Greetings,

Happy New Year from the cold northeast!

In the last newsletter I started a feature on locating alumni. It was wonderfully successful, putting me in contact with many interesting people. (You can read about some of the results on pages 7-10.) So I’m repeating the exercise with graduates from 1972 (see below).

We’ve finished our interviews of candidates for faculty positions in Cognitive and Clinical. Over the fall we heard talks by a large number of exciting young people, so the choices were tough. Now we’re waiting to see if the Stony Brook budget will finally permit hiring again. Keep your fingers crossed for us!

All the best, Nancy

Looking for alumni:

These are people who, according to our records, graduated in 1972. If you have any information that might help me locate them, please write to me at nancy.squires@sunysb.edu

Edelstein Rivka Betton (Social)          Karpf David Alan (Experimental)
Fleer Robert E. (Biopsychology)         Ryan Diana Val (Clinical)
Friemack Steven J. (Biopsychology)      Shaban Janet Anne (Social)
Gilbert Joel (Social)                    Smith George Ehlers (Biopsychology)
Hankins Walter Garland (Biopsychology)  Spitalnik Robert Steven (Clinical)
Jason Mark (Biopsychology)

A bit of post-holiday spirit....

This Christmas picture came to us from Dean Pollina, his wife Ellen, and their daughter Dana. Dean received his Ph.D. in Biopsychology 1994. Dean is now a researcher at the Jackson Polygraph Institute in South Carolina.
And a bit more post-holiday spirit....

Emryn, son of Joanne Pierre-Louis (Biopsychology, 2002), enjoying dressing up like his dad on his second Christmas.

Maya and Carlos, children of Professor Marci Lobel, Social/Health Psychology.

NEWS FROM THE GRADUATE OFFICE!!

Our graduate coordinator, Amy Barry, is on maternity leave, taking care of William John, who arrived in December. Amy and Will have visited the department a couple of times. Amy’s taking to motherhood like a pro, and Will is an absolute doll!

Amy’s timing was perfect – have a baby and also miss the avalanche of applications for admission to the graduate programs for next fall. (We’ve received over 400 applications so far!)

Arty Samuel, our new (as of September) Grad Director is doing a yeoman’s job with the new on-line application system. You’d think “on-line application system” would mean “paperless,” but of course that never seems to be the case, so…

We brought Debbie Campani back from her idyllic retirement in Florida to help handle the office for a couple of weeks. To keep her happy, we put a palm tree in the office. You can see her on the right, on her first morning back in Stony Brook, already drowning in all that paper.
PSYCH FACULTY IN THE ACADEMY OF TEACHER-SCHOLARS

Stony Brook’s Academy of Teacher-Scholars was established in 1995 by the University Senate to foster educational innovation and to honor and reward excellent undergraduate teaching. Up to five faculty members are invited to join each year, for a three-year term, based on a proposal for educational innovation. They are awarded a stipend of $5000 to help implement the proposed educational innovation, and an additional $5000 goes to the Department as flexible funds. Psychology now has two members of this prestigious academy. The Department is extremely lucky to have faculty members who are so dedicated to their teaching. Their innovations are going to benefit everyone in the Department – faculty as well as students.

John Robinson (Associate Professor, Biopsychology) was admitted to the Academy of Teacher-Scholars in fall 2003 for his proposal to reinvent one of the department's major courses: PSY 310 – Research and Writing in Psychology. In fact, this was a course that John designed when he was the Director of Undergraduate Studies. It replaced the old “rat lab” and has a greater emphasis on the teaching of writing skills. The reinvention of the course involves, among other things, less reliance on textbooks and much greater use of excellent on-line resources. John also proposed to adapt more of the course material to the students’ most likely future role - as consumers rather than creators of scientific knowledge. As a good scientist himself, he also proposed detailed assessments of the reinvention.

