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Psychology Department Newsletter

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Department Staff

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Psychology Department

Term: Fall | Issue 1 | Date: September 20, 2020

WELCOME AND WELCOME BACK

Welcome back students and faculty! This semester has certainly started differently than those in the past. With all of the hardships and chaos that have been ongoing this year we would like to express our gratitude and praise for the resilience our student body and faculty have shown! We appreciate your hard work and partnership in education. Although this semester will be fundamentally different than those in the past, the passion from all of you will maintain the quality and content of the program. Let's work together to make this semester one to remember!







This fall semester the Psychology Department is happy to welcome over 150 new majors into the program! In times like these it would be easy to sit back and wait for everything to return to normal. The decision to continue with your education is admirable and we hope you enjoy everything this department has to offer! Even though we are remote be sure to keep your eyes out for these newsletters and on your student email for virtual events, lectures, and other activities involving students and faculty. Best of luck this semester! Being online adds extra confusion when dealing with classes and graduation. Take full advantage of the open advising within the department. The schedule is listed at the bottom of this newsletter.

PUBLISHED WORK: DR. YOUNG

Our very own Dr. Young was recently published in Psychological Science! Check out his paper, Children's Cognitive Reflection Predicts Conceptual Understanding in Science and Mathematics. Dr. Young's paper can be found at https://sites.oxy.edu/shtulman/documents/2020f.pdf.



ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT: MIEREL REHICH

1. What year did you graduate?

I graduated in May 2020.

2. What graduate program are you attending?

I am currently enrolled in the Master of Arts Program in the Social Sciences at the University of Chicago. My concentration will be in psychology and I am also thinking of possibly getting a certificate in "Education and Society" through the program.



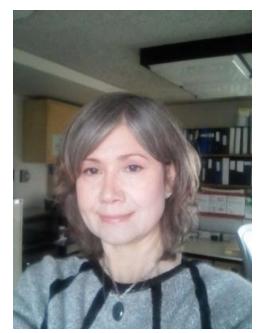
3. How did NEIU prepare you for graduate school?

NEIU helped prepare me for the research component of graduate school. Over the summer I was able to work as a research assistant in the wisdom lab at UChicago and I was able to build on the research knowledge and experience that I obtained during my amazing years at NEIU. NEIU not only prepared me for graduate school but I received so much help and support from the faculty during the whole application process as well as deciding which graduate program to attend. I will forever be grateful for all the help and support I received! I feel blessed to have met the people that I have met at NEIU.

4. What advice would you give to undergraduate students?

Take advantage of every opportunity the department provides for its students. There are so many research opportunities that students can take advantage of if they plan on going to graduate school or if they are just interested in conducting research. The faculty members are also very willing to help students so it's important for students to reach out to their professors. From my experience, the faculty are willing to go out of their way to help students. I believe that undergrad, and school in general, is only as fun as you make it - so make the best of it!

GET TO KNOW THE DEPARTMENT: KRISTIN WILKENS



1) What are some of your hobbies?

I love painting, drawing, and sculpting people. I also love camping.

2) If you could travel anywhere in the world, where would you go? Ireland is my 1st choice.

3) What is your favorite movie?

Hard to choose one...one of the best is "Being There".

4) If you could have any job that isn't this one, what would you do?

I would love to paint portraits professionally.

5) What is the best piece of advice you have received?

Seek to live authentically.

AWARDS, ACCEPTANCES, AND PRESENTATIONS

- Congratulations to Rebekah Monroe for receiving the Brommel-Hanson-McGee scholarship and the Brommel-Cozad-Elliot scholarship! Also, congratulations on having "The Relationship Between Religious Trauma, Sex, Gender Roles, and Sexuality of Adults in the United States Using Social Identity Theory" published in *The Undergraduate Journal of Psychology at Berkeley*.
- Well done Gabriela Carmona on presenting "Perceptions of Physical Activity and Physical Engagement Among Latinx College Students" at the 2020 UCLA Virtual National McNair Conference!
- Congratulations to Janet Bucio on being accepted into DePaul's School Counseling Program!
- Congratulations to Jennifer Sansone on being accepted into North Central College in Naperville's Master's in Occupational Therapy Program!
- Congratulations to Amanda Sanchez on receiving a research assistantship for the year! Amanda is currently pursuing her M.A. in Gerontology.
- Congratulations to Yasmeen Ismail on being accepted into Psychological Counseling Program at The Chicago School of Professional Psychology!
- Congratulations to Laura Price for successfully defending her Master's thesis "A Structural Family Therapy Approach to Understanding African American Grandmothers" in Gerontology this summer!

