


# Psycho Philes


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


Issue 98:3

March 1998


## Reminders


 **Mar. 11:** Nominations for TATF and faculty Teaching Excellence Awards due to Jessie Hargrove.


 **Mar. 12:** Faculty Activity Reports due to Marco Mariotto.


 **Mar. 13:** Deadline for submission of SOS Academic Scholarship applications.


 **Mar. 16-21:** Spring holidays.


 **Mar. 16:** Staff performance evaluations due to Mani.

 **Mar. 20:** Office closed for Spring break.

 **Mar. 27:** College staff meeting, 12:00-1:30 pm.

 **Apr. 3:** Deadline for submissions to the Committee for the Protection of Human Subjects.

 **Apr. 6:** Last day to drop a course or withdraw.

 **May 1:** Deadline for master's and dissertation submission.

## News and Notes

### ❖ 1998 APA Student Awards Program & Nominations to APASSC

The Science Directorate of the APA announces competition for graduate student travel awards and dissertation research funding.

- The purpose of the Travel Award program is to help psychology graduate students travel to the annual APA Convention to present their research. In 1998, approximately 100 awards of \$300 will be distributed. Applications must be received by April 3, 1998.
- The Dissertation Award assists graduate student with costs associated with their dissertation research. This year, the Directorate will give awards of \$1,000 to approximately 50 students. Applications must be received by September 18, 1998.

Copies of the application materials are available from Mani. The applications are also available on the APA website at <http://www.apa.org/science/travinfo98.html> and <http://www.apa.org/science/dissinfo.html>.

The Directorate also seeks nominations to the APA Science Student Council (APASSC). The Council represents the interests of science-oriented students by providing valuable advice to the Directorate on how it can best serve the science student. The Directorate is seeking nominations of second or third year graduate students, to serve a two-year term for the 1998-2000 calendar year, during which time they must be actively engaged in their programs. Council members are required to attend two weekend meetings per year in Washington, DC, at APA's expense. Four (4) positions are available on the Council, one position in each of the following areas of research: 1) Biopsychology/Comparative Psychology, 2) Cognitive Psychology, 3) Quantitative Psychology/Educational Psychology, 4) Developmental Psychology. All nominations must be received by Friday, April 24, 1998. For more information, contact Ms. Sophia Birdas, APA Science Directorate, 750 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002-4242; email: [szb.apa@email.apa.org](mailto:szb.apa@email.apa.org); telephone: 202/336-6000.

### ❖ Changes in UH Service Center Requisition Policy

Effective immediately, UH has revised its policy on service center requisitions to require that, prior to any work being taken or started at a service center (e.g., media services, telecommunications, physical plant), the requesting department will provide a complete and APPROVED SCR with a description of the work to be done, account to be charged, and certifying signatures. Instructors take note, you will not be able to take materials over to the Media Center without first getting approval from the department. Please see Ashraf or Yolizma to assist you in completing the necessary paperwork.

### ❖ Air Express Shipments

The State of Texas has a contract with Airborne Express to provide next day, second day express,

and international air express delivery service. All services of this kind that are to be charged to state appropriated funds must use this state contractor. Other carriers can be used for non state funds. However, in most instances, Airborne will have the lowest rates for the level of service provided.

#### ❖ **2<sup>nd</sup> College Staff Meeting, March 27**

On February 20 this year, the college held its first college staff meeting. The turn-out, especially from Psychology staff, was great. At the meeting, it was decided that staff wanted to explore the idea of holding regular college staff meetings. A second meeting has been scheduled for Friday, March 27 from 12:00 to 1:30 pm. The location is still being negotiated, but it is likely to take place at Garrison and hosted by Military Science. A flyer with the agenda and location will be distributed to staff shortly. We hope to see another large Psychology presence at the meeting.

#### ❖ **State Contract Airfares-Non-State Employees**

Contract airfares are available to non-state employees who are traveling on behalf of the state. Examples of non-state employees approved under state guidelines would include invited guests, prospective employees, and seminar speakers. The University of Houston requires that non-state employees traveling on university funds be given a letter on department letterhead prior to the date of travel to be presented upon request at airport check-in as identification and authorization for state travel. The letter should provide the travelers name, dates of travel, airline carrier and a statement regarding travel. Ashraf and Yolizma has a sample letter we use. Consultants/contractors who are paid for their service are NOT allowed to use these airfares.

#### ❖ **Remember to Pick up Your Checks**

Reimbursement and payroll checks will be held in the department for 10 days only. If not picked up within the 10 day period, all checks will be returned to the Treasurers office.

#### ❖ **New Out-of-State Meal & Lodging Rates**

Copies of the new out-of-state meal and lodging rates are available from Ashraf and Yolizma. These rates are effective on or after January 1, 1998.

