From Adaptive Testing to Adaptive Learning

By Hua-Hua Chang

My research interests are broad, encompassing both theoretical development and applied methodologies in psychometrics, including Computerized Adaptive Testing (CAT), Differential Item Functioning, Cognitive Diagnosis, and asymptotic properties in Item Response Theory. Some of my most important statistical work is aimed at improving and developing CAT, an important innovation in educational and psychological testing that enables the examiner to obtain precise estimates of each examinee’s latent trait being measured in a minimum amount of time.

The trick is to have a calibrated item bank and an algorithm for selecting the next item for each examinee given a sequence of previous responses. Whereas the traditional algorithm suggested choosing an item that is close to the examinee’s estimated proficiency and sharply discriminates examinees in that small proficiency range, I noticed two flaws with that approach. First, sharply discriminating items would always be chosen first, and consequently, many high quality items of appropriate difficulty but less discriminating turned out to be rarely, if ever, used. Cost of item development averages more than $1,000 per item; therefore, this was a waste and made it easier to cheat on an exam (because the effective size of the item pool was severely shrunk). And second, at the beginning of the exam, when the examinee’s proficiency was not accurately estimated, the algorithm selects questions that are highly discriminating in an ability range that might be far from the examinee’s true ability.

I had a simple, powerful and ingenious solution. I utilized a different information measure which used items whose discriminations were lower in the region of the estimated proficiency but nevertheless provided information over a broader range of proficiencies. This idea of maximizing global information over a plausible distribution of proficiency solved both problems at once. Less discriminating items became valuable at the beginning of a test and would be effectively utilized, and highly discriminating items were favored later in the test, when proficiency was estimated more accurately.

In collaboration with my colleagues, we developed an array of techniques to combine Cognitive Diagnosis with CAT (CD-CAT). Our NSF funded research showed promising results concerning utilizing CAT to help low-performing students in an undergraduate physics course, thereby improving retention rates in the STEM field. A new NSF funded project will focus on detection of learning in Cognitive Diagnosis. Indeed, a growing body of evidence shows that adaptive testing has enormous potential to revolutionize classroom assessment and greatly facilitate individualized learning.

Supported by Chinese Testing Int’l (CTI), Beijing, China, I am currently leading a group of graduate students on developing cutting-edge techniques to support the Chinese language proficiency test (HSK), the world’s second largest language proficiency exam. In 2014, the research group successfully delivered a computerized automated test assembly program, which has enabled HSK test developers to automatically assemble a large number of parallel test forms at once to cater to the increasing demand of HSK administration around the world. And in 2015-16, the research group has developed a preliminary version of the web-based computerized adaptive HSK level 4 exam. Such a web-based CAT system enables tailored selection of items for different test-takers, and it is expected to promote the efficiency of the HSK test administration by reducing test length, providing more standardized service, and increasing the easiness of test administration and data collection. By delivering the web-based CAT system, this campus is anticipated to become the host and the support hub for the web-based HSK test in North America.

My research has an important impact on the developments and applications of CAT. CAT is now not only used in highly influential tests such as GMAT but also in large-scale educational assessments and surveys, such as the Early Childhood Longitudinal Study, and, beyond the domain of education, in medical diagnosis and the measurement of mental health. A lot of new research has stemmed in recent years to address issues and challenges of implementing CAT in a range of fields. CAT could make a substantial influence on the functioning of society by affecting how people are selected, classified, and diagnosed; CAT research will lead to better assessment, and will hence benefit society.

Although the research on CD-CAT was originally inspired by the problems in K-12 accountability testing, it has great promise in web-based learning, and its findings may also be beneficial to other domains such as quality of life measurement, patient report outcome, media and information literacy measurement, medical diagnosis, and the measurement of mental health, etc. The conceptualization of CD-CAT could widely influence public understanding of efficient, formative assessment.

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Professor Chang has been on the list of Teachers Ranked as Excellent at Illinois every year since 2008. He is the Editor-in-Chief of Applied Psychological Measurement, past President of the Psychometric Society (2012-2013), and a Fellow of American Educational Research Association. Dr. Chang currently serves as the director of the Confucius Institute at Illinois, and he was most recently awarded the Changjiang Scholar Chair Professorship by the Ministry of Education of PR China.

Professor Hua-Hua Chang is an alumnus of LAS (PhD ‘92, Statistics). He is a practitioner-turned professor. Prior to moving to academia in 2001, he worked six years at the Educational Testing Service in Princeton, NJ, and three were at the National Board of Medical Examiners in Philadelphia, PA. His research efforts often yielded immediate and practical benefits. For example, he and Mazzeo proved the unique correspondence between item response function and item category response functions, which built a statistical foundation for the “poly-SIBTEST” software package. The package has been widely used by many organizations today to identify potentially biased test items.
Greetings! Fall 2016 started with a splash—literally, as we discovered a flood caused by a failed air-conditioning coil. Fortunately, it was discovered quickly and we made rapid progress in dewatering the floors in the building that were affected and we were ready the very next day for the first day of classes.

There have been several changes at the University since our last newsletter, including the departure of our Dean and Acting Chancellor, Barbara Wilson, who has become Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs; and Robert Jones is our new Chancellor. Executive Associate Dean Brian Reis, a member of our department, has left to join an education start-up in San Francisco. We will miss his leadership but wish him the best and look forward to working with our new Dean, Feng-Sheng Hu, and Interim Associate Dean, David Tenenbaum.

We welcomed seven new faculty this fall: Ruby Kanfer Professor Benjamin Hankin (Clinical Community), Professor Tom Raupp (Clinical Community), Associate Professor Ann Baicker-Cox (Cognitive Neurocognition), Assistant Professor Hedmi Anne Laurent, Soan Laurent, Alexandra Loria, and Mei-Mei W. Wong. We had more than thirty new or updated courses offered this year; and departures and arrivals.

Although the budget situation is still uncertain at a state level, and we have experienced an overall reduction in state funds, we anticipate that our funding level will be stable this year. Our department is operating efficiently and we have lots of exciting new initiatives in the works. We are very close to launching a new campus-wide minor for Psychology and lots of exciting new initiatives in the works. We are very close to launching a new campus-wide minor for Psychology and.

We deeply appreciate the commitment of the Psychology Alumni Board to support our undergraduate and graduate students through the establishment of the Shape the Future Today Fund. The fund supports undergraduate students exploring careers and/or have secured an unpaid summer internship, as well as graduate conference travel awards. The fund supports undergraduate students exploring careers and/or have secured an unpaid summer internship, as well as graduate conference travel awards.

Our department continues to be in the top psychology programs according to U.S. News and World Report and we were recently ranked among the top ten psychology graduate programs in psychology.

I am sure you will agree with me that Psychology is a dynamic and innovative department!

From the Department Head

The department is grateful for the generous alumni who have created scholarships and awards to support students who have demonstrated outstanding research and academic achievements, and can also benefit from financial support to continue their studies. You can visit our website: psychology.illinois.edu/shapingtomorrow.

Wishing you a healthy and successful start to the 2016-2017 academic year! Wendy Heller

From the Department Head

Psychology’s Hotdogger

By Kelly Burger

I graduated from the University of Illinois May 2015 with a double major in Psychology and English, and a minor in Secondary Education. As a “Hotdogger” I represented Oscar Mayer and drove the iconic Wienermobile, the 27-foot long hot dog on wheels, across the country for an entire year. Thousands of college graduates apply for the Wienermobile spokesperson job every year, but only twelve “lucky dogs” are chosen. More people have gone to space than have driven the famed Oscar Mayer Wienermobile!

I started my tour across the “Hot Dog Highways of America” in June 2015 right after I graduated and by February 2016 I had already traveled to twenty-eight states.

I traveled with a co-driver to a new city each week and we were given the opportunity to explore the hidden gems across America. As a “Hotdogger” I was responsible for covering a wide variety of events including parades, charitable functions, festivals, retail events and sporting events. I coordinated events, pitched and conducted media interviews, booked hotels, and engaged thousands of people a week. “Hotdoggers” essentially operate a public relations firm on wheels.

I am very thankful that I was able to receive such a well-rounded education at the University of Illinois that made me a standout candidate for this position. I relish every moment that I had with this job. I was so lucky to be doing such a fun and unconventional job right out of school and I want as many people to know about it as possible. It has truly been life changing for me and I am sure it could be the same for another lucky Illinois grad.