ALUMNI CHECK-IN: JOHN SMITH

John Smith (M.A. '20 International Family Studies) is crushing it over at the University of Nebraska! On May 9th, 2020 John earned his Master's of Science in International Family Studies. He has also co-authored "Neighborhood disadvantage, childhood adversity, bullying victimization, and adolescent depression: A multiple mediational analysis" and "Patterns of Change in Adolescents' Anger at their Parents and Depressive Symptoms". John didn't stop there, and has submitted his own pilot study to interview rural African-American clergy in Nebraska, specifically about their perceptions and beliefs about mental health!



CHICAGO CHEC SUMMER PROGRAM

Congratulations to Rebekah Monroe and Jessica Yee on being accepted into the ChicagoCHEC Fellows Program this past summer! The ChicagoCHEC program is a fully funded, full time, research opportunity in which students get the chance to meet with the leading scholars in clinical, behavioral, and population research through Northwestern University.



Keep an eye out for future opportunities to work with this wonderful organization in the future! Also, be sure to check out their website to see all the good they are doing within Chicago.



As part of their fellowship participants put together a creative expression project. Jessica teamed up with her family to create this beautiful mural. "The concept of 'community' really is brought up in a lot of our conversations in ChicagoCHEC and throughout the program. You are more likely to commit to something if you say it out loud and/or put your ideas out in public for everyone to see!"



ALUMNI CHECK-IN: DR. LYNDA GIBSON

Please join us in congratulating our former lab manager, Dr. Lynda Gibson, on graduating from the Illinois Institute of Technology with a Doctorate of Philosophy in Psychology. Dr. Gibson's thesis is titled "Exposure To Community Violence: Does It Lead To Behavioral And Emotional Symptoms In Preschool Children?". Since graduating she has accepted a position at the University of Chicago as a child trauma specialist and therapist!



SERVICE LEARNING "TRAILBLAZERS



"Trailblazers" come in different forms. Twelve students over the summer proved this point as service learners in the Albany Park community under COVID-19. Their hard work and resilience in working with community partners during the pandemic for the completion of 90 service learning hours were truly exemplary during an accelerated summer term. Students seamlessly balanced issues of working remotely with community sites while adjusting to changes in their personal circumstances under pandemic conditions. Dr. Silverthorn and Dr. Hollis-Sawyer want to take this opportunity to highlight their great effort during COVID-19!

VIRTUAL LECTURE - DR. CHURCH

Be sure to attend Dr. Church's virtual lecture "What Do Rodents and Hands Have To Do With Cognition and Learning?"! The presentation will take place Thursday October 1, 2020 from 3:00pm-4:30pm.

The zoom link is located in your student email under the heading "Bernard J. Brommel Distinguished Research Professor lecture. Oct. 1".



ANNOUNCEMENTS

<u>Capstone / Lab Assistance Office Hours</u>	Open Advising Hours for Major
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Wenesday-Friday 3:00pm-4:00pm

Location: Zoom

New Major Orientation

Thursday Oct 15, 2020 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Location: Zoom

Hindsight is 20/20 - Working with a BA in

Psychology

Wenesday Oct 7, 2020 2:00pm-3:30pm

Location: Zoom

Spring Open Registration

Saturday Oct 24, 2020

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-Mondays -9:00am-10:00am

3:30pm-4:30pm

- Tuesdays -11:00am-12:00pm

2:00pm-3:00pm

6:00pm-7:00pm

-Wednesdays - 11:00am-12:00pm

5:30pm-6:30pm

- Thursdays -3:00pm-4:00pm

- Fridays -11:00am-12:00pm

1:00pm-2:00pm

- Saturdays -1 pm- 2 pm

Location: Google Hangouts