WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR!

It has been an amazing year in the Department of Psychology! Our undergraduate psychology program is one of the most popular on campus with more than 600 undergraduates and 300 minors and more than 70 graduate students! We added two tenure-track faculty members in Alissa Dark-Freudeman and Carole Van Camp, each contribute exciting new research and teaching strengths to our program. You can learn more about them in the New Faculty Profiles on page 2.

Psychology faculty continue to be recognized for their outstanding teaching and research. Len Lecci won the prestigious Board of Governor’s Teaching Excellence Award, Rich Ogle won a Chancellors Teaching Excellence Award and Jennifer Myers was Lecturer of the Year! On the graduate level, when Sally MacKain won this year’s Graduate Mentor award, it marked back-to-back-to-back receipt of this award for our faculty, Carol Pilgrim won the award last year and Nora Noel the year before that! Finally, Tony Puente was this year’s Faculty Scholarship Award winner.

Two very important milestones in the department’s history were reached in April 2010. First, on April 9, the UNC Board of Governors approved UNCW’s request to plan a doctoral program in experimental and applied psychological science! The department has been working toward the development of this program for many years and the approval of the request to plan, first by the UNC General Administration and now by the Board of Governors, is a major step toward the implementation of a new doctoral training program for UNCW. This proposed program will train PhDs in psychology with a focus on persistent cognitive and behavioral disorders in four main areas: 1) addictions/psychopharmacology, 2) dementias/cognition and aging, 3) mental illness in corrections/forensic psychology, and 4) developmental disabilities/behavior analysis. A Spanish language component in the educational program will help assure that graduates are well prepared to work with North Carolina’s rapidly growing Latino population. The planned program will train much-needed professional psychologists to help North Carolina provide services for these underserved populations. The next step in the UNC planning process is to develop a formal request to establish the doctoral program, and the department will be hard at work on this in the coming year! Once this establishment request has been approved by the board, we hope to launch the program in 2011 or 2012.

DEPARTMENT HOLDS FIRST ANNUAL ALUMNI RECEPTION

During the 2009 Homecoming festivities, the Department of Psychology held its first annual alumni reception! The reception was a great success, receiving an impressive turnout of alumni and faculty.

This year’s alumni reception honored two student award winners, Kathleen Casto and Jamie Chaffman (see page 8). At the reception they spoke to alumni and faculty and humbly thanked the alumni for donations that made their attendance at the university possible. They also were grateful to faculty members with whom they worked with and who prepared them for upcoming graduate studies.

Lee A. Jackson was also honored for his long lasting commitment to the university, his students and the field of...
NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: CAROLE VAN CAMP

The Department of Psychology is pleased to welcome Carole Van Camp to our distinguished faculty. During her first year, Van Camp taught the following classes: General Psychology, Principles of Behavior Change and Experimental Psychology. With her extensive training at Louisiana State University and her work at the University of Florida, Van Camp is a strong addition to our faculty of distinguished minds in the field.

Van Camp’s journey into psychology has been motivated by an emphasis on helping people that drives the field. Regarding her interest in behavior analysis, Van Camp says that she was drawn in by the prospect of working with children and the rapid behavior change that can be witnessed when a solid analysis of functional behavior has been conducted and implemented. During our interview, it was difficult not to get caught up in the passion and excitement that Van Camp has about the field and her research. In her research philosophy, she believes that there are questions regarding the fundamentals of behavior that still need to be answered via research with human subjects, such as the effects of satiation and deprivation in social attention.

In her role in guiding the learning of students, Van Camp believes that it is important to train young researchers in behavior analysis as scientists. In her own words, “it’s called analysis for a reason.” Over the past academic year, Van Camp expressed her gratitude in being able to work with some truly exceptional undergraduate students, and looks forward to the future, wherein she will be able to establish her research lab and start guiding and working with graduate students, hopefully in human operant research.

Van Camp is excited to be a part of the strong team of individuals who comprise our faculty at UNCW. We are certainly excited to have her as a part of the team as well, and are incredibly pleased that she has become a member of our Seahawk family.