Brenda Anderson (Associate Professor, Biopsychology) tackled another of our major undergraduate requirements – PSY 201, Intro to Statistics. Brenda joined the Academy in Fall 2004. Brenda has been teaching statistics for several years, and has introduced many clever techniques to improve learning. In her proposal for the Academy, she focused on improving the course for those (many) students who have trouble relating to stats. She proposed ways to: 1) help students get an intuitive feel for important concepts via visualization; 2) integrate knowledge across segments of the course; and 3) understand the importance of statistical knowledge in everyday life.

CONVERSATIONS ACROSS THE DISCIPLINES

This past Fall 2004 semester, Joan Kuchner launched a new Child and Family Studies, Psychology Department initiative, Conversations Across Generations: Finding Our Way in Uncertain Times funded by an award from the Office of Diversity and Affirmative Action calling for programs on Dialogues Across Differences, Speaking Truth: Connecting Generations with Grace and Civility. The first program featured candidates for New York State Assembly long with invited students and community members. Together they explored the local political issues effecting children. Using a round table format, the December program generated a lively exchange among multiple generations around the theme, "Family Traditions: Sources of Tension, Sources of Strength.” The enthusiasm of the participants at each of the Fall events has encouraged additional program planning for the Spring semester. For more information on these up coming programs, please contact Dr. Joan Kuchner, (631) 632-7695.
PSYCHOLOGISTS IN THE MEDIA

Turhan Canli (Assistant Professor, Biopsychology) had his neuroimaging work on the brain’s processing of emotion written up in the international edition of *Newsweek*. You can read the text of the article at: [http://msnbc.msn.com/id/6803912/site/newsweek/](http://msnbc.msn.com/id/6803912/site/newsweek/)

(Unfortunately, the on-line version doesn’t have any of the great pictures of Turhan, his stimuli, and his brain images. Get the print version if you can find it here in the US.)

Also Turhan’s Oct 04 paper in *Behavioral Neuroscience* was recently featured in *Science* as an "Editor's Choice" Highlight article for Psychology (Science 306, 24 December 2004, p. 2164).

Susan Brennan (Associate Professor, Cognitive Psychology) has an NSF-funded project on human-computer communication, entitled "Adaptive spoken dialog with human and computer partners.” This work was recently written up in the magazine *Fast Company* with the somewhat less scholarly title: “Why the %#$@ Computer Doesn't Get It”

You can find the article at: [http://www.fastcompany.com/magazine/89/research.html](http://www.fastcompany.com/magazine/89/research.html)

NEUROSCIENCE AXIS

In 2004, Brenda Anderson (Associate Professor, Biopsychology) founded an undergraduate organization, called “Neuroscience Axis” to bring together students from across campus who share an interest in neuroscience. The organization sponsors talks by faculty members and guest speakers, and hosts a variety of activities such as lab tours and sessions on what to expect in graduate school. The current president of the organization in Christina Wong, and the vice president is Francisco Borja. Both Christina and Francisco are Psychology majors.

To find out more, see: [http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/neuraxis/](http://www.ic.sunysb.edu/Clubs/neuraxis/)
WHAT’S DOING IN PSYCH LABS?

The Family Translational Research Lab
http://www.psychology.sunysb.edu/ftrlab/

Rick Heyman’s and Amy Slep’s research collaboration began when they were both post-docs with Dan O’Leary. This collaboration has blossomed into a very large and productive program of research. In addition to permanent staff and graduate research assistants, as many as sixty undergraduates may be working in the lab at any one time. To accommodate the growing lab group, in 2002 Stony Brook’s Research Foundation provided the funds for a major lab expansion and rehab. Here is a picture of the ribbon cutting ceremony for the new lab, with Amy Slep, Gail Habicht (Vice President for Research), Nancy Squires, and Rick Heyman.

The lab examines the effects of violence and aggression in families, and risk factors for partner abuse. The funding for the lab’s current research comes from:

- NIH
- NIMH
- CDC
- US Air Force

For more information about this lab and its important and timely work, see the website for the Family Translational Research Lab.