Do you have strong communication skills and love to travel? Submit your application to Oscar Mayer for consideration (Deadline: January 31).

Distinguished Alumni Awards

Dr. John Shustitzky earned his BS degree in Psychology from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1973, and his M.S. and PhD 1979 in Counseling Psychology, also from the University of Illinois.

Dr. Shustitzky is Director of Applied Professional Practice/Director of Clinical Training, Clinical Psychology Doctoral Program, at the Chicago School of Professional Psychology and holds an appointment as Professor of Psychology. He has spent his career serving institutions of higher learning and community-based mental health and human services organizations.

Dr. Shustitzky serves as Co-Chair of the Illinois Mental Health Planning and Advisory Council and is a member of the Illinois Department of Human Services Advisory Council. He has been a member of the Psychology Alumni Advisory Board since its inception in 2006.

L. Gene and Cathie Lemon received a Distinguished Honorary Alumni Award from Professor and Head, Wendy Heller, at the department’s annual awards program on Saturday, May 14, 2016.

L. Gene and Cathie Lemon, with Cathie’s brother Lyle Lanier Jr., established the Lyle L. Lanier Fund in Psychology in memory of Cathie and Lyle’s father, head of the Department of Psychology (1951-1959); Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (1959-1960), and President of the Urbana-Champaign campus (1960-1972).

In honor of his many contributions, the Department uses the funds annually for the Lanier Lecture Series that brings a distinguished psychologist to campus whose work is of interest to the general campus and local community.

Cathie Lemon attended the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and completed her BA in French from Salem College and a MA in Art History from Arizona State University. She spent her career with the Phoenix Art Museum.

Gene Lemon received a BS in Agriculture, Consumer & Environmental Sciences and a JD from the College of Law at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. He served in executive roles and as general counsel for several major corporations during his career. Gene and Cathie are lifetime members of the University of Illinois Presidents Council, and Cathie has served on Psychology’s Alumni Advisory Board since 2008.
Psychology Alumni Advisory Board Events

The Psychology Alumni Advisory Board organized the department’s first information webinar on Thursday, September 15. Professor Wendy Heller gave a brief update on the changes in campus and department leadership, new faculty in the department, and how State budgetary issues are impacting the department and College of LAS. She also talked about new department initiatives, including the Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Initiative (SBSRI), and the development of a new Master’s degree in Psychological Science.

Professors Howard Breerbaum and Florin Dolcos, and Christian Williams, a clinical/community graduate student and veteran, discussed the research, socio-cognitive Training and Resources in Veterans in Higher Education (STRIVE), they are conducting in collaboration with the Chez Family Foundation Center for Wounded Veterans in Higher Education. The collaboration provides the opportunity to conduct basic and applied research, and also offers a doctoral student practicum.

The Vice President of the Alumni Advisory Board, Carrie Grady, provided the background and mission of the board, notable achievements since its inception in 2008, and ways to get involved in board activities. Contact Cheryl Berger if you are interested in becoming involved with the department and alumni advisory board activities.

For more information about the 2016 summer internship recipients: www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/shape/2016.aspx

Alumna Receives Top Award from College

Dr. Elizabeth Pieroth (BC 01) was one of five alumni selected to receive the 2016 LAS Alumni Achievement Award. After leaving Illinois, Dr. Pieroth was awarded a PsyD in Clinical Psychology (APA approved) from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology (1997), and completed a postdoctoral fellowship in neuropsychology (APPIC approved) at the Henry Ford Health System (1998). She is an Illinois Licensed Clinical Psychologist and has board certification; Diplomate in Clinical Neuropsychology, and the American Board of Professional Psychology. Dr. Pieroth was awarded a fellowship to work with professional athletes with the Detroit Red Wings. She returned to Chicago after the fellowship ended and focused her work on assessment and treatment of brain injury patients in the acute recovery stage. Dr. Pieroth also evaluated concussed athletes because there were not many clinicians trained in sports neuropsychology at the time. She became Board Certified in Clinical Neuropsychology as well. After a few years Dr. Pieroth began her own private practice in order to balance the demands of work and a family.

Dr. Pieroth became increasingly more focused on concussion and sports neuropsychology, including her official role as the concussion/head injury consultant to the Chicago Bears, Blackhows, White Sox, Fair and Northwestern University. However, her practice has always consisted mostly of assessing young athletes with concussion from across the state of Illinois, as well as northeast Indiana and southern Wisconsin. A significant focus of her practice has also been dedicated to providing education to those involved in youth sports, including players, parents, coaches, teachers and healthcare providers.

In July 2012 Dr. Pieroth joined NorthShore University HealthSystem as the Associate Director of their Sports Concussion Program. She is on the Board of Directors of the Brain Injury Association of Illinois to support their work with brain injured patients and their families. She is also on the National Advisory Committee for USA Football’s Heads Up Program, which is designed to provide health education to the youth football community and reduce injuries in football.

Dr. Pieroth is a founding member of the Sports Neuropsychology Society (SNS). SNS was formed to help increase the number of neuropsychologists appropriately trained in sports concussion. She has written an neuropsychological assessment of concussion and she is involved in research on concussion in sports. Read the full article online at go.illinois.edu/pieroth16.

“I fondly recall my time at Illinois and my fortunate introduction to the combination of psychology and medicine, which laid the groundwork for my career.”

There are approximately 170 veterans enrolled at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and about 20% have a doubling condition. Some of the issues the veterans struggle with are PTSD, depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and insomnia. There are additional challenges faced by young veterans such as learning to manage their disabilities, fitting into campus as a more mature student, depression, anxiety, substance abuse, and insomnia. There are additional challenges faced by student veterans such as learning to manage their disabilities, fitting into campus as a more mature student, and how to develop career goals after leaving the military, etc.

“Both internships will help me to learn to become an advocate for children who have undergone abuse and neglect, while also helping the children with special challenges. Being awarded the Professional Development Award will be of tremendous help as both internships, each of 18-20 hours, do not allow me to be employed.”

Maryoli Rojas had two summer internship experiences: Child Life intern at Chicago’s Children Advocacy Center, and Residential intern at Children’s Home + Aid, Race Child + Family Center.

“Both internships will help me to learn to become an advocate for children who have undergone abuse and neglect, while also helping the children with special challenges. Being awarded the Professional Development Award will be of tremendous help as both internships, each of 18-20 hours, do not allow me to be employed.”

For more information about the 2016 summer internship recipients: www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/shape/2016.aspx

Psychology’s New Alumni Advisory Board Members

The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce that Angela Fasanaga, Lauren Hoy, Buczko Prakash, the Honorable Robert Villa, and Michael Walker (S-I) have joined Psychology’s Alumni Advisory Board. Fasanaga is an Account Manager at Travelers Insurance; Hoy is the Human Resource Director at the Lincoln Behavioral Health Center; Prakash is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology at Ohio State University; Villa is an Associate Judge in Illinois’ Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court; and Walker is an Executive Research Scientist at the College Board.

For more information about the Shape the Future Today Fund: www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/shape/

Professional Development Award Recipients

Your donations to the Shape the Future Today Fund have made it possible to help support undergraduate students in unpaid internships through the Alumni Professional Development Award.

2016 Summer Award Recipients

Alienin Cho had an internship in the Country Support Unit (CSU) of WHO WPRO.

“I hope to learn more about the workings of health administration so I can apply it to my ultimate goal of hospital administration. I look forward to learning about the policies and procedures that go into improving the effectiveness and efficiency of an entity’s contribution to health development. I am extremely grateful that this award has instilled in my first opportunity to get a hands-on experience in the health administration field, offering me years of sophisticated professional development and personal growth.”

Maryoli Rojas had two summer internship experiences: Child Life intern at Chicago’s Children Advocacy Center, and Residential intern at Children’s Home + Aid, Race Child + Family Center.

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For more information about the 2016 summer internship recipients: www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/shape/2016.aspx

Psychology Alumni Advisory Board Travel Award

“Three funds helped make my conference travel possible this year: I knew that I simply had to go to the annual meeting for the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) conference, considering first that it is my favorite conference to attend and second that I had two presentations at the conference. At SPSP I met with several widely renowned ‘big wigs’ in our field who not only provided invaluable feedback on my studies but also brainstormed ideas for next steps in future studies. Since that time and thanks to this feedback, I have made significantly more progress on the two projects that I presented on had I not attended the conference. All of this would not have been possible without the generous gift of the Alumni Advisory Board. I would like to extend a sincere thank you for providing the graduate students in the department with the opportunity to receive these funds. Opportunities such as these, while generally few and far between, play a large role in helping us navigate the financial difficulties of progressing through graduate school.”

