Fall/Winter 2011

A newsletter of the students and student-faculty collaborators in the Psychology Master's and Ph. D. programs at Drexel University. This issue of Factum was compiled and edited by Richa Aggarwal and Elizabeth Nicholls under the guidance of faculty supervisor Dr. Brian Daly.



Publications

Arango-Lasprilla, J.C., Ketchum, J.M., Starkweather, Morse, C.M., McKeever, J., Ang, J., Zhao, L., A., Nicholls, E., & Wilk, A.R. (2011.) Factors predicting depression among persons with spinal cord injury 1 to 5 years post-injury. NeuroRehabilitation, 29, 9-21.

Arango-Lasprilla, J.C., Nicholls, E., Villasenor-Cabrera, T., Drew, A., Jiminez-Maldonado, M., & Martinez-Cortes, M.L. (2011). Health related quality of life in caregivers of individuals with traumatic brain injury from Guadalajara, Mexico. Journal of Rehabilitation Medicine, 43, 983-986.

Brooks-Holliday, S., Yasuhara, K., Shah, S., Bingham, A., King, C., Hamilton, D., Danylyuk, A., DeMatteo, D., & Heilbrun, K. (2011). The application of risk-need-responsivity to risk assessment and intervention-planning: Opportunities, limitations, and relevant research needs. American Psychology-Law Society News, 31, 4-5.

DeMatteo, D., Filone, S., & LaDuke, C. (2011). Methodological, ethical, and legal considerations in drug court research. Behavioral Sciences and the Law, 29, 806-820.

Fesi, J.D., Yannes, M.P., Brinckman, D.D., Norcia, A.M., Ales, J.M., & Gilmore, R.O. (2011). Distinct cortical responses to 2D figures defined by motion contrast. Vision Research, 51, 2110-2120.

Keppler-Noreuil, K.M., Blumhorst, C.L., Sapp, J.C., Brinckman, D.D., Johnston, J. J., Nopoulos, P.C., & Biesecker, L.G. (2011). Brain tissue- and regionspecific abnormalities on volumetric MRI scans in 21 patients with Bardet-Biedl syndrome (BBS). BMC Medical Genetics, 12, 101-109.

Leist, T., & Schultheis, M. (2011). Virtual reality driving and cognition in multiple sclerosis. Clinical Neuropsychology, 26, 491.

Williams-Gary, K., Arango-Lasprilla, J., Shamburger, A., Nicholls, E., & Stevens, L.F. (2011). Racial and ethnic disparities in outcomes from Spinal Cord Injury. NeuroRehabilitation, 29, 275-293.

In Press

Burl, J., Shah, S., Filone, S., Foster, E. & DeMatteo, D. (in press). A survey of graduate training programs and coursework in forensic psychology. Teaching of Psychology.

Giarelli, E., Ruttenberg J., & Segal, A. (in press). Continuing nurse education in the clinical management of autism spectrum disorders: Result of a pilot evaluation study. The Journal of Continuing Education in Nursing.

Heilbrun, K., DeMatteo, D., Yasuhara, K., Brooks-Holliday, S., Shah, S., King, C., Bingham, A., Hamilton, D., & LaDuke, C. (in press). Community-based alternatives for justice-involved individuals with severe mental illness: Review of the relevant research. Criminal Justice and Behavior.

Moberg, P.J. & Shah, S. (in press). Ethical issues in capacity and competency evaluations. In G.J. Demakis (Ed.), Civil Capacities in Clinical Neuropsychology. New York: Oxford University Press.

In Press, Continued

Nezu, C. M., **Lee, M.,** & **Ricelli, S.** (in press). Complementary and alternative therapies. In I. B. Weiner (Series Ed.), A. M. Nezu, C. M. Nezu, & P. A. Geller (Vol. Eds.), *Handbook of psychology: Vol. 9. Health psychology* (2nd ed.). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

Nezu, A. M., **Raggio, G., Evans, A. N.,** & Nezu, C. M. Diabetes mellitus. (in press). In I. B. Weiner, A. M. Nezu, C. M. Nezu, & P. A. Geller (Eds.), *Handbook of Psychology. Vol. 9. Health Psychology* (2nd ed.). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons.

Nicholls, E., Lehan, T., Plaza, S.L.O., Deng, X., Romero, J.L. P., Pizarro, J.A.A., & Arango-Lasprilla, J.C. (in press). Factors influencing acceptance of disability in individuals with spinal cord injury in Nieva, Colombia, South America. *Disability & Rehabilitation*.

Zamora, R., **Bartholow**, **J.**, Green, E., Morgan, C. D., & Murphy, C. (in press). Adiposity measures predict olfactory processing speed in older adult carriers of the apolipoprotein e4 allele. *Clinical Neurophysiology*.