Rick Heyman, Research Associate Professor, Ph.D., 1992, U. Oregon

Amy Smith-Slep, Research Associate Professor, Ph.D., 1995, Stony Brook University
NEWS ABOUT SOME RECENT GRADUATES

Lisa Geraci got her Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology in 2001. Her advisor was Suparna Rajaram. Lisa then did a two-year postdoc at Wash U. (you can read about that at: http://psych.wustl.edu/memory/lisa.html) and now has accepted a tenure track Assistant Professor position at Texas A&M, joining Assistant Professor Heather Bortfeld, who graduated from our department a few years ago. Her advisor was Susan Brennan. Clearly Texas A&M has an up-and-coming Psych department!!!

Joy Hanna, who was a post-doc with Susan Brennan (Cognitive Psychology) is now midway through her first year as Assistant Professor of Psychology at Oberlin College. Her new web page is at: http://www.oberlin.edu/psych/

Allen Azizian received his Ph.D. in Biopsychology in December 2004 (advisor Nancy Squires) and has gone on to a post-doc in the Cognitive Electrophysiology Lab of Dr. John Polich at UC San Diego and Scripps Institute.

Christopher Dickinson received his Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology (advisor Greg Zelinsky) in December ’04, and is now a post-doc at the University of Delaware.

Jennifer Beck received her Ph.D. in Cognitive Psychology (advisor Richard Gerrig) in December ’04, and has taken a job at the National Opinion Research Center in Chicago.

AND NOT-SO RECENT GRADUATES

Robert Siegler (Ph.D. in Clinical, 1974, advisor Robert Liebert) has been chosen to receive the 2005 APA Distinguished Scientific Contribution Award. Bob’s gracious comment on this was that “my graduate education has served me well.”

John Sidtis (Ph.D. in Experimental, 1978, advisor Sally Springer) gave a colloquium in the Department in October, ”Insights from the talking Brain.” John is now a Research Professor of Psychiatry at NYU, in the School of Medicine.
NEWLY LOCATED ALUMNI

More time spent with Google brought information on these alumni.

David Cantor (Developmental Psychology, Ph.D. 1983, advisor Herb Kaye) is the president of Psychological Sciences Institute (PSI). PSI is a private corporation that provides services to the Atlanta area. It specializes in neuropsychological assessment and computerized functional brain assessment techniques. Populations served include ADD, Autism, and traumatic brain injury. In addition to service provision, Dave has research funding to use neuroimaging techniques to look at the effects of substance abuse in children and brain/behavior relationships in children with Autism. For more on Dave’s company see:

Christine Coolidge (Social/Health Psychology, Ph.D. 1999, advisor Gerdi Weider) has a private practice in Hampton Bays, Long Island. Christy uses both her background in health psychology and her training in nursing to the practice of psychotherapy, and to pain management using biofeedback and other techniques. See more about what Christy is doing at:

http://www.eastendhealth.com/practitioners/pages/coolidge.html

And the query about alumni in the last newsletter brought a flurry of responses and new contacts.

First to respond was Ian Lubek (Ph.D. in Social, 1971, advisor Dana Bramel). Along with a number of other suggestions he writes:

“Hi Nancy, Superb Fall issue...Great to have news of old friends, mentors, and ongoing activities! The first 3 cohorts of students and faculty were quite amazing and there are many stories of how unique perspectives such as behaviour modification and bait-shy behaviour could co-exist with a cultural imperative of “sex, drugs and rock and roll”. I'm afraid that it is the latter-- the rock and roll-- that may have taken its toll on the clarity of my memories of that time, so I am also sending a copy of this to three colleagues who may have additional and/or sharper recollections: Elena Rozen (not lost, just hanging out at Memorial Univ. in Newfoundland), Barbara Goldberg, who has a clinical practice in Stony Brook, and Michael Sobol who is now Michael Grand, a colleague here at Univ.of Guelph.” Lucky Guelph to have two of our grads! To read more about Ian and Michael, check out: http://www.psychology.uoguelph.ca/