For more information about the 2016 Summer Award recipients: www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/shape/2016.aspx

Learn how the Shape the Future Today Fund supports the educational experience of psychology students: www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/shape/
Laura Bolton Research Development Award

The Department of Psychology would like to thank Dr. Laura Bolton (BS '16) and her husband, Dr. Russell Bolton (BS '55, MS '59, PhD '68 Civil Engineering) for establishing the Laura Bolton Research Development Award. The award provides financial support to qualified undergraduate psychology students who are conducting summer research in a psychology lab on campus.

2016 Award Recipients

Melissa Coffel
Cognition and Brain Lab

Melissa received training on the intricacies of Electroencephalography (EEG) equipment and Event Related Potential (ERP) components in psycholinguistic studies that involved older adult subjects.

“Thank you for your support. It means a lot to me to know that you are aware of the importance of psychology and the need to support the next generation of psychologists.”

Dahyeon Kang
Alcohol Research Lab

Dahyeon worked on a meta-analysis project with Assistant Professor Catharine Fairbairn. The research will be presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology conference next year. The meta-analysis is about the relationship between attachment styles and substance abuse in longitudinal studies.

“I am looking forward to further develop as a researcher through this summer experience. This is my career goal to pursue a doctoral degree in clinical psychology. I am graduating one year early, and I am going to apply for graduate schools this fall. So this summer period is very important for me, and I am again very grateful that I do not have to worry about my living costs in Champaign for graduate schools this fall.”

2016 Career Information Night Alumni Participants

Bradley Axentos (BS 1984, Psychology, University of Illinois; PhD 1990, Crotal Psychology, Wayne State University), Staff Psychologist, Neuropsychologist, Department of Veterans Affairs

Randi Bell (BS 1998, Psychology, University of Illinois, Aetna, Product Owner, Global Knowledge Sharing

Eddie Blundell IV (BS 2014, Psychology, University of Illinois), Sourcings Specialist, One Hope United

Krista Burredio (BS 2012, Psychology & Communications, University of Illinois), Founder, Hertou-Consult, Talent Acquisition Specialist, Tactwise


Alicia Canarie (BS 1992, Psychology, University of Illinois; MS 1994, Human Resources, Loyola University), Senior Human Resources Manager, InterElk Lake Michigan Medical, Bramson VR Consulting, Owener

Kari Carpenter (BS 2014), Talent Acquisition Coordinator & Junior Recruiter, TwentyEighty

Laura Faynor-Ciha (BS 1983, Psychology, University of Illinois; MS 1985, Illinois State University; PhD 1995, Illinois Institute of Technology) Licensed Clinical Psychologist

Angela Flanagan (BS 2012, Psychology, University of Illinois), Account Manager, Travelers Insurance

Ben Ganellen (BS 2012, B.A. May 2016), University of Illinois; Post-graduation, first-year Associate, Jones Day (Chicago office)

Carrie Grady (BS 1999, Psychology, University of Illinois; M.Ed 2002, Community Counseling, Loyola University), Talent Business Advisor, Debitel

Dale Hoke (BS 1973, Psychology, University of Illinois; MS 1974, Illinois State University), Adjunct Instructor of Psychology, Heartland Community College

Kari Hutjens (BS 2004, Psychology, University of Illinois; MS 2009, Counseling, Eastern Illinois University), Academic Advisor, Department of Economics, University of Illinois

Marios Karanouhas (BS 1983, Psychology, University of Illinois; Ed. 1986, John Marshall Law School), Karanouhas Law Offices, Owner

Susan Keller (BS 1992, Psychology, MSW 2014, University of Illinois, Clinical Counselor, University of Illinois Faculty/Staff Assistance Program

Loren Kuzochna (BS 1985, Psychology, University of Illinois), MBA & PhD 1994, Business Administration, University of Wisconsin-Madison), Teaching Professor, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Michael Langendorf (BS 1975, MSW 1981, University of Illinois) School Social Worker (retired)

Leah Cohen Marks (BS 2011, Psychology, University of Illinois, PhD 2017, School Psychology, Illinois State University)

Debjanik Mukherjee (MA 1997, PhD 2000, University of Illinois), Director and Associate Professor, Diversity Ethics Program, Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago and Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine

Larry Muller (BS 1974, Psychology & Economics, M.B.A 1976, University of Illinois), President, Anthem Capital, Inc.

Susan Nelson (BA 1984, Psychology, University of Illinois), Director of Human Resources, Komatsu Professional Practice/Director of Clinical Training, Medical Practice-Bariatric/Trauma/General Surgery, Aon, Product Owner, Global Knowledge Sharing

The Honorable Robert Villa (BS 1992, Psychology, University of Illinois; JD 1995, DePaul College of Law), Associate Judge, Illinois’s Sixteenth Judicial Circuit Court

Casey Westover (BS 1998, Psychology, University of Illinois; MS 2003, Harvard Law School), Associate Partner, Sachnoff & Weaver Ltd. and Reed Smith LLP

Stephan Wiet (BS 1976, Psychology, University of Illinois; MS 1981, 1983, Biopsychology, Rutgers University), Research Director of Consumer Sciences, Molina Healthcare

You can view pictures from Career Information Night at: http://www.psychology.illinois.edu/news/gallery
First Friday Alumni Panels

What’s Your Story? The Psychology Alumni Advisory Board provides a mentoring opportunity for undergraduates and alumni. The “First Friday” panels help current students explore career options. Alumni interested in participating in a panel should contact Cheryl Berger, Assistant Found for Alumni Relations, cberger@illinois.edu.

Bradley Axelrod (BS '84)
As a Clinical Neuropsychologist, my BS in Psychology gave me the foundation knowledge I needed for graduate school and to decide what areas of psychology did NOT appeal to me. Finding out what I did not want to do was as important as zeroing in on what I did want to do.

Fabian Camarero (BS '95)
I am currently a Director of Finance for a fortune 50 insurance company and a Certified Public Accountant.

Tynia Gainez (BS '98)
I am an Enrolled Agent which is the highest license granted to a tax professional to represent clients before the IRS nationwide. In my private tax practice, even though clients are not literally on my couch, I use my psychology degree daily to organize the release of their personal information for their tax return. Although, difficult sometimes, I limit my recommendations to tax advice.

Erica Hornehal (BS '98)
I am currently a licensed clinical professional counselor and board certified dance/movement therapist practicing in Chicago. I own and operate Chicago Dancer Therapy. Chicago’s premier dance therapy and counseling practice I utilize my undergraduate psychology skills every day. I use basic theory and methodology of Rogers, Freud, and Erikson. Without early exposure to these psychologists, I would have been lost in my graduate work.

Read more about their careers at: www.psychology.illinois.edu/mentoring/

Faculty Recognized for Professional Excellence

Fred & Ruby Kanfer Professor in Psychology

By Taylor Hoffman, Communications Manager, B571

For years of critical research, Benjamin L. Hankin, has been named the Fred and Ruby Kanfer Professor of Psychology. It is the first ever endowed named position in the Department of Psychology.

An investment is one of the highest honors that a faculty member can receive. The position is named for the late Frederick Kanfer and his wife, Ruby. Frederick receiving his doctoral degree in clinical psychology from Indiana University in 1953 before joining the Illinois faculty in 1973. Hankin, a renowned researcher in his field, arrived at Illinois this fall. He worked previously at the University of Denver after earning his doctoral degree at the University of Wisconsin in 2001. He has since published over 180 papers and co-edited two books, with his research continuously funded by the National Institutes of Health, National Science Foundation, and private foundations. Hankin’s research focuses on understanding depression, especially in children and adolescents.

“I feel very fortunate to accept this endowed position,” Hankin said. “I am very grateful to the Kanfer family, the College of LAS, the university, and the department for the opportunity to apply for this position,” he added. “As academics, the relationships we have with our students and colleagues is what makes this profession so exciting, vibrant, and joyous.”

Fredrick Ross, associate executive dean of the College of LAS, said the Kanfer Professorship is one of the greatest honors for any psychology professor. “It recognizes great work,” said Ross. “Receives bring honor to themselves, to their department, to the college, and to the institution as a whole. And through their work, they provide inspiration and opportunity for their students.”