NEW FACULTY SPOTLIGHT: ALISSA DARK-FREUDEMAN

The Department of Psychology is also very pleased to welcome Alissa Dark-Freudeman as an assistant professor. Dark-Freudeman received her BA, MS, and PhD from the University of Florida. While she was there, she received a National Research Service Award from the National Institute on Aging to support her doctoral research on perceived competence and possible selves.

Her research focuses on the hopes and fears we have for our future, especially those related to health and cognition. She is interested in understanding how these hopes and fears are translated into goals and how these goals relate to personal competence, psychological wellbeing, and actual behavior.

Her teaching interests include basic courses such as: Introduction to Psychology and Research Methods, as well as more specific courses such as: Lifespan Developmental Psychology, Adult Development and Aging, Social Cognition and Aging, and Death and Dying.

Since her start at UNCW in August 2009, Dark-Freudeman has been working to get her research laboratory up and running. She says that she has a great group of research assistants who have joined her, and she is very much looking forward to working with them as they continue to develop new projects together.

In her free time, Dark-Freudeman enjoys spending time with her husband and their three-year-old son, Siler. Together, they enjoy exploring state parks, hiking, watching Gator football, and crafting. She is also a self-proclaimed animal lover and long time member of the ASPCA and Humane Society.

The Department of Psychology is thrilled to have Dark-Freudeman as part of our team. The students and faculty are excited to begin to see the great possibilities of her research pursuits, and together, welcome her to our team.
**Faculty Highlights**

- **Carrie Clements** published three articles and a book chapter based on her studies of interpersonal violence while continuing in her role as director of the Center for Teaching Excellence. Two of her articles were co-authored by department colleague, **Rich Ogle**.

- **Dale Cohen** continued research on his five-year, $692,000 National Institute on Child Health and Human Development grant studying numerical reasoning and biases and published three articles on his work.

- **Wendy Donlin Washington** published a featured article in the special contingency management issue of the *Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis*. She was elected to the board of directors from 2008-2010 for the Southeastern Conference of Behavior Analysis.

- **Mark Galizio** co-authored the 5th edition of the textbook: *Drug Use and Abuse*.

- **Cameron Gordon** gave the keynote address at the annual meeting for the Southeastern Recreational Therapy Symposium in Myrtle Beach, SC. He spoke on positive factors in therapy.

- **Christine Hughes** gave an invited address on her research with drug tolerance at the annual meeting of the Mid-American Association for Behavior Analysis.

- **Ruth Hurst** served as president of the North Carolina Association for Behavior Analysis.

- **Joe Kishton** completed a documentary film on Salvador Dali and Henry Miller that premiered at the UNCW Fisher Student Center.

- **Len Lecci** published an article with colleague, **James Johnson**, on factors influencing racial attitudes. Lecci also was awarded the 2009 Board of Governors Award for Excellence in Teaching.

- **Shanhong Luo** published two papers based on her research on marital satisfaction and close relationships.

- **Sally MacKain** received this year’s Graduate Mentor award. She published an article on illness management in people with mental illness.

- **Bryan Myers** published four papers based on his forensic psychology research and was awarded a grant from the National Science Foundation for $384,803 to continue his research on factors affecting jury decision making.

- **Jennifer Myers** won the Lecturer of the Year award.

- **Simone Nguyen** continued her research on children’s concepts of food and eating funded in the amount of $144,000 by the National Institute on Child Health and Human Development. She gave an invited address at the International Conference on Biological Understanding and Theory of Mind: Core Knowledge and Naive Conceptions in Children and Adults of the Université de Reims Champagne-Ardenne, France.

- **Nora Noel** published three papers with colleagues **Andy Jackson, James Johnson and Rich Ogle** based on her research on substance abuse treatment and effects of alcohol.

- **Bill Overman** continued his research on the neuroscience of the development of impulsivity and self-control with a grant funded in the amount of $79,000 by the National Institute on Drug Abuse.

- **Tony Puente** published two articles and a book on neuropsychological assessment. He also won this year’s UNCW Faculty Scholarship Award.