Recent Presentations

Berkowitz, S., Roberto, C., Sysko, R., Mayer, L., & Attia, E. (2011, November). Predictors of resumption of menses among inpatients with Anorexia Nervosa. Poster presented at the annual Renfrew Center Foundation Eating Disorders Conference, Philadelphia, PA.

Bonacquisti, A., & Geller, P.A. (2011, November). Condom use intentions and partner-related barriers to condom use among women. Poster presented at the Women's Special Interest Group (SIG) Poster Exposition at the 45th annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Toronto, Canada.

Bonacquisti, A., Geller, P.A. & Aaron, E. (2011, November). *Postpartum depression in HIV infected*

women: Clinical and research applications. In P.A. Geller (Chair), Getting the word out: Dissemination and clinical application of findings from contemporary women's health research. Paper presented at the 45th annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Toronto, Canada.

Brennan, L., Schultheis, M., Hurtig, H., Weintraub, D., Duda, J., Moberg, P., Chute, D., & Siderowf, A. (2011, November). Evaluation of two commonly used clinical measures of global cognition to inform everyday functioning in Parkinson's disease. Poster presented at the 2011 conference of the National Academy of Neuropsychology, Marco Island, FL.

Chahine, L., Hurtig, H., **Brennan, L.,** Colcher, A., Dahodwala, N., Darin, A., Horn, S., Stern, M., Tran, B., & Siderowf, A. (2011, June). *Relationship of cognition and neuropsychiatric symptoms with function in Parkinson's disease*. Poster presented at the 15th International Congress of the Movement Disorder Society, Toronto, Canada.

Culnan, E.J., Horsey, S.E., Hildebrand, A.K., Kloss, J.D., & Daly, B.P. (2011, August). What is a more powerful predictor of overweight status in a diverse sample of adolescents: Sleep duration or physical inactivity? Poster presented at the 117th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

Culnan, E.J., Horsey, S.E., Hildebrand, A.K., Kloss, J. D., & Daly, B.P. (2011, August). The relationship between sleep duration and BMI: An examination of gender and ethnic differences in a diverse adolescent sample. Poster presented at the 117th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

Ely, A.V., & Lowe, M.R. (2011, September) Susceptibility of chronic dieters to hedonic overeating: An fMRI study. Poster presented at the Eating Disorders Research Society annual meeting, Edinburgh, Scotland, UK.

Recent Presentations, Continued

Hildenbrand, A.K., **Horsey, S.E., Culnan, E.J.**, Kloss, J.D., & Daly, B.P. (2011, August). *Increased risk of weapon carrying and physical fights among sleep deprived adolescents*. Poster presented at the 117th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

Horsey, S.E., Hildebrand, A.K., Culnan, E.J., Kloss, J.D., & Daly, B.P. (2011, August). Perceived dangerousness of neighborhood and mental health distress: What is the role of sleep? Poster presented at the 117th Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C.

Locklair, B. R., Brown, T., & Malesky, L.A. (2011, August). Attitudes toward pornography and their correlates. Poster session presented at the 119th annual convention of the American Psychological Association, Washington, DC.

McKeever, J.D., Morse, C., Ang, J., Leist, T., Tracy, J., & Schultheis M.T. (2011, November). Physical factors mediate the relationship between cognitive impairment and driving ability in Multiple Sclerosis. Poster presented at the 2011 conference of the National Academy of Neuropsychology, Marco Island, FL.

Nezu, A. M., Nezu, C. M., Lee, M., Haggerty, K., Salber, K., Greenberg, L., Ricelli, S., Bennett, P., Raggio, G., Evans, A., & Foster, E. (2011, November). Social problem solving as a mediator of post-traumatic growth and quality of life among heart failure patients. Poster presented at the 45th annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Toronto, Canada.

Nicholls, E., Aggarwal, R., Smith, D., & Daly, B.P. (2011, September). Self-harm and risk-taking behavior in adolescents. Poster presented at the Pennsylvania Public Health Association annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA.

Rabin, S.J., Herbert, J., Forman, E., Lissek, S., Erford, B.M., & Goldstein, S.P. (November, 2011). Testing an alternative hypothesis for cognitive bias modification for public speaking anxiety. Poster presented at the 45th annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Toronto, Canada.

Ricelli, S., Nezu, C. M., Nezu, A. M., & **Foster, E.** (2011, November). *Social problem solving as a mediator of openness to experience and mood*. Poster presented at the 45th annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Toronto, Canada.