Wendy Helle, head of the Department of Psychology, spoke highly of Hankin’s research, noting that one reviewer described Hankin’s work on gender differences in depression as a “standard starting point” for any work on depression in adolescence. “The department is extremely pleased to have such a strong scholar in the area of psychopathology who is helping understand what causes mental illness, how to diagnose it, and how to treat it,” she said.

Kanfer was a pioneer in the behavioral therapy movement and a founding father of self-management therapy. His seminal research on self-control and applications to the therapeutic process provided the foundation for the modern theories of self-management and cognitive behavior therapy methods being practiced widely today.

He dedicated more than 25 years to Illinois and was named professor emeritus in 1995. He published over 150 scientific articles and served on editorial boards of U.S. and international psychological journals. A Fulbright Professor in Europe, he was awarded the Alexander von Humboldt Senior Scientist Award and the Gold Medal of Honor from Vienna for his contributions to the advancement of clinical psychology in Europe. In October 2002, Kanfer was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Deutsche Gesellschaft fur Psychologie.

Fredrick and Ruby Kanfer met and married in New York in 1952. Over the next 50 years, Mrs. Kanfer served as an active partner in her husband’s career, a devoted homemaker, and loving mother. She enjoyed traveling, outdoor activities and reading. They had two children, Ruth and Larry Kanfer, both of whom have close ties to the University of Illinois, and three grandchildren, Sarah, Anna and David.

Ruth Kanfer is a Professor of Psychology and Founding Director of the Geiger Tech Work Science Center at the Georgische Institute of Technology. She received a PhD in Clinical Psychology from Arizona State University (1981), and completed a post-doctoral fellowship in Quantitative Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Kanfer’s husband, Philip Ackerman, is a Professor of Psychology at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He received his master’s degree (1981) and PhD degree (1984) from the Department of Psychology at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Larry Kanfer received his degree in Architecture (1979) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his wife, Alaina Kanfer, completed a post-doctoral fellowship in the department’s Quantitative Psychology Division. Kanfer is the owner of Larry Kanfer Photography Gallery located in Savoy, IL. His works are shown in galleries, museums, and in private/corporate collections across the country. He is known as the pre-eminent photographer of Midwestern Prairiescapes.

Anna Kanfer; David Kanfer; Larry Kanfer; Alaina Kanfer; Philip Ackerman; and Ruby Kanfer.
### 2017 Lyle Lanier Lecture

The Department of Psychology has invited Dr. Takao Hensch to present our annual Lyle Lanier Lecture, “The Power of the Infant Brain,” on Monday, March 27, 2017, 4 p.m. at the Beckman Institute Auditorium, 405 N. Mathews, Urbana, IL. Dr. Hensch is a joint professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School at Boston Children’s Hospital, Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology at Harvard’s Center for Brain Science, and he currently directs the NIH Silvio O. Conte Center for Basic Mental Health Research at Harvard. His research explores the mechanisms underlying critical periods of brain development, specifically, neural circuits sculpted by experience in infancy and early childhood.

### LYLE H. LANIER FUND

In honor of his many contributions, the Department organized the Lanier Lecture Series to illustrate how the scientific approach to the analysis of the mind and behavior can yield results of significance to a variety of human concerns. The Lanier Lecture Series highlights distinguished psychological research at the University of Illinois.

- Linda Bartoshok, Yale University School of Medicine
- Marta Kutas, University of California, San Diego
- Hazel Rose Markus, Stanford University
- Richard Robust, University of Michigan
- Daniel Kahneman, Princeton University
- Andrew Cappi, King’s College, London, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Susan Golden-Meadow, University of Chicago
- Richard Burt, University of California, Los Angeles
- Emanuel Donchin, University of California, Los Angeles

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### FACULTY AWARDS

**CHIPS Fellow**

**Joseph Cohen's** Fellowship is funded through the NIMH Division of Services and Intervention Research. Child Intervention, Prevention & Services (CHIPS) is an interdisciplinary training consortium created to enhance career development for early career scientists pursing research careers in the areas of intervention, prevention, and the provision of services for children and adolescents.

**Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researcher**

**Brent Roberts** is one of eight University of Illinois researchers named to the Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researchers list for 2016. The list identifies scientists whose research has had significant global impact within their respective fields of study, according to a statement from Clarivate Analytics, “formally the Intellectual Property and Science business of Thomson Reuters.”

**Distinguished Career Award**

**Fritz Drasgow,** Professor of Psychology and Dean of the School of Labor & Employment Relations, has been honored with the 2016 Distinguished Career Award from the Academy of Management. The award is given to scholars who have a clear record of excellence in the advancement of research methods; a significant impact of research upon the science, teaching, and use of research methods; and stature relative to other scholars in the field of research methods.

**Fulker Award**

**Daniel Briley** received the Fulker Award from the Behavior Genetics Association for the best paper published in Behavior Genetics in 2015.

**Lincoln Excellence for Assistant Professors Award**

**Dan Hyde** has been recognized for his exceptional accomplishments in teaching and research by the College of LAS. Read more: go.las.illinois.edu/LEAP16.

**Mabel Kirkpatrick Hohenboken Award**

**Nathan Todd** was selected as the 2016 recipient of the Hohenboken Award. This award recognizes departmental faculty who consistently contribute to instruction, focus on students, and the quality of instructional outcomes; employ innovative approaches to teaching and influence the curriculum.

**Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Initiative**

Professor **Brent Roberts** is working with a steering committee to lead a campus effort—the Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Initiative. Illinois is home to some of the foremost social and behavioral sciences experts in the world, but because they are dispersed across the university (in at least 45 different departments), no single college or unit represents their interests. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research has launched a new initiative to explore how to facilitate large-scale, interdisciplinary research projects that leverage our social and behavioral sciences expertise and support the next generation of researchers in the field.

**Society for Psychophysiological Research**

Professor **Kara Fedeheimer** is President-Elect for the Society for Psychophysiological Research.

**University Scholar**

Nicole Allen was selected as a University Scholar for the 2016-17 academic year. Allen is internationally recognized for her scholarship in the study of organized community efforts to address domestic violence and has been at the forefront of developing service learning courses for undergraduates. Read more: go.las.illinois.edu/universityscholars16.

**PSC Assistant Director**

**Nikhefalinum A. Chioneso** is an Assistant Director of the Psychosocial Services Center in the Clinical Community Division. She provides leadership in the development and implementation of community engagement efforts for the Division by developing both supportive relationships and relevant services with the campus and larger community. Chioneso is also the current Director of the NIMH Silvio O. Conte Center for Psychophysiological Research. She is internationally recognized for her research on the power of the infant brain, and she currently directs the NIMH Silvio O. Conte Center for Psychophysiological Research. She has been a University Scholar for the 2016-17 academic year. Allen provided leadership in the development of service learning courses for undergraduates. Read more: go.las.illinois.edu/universityscholars16.

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### 2017 Lyle Lanier Lecture

The Department of Psychology has invited Dr. Takao Hensch to present our annual Lyle Lanier Lecture, “The Power of the Infant Brain,” on Monday, March 27, 2017, 4 p.m. at the Beckman Institute Auditorium, 405 N. Mathews, Urbana, IL. Dr. Hensch is a joint professor of Neurology, Harvard Medical School at Boston Children’s Hospital, Professor of Molecular and Cellular Biology at Harvard’s Center for Brain Science, and he currently directs the NIH Silvio O. Conte Center for Basic Mental Health Research at Harvard. His research explores the mechanisms underlying critical periods of brain development, specifically, neural circuits sculpted by experience in infancy and early childhood.

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**Nicole Allen**

**Carla Hunter**

**Floriin Dolcos**

**Alejandro Linas**

**Daniel Newman**

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**Charles Erikson**

**Professorial Scholar**

The Department of Psychology has a tradition of honoring faculty members who have achieved promotion to Associate or Full Professor with the title of Professorial Scholar. The Professorial Scholar titles are awarded after eminent emeritus faculty members in the department. The appointments serve as recognition of our colleagues’ outstanding achievements in research, teaching, and service, as validated by their promotion in rank. We honor not only our newly promoted faculty members but our esteemed emeritus faculty members as well.

