## Department of Psychology, UCSB

#### Spring 2005 Volume 1, Issue 1



# A Decade of Change

#### By Jim Blascovich, Chair

"Who are all these new faces?" "What science degree in psychology?" "What's that big hole in the ground?" If you haven't visited the UCSB Psychology department for a while, you'll notice many changes. We now have 29 faculty (meet our most recent hires on p. 8) and we're searching this year for a director of the newly established UCSB Brain Imaging Center (see article below and back page for more information). Graduate and undergraduate programs have also grown. We attract some of the best qualified graduate students in the nation to our four interdisciplinary Ph.D. programs

(Cognitive and Perceptual Sciences, Developmental and Evolutionary Psychology, Neuroscience and Behavior, and Social Psychology). The 70 plus graduate students currently enrolled in these programs are engaged in research that focuses on everything from neuronal plasticity to the impact of culture on educational success. More than 1700 (that's right, 1700!) majors and pre-majors choose to call the department home. Lured by the prospect of classes with some of the campus' best teachers and the opportunity to engage in cutting edge research, undergraduates may

now pursue either a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology or a Bachelor of Science in Bio-Psychology. Capping off this decade of growth, we broke ground in March 2004 for a new psychology building (see full story below ). It's an exciting time, with opportunities for all past and present members of our intellectual community to contribute to the continued growth and development of psychology at UCSB. So if you haven't been back to visit, come by and see how the Psychology department at UCSB is changing, or visit us on the web at www.psych.ucsb.edu.

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## **Psychology II : New Building Goes Up**

"The last time Psychology broke ground for a building was 1958. Of course the changes since that time have been dramatic, and this building is going to let us keep right on changing in dramatic ways." That's how Jim Blascovich, chair of the Psychology department, characterizes the impact that the new psychology addition will have on department's intellectual life. Six months into the construction schedule, contractors are currently completing the basement and laying the foundation for the first, second, and third floors of

the 17,500 square feet Psychology II building. All that concrete and rebar will translate into substantial enhancements in the department's teaching and research mission. The first floor of the new building will house the administrative core of the department, as well as a state-of-theart Life Sciences Computing Facility. With more than 100 workstations, this undergraduate instructional facility will provide a platform that allows cutting edge scientific research methodology to be incorporated into the psychology curriculum. The second and third floors, each of which will be linked to the present building by a covered skyway, house faculty offices, conference facilities, and seminar rooms to encourage the easy exchange of ideas so critical to interdisciplinary research. Two new cutting edge research centers will be located in the basement.

Established in 2004, research at UCSB's Brain Imaging Center (story continues on back page)



# **Awards and Honors** Personality and Social Psychology Society Elects Brenda Major

The 4000 members of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology (SPSP) have chosen UCSB Psychology Professor **Brenda Major** as the organization's new President. Dr. Major, who became President-Elect in 2005 and will become President in 2006, joined the Psychology Department at UCSB in 1995. The author of more than 100 articles and book chapters, Dr. Major is an internationally renowned expert on coping, stigma, selfesteem, and intergroup relations. An elected fellow of both the American Psychology Association (APA) and the American Psychology Society (APS), Major includes among her professional honors the Gordon Allport Intergroup Relations Prize (in both 1986 and 1988), the Distinguished Publication Award from the Association of Women in Psychology (in 1985), and the California Distinguished Wellness Lectureship (in 1997). As the largest organization of social and personality psychologists in the world, SPSP works to further the generation and dissemination of research findings in personality and social psychology. The society publishes two major professional journals, sponsors an annual international conference, and works closely with science advocacy offices at



APA and APS to facilitate the transfer of scientific knowledge for the public good.

## Lancaster Award goes to Debra Lieberman

Congratulations to **Debra Lieberman** who was the 2004 recipient of the prestigious UCSB Lancaster Award. The award honors the most outstanding dissertation completed in the Social Sciences at UCSB that year. The title of Lieberman's winning dissertation was "Mapping the Cognitive Architecture of Systems for Kin Detection and Inbreeding Avoidance." Lieberman's work focuses on evolved mechanisms that might operate during childhood, for example, to determine how others are categorized as siblings or nonsiblings. She then looks at how cognitive and emotional mechanisms come into play to guide behavior toward those others. "Incest avoidance of siblings is one side of the coin," notes Lieberman, "and altruism toward siblings is the other side." Now an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Hawaii in Honolulu, Lieberman was honored at the June 2004 Graduate Division commencement ceremony .

## Lorna Cunningham wins Staff Citation of Excellence

Congratulations to **Lorna Cunningham,** Psychology Department Student Affairs Manager and recipient of a 2004 Staff Citation of Excellence Award. One of only 10 winners across campus, Cunningham was recognized for her extraordinary leadership of the department's student advising operation.

As the student affairs manager, Cunningham is in charge of both the undergraduate and graduate areas: this includes scheduling courses, coordinating graduate student teaching assistant appointments to

courses, securing funding, and ensuring that all Ph.D. students progress through their degree in a timely manner. If it sounds like an awful lot for one person to handle, it is. But Cunningham's management skills, genuine interest in the students, and perhaps the "Bang Head Here" anti-stress kit next to her computer have made it work. The variety and the challenges keep it interesting. "I enjoy the problem-solving, whether it's people problem-solving or matching things up for scheduling," she says.

Not too many people know

UCSB better than Cunningham. She received a UCSB liberal arts degree in 1972 and although serving in the Peace Corps and completing a Masters in educational psychology and counseling at Cal State Northridge took her away for periods of time, she's been on campus ever since. Cunningham has served UCSB as a campus police officer, an employee in human resources, and a staff member in the economics department. But once she was hired to the psychology department in 1991, there was no letting her go. Luckily she's



happy to stay. Cunningham gives high praise to the faculty and students for the positive changes in the department, but we know that staff members like Cunningham have a lot to do with our success.