Ian Lubek, doing fundraising for his Cambodia research, selling “souvenir teeshirts” in Sydney Australia

Michael Grand
**NEWLY LOCATED ALUMNI - continued**

*Almost immediately after Ian’s email, we heard from Elena Rozen Hannah (Social, 1970; advisor Dana Bramel)*

“Hi Nancy,

I think the easiest way is if you go to [http://dogsbody.psych.mun.ca/brochure/](http://dogsbody.psych.mun.ca/brochure/) and click on Faculty and Staff and then find Elena Hannah. You’ll notice that right underneath is Ted Hannah, so you can look at him too. We both came together here, married on arrival (it was a grad student romance that flourished in the Psych B building) and started our academic and married lives at Memorial University. The idea was to leave after two years. Thirty-five years later we’re still both here! We have three children, who are now 29, 30 and 32 (only the oldest lives in St. John's), and we’re close to retirement. After more than 20 years we divorced, but we remain good friends, and I'm remarried. If you're interested in checking out my book, go to [http://www.mcgill.ca/mqup](http://www.mcgill.ca/mqup) and look for Women in the Canadian Academic Tundra.

I'm afraid I'm not a real credit to SUNYSB, I haven't done anything outstanding as that wasn't my goal. I drifted from Social Psychology to these other areas over time, and I'm enjoying them a lot. But I have fond memories of those two years that really were so significant that it seems like five, at least. I still use the good research and methods skills that I learned at SB, and the critical analysis. My advisor was, initially, Jack Brehm, but he was there for only a year. After he left, I was Dana Bramel's advisee, but since he was in France when I was struggling with my thesis, Jerry Singer did the honours. I graduated in 1970 with a M.A.

Cheers, Elena”

_Elena must be way too modest. Her book alone looks like a major accomplishment!_

*Shortly thereafter we heard from Ted Hannah (PhD in Social Psychology, 1971 – Advisor Jerry Singer):*

“It seems hardly anytime at all since Harry Kalish hosted a reception/party for his first crop of graduating students in the Spring of 1970. We needed that party – and Dr. Kalish’s kind words. Our days were spent in a state of high anxiety over data analyses and writing for our dissertations and the joys and disappointments of the job search. Harry managed in a few short words to tell us that he was truly proud of his first “family” of graduates and make us feel it was all worthwhile.

I left Stony Brook for Memorial University of Newfoundland (Canada), along with Elena Rozen, on Labour Day weekend, 1970 – having just missed putting the finishing touches to my dissertation because of a two-week hospital stay in August. We thought we would stay in Newfoundland for two years and then move on. But after three kids, a couple of dogs, a mortgage and other commitments we just never got around to leaving (lethargy is a sadly under-investigated social psychological phenomenon!). And now in my 34th year compulsory retirement looms.

But it’s been an exciting and very fulfilling career. I did get the dissertation completed and defended shortly after Christmas. I worked my way through to tenure, then up the professorial ranks to Full Professor. I have had great joy teaching both undergraduate and graduate students. And I have had the privilege of taking some of my academic skills and training back to the community by serving for several years on the National Board of Directors of the Crohn’s and Colitis Foundation of Canada, including two years as National President. Unbeknownst at the time, it had been an attack of Crohn’s disease that put me in hospital just when I was struggling to finish off my dissertation. In some of
my senior level seminars I have been able to call on my personal experience to illustrate the relationship between stress and chronic illness!

