Mark Your Calendars!

Spring 2015 Psi Chi Induction Ceremony

[Friday, May 1st, 2015]

Come celebrate the new inductees of Rutgers-Camden’s own Psi Chi Psychology International Honor Society!

Spring forward with Psi Chi!

Welcome back to Rutgers!

This is the Spring 2015 issue of the Rutgers-Camden Psi Chi Newsletter. Inside you will find Psychology Department student and faculty news, which may be of interest to you! If you have news or material that you would like to share with the Psychology Department community in subsequent issues please feel free to contact us at: RUCPsiChi@gmail.com

Where to find us:

Rutgers Camden
Psychology Department
311 North Fifth Street
Camden, NJ 08102
A Day at the EPA:
A Trip to the Eastern Psychological Association’s Annual Convention

The Eastern Psychological Association is a professional psychological group, which represents and celebrates the sharing of psychological research across the northeast United States. This year, their annual convention was held at the Marriott Hotel in Philadelphia (right across from Reading Terminal Market) spanning three days, from March 4-7. Fortunately for me, I had the chance to attend closing day, and I’m so glad I did!

I registered as a guest for an affordable $5 admission fee and bought a book for another $5 that gave abstracts of research presentations and themes for poster presentations plus the times and room numbers for each. Presentations were given in a multitude of rooms for about an hour and a half per session, and posters changed every hour and a half in the large Franklin Hall. The book was also available as an app but, since I don’t have a smart phone yet, the paper version was essential for deciding what to attend and figuring out where it was held.

Throughout the day, it would have been impossible to not find something of interest in every session and poster change. I even found a Rutgers-Camden student, Kristin Woods, at her poster of research in Dr. Duffy’s lab on men’s and women’s perceptions of humor. Every presenter was happy to discuss their research in more depth and answer questions, without exception.

Quite a few small group presentations were made by graduate students and just watching them and paying attention to what worked, and what didn’t, took away much of my apprehension about doing one myself someday. Since there were quite a few small and large group presentations geared toward undergraduates, I highly recommend that juniors and even sophomores attend to put the information to use, such as how to make your Psychology or Psi Chi Club great, how to choose and apply to Graduate School, and how to present and conduct yourself in an interview for Graduate School. This kind of advice, with questions from individuals answered after each session, was well worth the price of admission!
Though it can be a lot of hard work, being an undergraduate research assistant has been one of the most rewarding college experiences I have had. I encourage all students, whether graduate or undergraduate, to do research with a full-time faculty member.

I am currently a research assistant (RA) in Dr. Christopher Nave's Personality, Health and Behavior Lab. I have worked with Dr. Nave since fall 2013 and can say that I have learned more about research in the lab, than any class can teach. This is not to say that class is pointless; it is simply not the same as doing research hands-on. It seems like every day I am learning something new or completing different tasks. One day, I might be running participants in the lab for a personality study and the next day, I might be running statistical analyses on SPSS. Each day, each week and each semester bring a new and exciting experience that I could not have had anywhere else. I am thankful for all I have been able to learn as an RA, and hope that other students take the same opportunity.
What Else is New?

Catch up on notable achievements of some of your favorite Psychology professors:

Dr. Robrecht van der Wel

is on sabbatical for the Spring 2015 semester. So far, he has devoted his time to submitting and revising a book chapter and two papers on how people plan, coordinate, and experience physical actions they perform in conjunction with others (joint actions). He will spend a week at Penn State and a week in Budapest with collaborators later this semester to develop new research plans, and will give a talk at the University of Scranton in April. Dr. van der Wel will also present posters at the SRCD conference in Philadelphia in March, and at APS in New York in late May.

Dr. Micheal Wogan

recently prepared an essay in response to David Graeber’s pejorative characterization of commodities traders and stock brokers as commodity fetishists. In his essay he explains that such use of Marxist analogy, or slurs, represents a failure of historical investigation and a misunderstanding of the nature of very early, nearly worldwide religious beliefs.

For the longer term he has been focusing on synchronicity. Wogan explains that, while Jung gave us a name for this phenomenon, he fell short of offering any suggestions as to the mechanisms which might be involved. For a start, Dr Wogan sees the utility of finding accurate measures of the phenomenon, and aims to do just that.

He also recently he revised and extended the Wikipedia page on performance licensing, a subject which, though particularly important for music, applies to all areas where copyrighted material exist. The article can be found at:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Music_licensin
Dr. JJ Cutuli

and his wife are currently celebrating the birth of their first child, Simon! Be sure to congratulate them!

Dr. Christopher Nave

is back from sabbatical where he worked with collaborators at the Oregon Research Institute and the University of Oregon.

Several members of Dr. Nave’s Personality, Health and Behavior Lab recently presented their work (in collaboration with Dr. Charlotte Markey, Dr. Patrick Markey, and Dr. Kristin August) at this year’s Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference in Long Beach, CA in late February. Poster projects include research on the accuracy of thin slice impressions of gay male couples, and behavioral correlates of relationship satisfaction in gay male, lesbian women, and heterosexual couples. Attending co-authors on the posters include: Autumn Nanassy, Jenna Harvey (graduate students), Alyssa Smith, Clair Kotula (current Rutgers undergraduates) and Amanda Mascieri (recently graduated psychology student). Thanks to all co-authors and to all current and past PHB lab members for helping make these presentations possible!