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# Alumni Spotlight: Dr. Peter Ryan

Like thousands of other students at UCSB. Dr. Peter Ryan decided to major in psychology. But what he has chosen to do with his degree since graduating in 1978 makes his accomplishments unique. Armed with a depth of training in cognitive, experimental, and social psychology, Ryan went on to get an M.S. in psychology and serve a stint as a school psychologist in Washington State. He then returned to California to pursue a career in educational research and development and to complete

ing, creativity, and passion together to create programs designed to help people learn about themselves and the world around them in nontraditional settings. "I work with large teams, sometimes with as many as 100 contributors, to develop programs of national scope that create a more promising future for an organization and its people. If you think about building a house for these organizations, I am like an architect who would do the background research, engineer a sound structure, and draw the plan, know-



his Ph.D. in educational psychology at Stanford. In the last 20 years Ryan has held positions at a Regional Education Laboratory and at Stanford Research Institute (an international research and consulting firm), where he was Director of Organizational Learning Solutions. He recently capitalized on those years of experience and expertise to start his own consulting company.

Ryan's career accomplishments now focus on a common thread: putting his training that many people will be involved in building the house," notes Ryan. And as an architect, he has been especially innovative.

For example, as a lead consultant for *The First Tee* and *First Serve*, Ryan helped develop programs and curricula that encourage economically disadvantaged youth to cultivate life skills while learning the game of golf or tennis. The programs do much more than allow participants to practice their swings. "These programs focus on the whole person and target physical activities, as well as psychological and social well-being," explains Ryan. "When I'm thinking about how to blend a life skill, like contributing to a team effort or managing emotions in a stressful situation, with a sports activity, I will observe what kids do, ask them what they are thinking about, and how we can encourage the desired learning in this situation. Then I reflect on my own understanding of human learning and information processing and ask what design principles I could employ to enhance their learning and help them learn a skill that would benefit them." With the children's perspective in mind, these programs have already impacted several hundred thousand children by allowing them to engage in healthy physical activities while developing lifeenhancing skills.

The success of such programs is rooted in Ryan's knack for recognizing how people learn things in specific, often novel, situations. His talents in this domain have also been in demand as interest in internetbased education - another nontraditional learning medium -booms. Not everyone wants to hear his opinion: "Companies that want to compress four years of experience-based learning into four hours in front of a computer screen usually aren't considering the cognitive and educational implications," he ruefully acknowledges. He prefers instead to take on projects like PatchWorx, an internet portal where kids with chronic or terminal illnesses discover a circle of support. Both Ryan and his wife Lori, also a UCSB graduate and a speech and lan-

guage pathologist, act as consultants for this virtual home where youngsters gather to share stories, ideas, laughter and tears, to learn from each other, and to make friends with common interests. "These kids don't get out much and often hospitalized or homebound. It's a really interesting virtual community because PatchWorx is trying to get kids from around the world to socialize with other kids with similar communication and social needs," explains Ryan. His primary role is to conduct evaluations for the program in order to understand how this type of social network can help kids cope, while impacting their lives in a positive way.

Ryan's influence goes beyond the youth population. For professional organizations, he has developed national certification programs, and in particular, has created programs slated to reach approximately 25,000 individuals in the Professional Golfers' Association (PGA). This includes people involved with the general management of facilities, the financial management, the operations management, and teaching the game. "My goal as a psychologist was to map the knowledge base by figuring out the knowledge and skills that were integral to each functional area and each major professional task. From that point you can develop a curriculum, a learning support system, and the assessments," says Ryan. Despite the diversity of programs and participants, he has been able to apply and adapt his knowledge of psychology to meet the many challenges.

# Making a difference: How to Promote Thriving in the Face of Childhood Adversity

Imagine the hopes and dreams that typically usher a new baby into the world. Hopes for health, happiness, intelligence, strength. Dreams that he or she will become a doctor, found a company, or play in the NBA. But what happens if the baby is born prematurely, has a difficult birth, or is diagnosed almost immediately with a medical problem or condition? How will parents cope with such unexpected challenges to their naturally optimistic expectations for their child? Will parents respond with disappointment and hopelessness? Or can parents see such events as challenges they will find a way to resolve? Do early setbacks necessarily put children at risk for future problems? Or are there circumstances under which such children cannot only survive these difficult early experiences, but actually "thrive" in the face of them.

Social psychologist **Daphne Bugental,** a founding member of the Psychology Department's Development and Evolutionary Psychology Program, has been tracking the history of children born at medical risk to determine the early experiences that influence their later outcomes. Her NSF-funded research program has investigated the circumstances that predict failing versus flourishing with a very practical goal in mind: What can be done to promote thriving among children born at

"Are there circumstances under which such children cannot only survive difficult early experiences but actually thrive in the face of them?"

#### medical risk?

In Bugental's research, mothers and infants (some of whom were medically at-risk and some of whom were not) were studied for the first two years of life. Before the child was born, researchers assessed mothers' beliefs about how much they could influence the parent-child relationship. Bugental's earlier research had already shown that women who feel powerless - and believe that the child has more control that the adult - are stressed by difficult caretaking situations. Not surprisingly then, "powerless" mothers showed increases in depression after the birth of a medically at-risk child. And the more depressed they became, the more likely they were to be physically harsh with the infant – resorting to spanking or even abusing their children. In contrast, mothers who believed that they could influence the caregiving interaction responded with the gentle and protective care that infants need.

How did such different caretaking experiences in the first year of life affect the children? Bugental found that children of depressed mothers had twice the blood level of cortisol (a hormonal marker of stress) as other children. In addition, children treated harshly were much more likely to show increases in cortisol levels and become upset when confronted with new or unexpected events. So maternal feelings of powerlessness went hand in hand with emotionally distant and physically harsh parenting, which in turn made children more stressed and less able to cope under stress.

With these findings in mind, Bugental and her colleagues turned to the question of what could be done to promote thriving among at-risk children. Working with local



Dr. Daphne Bugental

community assistance programs, they developed a home visitation intervention that promoted maternal empowerment (and compared its effectiveness with home visitation that provided direct support and parenting information). When mothers were assisted in become more effective problem-solvers and information-seekers, they were less prone to depression, less likely to experience stress, and less likely to parent harshly. And their children thrived. By 18 months of age, the very healthiest children in the study were those born at medical risk but whose mothers had been empowered to find positive solutions to these challenges.

By combining concepts from social and developmental psychology, Daphne Bugental's research has made a difference by showing how children can be helped to thrive even in the face of early medical adversity.