Throughout my years of teaching and research I appreciated the role models provided by the social faculty at the time: Jerry Singer (my supervisor), Jack Brehm, Stu Valins, Dana Bramel, and newly hired Ron Friend – my God, he was just a child! Each in their own way instilled in us the twin values of learning and teaching – the keys to a successful academic career. An anecdote illustrates what I mean. The spring of 1970 was a terribly stressful time. It was the height of campus protests against the Vietnam War – labs and computing centres were being firebombed and materials and supplies destroyed. At Stony Brook, nightly fire patrols were mounted by faculty and graduate students. One night I had drawn the midnight – 4am watch along with Dr. Kalish, Stu Valins and one other graduate student. We each took part of Building A or B and agreed to meet back at Dr. Kalish's office at 2am for hot chocolate. During that break, Harry asked me how my dissertation was going. I told him I was just about finished collecting my data and, unsure of whether or not it would get me in trouble, related how that very afternoon I had stayed behind in the lab after security had cleared the building because of a bomb scare. I told him how it took a full hour to collect data from each participant over two parts of the experiment, and with just a few minutes left in Part 2, and because neither the participant nor my confederate knew about the bomb scare, be damned if I was going to leave at that point. Harry roared with laughter and said “that’s right, I like your attitude! Do you realize that Pavlov was carrying out his experiments while blood flowed in the streets below?”

Interesting the things that stick in your mind for so many years!

And then this email from Chuck Wilson (Ph.D., Biopsychology 1972, advisor Lester Fehmi):

“Hi Nancy,

You will have to dig back into your memory a long way to remember this Stony Brook alumnus...in fact I would be surprised if you even remember I got my PhD in Psychology at Stony Brook except for one visit many years ago. When I was in the PhD program from 1968-1972, my major was known as Psychobiology, not Biopsychology, and the Chair of the Dept. was John Garcia. You and I met at UCLA when you were a postdoc with Jennifer Buchwald, and I was testing depth electrode patients with Eric Halgren. I was a co-author on your Science paper with Eric on temporal lobe p-300 potentials, and although you have gone on to become Chair of the Department in which I got my PhD, I am still working in the same place 25 years later!

It has been really great receiving your newsy emails with the latest on Stony Brook, and I wish that I had received them just a little sooner. I was at the American Epilepsy Society annual meeting in Boston last December, and my wife and I decided to drive down to Long Island to visit friends we had not seen in 25 years. We took the ferry to Orient Point and drove from the tip of Long Island to Stony Brook and stayed at the Three Village Inn. The island was covered with snow from an early snow storm, but the next day it melted with torrential rain as we visited the med school and drove by the Psych building. I would have braved the rain and tried to park and visit the department to say hello, but I wasn't even sure you were still at Stony Brook (let alone Chair of the Dept.). So now I will have to wait until next year's SFN meeting in Washington to drop by again, but thanks to your newsletters I know what's happening in Psych at Stony Brook.

By the way, are John Stamm and Everett Wyers still in town? I imagine they must have retired many years ago. I
spoke with John Garcia about a year ago and he is still doing well up in Mount Vernon, Washington. The only Stony Brook Psych PhD (1973, I think) I know at UCLA is Ron Kent who got his MD at Brown, and is a Clinical Prof of Neurology at UCLA. He has a private practice in Laguna, but comes to all the Departmental functions. I still stay in touch with Sam Deadwyler, Stony Brook Psychobiology PhD 1971, who I see at the SFN meeting every year, and who is Vice Chair of Physiology and Pharmacology at Wake Forest Medical School in Winston-Salem, N.C.

I am still in the Dept. of Neurology at UCLA, and you can check http://www.neurology.ucla.edu/ and then click "Faculty" to see some of what I have been up to. I teach in the neuroanatomy course for first year UCLA medical students and the same in the Dental School, and mentor post docs and graduate students in the Dept of Neurobiology and the Neuroscience Interdepartmental Program. I am still working with patients who have intractable seizures that can be relieved by surgical removal of damaged tissue in the temporal lobe. When the source of the seizures cannot be found with noninvasive EEG, MEG, MRI or PET scans, they require hospitalization and implantation of depth electrodes for one or two weeks so that their spontaneous seizures can be localized from deep areas. I am doing basic research on epileptiform activity recorded from microelectrodes in the hippocampus and amygdala which record patterns of firing of single neurons during waking, slow wave sleep, and REM sleep, and during seizure onsets. I am also doing microdialysis studies to see which neurotransmitters are released during seizures and sleep states. I wrote a short invited Comment (if you're interested) about this research area which can be found in Experimental Neurology (2004) 87: 240-245.