#### ❖ **Classroom Remodeling Projects to Begin**

Room remodeling in 135 and 226 will begin soon. Both rooms will get fresh carpeting and paint, new tables, chairs, a multi-media desk and storage cabinet. Room 226 will also be wired to allow for computer display as in room 135. We are trying our best to schedule all work on weekends and in the evening. That may not always be possible and some

inconveniences to classes is likely inevitable. Your patience is requested.

## Notes from the Chairman

The University has begun the budget process for FY 99 and initiated this with a budget presentation by the CFO, **Randy Harris**, and his staff on February 26th. The next several weeks will see critical decisions on funding allocations for university units. -- Speaking of funding, the Department has analyzed funding sources for the current fiscal year and for the first time, the majority of the Departmental budget is not based on state instructional allocations. Fully 60% of our budget is from other sources including research/training grants and contracts, scholarships, and other local funding sources. To paraphrase **President Smith**, we are no longer a state-supported Department but rather a state-assisted one. -- **Professor Roger Maley** is heading a Task Force on the Academic Office with a particular focus on undergraduate education. Look for major changes in the near future. -- **Dr. Kathleen Sheridan** will join the Department as a Professor beginning this Fall. More on Professor Sheridan in a future issue. -- The long-awaited revision to the graduate student handbook is still on-hold awaiting Administration OK's for several new policies. //MJM

## From the Academic Office

#### ☑ **Book Orders**

Book orders will go out on Monday, March 30th. Please return the orders to Tricia by Thursday, April 30. The sooner you return the book orders, the better the chances students will have for a book refund.

#### ☑ **Summer/Fall Instructor & TA Commitments**

The final summer Instructor and TA schedule will be out shortly. Students should be aware that the department views this schedule as a contract. Students who have requested support for the summer as an instructor or teaching assistant will be provided support. They will also be held to completing their commitment. The department will not approve "switches" to other graduate appointments (i.e., RA, GA, CA) within the department by students currently scheduled to teach. The fall schedule still being constructed, so students have another month in which to change their minds.

#### ☑ **No more graduation applications will be accepted.**

#### ☑ **Mid-Term Audit Rolls**

Mid term audit rolls will be coming out at the end of March. Please review the students enrolled in each section. If you have a student missing, please send them to 104 E-Cullen. Sign the last page and return the rolls to Tran Le (122-Heyne) within one week upon receipt. The middle (yellow) copy is the instructor's copy and the top and bottom copy must be returned to the academic office.

### ☑ **Volunteers Needed for Graduation**

It is almost graduation time again and we need volunteers. Any staff, faculty, or students interested in helping the academic office with the commencement ceremony, please e-mail Tricia (tmspinks@uh.edu).

### ☑ **New E-Mail Address**

Academic Advisor, Tran Le has a new e-mail address. You can contact her at tranle@bayou.uh.edu.

## What's New In Research

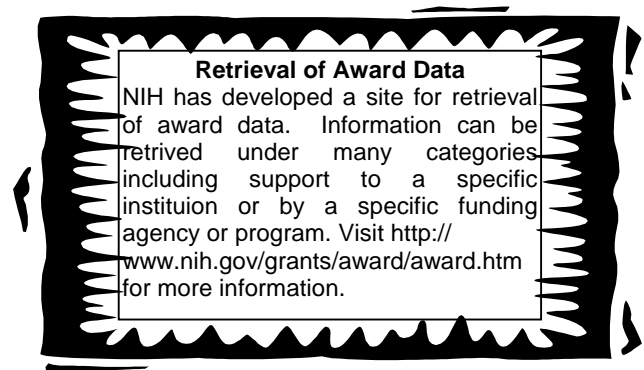
We have a new book author in our midst. **Dr. Ernest Jouriles** is a co-author on an edited volume, entitled "Children exposed to marital violence: Theory, research, and applied issues", **G.W. Holden, R. Geffner, E.N. Jouriles** (Eds.) (1998), American Psychological Association, Washington D.C. This book contains a chapter written by a number of UH scholars: **Jouriles, E.N., McDonald, R., Stephens, N., Norwood, W., Spiller, L.C., & Ware, H.S.** (1998). Breaking the cycle of violence: Helping families departing from battered women's shelters.

**Prof. Gordon L. Paul**, Cullen Distinguished Professor of Psychology, will attend a conference, "Connect '98," in Peoria, IL, on April 2-3, 1998. The conference is cosponsored by the Illinois Department of Human Services, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the University of Illinois Medical School, Department of Psychiatry to initiate a two-year effort to implement psychosocial rehabilitation procedures within and linkage between state operated and community based programs for psychiatric clientele. Dr. Paul will present invited plenary addresses on "Empowering Clients and Staff through Evidence-Based Practices." He will also serve on panels that are focused on integration of psychiatric rehabilitation practices with consumer empowerment.