## Focus On Giving: The Philip Steven Rethis Memorial Award

The Philip Steven Rethis Memorial Fund was established in 1997 by the Rethis family inmemory of their son and brother. Philip overcame severe disability and illness to pursue his studies and worked actively in the Psychology Department's undergraduate and research programs. He was awarded a Posthumous Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology in June 1997 The award is given annually to a graduating senior who has overcome hardships in order to complete his or her degree. The criteria as stipulated by the fund are character, determination, and scholarship. The Rethis Fund has certainly made a difference in the lives of its recipients. Barbara Nofrey, for example, was the Rethis Award recipient in 2003. Thanks in part to the award Barbara is now a third year graduate student in the Neuroscience and Behavior program at UCSB. Barbara found Philip's story to be an inspiration. "I think the Rethis award has changed my perception. I feel honored to be considered someone of his caliber."

# Psychology Connections: Charles H. Markham, Research Professor

Not many psychologists have to take anti-nausea medication and tuck just-in-case barf bags into their pockets before collecting experimental data. But that was all in a day's work for Dr. Charles Markham, as he and longtime collaborator Shirley G. Diamond sought to develop a predictive test for space motion sickness. As a leading expert in vestibular physiology, Markham soon attracted attention from NASA, who provided astronauts as participants in Markham's tests of the effects of gravity on receptors in the human inner ear and the resulting reflex torsion of the eyes. The experimenters made the twice daily parabolic jet flights over the Gulf of Mexico along with their participants, repeatedly experiencing twice the force of gravity followed by zero gravity as the aircraft rose and fell. Sure enough, Markham and Diamond were able to show that astronauts whose eyes failed to move in concert during these ups and downs were the ones who later needed those barf bags in actual space flight.

This accomplishment is just one of many in the long and distinguished career of Markham, who has been a Research Professor in the UCSB Psychology Department since his retirement as Professor of Neurology from UCLA Medical School in 1995. During a two year stint in the US Army that interrupted his undergraduate engineering training, Markham was befriended by a neuropsychiatrist stricken in his thirties with Parkinson's disease. The experience motivated Markham's four years of medical school at Stanford, six years of medical and neurology residency, and a research career that has progressed simultaneously down two parallel pathways. The first focused on movement disorders, especially Parkinson's disease and dystonia (a neurological disorder characterized by involuntary muscle spasms). In this line of work, Markham sees as his most significant achievement (again with Diamond) the providing of experimental evidence that early drug therapy with levodopa could substantially lengthen the life expectancy of and improve disability in Parkinson's patients. The triumph was as much due to the psychologist as the physician in him: the proof came from Markham's detailed records tracking his patients' physical and cognitive abilities over a long period of time. In his second line of work, Markham worked to identify the function and connections of neurons in the vestibular system, showing how vestibular information is integrated in control of eye movement and posture. This work, which won him the Barany Society Medal in 1992, was the fore-

Markham's work is characterized by the painstaking application of experimental rigor to theoretically important topics with significant clinical or social implications.

runner of the gravity experiments.

Markham's work is characterized by the painstaking application of experimental rigor to theoretically important topics with significant clinical or social implications. He'd like to see psychologists engage in more research that combined theory and application, especially on some of the hot topics that psychologists have shied away from since the classic days of Milgram and Zimbardo. "It is these kinds of topics that attract philanthropy into research departments," says Markham. A consistent and generous donor to the UCSB psychology department

since his move here, Markham sees philanthropy as bridging gaps in more traditional funding sources but needing to be motivated by a strong spark of interest on the donor's part toward a specific project.

"I'm a neurologist, so I think about how the brain solves life's problems," says Markham. "But if I were a stockbroker, or a prison administrator, there's work going on in the department that would fire my imagination too."

An enthusiastic supporter of the department's burgeoning expertise in cognitive science and brain imaging, Markham looks forward to more discoveries made as psychologists are able to attack more problems on a systems level, from anatomical, through neuronal, to the cognitive and behavioral. And in the meantime Markham and Diamond are busy in the lab with a new project on the effects of alcohol on the gravity-receptive organs of the vestibular system. For them, the thrill of the experimental chase and the excitement of discovery appear only to increase.



Markham and Diamond experience zero gravity during parabolic flight as they collect eye movement data from a participant (center) to develop a predictive test for space motion sickness.

## Where Are They Now? Psychology Classnotes

Jane Silver Carlisle '1958 and Harry Carlisle '1957. Jane and Harry married 1957. Harry got a UCSB M.S. in 1959 and a University of Washington Ph.D 1962, then a Post Doc at University of Penn 1964. Finally back to UCSB in 1964 to join Psychology faculty. Meanwhile 3 children born. Jane received M.ED (UCSB) 1969, took job as Counselor at UCSB Counseling and Career Services, and received a UCSB Ph.D. 1992. Meanwhile Jane and Harry both working at UCSB in respective departments; Harry tenured faculty and Jane Associate Director of Counseling. Harry retired in 2003; died in 2003. Our oldest son died 1988, had been builder/ designer and at his death had passed 5 of the 9 exams for licensure as Architect. Youngest son is therapist in Colorado. Daughter is artist, formerly in New York city, now in Santa Barbara

**Bill Collins '1959** I entered the military summer 1959, and spent two very enjoyable years in Washington, D.C. assigned to the U.S. Army's Personnel Research Division out of the Pentagon [as a direct result of my work in the UCSB psychology department]. This experience had significant impact on my subsequent career. An M.A. degree in psychology [Honors – Phi Kappa Phi] was completed in 1972. I enjoyed a challenging career with three N.Y.S.E. corporations in Operations and Labor Relations management as a Vice President and Director of Operations. Rita Mattern and I were an item together at UCSB in 1959. We have both now retired and recently celebrated our 45th Anniversary. Currently, we are working hard at seeing further and enjoying our United States and the World.