- **Jeff Toth** published an article on memory and the Stroop effect. He also won a UNCW Discere Aude award for student mentoring.
Faculty in Focus: Bryan Myers

Bryan Myers, who was recently awarded a National Science Foundation grant in the amount of $384,803, is furthering research that could have dramatic implications for the way that our nation’s courts are operating, particularly in regards to the use of victim impact statements in cases involving capital sentencing.

Myers received his undergraduate and graduate degrees from the University of Carleton in Ottawa, Canada and his doctorate degree from Ohio University. The majority of Myers’ research has been in the fields of forensic psychology (focusing on concepts such as lie detection, jury decision making and false memory reports) and industrial psychology (centering on workplace stress, job satisfaction and personnel selection).

His NSF grant will fund research on victim impact statements in capital sentencing cases. Victim impact statements are utilized in cases that involve the death penalty, wherein relatives of the deceased are permitted to make a statement to the jury during the penalty phase of the trial about how the death of their relative has impacted their lives. The controversy surrounding the use of these statements is that the victim impact statements are emotionally charged, which can, in turn, cause jurors to become emotional themselves, leading to poor decision making. If these statements are truly having such an impact on the rational decision-making of the jurors, there is a potential threat to the eighth amendment of the U.S. Constitution, prohibiting cruel and unusual punishment.

Myers’ research focuses primarily on how these appeals produce emotional changes in jurors, and how these heightened states of arousal can interfere with their ability to process complex information by weighing mitigating/aggravating factors. This research could potentially provide evidence that victim impact statements are inflammatory and thereby not constitutionally sound.

Myers has been working within this field since his doctoral dissertation and has been surprised continuously by the attitudes that people have regarding capital punishment. According to Myers, capital punishment is a very strong component in understanding how people think about sentencing and is, therefore, worthy of investigation. Regarding the direction that he would like to see this research head, he hopes that Justices will start to cite research in their decisions and that this knowledge will be influential in thinking about these issues. As judges routinely have to make assumptions about the way that people think, the application of this research could be incredibly beneficial to making more sound inferences into the behavior of individuals.

Other faculty (such as Len Lecci), undergraduate students and graduate students alike have been able to get involved in the research that Myers has been conducting. Recently, in her directed independent study, undergraduate student Lara Ostapeij worked with Myers and Sally MacKain on a study regarding job satisfaction in correctional officers. Also, graduate students John Peterson and Erin Cook co-authored a chapter with Myers called “Police Psychology”, which studied personnel selection in law enforcement. As part of his teaching and research philosophy, Myers always emphasizes student involvement, and strives for students to get recognition for their hard work.

Antonio Puente wins Faculty Scholarship Award

In fall 2009, Antonio Puente was awarded the UNCW Distinguished Faculty Scholarship award. This award is presented annually to a faculty member who has made and continues to make a significant contribution to the university and the academic community through a commitment to scholarship, research and creativity. Furthermore, nominees for this campus-wide recognition must have earned the respect of colleagues and peers, maintained high standards of quality and integrity and fostered the interest and involvement of students. Puente’s accomplishments more than qualify him for this distinguished honor.

Puente received his undergraduate degree in psychology from the University of Florida and his graduate degrees from the University of Georgia. Following his academic endeavors, he held positions as a clinical psychologist at a teaching psychiatric hospital, a professor at a medical school and a department of psychology. He is the author of eight books and more than 160 scientific and professional articles, and has published in three languages: English, Spanish and Russian. Puente both founded and subsequently edited for 10 years, the quarterly scientific journal, Neuropsychology Review. Puente is past president of the Hispanic Neuropsychological Society, North Carolina Psychological Association, North Carolina Psychological Foundation, the National Academy of Neuropsychology and the Division of Clinical Neuropsychology of the American Psychological Association. Possibly the most intriguing aspect of Dr. Puente’s work is that he has lectured in over a dozen foreign countries and has supervised fellows or visiting scientists.
Continued from Page 4…

from Cuba, Mexico, Russia, South Africa and Spain. Currently, Puente is working on a biography of the late Roger Sperry, neuropsychologist, neurobiologist and Nobel laureate (www.rogersperry.org).