Dr. Nave and his PHB lab are currently recruiting participants for a personality research study. Anyone interested in learning more about the project should contact phblabrutgers@gmail.com

Dr. Nave and his wife, Kate are also expecting their first child in mid-June! Be sure to congratulate them!
Interested in Research?

Many Psychology professors are open to gaining qualified research assistants on campus!

Whether you’re looking to apply to graduate school, searching for that perfect career, or just looking for a new way to broaden your horizons, one of the best things you can do, as an undergraduate pursuing a psychology degree, is participate in research. The psychology faculty members here at Rutgers-Camden are often looking for bright and talented research assistants that can assist on many ongoing projects, covering a wide array of psychological and sociological topics. Doing independent research, (aka. independent study), under a professor has many benefits. For one, it can help you apply what you’ve learned in your psychology classes to real world problems. It also helps to boost your resume, providing you with experience that will help you land research jobs or grad school acceptance in the future. Many Masters and PhD programs are research based, so having experience as an undergraduate can automatically help to raise your desirability as a competent and experienced student under such competitive circumstances.

If you’re interested in doing research with a faculty member, the best advice we can offer to you is to apply yourself in classes and contact a professor whose research interests you!
How to Apply for Psi Chi Membership:

Requirements for Psi Chi Membership:

*Undergraduates must*
- be enrolled as a major or minor in a psychology program (or a program psychological in nature)
- have completed at least 3 semesters of college courses
- have completed at least 9 semester hours (3 courses) in psychology courses
- have earned an overall GPA that is in the top 35% of their class in general scholarship (minimum GPA of 3.5 on a 4-point scale)
- have a minimum 3.5 GPA in psychology courses

*Graduate student applicants must*
- be enrolled in a psychology graduate program
- have completed at least one full semester of graduate coursework
- have an overall GPA of at least 3.5 in all graduate courses, including psychology courses*

*Transfer student applicants*
- follow the same requirements as the undergraduate student applicant
- should complete at least 12 semester hours at the new institution in order to establish a GPA

*Transfer applicants who are already members of Psi Chi*
- contact the Psi Chi faculty advisor at the new institution to complete an online transfer membership form

*Faculty advisors*
- must be full-time faculty members at an institution and hold a doctoral degree in psychology
- must be members of Psi Chi (as required in Psi Chi Constitution Article XII, Section 7)

*Faculty members must*
- be full-time faculty at an institution
- be a faculty member in a psychology department
- hold a doctorate in psychology, or a closely related field

In order to join, you must qualify for membership and join through the Rutgers-Camden Chapter.

The application process is now online at:

The Psi Chi Society one-time membership fee is $55. This pays for lifetime Psi Chi membership, a certificate of membership, and a membership card. There is an annual $15 local chapter dues.

*To find your Overall GPA as well as grades for each course*, log in at my.rutgers.edu, click on the Academics tab, then click on “Your Full Transcript” under the “Get My Grades” button. In the pop-up box, click the radio button for “Full Transcript”.

Save the Date!

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Come celebrate the new inductees of Rutgers-Camden’s own Psi Chi Psychology International Honor Society!
CURCA- Save the date!

April 16:

The annual Celebration of Undergraduate Research and Creative Activity (CURCA) will take place at 12 pm in the Multipurpose Room of the Campus Center. This is an event where students from all courses of study come out to showcase their research and other creative projects. Students and faculty alike are encouraged to attend this event, as it is a great way to learn about the many student-conducted projects that have been ongoing this academic school year. Hope to see you there!

Upcoming Psychology Club Events: Re-election and Mutters Museum Trip!

April 9:

Last general body meeting of the semester. Elections will be held during this meeting, as well as a wrap-up of the semester. All positions are available, so you may e-mail the psych club if you are interested in submitting a name for nomination. A 1-2 minute speech is expected for each nominee and the positions will be determined, same day. Interested parties should contact:

April 18:

Mutter's Museum trip! Limit of 20 spots (for members, not including plus-ones), first come first serve. The tickets are $5 for the members, and $10 for plus-ones with a proper college id. Tickets for members will be handed out by club leaders, whereas plus-ones, must purchase at the door. Contact psych club to reserve your tickets ASAP!

Come Enjoy Pizza with Profs!

April 7 & April 21:

Want to get to know more about your Psych professors? Come join the Psych department for the Pizza with Profs events! It's a great way to sit back, enjoy some pizza, meet fellow Psych majors, and of course, hang out with some of the Psychology faculty. Don't forget to bring questions, conversations and your appetite!

Sign up by contacting Jackie Dunn at: jacdunn@camden.rutgers.edu

Remaining events will take place during free period on 4/21 and at 5pm on 4/7! We hope to see you there!
Avoid rush shipping charges—order your graduation regalia early. As a Psi Chi member, you are invited to wear our International Honor Cord, International Honor Stole, and/or Tricolor Medallion. The Psi Chi colors of navy and platinum are a great way to display your achievements on graduation day!

Psychology Research Method Word Search

Find the hidden words!

Can You Find?:
- Theory
- Hypothesis
- IRB
- Longitudinal
- Cross-Sectional
- Causation
- Correlation
- Control
- Condition
- Population
- Sample
- Data
- Chi Square
- Significance
- Informed consent

This Newsletter was brought to you by

The Psi Chi Officers of 2014-2015:
- Loria M. McGruder, President
- Angelique Calise, Vice President
- Alyssa Smith, Secretary
- Margaret Stridick, Treasurer

Contact Us at RUCPsiChi@gmail.com