The appointments are in effect for one year and each provides a discretionary fund to support scholarly activities. The following have been named Professorial Scholars effective January 1, 2017:

- **Julian Rappaport Professorial Scholar in Psychology:** Nicole Allen, and Carla Hunter
- **Emanuel Donchin Professorial Scholar in Psychology:** Florin Dolcos
- **Charles Erikson Professorial Scholar in Psychology:** Alejandro Linas
- **Charles L. Hall Professorial Scholar in Psychology:** Daniel Newman

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**FACULTY AWARDS**

**CHIPS Fellow**

**Joseph Cohen’s** Fellowship is funded through the NIMH Division of Services and Intervention Research. Child Intervention, Prevention & Services (CHIPS) is an interdisciplinary training consortium created to enhance career development for early career scientists pursuing research careers in the areas of intervention, prevention, and the provision of services for children and adolescents.

**Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researcher**

**Brent Roberts** is one of eight University of Illinois researchers named to the Clarivate Analytics Highly Cited Researchers list for 2016. The list identifies scientists whose research has had significant global impact within their respective fields of study, according to a statement from Clarivate Analytics, “formally the Intellectual Property and Science business of Thomson Reuters.” Read more: https://news.illinois.edu/blog/view/8367/4310731-m-4751539.

**Distinguished Career Award**

**Fritz Drasgow,** Professor of Psychology and Dean of the School of Labor & Employment Relations, has been honored with the 2016 Distinguished Career Award from the Academy of Management. The award is given to scholars who have a clear record of excellence in the advancement of research methods; a significant impact of research upon the science, teaching, and use of research methods; and stature relative to other scholars in the field of research methods.

**Fulker Award**

**Daniel Briley** received the Fulker Award from the Behavior Genetics Association for the best paper published in Behavior Genetics in 2015.

**Lincoln Excellence for Assistant Professors Award**

**Dan Hyde** has been recognized for his exceptional accomplishments in teaching and research by the College of LAS. Read more: go.las.illinois.edu/LEAP16.

**Mabel Kirkpatrick Hohenboken Award**

**Nathan Todd** was selected as the 2016 recipient of the Hohenboken Award. This award recognizes departmental faculty who consistently contribute to instruction, focus on students, and the quality of instructional outcomes; employ innovative approaches to teaching and influence the curriculum.

**Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Initiative**

Professor **Brent Roberts** is working with a steering committee to lead a campus effort—the Social and Behavioral Sciences Research Initiative. Illinois is home to some of the foremost social and behavioral sciences experts in the world, but because they are dispersed across the university (in at least 45 different departments), no single college or unit represents their interests. The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research has launched a new initiative to explore how to facilitate large-scale, interdisciplinary research projects that leverage our social and behavioral sciences expertise and support the next generation of researchers in the field. For more information visit: https://research.illinois.edu/SEIRI.

**Society for Psychophysiological Research**

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NEW FACULTY

Aron Barbey
Associate Professor, Cognitive Neuroscience Division

Research in my laboratory investigates the neural mechanisms of human intelligence. Through a combination of brain imaging (structural and functional MRI) and neuropsychological patient studies, our research seeks to uncover the mechanisms that shape higher cognitive processes and to develop predictive models of brain function that link neural systems to specific patterns of inference and behavior. Our research has helped to identify and characterize the brain networks that are essential to higher cognitive functions (general intelligence, fluid intelligence, cognitive flexibility, and working memory), and has examined their roles in language processing (discourse comprehension) and social communication (emotional intelligence and social problem solving).

A central aim of our current research is to develop cognitive neuroscience directed interventions to improve higher cognitive functions, investigating the beneficial effects of cognitive, physical fitness, and nutritional interventions on executive control, learning, and memory. For further detail and updates, please see: www.cognitive-neuroscience.org.

Thomas Kwagel
Professor, Clinical/ Community Psychology

My program of research examines personality psychology and schizophrenia from experimental and developmental psychological perspectives. My research focuses on developing and testing theories, personality, neurocognitive, biobehavioral, and genetic associations of schizophrenia. As a member of the society for the study of experimental and clinical psychology, and specifically clinical and subclinical manifestations of hyperactivity, my research and interests cross-sectional and prospective studies and actively involves student researchers.

My laboratory is currently focusing on research in three interrelated areas, including: 1) Expression of Clinical and Subclinical Psychopathology in Daily Life using Experience Sampling Methodology; 2) Identification and Assessment of the Multidimensional Structure of Schizotypy, and 3) Assessment of Risk for Bipolar Spectrum Psychopathology.

Heidemarie Laurent
Assistant Professor, Clinical/Community Division

What separates people who can thrive in the face of stress from those who succumb to mood disorders? How do early and later relationships buffer or exacerbate stress vulnerabilities, and how can people learn to respond more adaptively to daily stress?

My research focuses on (1) defining what we mean by stress "regulation" by relating multiple biological (i.e., neural, neuroendocrine, autonomic) and behavioral stress response facets to psychological symptoms and well-being; (2) identifying developmental paths shaping stress regulation, including prenatal and postnatal influences of parental depression; and (3) determining how practices such as mindfulness can improve stress regulation, and in which such practices are most likely to benefit.

My work combines stress physiology monitoring, neuroimaging, and behavioral observation as people respond to naturalistic stresses that arise within close interpersonal relationships, toward the ultimate goal of interrupting intergenerational cycles of stress dysregulation and depression.

Sean Laurent
Assistant Professor, Social-Personality Division

What makes some people better (or worse) than others at decoding others’ thoughts and emotions? How do people attempt to understand others’ minds, and how does trying to get inside another person’s head affect feelings about that person and the self? How do intuitions or knowledge about others’ mental states affect judgments of them and their actions, such as a sense of them as “good” or “bad” or a desire to see them blamed or praised, punished or rewarded?

These are the types of questions that motivate my work, organized around the central theme of “how people think about, feel about, and form judgments of others’ minds and actions.”

Much of my recent research has focused on the cognitive and affective mechanisms that underlie judgments of blame and desire to punish.

Because judgments about harm, responsibility, and blameworthiness are central to many types of legal judgments, this research has also explored an interest in how folk psychology underlies legal decision-making. However, I am also interested in the other side of this question: how people reason about praise, and the differences in reasoning processes that underlie why people appear quite willing to blame others for causing harm, but are hesitant to give praise for causing benefit.

Andrea Miller
Fellowing Assistant Professor, Social-Personality Division

My research examines the social-psychological foundations of prejudice, discrimination, and inequality under the law.

Current projects include an examination of gender ideology in family responsibilities discrimination in the workplace, a study of moral typecasting and racial inequality in criminal justice outcomes, and a study of judicial bases in court outcomes.

In investigating the role of social processes in inequality, I use core social-psychological theories and methods to examine basic social cognitive, attitudinal, and behavioral mechanisms. My work includes experimentaion, scale construction, factor analysis, coding, and measurement at both explicit and implicit levels of processing.

Chadly Stern
Assistant Professor, Social-Personality Division

My research focuses on how people’s motivations shape the way they perceive and interact with others. I have a particular interest in how the motivations of liberals and conservatives influence their perceptions of the social world (e.g., categorizing others into groups, estimating the popularity of their opinions), and how these perceptions can shape large-scale outcomes (e.g., social inequality, successful political mobilization).

FACULTY RETIREMENT

Art Kramer, Director of the Bednarik Institute for Advanced Science & Technology (2010-2016), Savland Chair, and Professor of Psychology and Neuroscience, retired May 2016 after thirty-two years at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Kramer earned his bachelor’s degree from Stony Brook University (1973) and received his Ph.D in Cognitive/Experimental Psychology (1986) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Kramer’s research projects include topics in cognitive, cognitive neuroscience, aging, and human factors. Kramer is a former associate editor of Perception and Psychophysics and is currently a member of six editorial boards. Kramer is also a Fellow of the American Psychological Association, American Psychological Society, a former member of the executive committee of the International Society of Attention and Performance, and a recipient of a NIH Ten Year MERIT Award.


We bid a fond farewell to Brian Ross who retired in November after thirty-four years at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Ross earned his bachelor’s degree from Brown University (1974), his M.S. in Mathematical Statistics from Rutgers (1977), M.A. in Psychology from Yale University (1981), and Ph.D from Stanford (1982). He joined the Department of Psychology in 1982 and was a member of the department’s Cognitive Division.

His research interests include cognitive psychology issues in learning, memory, problem solving, and categorization. In particular: problem-solving and learning in complex domains, categorization, learning, and use of concepts; reminiscence and the use of memory.