**Dr. Anthony Menditto**, a graduate of the UH clinical program, and the Social-Learning Treatment Program and Computerized TSBC/SRIC Observational Assessment System being implemented under his direction at Fulton State Hospital, Fulton, Mo., will be featured on a 90-minute

Psychlink television broadcast on March 11, 1998. Psychlink is an interactive satellite system for continuing medical education that broadcasts to more than 250 hospitals nationwide. The focal treatment and assessment procedures were developed through the clinical-research group headed by Dr. Gordon L. Paul. Continuing members of the group at the University of Houston include **Dr. Marco J. Mariotto** and clinical graduate students **James Coleman, Susan Hall, Will Newbill, and Julian Salinas.**

A survey of the department's research administration services (Extramural Center) will be distributed to all faculty and research staff during the week of March 9. The information gathered from the survey will be used to help set the direction for the center over the next several years. The survey is short and should take no more than 5-10 minutes of your time. Please participate in this process. Your input is very important.



### **PUBLICATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, & WORKSHOPS**

- Battle, J., Vincent, J., & Harris, G. (1998). Self-esteem as a treatment response indicator for child crime victims. Poster presentation. APA convention in San Francisco, Division 37.
- Harris, G., Vincent, J., Gerasimova, Y., & Rizzo, L. (1998). Effectiveness of cognitive-behavioral and supportive treatments for juvenile crime victims. Poster presentation. APA convention in San Francisco, Division 37.
- Huckabee, H. C. G., Dougherty, D., Moeller, F. G., Swann, A., & Bjork, J. "Laboratory measures of aggression and impulsivity validated in hospitalized women with borderline personality disorder" To be presented at the 1998 Annual Convention of the Association
- Knee, C.R. (1998). Implicit Theories of Relationships. Paper presented at the annual meeting of Social Psychologists in Texas, Rice University, Jan. 1998.
- Knee, C.R. (1998). Implicit Theories of Relationships. Invited presentation at the University of Texas at Arlington, Feb. 1998.

- Rizzo, L., Vincent, J., Harris, G., & Raneri, M. (1998). The evaluation of a comprehensive treatment for child crime victims. Poster presentation. APA convention in San Francisco, Division 29.
- Wefel, J. S., Hoyt, B. D., & Massman, P. J. Cognitive functioning in depressed versus nondepressed Alzheimer's patients. Presented at the meeting of the International Neuropsychological Society in Honolulu, Feb. 1998.
- Zygmuntowicz, R., Vincent, J., Harris, G., & Dominguez, J. (1998). Symptom variations in child victims of violent crime. Poster presentation. APA convention in San Francisco, Division 37.

Copies of the UH Renewal/Addendum Form for Approval of Instigation Involving Use of Human Subjects and the Application for Approval are available from Mani.



The department was saddened to hear of the death of former department Professor, **Dr. Frank Stovall**. Dr. Stovall was one of the early members of the department. He was ninety-two.

Congratulations to **Julian** and **Tiffani Salinas** who are expecting their first child in mid September. Julian is a fourth year Clinical student.

Social Psychology graduates, **Andrea Romero** and **Scott Carvajal**, have jobs in the in the real world! Andrea recently accepted a position at the Stanford Medical School with the Center for Research in Disease Prevention. She will work with the Youth Studies Group as a project director for a grant aimed at heart disease and cancer prevention using Bandura's social cognitive model. Scott continues to do well at ETR at UC Santa Cruz.

## On The Lighter Side

A linguistics professor was lecturing to his class one day. "In English," he said, "A double negative forms a positive. In some languages, though, such as Russian, a double negative is still a negative. However, there is no language wherein a double positive can form a negative." A voice from the back of the room piped up, "Yeah, right."

States continue to keep antiquated laws on the books. Some are weird and wacky, and some just plain scary. Starting with the "A's". . .

### Alabama

- In Jasper, it is illegal for a husband to beat his wife with a stick larger in diameter than his thumb.
- It is illegal to play Dominos on Sunday.
- It is illegal to wear a fake moustache that causes laughter in church.
- Putting salt on a railroad track may be punishable by death.

### Alaska

- In Fairbanks, it is illegal to feed alcoholic beverages to a moose.
- While it is legal to shoot bears, waking sleeping bears for the purpose of taking a photograph is prohibited.

### Arizona

- In Tucson, it is illegal for women to wear pants.
- In Globe, it is illegal to play cards in the street with a Native American.
- In Glendale, it is illegal to drive a car in reverse.
- In Nogales, it is illegal to wear suspenders.

### Arkansas

- A man can legally beat his wife, but not more than once a month.
- In Fayetteville, it is illegal to kill ``any living creature."
- Schoolteachers who bob their hair may forfeit their pay raises.
- Flirtation between men and women on the streets of Little Rock may result in a 30-day jail term.

Psycho Philes is published around the 1st week of each month. Submissions should be sent to Mani Kuffel at [mkuffel@bayou.uh.edu](mailto:mkuffel@bayou.uh.edu), or directed to the business office. All submissions are subject to editing for space and content.