE!" Over the years some 'folk etymologies' have grown up around this symbolic gesture. Since 'pluck yew' is rather difficult to say (like "pleasant mother pheasant plucker", which is who you had to go to for the feathers used on the arrows), the difficult consonant cluster at the beginning has gradually changed to a labiodental fricative 'f', and thus the words often used in conjunction with the one-finger-salute are mistakenly thought to have something to do with an intimate encounter. It is also because of the pheasant feathers on the arrows that the symbolic gesture is known as "giving the bird".

(Hmm, any etymology specialists care to comment?)