Ross served as the Interim Head in Psychology (2011-12), Interim Associate Dean for the Sciences (2012-13), Interim Dean (2013-14), and Executive Associate Dean (2015-2016). Professor David Irwin was one of the speakers at the College of LAS retirement event for Ross.

It is a sad pleasure to speak today at Brian’s retirement ceremony. Sad because Brian and I have been friends and colleagues for over 25 years and I will miss him very much, but a pleasure because I am very happy that Brian and his wife Cheri will be joining their wonderful daughters in the San Francisco area and I know that means a lot to them.

Brian joined the Department of Psychology in 1982 after earning his Ph.D from Stanford University. He was such a star at Stanford that he was actually hired by us while he was still just a 3rd year grad student, before he even had a chance to go on the job market. Brian’s professional accomplishments are excellent. His research has focused on how people learn, reason, and understand in complex domains. He has over 100 publications and his work is highly cited. His research has been supported by the National Science Foundation, the Air Force Office of Scientific Research, and the National Institute of Mental Health and he has served as the editor-in-chief of The Psychology of Learning and Motivation books; the editor-in-chief of Memory & Cognition; the co-author of a textbook, Cognitive Psychology; and he served as the chair of the governing board of the major research organization in his field, the Psychonomic Society, in 2010. During his time as chair he made several bold moves that increased the financial viability of the organization to such an extent that they now have more money than they know what to do with. Frankly he had such problems.

On a personal level, Brian is a great friend and an excellent mentor of graduate students, junior faculty members, associate editors on his editorial board, and unit executive officers. He is a very generous and compassionate person who has helped many people in a quiet, personal, and private way. I admire him very much. We are losing not only a great scientist and a great administrator but a great person as well.

Professor William Greenough's Legacy

A few short years ago, we lost a leader in Psychology at the University of Illinois. Professor William Greenough's legacy in the fields of psychology and neuroscience can be seen through his pioneering research in the study of brain plasticity. He also received numerous accolades including election to the National Academy of Science and being named a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Many will argue his true legacy lies with the special interest he took in the students in his lab; those he mentored and with whom he shared his passion for the process of science. We strive to continue Bill's legacy of student support at Illinois. For more information on Bill's career and his legacy at Illinois: www.psychology.illinois.edu/giving/shape/Greenough_Scholarship_Fund.aspx

Sepideh Friberg Sadeghiani
Assistant Professor, Cognitive Division

My work investigates how the function of higher-order brain areas modulates the way humans perceive and interact with the world. Using a multi-methods approach, including fMRI, EEG, simultaneous EEG-fMRI, and genetic analyses in healthy participants and neurological patients, I study activity in large-scale brain networks and communication across these networks to understand top-down modulation and cognitive control.

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GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

Nancy Hirschberg Memorial Award

Nancy Hirschberg was a member of the psychology department here in Champaign from 1964 until 1976, when she left the psychology faculty at the U of I Chicago campus. Shortly after her death in February 1979, her friends and colleagues at both campuses met to establish the Nancy Hirschberg Memorial Fund to create a living reminder of the hope that her memory will serve to encourage others to attain their full potential.

The Nancy Hirschberg Memorial Award is presented each year to a psychology graduate student who, during that year, has performed outstanding original research or scholarship in areas related to Professor Hirschberg’s interests. These areas include individual differences, personality, human judgment, and multivariate analysis. The award consists of a cash prize and inscription of the recipient’s name on a plaque which is kept on permanent display on the third floor.

J. McVicker Hunt Award for Excellence in Graduate Research

The J. McVicker Hunt Award was established in 2005 to honor the contributions of J. McVicker Hunt to the field of developmental psychology. Hunt was a faculty member in the Department of Psychology from 1951 to 1974. Hunt’s book, Intelligence and Expertise published in 1961, has been credited for laying the groundwork for Project Head Start, and the importance of early childhood education.

The J. McVicker Hunt Award recipients are selected based on the significance and quality of their research as well as their research productivity. Zachary Hume (Developmental Division) is the 2016 recipient for this award.

Frederick & Ruby Kanfer Award

Frederick H. Kanfer, a member of the Department of Psychology from 1973 until 1995, was a pioneer in the behavioral therapy movement and a founding father of self-management therapy. To honor his legacy, his family established the Frederick and Ruby Kanfer Award, to be presented to a psychology student whose scholarship and service in the field of clinical/community psychology is aimed at improving the psychological lives of all individuals.

Vara Mekawi was the 2016 award recipient. Mekawi’s integrative research and service highlight her commitment to improving people’s lives, exemplify the ideals of the Frederick and Ruby Kanfer Award. Her research and intervention are part of her long-term career goals which address unmet mental health needs in the African American community. Dr. Carla Hunter’s nomination letter stated, “Her thinking about the integration of research and practice is advanced. Hands-down one of the best applications of the principles of cognitive-behavioral therapy to the Bicultural model of Racism as a Stressor I have ever observed.”

Sarah C. Mangelsdorf Graduate Award in Psychology


Rachel Rykin (Developmental Division) and Emily Hanawalt (Cognitive Neuroscience Division) received the 2016 award, which is designed to honor an outstanding female graduate student who has exhibited excellence in research, scholarship, teaching, and has shown potential to be an academic leader.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

Raymond B. Cattell Scholarship in Psychology

The Raymond B. Cattell Scholarship was established by Dr. Samuel Krug (MA ’58, PhD ’71) in honor of Professor Raymond Cattell who served as his advisor through graduate school and remained a close friend until he died in 1968. It is currently chaired and overseen by MetLife Inc., an educational testing company that works primarily with large-scale state testing programs. The 2016 Recipients are Ryan Kahle (pictured above) and Yong Eun Rhee.

Roger B. Smith Scholarship in Psychology

The Roger B. Smith Scholarship in Psychology was established in 2016 by Roger Bennett to support undergraduate students. Mr. Smith graduated in 1996 with a BS in Psychology and a minor in Chemistry. He formed Millennium Dealers Services, Inc. in 1999 with his son. The company is a wholesaler of mobile electronics and he continues to serve as president and owner of the company.

The 2016 Recipients are Alexander Contreras-Rogers, Avery Hernandez-Delgado, Kimberly Galvez, Aminah Long, and Bogdan Schak.

GRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

Jeffrey Tanaka Memorial Award

Jeffrey Tanaka was a member of the Psychology and Educational Psychology Departments at the U of I from 1990 until 1992. He was a fellow of the American Psychological Association and of the American Psychological Society and was elected as a member of the prestigious Society of Multivariate Experimental Psychology. At the U of I he was recognized as a University Scholar and a College of Education Scholar. After his untimely death in November 1992, friends and colleagues established the Jeffrey Tanaka Memorial Award that is presented to graduate students studying quantitative or personality psychology. The award rotates on a yearly basis between the Department of Psychology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the Department of Educational Psychology in the College of Education.

The award recognizes outstanding original research or scholarship in areas related to Professor Tanaka’s interests in quantitative psychology and personality psychology.

Morgan Sima Fisy and Konrad Bresin (Clinical-Personality Psychology) are the 2016 recipients for this award.

Julie Sutton-Osgood Award

The Julie Sutton-Osgood Award was established in 2008 by family and friends in memory of Julie Sutton-Osgood whose career goal was to become a practicing physician. Sutton-Osgood trained as an emergency medical technician (EMT) and worked summers as an ambulance company while enrolled as a psychology student at Illinois.

After graduation she completed a paramedic course and worked for Superior Ambulance Company and became their EMS coordinator through Christ Hospital and Hope Children’s Hospital. A few years later she attended physician assistant school while she continued to work full-time. Sutton-Osgood fulfilled her goal to become a licensed Physician’s Assistant. The Julie Sutton-Osgood Award in Psychology is intended to help students realize their dream of becoming either a physician or another type of medical practitioner.

The 2016 Julie Sutton-Osgood Award in Psychology was awarded to Danielle Komskey who entered medical school fall 2014 at Rush Medical College.

Janet Titchy Memorial Award

The Janet Titchy Memorial Award was established in 1975 in memory of Janet Titchy, who as an undergraduate student was active in psychology research. The 2016 award was presented to Maureen Gray for her senior honors thesis, “Can Associations and Relational Learning Interact? An Investigation Using Category Learning.” Gray’s research advisor was Professor John Hummel.