Salber, K. E., Nezu, A.M., & Nezu, C.M. (2011, November). Living with congestive heart failure: Caregiver social problem solving and care receiver depression. Poster presented at the 45th annual convention of the Association for Behavioral and Cognitive Therapies, Toronto, Canada.

Siderowf, A., Newberg, A., Clark, C.M., Joshi, A.D., Mintun, M.A., Pontecorvo, M.J., Shaw, L., **Brennan, L.,** & Skovronsky, D.M. (2011, March). *Amyloid imaging with AV-45 (Florbetapir F-18) in Parkinson's disease*. Poster presented at the 10th International Congress on Alzheimer's and Parkinson's Disease, Barcelona, Spain.

Smith, D., Nicholls, E., Aggarwal, R., & Daly, B.P. (2011, September). The influence of sleep on seatbelt non-use. Poster presented at the Annual Meeting of the Pennsylvania Public Health Association, Philadelphia, PA.

Waples, J.A., **Aggarwal**, **R.**, Bazemore, S., & Paulson, J.F. (2011, August). *Depression and relationship quality in expecting parents*. Poster presented at the 119th annual convention of the American Psychological Association, Washington DC.

Grants and Awards

Joshua McKeever was awarded one of Drexel's internal Human Cognitive Enhancement Program (HCEP) grants for his thesis project, "An Examination of Prospective Memory in Multiple Sclerosis: A Theoretical Approach."

Chelsea Morse was awarded a grant from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for the following study: "Multitasking Ability in Multiple Sclerosis: Can it Inform Complex Behavior?" (P.I.: Maria Schultheis, Ph.D.; Co-investigator: Chelsea Morse).

Laura Brennan was awarded the Drexel University Human Cognition Enhancement Program Cross-Disciplinary Research Grant in October 2011. She was given \$10,000 to fund her dissertation research examining the impact of dopamine replacement therapy on psychiatric, cognitive, and everyday functioning in individuals with Parkinson's disease.

Professional Service

Joshua McKeever began serving as the student representative for the Philadelphia Neuro-psychology Society (PNS) in 2011.

Richa Aggarwal and **Elizabeth Nicholls** began serving as Drexel's student representatives to the Philadelphia Behavior Therapy Association.

Program Milestones

Congratulations to the following 2^{nd} year M. S. students for successfully proposing their Master's theses this Fall!

- Lauren X. Lentz (September, 2011)
- Amy Evans (October, 2011)
- **Heidi Strohmaier** (November, 2011)

Congratulations to the following Ph. D. students for successfully defending their Master's theses this Fall!

- Stephanie Rabin (August, 2011)
- **Alice Ely** (September, 2011)
- Stephanie Brooks-Holliday (September, 2011)

Congratulations to the following Ph. D. students for successfully proposing their dissertations this Fall!

- Alice Ely (September, 2011)
- Stephanie Brooks-Holliday (September, 2011)
- Laura Brennan (September, 2011)
- Kelly Jones (September, 2011)
- Sanjay Shah (September, 2011)
- Stephanie Rabin (October, 2011)

Personal News

Amy Evans became the new administrative assistant to the Director of the Master's Program over the summer. She and her husband are also expecting their first baby in April 2012!

Sanjay Shah got engaged in July 2011!

Lauren X Lentz and her husband are expecting their first baby, a boy, in early March 2012!



SPOTLIGHT: First-Year Drexel Psychology Ph.D. Students



Jessica Bartholow, B.A. graduated from San Diego State University. She is a member of Dr. Jackie Kloss' lab and is interested in adult neuropsychology, specifically health and lifestyle factors that contribute to cognition and neuropsychological functioning.



Staci Berkowitz, B.A. graduated from Emory University. She has joined Dr. Michael Lowe's lab, where she is interested in working with patients with eating, anxiety, and mood disorders. Her research interests include neurobiological factors that contribute to eating disorders and biological correlates of psychotherapeutic response.



Danielle Brinckman, B.S. graduated from The Pennsylvania State University and is currently working under Drs. Jenn Gallo and Maria Schultheis at Drexel. Danielle is interested in many aspects of neuropsychology, including neurorehabilitation and the use of neuroimaging techniques (fMRI, fNIRS) to track the course of recovery, as well as the neural mechanisms involved in these processes.



Alexa Bonacquisti, M.S. graduated from Drexel's undergraduate and Master's programs. She has joined Dr. Pam Geller's research lab and is interested in working with women with depression and anxiety, as well as other aspects of women's reproductive and sexual health, including partner violence and HIV.



Casey LaDuke, M.S. graduated from the University of Rochester and Drexel's M. S. program. He is a member of Dr. Dave DeMatteo's lab. Casey's research and clinical interests include forensic mental health assessment, clinical neuropsychology in the forensic context, and the diversion of individuals with serious mental illness from the justice system.