Arnold M. Golub '1963' After receiving my Ph.D. in physiological psychology from Texas Christian University, I became a post-doctoral fellow at the University of Michigan's Mental Health Research Institute (MHRI). At MHRI I published biochemical and behavioral research on biological mechanisms substrates of learning and memory. After Michigan, I was invited to the Eunice Kennedy Shriver Research Center in Waltham, Mass., where I had appointments at Boston University, Harvard's Medical School, and Mass. General Hospital. In 1973 my wife Mari and I moved to Sacramento. We have two adult sons. I am currently chair of the Department of Psychology at the California State University Department of Psychology.

*Riccardo (Ric) Nargie '1968* After UCSB I attended San Fernando Valley State College (now CSUN) in the School Psychology Program. Upon graduating in 1971 I was hired by the Conejo Valley School District and served as a School Psychologist for approximately 13 years. Along the way I picked up my Educational Psychologist license as well as a couple of administrative credentials. After the thirteen years with Conejo, I was hired by the Ventura Unified School District as Director of Pupil Services / Special Education and have been in this position to date.

Gayle (Ginthner) Kehrli '1970. I obtained a Masters degree from San Diego State in Counseling and Guidance, and have been working as a School Psychologist for the past 25 odd years. I married a fellow UCSB graduate and have two children who also graduated from UCSB (my son just last year). I suppose we are all Gauchos. When my daughter entered in 1996, Dr. Sherman – with whom I'd done a project as an undergraduate -- served on the orientation panel. As a school psychologist, I certainly used much of my early training. My specialty is behavioral analysis as well as diagnostics of disabilities in school age children. As I am nearing retirement age, I elected this year to be a part-time school counselor, assisting students to go to the university.

Joe Newman '1971 I received a MS in Counseling from Univ. of Arizona 1979 and was a rehab counselor and hospital administrator for Sharp Hospital in San Diego until 1984. Moved into commercial real estate 21 years ago and am now Managing Director for CB Richard Ellis in San Diego—the world's largest commercial real estate services company. I manage a brokerage Downtown and the Asset Management Division in SD. My wife Mary and I live in Scripps Ranch (SD). We have 2 daughters, one (Mackenzie) married in San Luis Obispo, one (Marissa) in her Sophomore year at UCSB.

**Paul Kimoto, '1971** I went to work for DHL Worldwide Express (unable to find gainful employment in the field of psychology). In 1983 I opened my own business as a Customs Broker working for international importers. I married in 1979, divorced in 2000, raised two daughters. The older one (UCSD 1997) works for Organic Style magazine. The younger daughter is a UCSB sophomore, paying \$1200 a month for an apartment in good old Isla Vista. My old apartments are still there looking exactly the same as they did 30 years ago. I'm currently a consultant for international importers and serve on the Board of Directors for the Hillblom Foundation which provides grants & fellowships in the fields of diabetes and aging

research. The foundation recently provided funding for a new research building at UCLA.

Susan Davis '1972 After graduation, I worked for a year in Special Education programs, received a MS in Counseling with a Pupil Personnel Credential for School Psychology from CSU Hayward in 1975, and have been a School Psychologist ever since. I currently work part time for San Ramon Valley USD, providing psychological services (assessment, counseling, consultation) for one elementary school and coordinating a school-based, early intervention mental health project for 5 elementary schools. Greg (also a UCSB alum, we married when I was a senior) and I have two daughters, one a UCSC sophomore (majoring in Psychology!!) and the second a high school senior. As an "empty nester" next year, I plan to pursue a certification in School Neuropsychology, a long time interest of mine. Life is full, but good!

*Candace (Weisshart) Kamm '1972* is Director of Research at FX Palo Alto Laboratory, a small information technology research lab. After earning a MA in Audiology at CSULA, I worked at UCLA School of Medicine for 8 years while completing a UCLA Ph.D. degree in Cognitive Psychology. In 1982, I joined Bell Laboratories in New Jersey, working on speech recognition and synthesis technologies, and later focusing on user interfaces to voice-enabled telephone services. In 1984, I joined the Speech Recognition Applications Research Group at Bellcore (now Telcordia Technologies). I returned to AT&T Bell Labs in 1995, and was a department head at AT&T Labs - Research until moving back to California in 2002. I am a member of the IEEE Signal Processing Society and ACM.

*Michael Salerno '1972* I attended graduate school in Law and Society at UC Davis (1972-73), was a consultant to the California State Senate (1973-76), and returned to law school at Davis (1976-79-- served on the UC Board of Regents 1977-78). I married Kathleen Turney (1979) and now have two children (Gian 1985, Giuliana 1997). After graduation, I commenced work for the Legislative Counsel. I taught at the UC Davis School of Law (1993-96), was a Fulbright Scholar in Italy (1995), and started teaching at UC Hastings in 1999. I now teach courses and supervise a legislation clinic. I have published articles concerning the legislative process, regulating the financial interests of public officials, influencing legislation, amending constitutions in the US, and am coauthor of Legal, Legislative, and Rule Drafting in Plain English (West 2005).

Joyce Dudley, '1975 UCSB was the 5th college I attended in 3 years. I had a great time everywhere but ended up graduating with Honors in paradise. From UCSB I went on to earn a MA, MEd, JD. I am now a Sr. DDA in Santa Barbara County. I am also an author of a crime novel Justice Served, a statewide lecturer, and law school professor. Most importantly, I am happily married to a hydogeologist and we have 4 sons ages 25-17 - thankfully they all still live in town - one is a Senior at UCSB - GO GAUCHOS!! I find I use many experiences I had a UCSB (including the knowledge I gained in class) in my every day life both professionally and personally. I can be reached via my website Dudleybook.com

*George E. Murphy*, **1975** I obtained my J.D. from Golden Gate University in 1979 and moved to Sacramento where I served as Research Attorney for the State Court of Appeal. In 1982 I was hired by a Sacramento firm to start their appellate department. In 1994 I founded Farmer & Murphy with another UCSB alumnus--Craig Farmer. We now have 11 attorneys, specializing in civil appeals. I have been involved in hundreds of appellate cases in California including the Supreme Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit. I have over 40 published decisions. What I learned in Psychology at UCSB has made me a much better lawyer in many ways. I am married and have three children. Lauren, 17, wants to go to UCSB and major in Psychology. Mike, 16, is not sure where he wants to got to college. Shane is 13 and college is not even on the radar screen. I have taken them by the UCSB campus. It has changed significantly since I went there, but I think I could still find my way around. I am waiting for UCSB to launch a law school -- it would be great to be back on campus again. I have missed it all these years.