CAPSTONE RESEARCH

The Capstone Undergraduate Research program, coordinated by Assistant Professor Monica Ullodes, ideally taken for two-terms, is a course designed for advanced students who have arranged to do a research project in the laboratory of a faculty member.

The combination of working intensively in a research laboratory and meeting weekly as a group to present and discuss each student’s research project, together with formal instruction on research ethics, scientific writing, and making presentations, will provide in-depth knowledge of research in psychology, and will teach students to make effective oral and written presentations of their findings.

Julie Sutton-Osgood Psychology Award

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Front Row (L-R): Ashana Radhakrishnan, Chery “Hair” Ting, Ayesha Bhatia, Disha Roy, Andrea Garcia, Associate Professor Monica Ullodes.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT AWARDS

2016 FALL JAMES E. SPOOR SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS AND HONORS IN PSYCHOLOGY

The Honors Program, coordinated in 2016 by Professor Eva Pomerantz, is a three-semester sequence of courses designed to offer outstanding undergraduates an opportunity to do sustained scholarly work on a specific research project, culminating in the preparation of an undergraduate Bachelor's thesis, and a poster presentation at the Honors Program Fair. Students who complete the program graduate with “Honors in Psychology.” Twelve students presented their research at the Honors Program Fair on April 25, 2016.

Front Row (L-R): Professor Eva Pomerantz, Sarah Zola, Heinrich Pinardo, Hannah Swoboda, (Not pictured: Dana Chamberlin and Jiaren Zhang)

Back Row (L-R): Thane Fowler, Bailey Cation, Zachariah Bettei, Ziang Xiao, Ziziou Hu, Robert Sheppard, and Maureen Gray

Not pictured: Akram Almasri, Haris Arshad, and Richard Kacirek

James E. Spoor is a distinguished alumnus of the Department of Psychology and the University of Illinois (BS ’76). The scholarships are a gift by his wife, Mrs. Nancy Spoor, to honor her husband and help worthy undergraduate students.

Spoor had a very successful career that covered more than 25 years in human resources, line management and global HR operations with several respected Fortune 500 corporations in the energy, high tech, and food processing industries. During his career, Spoor earned a reputation as a respected visionary, pioneer, and innovator who focused on exploring technology to address strategic business issues.

In 1984, Spoor founded SPECTRUM Human Resources Systems Corporation. With his passion for HR and technology, SPECTRUM established itself as a leading provider of HR, benefits administration, talent acquisition, and training and development systems to high expectation mid-market organizations.

In recognition of his achievements, the department presented Spoor with a Distinguished Alumni Award at the department’s awards ceremony on May 13, 2007.

DIVISION AWARDS FOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS

Your generous gifts to the Partnership for Psychology Fund bolsters our funding of awards for outstanding undergraduate research and academic accomplishments.

BEHAVIORAL NEUROSCIENCE

Donald D. Hebb Award: Stephanie Buan

CARL LANSHLEY AWARD:

Jaemin Zhang

COGNITIVE

Charles Osogood Award: Bailey Cation

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award: Maureen Gray

DEVELOPMENTAL

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award: Mary Jaccott

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award: Simon Park

CLINICAL/COMMUNITY

Community Action Award: Edith Issacson

Outstanding Clinical-Community Science Undergraduate Student Award: Kelly Gau

J. McVicker Hunt Award: Zachary Home

OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ALUMNI/ALUMNAE

• Marcan Meez, Psychology & Spanish
• Enka Juanita Roemmer, Psychology
• Grace Elizabeth Schaffer, Psychology
• Allison Frances Scharfman, Molecular and Cellular Biology & Psychology
• Michael L. Schaus, Psychology & English
• Laura Elizabeth Setnize, Psychology
• Panaba B. Shah, Molecular and Cellular Biology & Psychology
• Andrew Stolen, Psychology
• Neta A. Vowasath, Psychology
• Jocelyn Clare Wysocki, Psychology
• Omar A. Zaki, Molecular and Cellular Biology & Psychology
• Sarah Elizabeth Zola, Psychology

View pictures of all the 2016 award recipients at: www.psychology.illinois.edu/alumni/news/gallery

DISTINCTION IN PSYCHOLOGY

Graduating with Distinction in Psychology requires significant research and academic effort by undergraduate students. For Distinction, a student must work for two semesters on a research project with a faculty member, and then prepare an undergraduate bachelor’s thesis.

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award:

• Sarah Elizabeth Zola, Psychology
• Omar A. Zaki, Molecular and Cellular Biology & Psychology
• Jocelyn Clare Wysocki, Psychology
• Neta A. Vowasath, Psychology
• Andrew Stolen, Psychology
• Laura Elizabeth Setnize, Psychology
• Panaba B. Shah, Molecular and Cellular Biology & Psychology
• Michael L. Schaus, Psychology & English
• Enka Juanita Roemmer, Psychology
• Grace Elizabeth Schaffer, Psychology
• Allison Frances Scharfman, Molecular and Cellular Biology & Psychology
• Marcan Meez, Psychology & Spanish

Psychology’s Bronze Tablet Winners

Congratulations to Psychology’s Bronze Tablet winners. Inclusion on the Bronze Tablet is one of the university’s highest honors for graduating students. Students are selected based on their outstanding academic performances during those undergraduate studies.

• Sarah A. Chalisa, Psychology & Political Science
• Dana M. Chamberlin, Psychology
• Albert H. Chang, Molecular and Cellular Biology & Psychology
• Taylor Lynn Greenspan, Psychology
• Janice Wenchun Lin, Political Science & Psychology
• Osman D. Love, Psychology

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Award:

Distinguished Clinical-Community Science Undergraduate Student Award: Kelly Gau
The following students were recognized for excellence during the past year. All recipients receive certificates and have their names inscribed on award plaques that are kept on permanent display in the Psychology Building.

Graduate Students Honored for Teaching Excellence

Congratulations to Seong Hee Cho (Industrial/Organizational Division) and Emily Hankosky (Behavioral Neuroscience), pictured below, 2016 recipients of the Department of Psychology’s Award for Excellence in Teaching by a Graduate Student. Cho is also a recipient of the College of LAS and the Provost’s 2016 Teaching Excellence Awards.

Cho taught Psychology 201: Introduction of Social Psychology for the following academic semesters: 2013-14, summer 2014, and 2014-15. “Seong’s sophisticated grasp of social psychology is evident in her lectures, as she is able to present the material in a clear and comprehensible way. Three aspects of her teaching method that have especially helped me throughout the semester include her approachability, enthusiasm, and the numerous examples of each concept that she infuses into her lectures. ”

“Seong was an inspiration. Not only through her lessons in the classroom, but through her character and work ethic. ”

Hankosky was an instructor in Psych 311: Behavioral Neuroscience Lab for three semesters. “Emily strives to create a learning environment that facilitates curiosity, excitement, critical thinking, and inquiry. ”

“Psych 311 was one of the foundational blocks for my career aspirations today. Through this class and Ms. Hankosky’s enthusiasm, I have gained much appreciation and love for research, encouraging me to pursue research both while I was in my undergraduate and continue today as a lab manager at Northwestern University. This class taught me the potential that research held, and what implications of a simple study can have on the entire field. ”

Ed Scheiderer Memorial Research Award

Wenting Mu received the award for her first-authored paper entitled, “The structure of negative self-conscious emotions: An empirical investigation.” Dr. Howard Breimbaum, Wenting’s recommender stated, “Wenting is doing incredibly important work on negative self-conscious emotions that questions some long-held assumptions in the field. I believe the research is quite innovative, methodologically clever, and the data analyses (which are critical to the paper) are quite cutting edge.”

Herman Eisen Award

Dr. Nicole Allen and Joe Cohen nominated Suvarna Menon for her outstanding work with mindfulness-based interventions, psychotherapy to children with trauma histories, and the training and supervision of community advocates who work with domestic violence survivors. Her recommenders stated, “Suvarna embodies what we value in recipients of the Eisen Award: clinical skills, sensitivity, perception, and optimism for change in individual and social lives.”

NSF Graduate Fellowships

Melody Buyukuler Dawkins (Developmental Division) is a recipient of an NSF Fellowship. She works with Professor Renee Baillargeon.

Honorable Mentions: Jia Chong (Social-Personality Division), Megan Davis (Clinical-Community Division), Junice Ng (Developmental Division).