I also have several labs for experiments in a rat model of epilepsy, basic studies in which patients would not appreciate participating.

If you get out to LA for a meeting this year, please give me a call and drop by and we can catch up with the last 25 years. If not, I will do my best to come by Stony Brook at some point to see how the Dept. looks. I must say the Med School is pretty impressive! Thanks again for bringing Stony Brook back to life for me.

Best regards,

Chuck'

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There’s no more room in this newsletter for more items, though there were several more responses. In particular, there’s another interesting letter from Ian Lubek, but it will have to wait for the next newsletter. Thanks, Ian, for all your help!

So, the search for our graduates is going well and – as you can see – is great fun. At this point we have email addresses for 484 grads out of 786. We continue to need your help however, so please start by looking at the list on the first page and see if you can tell us anything about the whereabouts of any of those people. Also, if you change your name, your location, or just your email address, please let us know so we can keep in touch.

Cheers,

Nancy
Psychology Department Personnel

Distinguished Professors
Goldfried, Marvin, Ph.D., 1961, University at Buffalo. Clinical Psychology.

Professors
Aron, Arthur, Ph.D., 1970, University of Toronto, Canada. Social/Health Psychology.
O’Leary, Susan G., Ph.D., 1972, University at Stony Brook. Clinical Psychology.
Samuel, Arthur, Ph.D., 1979, University of California, San Diego. Experimental Psychology.
Squires, Nancy K., Ph.D., 1972, University of California, San Diego. Chair. Biopsychology.
Waters, Everett, Ph.D., 1977, University of Minnesota. Social/Health Psychology.
Waters, Harriet Salatas, Ph.D., 1976, University of Minnesota. Social/Health Psychology.
Whitaker, Patricia, Ph.D., 1979, University of Toronto. Biopsychology.
Wortman, Camille B., 1972, Duke University. Social/Health Psychology.

Associate Professors
Davila, Joanne, Ph.D., 1993, UCLA. Clinical Psychology.
Franklin, Nancy, Ph.D., 1989, Stanford University. Experimental Psychology.
Lobel, Marc, Ph.D., 1989, University of California, Los Angeles. Social/Health Psychology. Undergraduate Program Director.

Assistant Professors
Canli, Turhan, Ph.D., 1993, Yale University. Biopsychology.
Freitas, Antonio, Ph.D., 2002, Yale University. Social & Health Psychology.
Moyer, Anne, Ph.D., 1995, Yale University. Social/Health Psychology.
Westmaas, Lee, Ph.D., 1996, University of California, Irvine. Social/Health Psychology.

Lecturers
Kuchner, Joan F., Ph.D., 1981, The University of Chicago, Director of CFS.

Research Faculty
Grackin, Janice, Ph.D., 1999, Stony Brook University – Research Assistant Professor.
Heyman, Richard, Ph.D., 1992, University of Oregon – Research Associate Professor.
Slep, Amy, Ph.D., 1995, Stony Brook University – Research Associate Professor.

Post Doctoral Fellows
Sumner, Meghan – Cognitive/Experimental

Personnel
Thompson, Judith – Assistant to the Chair.
Barry, Amy – Graduate Student Coordinator
Bieselin, Jean – Account Clerk.
Carlson, Carol – Undergraduate Advising.
Hildenbrand, Donna – Student Coordinator.
Lozeau, Stephanie – Grants Coordinator.
Doret, Wendy, Ph.D. – Director of the Psychological Center.
Urbelis, Pat – Psychological Center Administrator.