In addition to his commitment and contributions to the university community, Puente also serves the Wilmington area through his work as President of the Board and Director of Mental Health Services at the Tileston Health Clinic. Established in 1991, the clinic is a multi-disciplinary, non-profit clinic that serves a population that could otherwise be neglected in the area. The clinic provides free health care for people in the community without health insurance and those who fall within the federal poverty guidelines. The clinic is funded by the Duke Endowment, Cape Fear Hospital Memorial Foundation and private donations suited in Wilmington.

This clinic, Puente says, is unique for three distinct reasons. First, the clinic is staffed entirely by students. The administrative staff is composed of undergraduate students. The testing staff consists of very advanced undergraduates, such as those working on honors theses, or graduate level students working on their master’s theses. And finally, the clinical staff consists of advanced graduate students in the substance abuse treatment and prevention concentration of the clinical psychology program, or post-graduates. In addition to the students who serve as regular staff, the clinic has a regular professional clinical staff and a group of more than 300 volunteers, including doctors, nurses, dentists, pharmacists and technicians.

Another reason this clinic is unique is that the staff and clinicians are prepared to serve populations speaking three languages: English, Spanish and Portuguese. This allows the clinic to provide services to those whose help is limited elsewhere. It is very important to the mission of the Tileston Clinic to serve people in need and to not exclude individuals because of language barriers. The volunteer staff also includes interpreters who assist the clinical staff. And lastly, the clinic is unique because patients are prescribed medication without direct physician input. These three unique qualities, along with the fact that the Tileston Clinic is one of few that provides premier mental health services, set it apart from the rest.

In addition to the community benefits, the Tileston Clinic provides excellent learning and research opportunities for UNCW students. Currently, Puente and his students are conducting outcome studies of clinic patients. Also, Mayte’ Ramirez, who volunteered at the clinic while pursuing her master’s degree, is now a full-time manager of the Patients Assistance Program (PAP). Mayte’ interacts with patients and negotiates with pharmaceutical companies to provide medications for the clinic, free of charge.

It is evident that the Tileston Clinic and Puente’s work, not only benefits the community, but also has a reciprocal benefit for the university and the students involved. The Tileston Clinic as well as Puente’s many other professional endeavors make his commitment to the university, students and community undeniable. His work and accomplishments have benefited UNCW and have, therefore, rightfully earned him the Distinguished Faculty Scholarship Award of 2009.

LEN LECCI WINS BOARD OF GOVERNOR’S TEACHING AWARD

By: Amanda Rickard

Len Lecci has been awarded the 2009 Excellence in Teaching Award by the Board of Governors of the 17-campus UNC system. This award is given to a professor who has demonstrated excellence in, and commitment to teaching over a period of time.

Lecci has been a faculty member at UNCW since 1996, and his enthusiastic teaching and research has earned him many awards. Past awards Lecci has received at UNCW include the Chancellor’s Teaching Excellence Award, a Distinguished Teaching Professorship Award and the Board of Trustees Teaching Excellence Award.

Lecci received his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in psychology from Carleton University in Ottawa, Canada. He then went on to earn his doctorate in clinical psychology from Arizona State University. At UNCW, Lecci has taught many courses at all levels. His excellence in teaching most likely stems from his exuberant interest in engaging his students in both the classroom and in the laboratory.

Lecci values the opportunity he has to explore the field of psychology along with his students everyday, discovering the relevance of the material and determining how we know what we know. He thoroughly enjoys the breadth of teaching and how his interaction with students everyday allows him to reevaluate his own perspective and strive to always stay current and informed with the material.

Speaking of his students, Lecci says that it is “important that they feel connected to what they’re studying. I challenge my students to fall in love…and to have the object of their affection be a vocation, a career or a topic. I also challenge them in class with the same intellectual questions that keep me interested in the field of psychology on a daily basis.” Department Chair, Mark Galizio, said, “Our department is very proud of its tradition of engaging our students in applied learning experiences in the laboratory and clinic, and Lecci is one of our leaders in both venues.”