Sandra Goss Lucas Award for Excellence in Teaching Introductory Psychology

The award was established in 2008 in honor of Sandra Goss Lucas, who served as the director of the Introductory Psychology course for 13 years. Deborah Cestem (Visual Cognition & Human Performance), pictured on right, received the award for her outstanding contributions as an instructor in Psych 100.

2016 Graduates

The Department of Psychology held its Convocation Ceremony on Saturday, May 15, 2016 in the Great Hall at the Krannert Center for the Performing Arts. The department presented diplomas to our doctoral, master’s, and bachelor degree students. View the convocation pictures at: www.psychology.illinois.edu/alumni/news/gallery.
I LOVE ILLINOIS WEEK

In honor of the birthday of the University of Illinois, the 1867 Society hosted “I Love Illinois” week February 22-26. As part of the festivities, Psychology Leaders organized a one-day “I Love Psychology” event in the lobby of the Psychology building. Students were enthusiastic about the chance to spin a wheel for a variety of prizes after they wrote what they loved about Psychology on two large “I” posters.

“I love learning about the stigmas surrounding mental illnesses and how to avoid stereotyping.”
— Student 1

“There are so many great courses and enthusiastic teachers!”
— Student 2

“I love the research and professors!”
— Student 3

“It has taught me to think critically about a variety of situations.”
— Student 4

NEW STAFF

Suzanne McKeeatin joined the department as Director of Budget of Budget and Resource Planning on September 20. McKeeatin has a master’s degree in Education Administration and a bachelor’s degree in Business Education. Prior to joining Psychology, she worked for over twelve years as a Budget and Resource Coordinator and Assistant to the Associate Dean in the College of Education. In this role, she provided budget and financial oversight, proposal development, as well as providing day-to-day account management.

RETIREE

Betty Heggemeier

CLASS OF 2016: SENIOR 100 HONORARY

Senior 100 Honorary, sponsored by the University of Illinois Alumni Association (UAA) and Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAA), recognize 100 graduating seniors for their notable achievements as students as well as their future commitment to the university. Interested seniors from all of the Colleges across the campus have their applications reviewed by the UAA and SAA. The honorees are active campus leaders who have developed leadership skills and demonstrate University loyalty through their past campus involvement as well as their future plans.

The Department of Psychology is pleased to announce that six psychology students were selected for this honor.

- Bailey Cation: Psychology (Minor: Linguistics)
- Farah Chalisa: Political Science & Psychology
- Maxwell Colon: Psychology & Spanish (Minors: Leadership Studies & Business)
- Meredith Heim: Political Science, Psychology & Leadership Studies
- Janice Lin: Political Science & Psychology (Minor: Global Studies)
- Krupa Patel: English, Psychology, Philosophy

DEPARTMENT STAFF AWARDS

STAFF AWARD

Sarah Challand

ACADEMIC PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Gary Wszalek

Psychology Adventures

Michelle Naese at the top of Lion’s Head mountain, South Africa.

Where have you worn your commemorative Psychology T-shirt? Share your pictures with us and you can be featured in Psychology Times. Contact Cheryl Berger at cberger@illinois.edu.
2016 Homecoming Event

Congratulations to Amanda McGrory (BS ’10) for winning a bronze medal in the 5000-meter race in Rio and to her teammates, Tatyana McFadden and Chelsea McClammer, who won gold and silver medals in the same race.

Amanda McGrory

Bronze Medal for Alumna

Amanda McGrory (BS ’10) received a bronze medal in the 5000-meter race in Rio and to her teammates, Tatyana McFadden and Chelsea McClammer, who won gold and silver medals in the same race.

2000s

Lindsay Anderson (BS ’91) was appointed as the director of membership and director of education. She has worked as an English teacher assistant in Mexico this fall as part of the Fulbright Student Program. She has worked as a Spanish tutor, substitute teacher at Central High School in Champaign, IL, and as an English teaching assistant in Barcelona, Spain. Hinders seeks to utilize her social justice involvement and artistic abilities to further connect with individuals while in Mexico.

2010s

Molly Hamilton (BS ’13) is a Human Resources Assistant at Cintas Corporation in Bedford Park, IL.

1980s

Beth Rom-Rymer (PhD ’86) is the 2016 recipient of the National Register’s Lifetime Achievement Award. The award, named after the first Executive Officer, Alfred M. Wulker, PhD, is the highest honor bestowed on a Registrant by the National Register to commemorate numerous and significant contributions to psychology during a distinguished career. The National Register of Health Service Psychologists is the largest credentialing organization for psychologists.

1970s

Kevin Davis (BS ’76) received an MA in Clinical Counseling in 1978. He is Director of Psychiatry at Four Chicago Land Hospital based programs; Clinical Professional Counselor (IL) 1995-present; Adjunct Professor of Counseling at Governors State University 1988-1996; Adjunct Professor of Psychiatry at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine 2001-2006; Associate Professional Counselor (IL) 2009-present.

The Honorable Jeffrey Ford (BS ’75, JD ’76) received the inaugural 2016 Distinguished Downstate Alumnus Award from The Downstate Legal Society at the University of Illinois’ College of Law in recognition of his long history of public service and commitment to reform. In 1991, Judge Ford founded the first DUI court in the country. In 1999, he established the Champaign County Drug Court to break the cycle of recidivism. He also received the National Association of Social Workers Public Citizen of the Year Award (2013) and the Goldstein Award for Preeminent Contributions to the Drug Court Field from the National Association of Drug Court Professionals (2014).

2016 Homecoming Event

Back Row L-R: Loren Kuzuhara, Larry Ackerman, Jeff Wilson, John Perioth, Elizabeth Perioth, Front Row L-R: Matthew & Joan Perioth

Elizabeth Perioth & family

Psychology Leader Adonis Holmes

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Join Psychology’s alumni networking group “University of Illinois Department of Psychology Networking” and expand your professional network.

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You can find us on Facebook at University of Illinois Psychology E-Newsletter. Let us know if you would like to be added to our email list at psychology.alumni@mx.illinois.edu.

Update Your Information

Update us on your latest news and current email address at psychology.illinois.edu/alumni.

Diversity in Psychology

The members of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Department of Psychology are committed to fostering and supporting a climate of inclusion, celebrating human diversity in all its forms, and engaging in cutting edge diversity science. For more information about diversity research in psychology, diversity awards, and campus resources visit: psychology.illinois.edu/about/diversity.

ALUMNI NEWS

1970s

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Kenneth Slaw (BS ’79 Psychology, EDM ’83 Education; PhD ’87 Education) was named executive director for The Society of Vascular Surgery May 2016. He held key senior staff posts at the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) for the past 28 years, and most recently, served as the AAP’s director of membership and director of strategic planning. Slaw received the 2013 LAS Alumni Alumnus Award from The Downstate Legal Society at the University of Illinois. He assumed his new role on March 1, 2016, leading efforts to advocate for the University’s interests with federal, state and local officials and key higher education associations.

2000s

Lindsay Anderson (BS ’91) was appointed as executive director for governmental relations for the University of Illinois. She assumed her new role on March 1, 2016, leading efforts to advocate for the University’s interests with federal, state and local officials and key higher education associations.

2010s

Molly Hamilton (BS ’13) is a Human Resources Assistant at Cintas Corporation in Bedford Park, IL.

Regina Hinders (BS ’14) graduated with a double major in Spanish and Psychology. She will be an English teaching assistant in Mexico this fall as part of the Fulbright Student Program. She has worked as a Spanish tutor, substitute teacher at Central High School in Champaign, IL, and as an English teaching assistant in Barcelona, Spain. Hinders seeks to utilize her social justice involvement and artistic abilities to further connect with individuals while in Mexico. After teaching under the Fulbright, Hinders hopes to pursue a career teaching Spanish at the high school level.

Bronze Medal for Alumna

Congratulations to Amanda McGrory (BS ’10) for winning a bronze medal in the 5000-meter race in Rio and to her teammates, Tatyana McFadden and Chelsea McClammer, who won gold and silver medals in the same race. For more information about Amanda visit go.las.illinois.edu/mcgrory10.
Invest in the Future of the Department

The Department of Psychology benefits from the generosity of friends, like you, who share in our commitment to excellence in the liberal arts and sciences. With your support, we will continue to transform the lives of our students. For more information visit: psychology.illinois.edu/giving

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