*Lisa Horelick '1976* My junior and senior year at UCSB was certainly the pivotal point for me in realizing that my passion was psychology. Excellent professors, courses and classmates contributed to the excitement of learning about myself and others in a new and deep way. I received a masters in School Psychology and then a doctorate in Clinical Psychology (in New York, at Yeshiva University). As I began working in the field I felt the desire to learn more about psychotherapy and psychoanalysis, and graduated from the 4 year program at Adelphi University (NY). I have now been in private practice for over 20 years, working with adolescents, adults and couples. I am on faculty at a psychoanalytic institute (SIPP) where I teach, supervise, and enjoy the stimulation of working with fine clinicians and good friends. As I enter

Classnotes not included here will appear in later volumes.

a more "senior" level of involvement in this profession, I particularly enjoy the opportunity to give back, by training new candidates in the field.

James Morgan 1978 I am the Executive Director of the Southwest Family YMCA in Temecula, California (I moved from Santa Ynez wine country to Temecula wine country). I have been in YMCA work for 20 years, and am now primarily a fund raiser. I have raised a few million dollars in the past year to build a new YMCA locally. I started my Master's Degree in German in West Berlin, and finished in Southern California with a Master of Arts Degree in Organizational Management.

**Burt Romothsky '1978** After a year off I completed a Masters in Social Welfare at Berkeley in 1981, then worked for Ventura and Santa Barbara counties providing clinical and managerial services to both adults and children. I am now employed here at UCSB Student Health as the Campus Social Worker providing assessment, linkage and support for students. I have been married for five years, and we enjoy traveling, biking, hiking, and living in Santa Barbara.

*Mary McNaughton, 1981* I completed my Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the UCSD-SDSU Joint Clinical Psychology Program in 1991. I am currently an Associate Professor of Psychology at the University of Texas at San Antonio, where I also serve as the Associate Dean of Undergraduate Studies. I am licensed to practice Psychology in Texas, and have been conducting research on test anxiety, the news media as a source of stress, and stress and health. My husband, Aaron Cassill is the chairman of the Biology Department here at UTSA, and we have twin twelve year old daughters, who were born in California, but think of themselves as Texans!

**Bruce Bromage, 1981** I am Executive Vice President and General Manager for Symmetricom's Timing, Test and Measurement Division in San Jose, CA. Symmetricom provides precise time and frequency references that synchronize telecommunication networks. My career started with Bell Laboratories, progressed with Hughes Aircraft Company, then Hewlett Packard, and two early-stage startups. My wife Mary and I live in Saratoga CA with our three sons. Mary and I met while we were both research assistants in the Psychology department, married during my last year of the program, and have been married 25 years. Matt is a senior at UCSC in Computer Engineering. Kevin is in his second year at UCSC as a pre-Med student. Sean is graduating high school, and has been accepted into UCSB's College of Engineering.

**Carol McClelland, 1982** I attended Purdue University and earned my Ph.D. in Industrial/Organizational Psychology. Then after 5 years in the corporate world, I founded my own business to support people through career and life transitions. As a result of my work, I've written several books including: The Seasons of Change and my upcoming book Your Dream Career For Dummies due out in Fall 2005. For more details about my work, visit my website at <u>www.TransitionDynamics.com</u>

Sallie Haws, '1984 Right after graduation I went to work for the family business, Haws Corporation. Haws makes drinking fountains and emergency drench showers and eyewashes, and has manufacturing plants in Nevada, Singapore, Switzerland and Brazil. My focus throughout my tenure at Haws has always been Human Resources, although I never officially held that title. I have been working for Haws for almost 21 years and have in every job I've held at this company. A company is made up of people, and the better a leader understands their people, the better they can lead.

*Paula Gregoire-Jones, 1984.* Before I graduated I was accepted an entry level computer support position at ACC eventually becoming the IS Manager. After ACC closed I worked in Information Technology position at Mentor Corporation and have been working for the Santa Barbara County Air Pollution since 1989. My husband and I purchased a house in "Noleta" right after my graduation, where we still live with our 15 year old daughter and two dogs.

*Nikki (Fine) Levy, '1985,* MA 1988 I went straight from graduate school into the business world, starting as an assistant editor at Academic Press. I advanced rapidly to being a book acquisition editor, journal manager, and finally publisher- managing a multi-million dollar portfolio of books and journals across the social sciences. Now, in addition to my managerial duties, I keep hands on by overseeing 11 major psychology journals and publishing a dozen books a year from research monographs to encyclopedias. I love what I do and with whom I do it. And having an excuse to wine and dine old friends and colleagues from UCSB isn't bad either. I welcome meeting fellow gauchos at the Elsevier booth at APA, or anyone wishing to reach me can drop a line to nlevy@elsevier.com.

*Wendy Nishikawa '1988* I received my M.A. in Clinical psychology at Antioch University, Santa Barbara in 1991. I became licensed as an M.F.T in 1997. My first counseling job was at Phoenix of Santa Barbara. I became the Clinical Director in 1994 until I left in 1998. I spent a year teaching English in Japan, then returned to do social work at the County of SB Child Welfare Services. After 1 1/2 years at the County, I

accepted a position here at UCSB as Work/Life Coordinator for Human Resources. I can be contacted at wendy.nishikawa@hr.ucsb.edu. My interests include international travel and all athletics especially snowboarding and beach volleyball.

*Michael Wolfe, 1990* I received a PhD in Cognitive Psychology in 1998 from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and am now a Psychology professor at Grand Valley State University in Michigan. In 1996 I married Rebecca Walsh, and we live in Grand Rapids with our two kids, Alex (5 yrs), and Sam (3 yrs). My email is: wolfem@gvsu.edu.