So long as Lecci continues to apply himself to his work and his students, we will continue to benefit immensely and become better for it. It is Lecci and professors of his caliber that set UNC Wilmington above the rest.

UNCW®
JENNIFER MYERS WINS LECTURER AWARD

Jennifer Myers was highlighted in last year’s newsletter as a new full-time addition to the faculty of the psychology department. This year, we are more than pleased to highlight her again for her recent Outstanding Lecturer Award, for her exceptional work in teaching at UNCW. When I had a chance to sit down and speak with Myers recently, it truly came as no surprise that the university wanted to honor her for her commitment to excellence and passion for working with students.

First and foremost, when talking with Myers, you would never meet a person more grateful and humble when it comes to receiving an award such as this. Myers describes her work at UNC Wilmington as being a true gift, and a rewarding experience in and of itself, even without receiving such a distinction. Teaching to her is a process that has caused her to stretch and grow constantly, in the pursuit of better serving the students she teaches and the fellow faculty with whom she teaches.

When it comes to her work in the Department of Psychology, Myers even asserts that she is validated more so by her work within the department itself than by any other award that she has received. She claims that the incredibly supportive environment that has been fostered by the department has engendered a great amount of loyalty from her, and the tone that has been set by the faculty and the department as a whole has really been a great motivator in her teaching career.

Myers’ personal teaching philosophy stems from a desire to impart to students an understanding not only of what they learn, but also how to learn. According to her, the learning process is not one that ever truly ends, and she is routinely asked questions that require her to go out and try to learn more; a trait that she hopes to impart to her students.

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CAROL PILGRIM RECEIVES 2008 GRADUATE MENTOR AWARD

The Department of Psychology has a longstanding tradition of excellence when it comes to student and faculty accomplishments in academic, professional and personal arenas. A major proponent in the success of our department is the relationships that are fostered between students and professors at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. While this is rewarding on so many levels, it is a rare joy that we can highlight a particular professor who is being recognized for her outstanding performance in mentoring their students.

Carol Pilgrim recently was awarded the UNCW Graduate Mentor Award for her exceptional work with graduate students.

A truly extraordinary individual at UNC Wilmington, Pilgrim has won numerous awards during her time at the university, serving in capacities ranging from professor/lecturer to her current position as the associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. The honors conferred onto her have included faculty scholarship awards and a mentor award from the Association of Behavior Analysis. During a recent interview, Pilgrim maintained that receiving the Graduate Mentor Award from the university was “especially meaningful,” as mentoring graduate students is one of the most important aspects of her work.

As a behavior analyst working primarily in the field of experiment/applied behavior analysis with a focus on human operant behavior and relational stimulus control, Pilgrim finds that every aspect of her work is influenced by her behavior analytic background, particularly working with graduate students. According to Pilgrim, mentoring a student is a dynamic process of shaping that is tailored to each individual student and is a process that she finds very rewarding. This process extends past just the thesis advising, into the realm of guiding students and building upon their knowledge together in a mutual exploration of ideas and concepts.

For Pilgrim, one of the most enjoyable aspects of mentoring graduate students is to see the personal growth of the individual students, and be able to witness their professional change over the two to three years they are in graduate school. The relationships that she has been able to foster between herself and her students have been long-lasting and very fulfilling, which is rewarding in and of itself.

...mentoring a student is a dynamic process of shaping that is tailored to each individual student…"

During our interview, Pilgrim expressed how fortunate she feels to be in her current position, with the opportunities that she has been given. Working with graduate students in the lab setting has been a truly fulfilling experience and a highlight of her work at UNC Wilmington. As a graduate student working with Pilgrim myself, I can personally say that the feeling is shared between Pilgrim and all of her students. We are lucky to have her and so is the university.
SALLY MACKAIN RECEIVES 2009 GRADUATE MENTOR AWARD

The university’s Graduate School annually presents the Graduate Mentor Award to an outstanding faculty member who places high value on and excels in mentoring graduate students. The 2009 Graduate Mentor Award was awarded to Sally MacKain, and, speaking on behalf of the graduate students of the Department of Psychology, we think they made the right decision.