SPOTLIGHT: First-Year Drexel Psychology Ph. D. Students, Continued



Lindsay Martin, M.S. graduated from the University of Reno as well as Towson University's Master in Clinical Psychology program. She has joined the lab of Drs. Evan Forman and James Herbert, where her interests include the use of acceptance-based behavioral interventions with patients with maladaptive eating behaviors.



Elizabeth Myrtetus, **B.A.** graduated from Temple University. She has joined the lab of Dr. Felicia Hurewitz and is Drexel's first Applied Cognitive and Brain Sciences Ph. D. student. Her interests include cognitive neuroscience, visual perception, and autism spectrum disorders.



Elizabeth Nicholls, MIT graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University and Seattle University's Master in Teaching Program. She is a member of Dr. Brian Daly's lab and is interested in various areas of clinical child psychology affecting underserved and minority populations including criminal risk behaviors, crime prevention and resiliency, and school mental health promotion.



Kristina Patrick, B.A. graduated from Marquette University. She is working with Drs. Felicia Hurewitz and Doug Chute and her research interests include autism, neuropsychology, language development, behavior modification, child psychology, and neuroimaging.



Sarah Ricelli, M.S. graduated from the University of Delaware and recently completed her Master's degree at Drexel. As a member of the lab of Drs. Art and Chris Nezu, her clinical and research interests include CBT-based treatment of individuals with depression and/or chronic illnesses, the biopsychosocial model, and adapting various interventions for use with chronically ill individuals.

First-Year JD/Ph.D. Students



Benjamin Locklair, M.A. received his undergraduate and Master's degrees in Clinical Psychology from Western Carolina University. He is a member of Dr. Kirk Heilbrun's lab and his primary interests include forensic assessment, the impact of legislation on the provision of mental health services, research methods and statistics, and mindfulness-based therapies.



Emily Haney-Caron, B.A. graduated from Colombia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary. As a member of Dr. Naomi Goldstein's lab, Emily is interested in juvenile delinquency and the development of interventions for conduct disorder and psychopathology in delinquent populations. Clinical interests include oppositional defiant disorder and other adolescent externalizing disorders.

SPOTLIGHT: First-Year Drexel Psychology M. S. Students



Richa Aggarwal, B.A. graduated from the University of Virginia. She is a member of Dr. Brian Daly's research lab. Her clinical and research interests include social and family effects on child development and neuropsychology, risk behaviors in children and adolescents, depression, and trauma.

Katherine Alvarez, B.A. graduated from Temple University and is a member of Dr. Mary Spiers' lab. Her clinical and research interests include rehabilitation from traumatic and acquired brain injury.



Taylor Blake, B.A. graduated from Denison University and has joined Dr. Maria Schultheis' research lab. Her interests include clinical neuropsychology as related to rehabilitation of Stroke, MS, TBI, and mTBI.



Elizabeth Culnan, B.S. graduated from Drexel University and is currently working under Dr. Jackie Kloss. Her clinical and research interests include health psychology and sleep.

Jennie Davis, B.S. graduated from Tufts University and has joined the lab of Dr. Dave DeMatteo. Her clinical and research interests include jury decision-making, expert testimony, and capital sentencing.

Megan Hudson, B.S. graduated from the University of Miami and is a member of Dr. Felicia Hurewitz's lab. Her clinical and research interests include cognitive psychology and early identification of autism spectrum disorders.

Arwa Ibrahim, B.A. graduated from Rutgers University. She has joined the research lab of Dr. James Herbert and her interests include anxiety disorders, post-traumatic stress disorder, cultural responses to traumatic events, and traumatic responses in the Iraqi refugee population.

Mitra Khaksari, B.S. graduated from Stevenson University. She works with Dr. Pam Geller in the Women's Health Psychology Lab and her interests include the effects of infertility on couples and other issues affecting women's health.

Renee Mikorski, B.A. graduated from Boston University. She has joined the research lab of Dr. Meghan Butryn and is interested in eating disorders and acceptance-based therapy.

Andrea Segal, B.A. graduated from Cornell University. She is a member of the research lab of Drs. Art and Chris Nezu and is interested in acceptance and mindfulness-based therapeutic interventions in health psychology.

Lisa Shank, B.S. graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She has joined the research lab of Dr. Michael Lowe and is interested in eating disorders, obesity, and binge eating.

Ariana Tart-Zelvin, B.S. graduated from Johns Hopkins University. She works with Dr. Michael Williams and is interested in the neuropsychology of decision-making as well as cognitive abilities in individuals with MS and leukemia.