**Dayna (Reader) Chalif '1992** I received my MA in counseling from Washington State University in 1995 and moved to the Bay Area. I married Ivan Chalif (UCSB Psych '1993) in 1995. From 1995-2000, I worked in a counseling capacity at a variety of non-profit organizations in the bay area. In 2000, I became a LMFT (licensed marriage and family therapist) and had our first child. I worked one day a week in my private psychotherapy practice until we had our 2nd child in 2003, at which time I closed my practice to focus on my family full-time. In April this year, I re-opened my private practice one day a week, and am now enjoying that as well. I want to say hello to Dr. Robert Sherman and let him know that he was a great inspiration to me (in regard to establishing a career in psychotherapy as opposed to research) while I was at UCSB.

*Tyler Okimoto '2000* I am currently living in New York, working on my dissertation and finishing my 5<sup>th</sup> year in the Social Psychology doctoral program at NYU. My primary research interests deal with identity concerns following an experience of unjust treatment, and how favorable outcomes may placate these concerns. I am also involved in numerous research projects investigating the impact of negative expectations (stereotype-based and otherwise) in organizational contexts. Special thanks to Dave, Brenda, and the entire Major Lab. My experience at Santa Barbara has undoubtedly influenced my perspective towards and love of psychology, not to mention my intolerance for New England winters!

**Ryan Williams '2000.** I am currently in my fifth year of the MD-PhD program at the University of Miami. I completed my first two years of medical school, passed step one of the national boards, and I am about half way through my Ph.D. The two main reasons I choose the University of Miami was their programs with international medicine and their strength in the neurosciences. During medical school I have set up health clinics in Haiti, Cuba, and El Salvador. Right now, I am working for Dr. Mary Bunge at the Miami Project to Cure Paralysis, which has been an outstanding experience. The focus of my thesis is the use of adeno-associated viral vectors to deliver transgenes encoding developmental transcription factors to the noradrenergic cell populations in the brainstem. With this system, I hope to "re-boot" developmental patterns of gene expression, thereby promoting axon regeneration in the spinal cord after injury. I would like to thank everyone from UCSB for all of the opportunities and preparation I received, I could not have gotten this far without them.

Ashton Udall, '2001 Since graduating from UCSB with a B.A. in psychology, I have tried to make the most of my early twenties by meshing travel, leisure, education, and hard work. I enrolled in the University of Hawaiis Asian Studies Masters program, during which I focused on political economy and trade issues. These two years consisted of completing my degree, policy research regarding international trade, surfing the North Shore of Oahu, and travel and study in Central America and Indonesia. I am now working at a real estate firm in San Francisco and hope to attend part-time law school to focus on Asian property issues and international real estate."

*Christina Grigg '2002* After spending a year as Nancy Collin's research assistant, I began lawschool at UCDavis in 2003. Last summer I returned home to the Santa Barbara area to work with an attorney specializing in criminal defense and civil litigation. I am currently an intern at Legal Services and at the Legislative Office for the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office in Sacramento. After I graduate from law school, I plan to pursue a legal career or a Ph.D. in Psychology.

**Navid Papehn '2004** I moved to New York City to work on a Masters in Clinical Psychology at Teachers College, Columbia University. I am on a one-year track and expect to receive my degree at the end of this summer. Currently I am involved in a study focusing on undergraduate students at Columbia. We are interested in the stressors they experience academically and personally and how they cope with these stressors. In addition, I am an intern with the New York Jail system working with their mentally ill population.

## Meet The People: Psychology Welcomes Four New Faculty



Dr. James Roney, an Assistant Professor in the Developmental and Evolutionary Psychology program, joined the UCSB faculty in July 2004. He received his Ph.D. in psychology, with an emphasis on human development, from the Univer-

sity of Chicago and completed postdoctoral training at the University of Chicago's Institute for Mind and Biology.

Roney's research focuses on evolved psychological adaptations that regulate human social interactions. "One strategy for this endeavor involves the use of discoveries about nonhuman brain mechanisms," said Roney. "For instance, many nonhuman vertebrate males express neuroendocrine mechanisms that regulate hormonal and behavioral responses to cues from potential mates." His work, which provided evidence that humans exhibit

similar responses in the presence of potential mates, won the 2001 New Investigator Award from the Human Behavior and Evolution Society. At UCSB Jim is enjoying working with a terrific group of graduate students in his area. "Really, they're the best I have ever seen," he observed.

Away from the lab, Roney's four year old son Petey makes sure his Dad is up to speed on the habits of nonhuman species. "I come home and immediately begin fielding zoology questions from Petey," said Roney. *Why don't spiders stick to their* own webs? Could an Anaconda *strangle a crocodile?* [At press time, we were unable to verify the veracity of some of Roney's answers, but it appears that Petey is buying them, at least until he gets to kindergarten.]

This intellectual exercise is then balanced out with a physical workout as Roney and his wife Liggy chase their one year old daughter Anna around the apartment trying to make sure she doesn't fall off all the things she climbs on. With such a high level of activity in the house, it's no wonder that Roney and his family are enjoying the many outdoor pursuits that Santa Barbara has to offer.



Dr. Karen Szumlinski joined the UCSB faculty in Spring 2005 as an Assistant Professor in the Neuroscience and Behavior program. Prior to coming to UCSB, Szumlinski was an Assistant Research Professor in the Department of Physiology and Neuroscience at the Medical University of South Carolina. She completed her Ph.D. at the Center for Neuroscience and Neuropharmacology at the Albany Medical College, NY.

Originally from Canada, where she completed her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Psychology and Medical Sciences, Karen claims that her biggest pet peeve is "having to remove the 'u' from the word behaviour." Luckily, at least one of the many awards that she has received for her research on the cellular mechanisms underlying changes bought about by chronic exposure to drugs of abuse spelled the word correctly. This list of awards she has received includes an American Women in Science Citation of Merit, the Leonard Procita Prize for Excellence in Research, and a Postdoctoral Outstanding Young Investigator Award from the International Behavioural (correctly spelled) and Neural Genetics Society.

At UCSB Szumlinksi intends to continue her federallysupported work using genetically specialized mice populations to study neuropsychiatric disorders associated with addiction, such as psychosis and depression. She'll also be investigating the longterm behavioral and neurochemical consequences of childhood or adolescent exposure to over-the-counter stimulant drugs.

When she is not running assays in the lab, Szumlinksi spends time combining two delicately balanced hobbies: cross-stitching and motorcycle riding. She also maintains a small home zoo, which includes two dogs (Conan and Sonja), two rats, and "a cat, Wadsworth, named after a research institute in New York." To learn more about these animals - and Karen check out the story about another of our new faculty members, Tod Kippin, on the next page: there's a connection!