MacKain is now, and has always been, an excellent resource, leader, teacher and friend to the students at UNCW. Serving as the graduate coordinator for the Department of Psychology for four years, she excelled in her duties and went beyond what was expected to serve the students.

The graduate coordinator, as described by Department Chair Mark Galizio, “functions as an assistant chair in all aspects of the graduate program”. In that position, MacKain coordinated graduate admissions, served as chair of the Admissions Committee (which reviews more than 100 applications each year) and was a major force in recruitment year round.

In addition to her position as graduate coordinator, MacKain played a critical role in the development of the Psychology graduate program. She not only helped develop the department’s substance abuse treatment graduate concentration, but she also served as the first departmental clinical training coordinator.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: ASHLEY WARE

The Department of Psychology has a strong tradition of producing students who excel not only within the confines of our department, but continue their tradition of excellence into the outside world. While those students who are currently growing and working at UNCW are worthy of spotlighting for their accomplishments while on campus (and receive such a spotlight throughout this newsletter), it is just as important to draw attention to exceptional alumni who are responsible for spreading our reputation to the community at large. It is for this reason that we especially are pleased to focus on recent outstanding psychology graduate Ashley Ware.

A Wilmington native, Ware attended elementary, middle, and part of high school around the greater UNCW community and chose to return home in order to pursue her education. While her talents are numerous (including being an accomplished cellist), Ware chose to focus her interests in the realm of psychology during her undergraduate education at UNCW. Ware graduated cum laude in May 2009, and her time at UNCW provided her with many opportunities to excel. Serving as vice president of the Psi Chi honor society, secretary of Amnesty International and as a student ambassador for the campus, Ware was not only an asset to the department, but also to the university at large. Within the department, however, Ware did conduct a project while working with Antonio Puente that is allowing for the beautification of our beloved halls. After conducting a survey of psychology students attending UNCW, Ware discovered the top 10 most influential psychologists in the minds of students and teachers alike, including names such as Freud, Sperry and Skinner. With this information, Ware raised several thousand dollars through various university agencies in order to finance the creation of 11 portraits of these famous thinkers within our field, which will be hung in the halls of the Social and Behavioral Sciences building.

Ware worked closely with several of the faculty in the department during her studies, including William Overman and Antonio Puente, which even provided her the opportunity to have her work published. Her work with these professors allowed Ware to foster her interest in working with children in a clinical setting, which she is now pursuing as she begins her graduate work at the San Diego State University in fall 2010. A major draw for Ware into this particular field was the possibility of exploring the neurological standards of children; a field that still has many unanswered questions. Her ultimate goal, following her graduate education, is to work with children and families in a hospital setting to promote good mental and physical health, and educate individuals in knowledge that could improve their quality of life. According to Ware, in her own philosophy, “you have to be the expert, not the client.”

Ashley Ware is an outstanding reflection of the department for her hard work, kindness and enthusiasm. She is certainly going to be a tremendous asset to the masters program she will be attending soon, just as she has been for our department during her time here. We are all proud of Ware and look forward to hearing more about her successes in the future.
**KATHLEEN CASTO WINS WILLIAMS-KOWAL AWARD**

By: Amanda Rickard

The Williams-Kowal Award is awarded to a student interested in basic science research. It is named for Professor Emeritus John Williams, who served as the first chair in the Department of Psychology, and Professor Emeritus Kathleen Kowal, a cognitive psychologist.

This year’s recipient, Kathleen Casto, is more than deserving of such an honor. Casto is an honors student in the Department of Psychology and a member of the spring graduating class of 2010. Her research here at the university looked at outcome expectancy and physical symptom interpretation manipulation on performance on a stationary bike. Participants in her study were either told they had excellent fitness (based on blood pressure and pulse) or they had poor fitness. Results were that the condition the subject was placed in did, in fact, have an effect on their performance. The participants who were told they were in excellent fitness performed better than those who were told they were in poor fitness. From her work, Casto concluded that the influence of psychological factors on physical performance is not only present, but should be acknowledged because it may have implications in the context of health psychology.

Casto’s dedication to UNCW and her research here is undeniable. She is a student driven to succeed who undoubtedly will continue in her success throughout her future endeavors. The university is honored to have students such as Casto who are not only interested in the field of psychology, but are interested in what they themselves can do discover from the field of basic science research. We are proud to call her a Seahawk and to have been part of her studies.

**JAMIE CHAFFMAN WINS CAPE FEAR PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION**

The Cape Fear Psychological Association Award is presented annually to a student interested in basic or applied research and a student interested in graduate studies in applied areas, such as one of the mental health professions. This year’s honored recipient is Jamie Chaffman.

Chaffman is an honors student who is a member of the spring 2010 graduating class. Her honors work here was conducted in the Cognitive Development Laboratory of Simone Nguyen. Chaffman’s research sought to determine whether children’s ideas about different concepts ever merge together to create an entirely new concept. Chaffman says that while “there has been numerous research done to look at conceptual combination in adults...not much has been done for children.” Her study took the complex nature of conceptual combination and simplified it; she studied children’s toys with multiple functions. She explains, “for instance, a toy that is labeled as a ladybug bear has both the properties of a bear, as well as properties of a ladybug.” Children are given the toy to play with and then are asked to label them.

Chaffman says that they “hope to find that children have the ability to recognize an object as being multiple things simultaneously and create a new identity for the toy by merging these concepts.”

Chaffman’s work has not only earned her this distinguished award, but benefited D Nguyen’s laboratory and the greater UNCW campus. Our university thrives on and is benefited greatly by the dedication of students like Chaffman. Her work and future research is sure to be matched with future success and recognition. We congratulate Jamie and wish her the best in all she does.

**CAMILLE ARNOLD WINS MICHAEL BRADLEY AWARD**

By: Amanda Rickard

The Michael Bradley Award is awarded to a student interested in applied research and is named from Processor Emeritus Michael Bradley, a developmental psychologist. In 2009, this award was granted to Camille Arnold.

While at UNCW, Arnold worked with Hayden Kepley and studied personality dimensions. The two dimensions she studied were anxiety and impulsivity, as these are said to serve as building blocks to the behavioral inhibition system (BIS) and behavioral activation system (BAS).

Arnold studied the relationship of the BIS/BAS to the big five personality dimensions. Her results were that the BIS/BAS could significantly predict relevant dimensions of personality.

Arnold hopes to receive her master’s degree one day and would love to teach or become a behavior analyst. Her research has provided for her, a great foundation, and for us at UNCW, a relevant and interesting resource for information.
Continued from Page 1…

psychology at the local, state and national level. A lecture room in the department’s current building, Social and Behavioral Sciences Building, will be named in his honor. In it will hang a beautifully painted portrait of Jackson, a piece made possible by one of his previous students who wanted to honor him.

The reception was also able to spotlight the department’s most recent artwork contributions. Former student Ashley Ware arranged for an artist to create sketches of famous psychologists. These will soon hang in our new building, that is currently under construction.

The event was a great success, and we look forward to seeing you at the 2010 Alumni Reception at next year’s Homecoming!
JENNIFER MYERS WINS LECTURER AWARD

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Myers asserts that while it is important to teach the facts and ideas that are central to particular classes and areas of study, it is far more important to teach judgment and critical thinking, as it is far better served in everyday life than just rote knowledge. Myers also hopes that students can move past the idea that there is one person out there who has all of the answers and find “comfort in the ambivalence of understanding,” as she put it.

Teaching psychology has been an exceptional experience for Myers, due to the nature of the subject matter. Psychology, after all, is so easily connected to everyday life and provides for a very easy shift when applying the principles of our field to daily life.

According to Myers, psychology gives you a new lens in which to view life which cannot be removed, thus creating a fundamental change in the way that students view themselves, other students, and the world at large. It is good to know that the shaping of the way these students are viewing the world is in very capable hands.

If there was one word that Myers would choose to describe herself, it would be “grateful.” Coincidentally, this is the same word that we in the department would use when asked how we feel to have her as a part of our community.