Dr. Barry Giesbrecht, an Assistant Professor in the Cognitive and Perceptual Sciences area, earned his Ph.D. at the University of Alberta in Canada. Prior to coming to UCSB, he served on the research faculty at the Center for Mind and Brain at UC Davis. He is the recipient of scholarship funding from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), the Killam Trust, and the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research.

It should come as no surprise that away from the lab Gies-

Dr. Tod Kippin completed his Ph.D. in Psychology (2000) at the Centre for Studies in Behavioral Neurobiology at Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec, Canada where he received the Stanley G. French Convocation Award. An expert on the neurodevelopment of coordinated behavioral, endocrine, and cognitive processes. Kippin went on to conduct post-doctoral research in the Department of Medical Genetics and Microbiology at the University of Toronto, Ontario, Canada and in the Department of Physiology and Neuroscience at the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston.

The most recent appointment

brecht loves to play poker. After all, his research focuses on selective attention, the mechanism that allows people to focus on only that subset of information in the environment that is relevant to their goals. Probably pretty useful when you're holding a straight and wondering whether Mike Miller has another full house.

Inside the lab, Giesbrecht uses both functional magnetic resonance imaging and electroencephalography to investigate selective attention. "On a daily basis we navigate through an extremely complex world that continually bombards our

to our Neuroscience and Behavior program, Kippin's current work extends our understanding of the implications of neurogenesis in psychiatric disorders. "I'm interested in the mechanisms that maintain neural stem cells in the adult brain and the functional purpose of their progeny," said Kippin. "A number of studies have implicated increased neurogenesis in how antidepressant and antipsychotic drugs work. So a major part of my research looks at the potential role of neural stem cells in the expression of or vulnerability to psychopathology."

Kippin gets to think about these things as he enjoys his favorite pastimes of skiing, senses with a vast amount of potentially important information," said Giesbrecht. "I place specific emphasis on understanding how multiple sources of information, such as perceptual information, current expectations, memories, past experience, and semantic knowledge affect selective attention in vision."

Giesbrecht and his wife Kathy are enjoying the opportunities that Santa Barbara has to backpack, play golf (okay only Barry enjoys that), and walk their black Labrador Kanuck. "With all that Santa Barbara has to offer, the adjustment has been

hiking, and recently, riding a motorcycle. He's a deft hand at barbequing and grilling (and woe betide those who don't know the difference!). Regardless of which it is, these grillrelated activities make him a favorite with his two dogs, Conan and Sonja, and cat, Wadsworth. [If you're wondering why Kippen and Symlinski have animals with the same names, it's because they have the same animals—Tod and Karen are engaged to each other.]

As someone who enjoys wine tasting, Kippin's come to the right place. We know we have him hooked because he finds Santa Barbara "amazingly beautiful — maybe even as



easy, but on top of that there are more Canadians on faculty here than one can shake a stick at! I guess after growing up in that bitter climate, we've all paid our dues!" notes Giesbrecht.



beautiful as my hometown of Vancouver, Canada," which is pretty high praise indeed. Kippin's next motorcycle trip will be down the coast to Carp for the avocado festival—and that's bound to stimulate some neurogenesis!

#### Alumni Spotlight: Continued from p. 3

The parents of three daughters, Peter and Lori enjoy the many outdoor pursuits that living in the Bay Area provide them. Having two of his daughters already in college and the third in high school has also made Ryan think in a very personal way about how learning and education are changing as technology and society change. The experience has only strengthened his conviction that the best thing educational institutions – traditional or otherwise – can do for students is to help them learn how to learn. He'd give that kind of advice to current UCSB undergraduates: "Don't worry too much about a specific career, don't specialize too early. You never know what path you're going to take and you meander around a bit as life happens. Just learn how to learn." Ryan knows that not everyone gets to experience the ultimate satisfaction that he experiences: "There's no better kind of work," says Ryan. "I know I am making a difference because that programs I am designing can help people from many walks of life to grow and accomplish their personal goals."



#### By Cathy Tran '2005

Bobo dolls, prison simulations, and the Skinner box are all part of classic psychology experiments from distinguished psychologists. But besides being on every introductory psychology student's final exam, Bandura, Zimbardo, and Skinner share another accomplishment: All are members of Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology. From this organization have emerged many renowned psychologists-and for UC Santa Barbara, many lessons learned, fond memories, and successful graduates in the past 25 years.

The UCSB Chapter of Psi Chi was founded in 1979 for the purpose of "encouraging, stimulating, and maintaining excellence in scholarship, and advancing the science of psychology." Psi Chi's first president, Sharon Wilson, and a group of psychology undergraduates approached Dr. Robert Sherman with the idea of forming an honor society to reward past accomplishments and promote future involvement in psychology. Sherman, a longtime faculty member, supported that vision and has been the advisor of Psi Chi since its inception.

"Psi Chi represents a recognition of students who have performed well and have a genuine interest in the science of psychology," remarked Sherman. And per-

# Get PSYCHed: 25 Years of Psi Chi

forming well has taken on many different meanings.

These students have excelled academically, with each member achieving a minimum of a 3.0 overall UCSB grade-point average and a 3.3 in their upper-division psychology coursework. Many have also excelled in providing service to the department; for example, some have served as representatives to the department's Undergraduate Affairs Committee, and officers have received the annual Chairperson's Awards for their involvement and organization of Psi Chi functions. Many are now succeeding in their professional careers, which include academia, counseling, medicine, business, law, and social work. "This is a reflection of the broad range of interests represented among students in the Psychology Department," observed Sherman.

While reminiscing about Psi Chi's past, Sherman recalled members gathered at meetings and mingling at a pizza joint during nights in Isla Vista. Community professionals, such as family therapists

and social workers, interacted with members to give them a peek into the windows of different psychology professions. Psi Chi was often involved in sponsoring or participating in educational programs for undergraduate majors, focusing on topics including "applying to graduate school" and "careers in psychology." In the 1980s, the society showed the controversial film *A Clockwork Orange* as a fundraiser in Campbell Hall, followed by a discussion panel led by Sherman and two other faculty members. In the mid-1990s, as part of the 15th anniversary celebration, renowned UCSB human ecologist Dr. Garrett Hardin, well known for his classic article on the "tragedy of the commons," was the keynote speaker.