SALLY MACKAIN RECEIVES GRADUATE MENTOR AWARD

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Mark Galizio said, “in a real sense, her efforts have made a major impact on every clinical graduate in the history of our program as well as virtually every graduate admitted since 2005.”

You only have to speak with MacKain for a few moments to clearly see that as much as she is an invaluable benefit to the university, she too obtains a strong personal benefit. MacKain said that her position at the university is ideal for her, and she is lucky that she is able to come everyday to participate amongst people that she respects in a position that she truly loves.

When asked what she most valued in her position as a graduate mentor, she said she was, and always is, thrilled to see graduate students in the community serving in the field of psychology, pursuing their interests and living up to their potential. She said that she particularly thrilled when she is able to see her past graduate students serving populations in the community that are otherwise underserved, for this is where her heart is. MacKain’s research is conducted in local mental health clinics and in prison settings.

In her research at the university, MacKain has supervised 13 students through the thesis process, and provided them with exceptional exposure to the “scientist-practitioner” model of psychology. Today, most of these students are in successful clinical practices of their own, sharing with the community and the greater field of psychology the excellent skills and dedication they acquired while studying under the direction of great professors, such as Sally MacKain.

Although she no longer holds the position of graduate coordinator, MacKain will always be an invaluable resource for all students in the program and an excellent representation of the quality of professorship and guidance that UNC Wilmington has to offer. We are lucky and grateful that she has chosen to share her abilities with us and dedicate herself to our program.

WELCOME FROM THE CHAIR

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The second April event of great significance to us was the ceremonial groundbreaking for the new Teaching Laboratory Building (for the psychological sciences) on April 22! If there was one thing missing from our ability to implement a cutting-edge doctoral program it was our limited space for research and clinical training. When the Social and Behavioral Sciences Building was constructed in 1982, the department had 11 faculty and about 150 majors. Today, we have 33 full-time faculty, nearly 600 majors and more than 70 graduate students! As you might imagine, we have really outgrown both classroom and laboratory in the building and classes and labs in psychology are scattered all over campus. The new building will allow the entire department to work under one roof and with state-of-the-art laboratories and classrooms. It includes a neuroscience laboratory classroom, two computer lab classrooms, and research laboratories for the study of addictions, cognitive aging and dementia, child psychology, forensic psychology, behavior analysis, cognitive psychology, social psychology and many other specialty areas. The building should be completed in 2011, and timing is perfect to support the implementation of the doctoral program and help the department and UNC Wilmington soar to new heights.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the newsletter and if you haven’t yet checked out the department’s website, www.uncw.edu/psy, please know that regular updates on our activities are posted there.
We sincerely wish to thank the department’s alumni and friends who have been so generous in their support over the years. We need your continued support. Donations and gifts to the Department of Psychology may be designated to support merit scholarships for undergraduate students, faculty and student research or our departmental speaker series.

Since the inception of the Department of Psychology, we have continued to strive for excellence, and you can help us attain that goal. In appreciation of your support, the department would like to place you on our newsletter mailing list so that you may continue to stay abreast of what is happening in the department. Also, we would like to recognize your donation on our website and in future issues of the newsletter. Of course, if you would like your donation to remain anonymous, simply indicate that to us, and we will accommodate the request.

Please consider contributing to the Department of Psychology’s continued excellence and growth. Your gift will qualify as a charitable donation. You may designate how your donation will be allocated by indicating your choice on the form below and sending this form in with your donation. Also, you may visit the website where under the tab “Alumni and Friends” you may print out the same donation form.

Enclosed is my/our gift of $____________ to

_ Psychology Dept. Trust Fund
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“Please consider contributing to the Department of Psychology’s continued excellence and growth.”
CALLING ALL ALUMNI

The Department of Psychology wants to hear from YOU!

Please visit our website:

www.uncw.edu/psy

And take a minute to fill out the alumni survey. We are interested in what you have been doing since leaving UNCW, both in psychology and non-psychology related fields.

Also, while you are there, you can tell us if you would like to receive a print or electronic copy of future issues of the department newsletter.