For the 25th anniversary this year, the chapter is planning to have a celebration event on April 28, 2005. Psychology faculty members Dr. Jim Blascovich and Dr. Jack Loomis, of the Research Center for Virtual Environment and Behavior, will be the keynote speakers. At that time the new members for Spring will be installed and new officers for 2005-06 will be elected.

"Students feel good knowing that their hard work is being recognized by their peers," said Jennifer Morris, Vice President of the chapter. Other officers this year include co-Presidents Kyndal Gannon and Desiree Leek, Treasurer Jeff Hutchinson, and Secretary Samantha Velazquez.

As another special feature of this celebration, the chapter plans to extend the opportunity for membership to psychology faculty members and graduate students who may not have had a Psi Chi chapter at their undergraduate institutions. This was also done when the chapter was first organized, with eleven faculty (Gerald Blum, Marilynn Brewer, Harry Carlisle, John Cotton, John Foley, Walter Gogel, Robert Gottsdanker, John Hale, Tracy Kendler, Loy Lytle, and Robert Sherman) and several graduate students joining the undergraduates in becoming members at that time.

The UCSB Psi Chi chapter started with the goal to enhance the educational experience of psychology students. Twenty-five years and 1425 members later, it still continues to pursue that vision. "Psi Chi will always represent excellence in scholarship and [the] pursuit of advancing the science of psychology," said Leek.



# Would You Like to Help?

Would you like to be part of the momentum propelling teaching and scholarship in the Department of Psychology at UCSB? Your gift, no matter how large or small, can help us

- create top-notch learning programs for undergraduates
- facilitate cutting edge research efforts that move both science and society forward
- help us attract and hire the most competitively recruited scientists at every stage of their careers
- support the best and brightest graduate students in their pursuit of the Ph.D. degree
- help support and encourage both undergraduate and graduate students who bring a diversity of background and perspective to their studies in the Department of Psychology
- bring distinguished lecturers to the department to the benefit of both faculty and students
- kick-start translational research efforts that turn basic research into applied programs and policy
- outfit and equip research and scholarship spaces in the new building where faculty and students of all levels can interact

The Department of Psychology greatly appreciates any support you can offer. The enclosed envelope makes choosing from a range of gift options easy. You can give to the department and specify how you would like your funds used, or allow us to use the funds where we need them most. Many employers match contributions please check with your employer if you are unsure. You can give by check or credit card or by contacting the Department Chair Jim Blascovich at (805) 893 2058 or blascovich@psych.ucsb.edu.

## From the Psychology Department Wish List

**Non-restricted Funds**: Non restricted gift fund for the department to use at its discretion

**Graduate Student Support**: funds for the establishment of graduate student dissertation fellowships

**Graduate Student Professional Development Funds**: funds earmarked to help offset the cost to graduate students of attending specialized teaching and research workshops and present their research at national conferences and conventions

**Departmental Distinguished Colloquium Speaker Fund** : funds for costs associated with bringing nationally and internationally known speakers to the department to share their research with faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates

**Charles G. McClintock Fund**: fund established to support a senior graduate students in the Social Psychology program who combines high standards of scholarship with service to the program

Harry J. Carlisle Award: funds established for the support of students in the Neuroscience and Behavior program

**Undergraduate Awards Fund**: funds to support awards given to the outstanding and distinguished graduating seniors in Psychology and Biopsychology at our annual Undergraduate Awards ceremony held in conjunction with commencement

**General Undergraduate Fund**: funds for use in the undergraduate program, to create a specialized small seminar on a compelling topic, to provide work-shop or conference experience for outstanding graduating seniors, etc.

**Psi Chi Fund**: fund for the support of professional activities and scholarship enrichment for psychology majors and members of Psi Chi

### Special Naming Opportunities associated with Psychology II:

Of special priority to the department is support for the many functions associated with the Brain Imaging Center, including costs associated with purchase and operation of the magnet itself, as well as data analysis and management. Equipping and outfitting possibilities for the support of ReCVEB are also crucial to our research mission. Finally, naming opportunities for seminar and conference rooms in the new building would help us achieve our goal of creating spaces where scholarship is easily facilitated. If you are interested in learning more about naming opportunities in the new psychology building, please contact Chair Jim Blascovich at 805 893 2858 or <u>blas-</u> covi@psych.ucsb.edu

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investigates "the neural correlates of human sensory, perceptual, cognitive, social, and language systems," according to inaugural director Dr. Greg Ashby. The center's focal point will be a functional magnetic resonance imager (fMRI) that tracks blood flow as regions of the brain are activated, allowing researchers to see what happens in the brain when it does any of its many jobs. Use of this and associated technologies are offering new ways of investigating a wide variety of human phenomena, including emotion, the navigation of social interaction, conflict resolution, classification and induction, reasoning about risk and uncertainty, much of it carried out by UCSB scientists. (See the full story on the Brain Imaging Center and UCSB's Mind Science initiative in an upcoming edition of Inside Psychology).

# **Psychology II : New Building Goes Up**, continued

The Research Center for Virtual Environments and Behavior (ReCVEB) is a recently established multi-disciplinary research organization devoted to understanding the complex interplay of computergenerated virtual environments and human behavior. Unique to UCSB, ReCVEB enables researchers to conduct pioneering research in a fast growing technological enterprise with important societal ramifications. No wonder that ReCVEB has become one of the leading virtual environment research centers in the world. Its expansion into new quarters in the Psychology II addition will ensure its continued growth and development.

These two fast-growing interdisci-



UCSB Chancellor Henry Yang (far left) helps break ground for the new Psychology building due to be completed 2006.

plinary, cutting edge research initiatives reflect the exciting kind of research enterprise that the new building makes possible. As construction goes forward, naming opportunities in the new building still exist (see p. 11). "Maybe we should call the new building Psychology <sup>2</sup>," says Blascovich, 'that's the kind of difference it will make."