Greetings!

Another academic year has come to a close, and with it the culmination of four years of hard work on the part of our graduating seniors. We congratulate all of them and wish them the very best as they move toward the next important phase of life: gainful employment. Juniors are busy planning their senior internships, and several of our sophomores are gearing up for a semester of study abroad, either in the fall or spring. We welcome our first year students and look forward to hosting them as newly-declared majors in our research methods sequence next year.

We had five honors recipients this year; four Phi Beta Kappa inductees; and two awardees each for our Paul M. Evans and Noel F. Kaestner awards. All can be found on page 2 of this newsletter. We are also delighted that two of our majors – junior Leila Mitsunaga and sophomore Alia Yasen – have been selected for participation in Willamette’s Science Collaborative Research Program (SCRP) by Prof. Courtney Stevens.

Speaking of Courtney, this past year also marks her inaugural year being with us. She took her undergraduate degree in linguistics from Reed and her Ph.D from the University of Oregon. She came to us by way of Sarah Lawrence College in New York and we are delighted to have her as a member of our department. We have also enjoyed the contributions of two visiting professors this year: Prof. Emily Hodell (WU ’02) and Prof. Carmen MacMillan. Although Carmen leaves us at the end of the semester Emily will return in the fall to offer courses in Introductory, Psychology & Law, and Social Cognition. In her short time here she has developed an impressive following among students, many of whom describe her passion for her subject matter as “infectious.” This fall we will embark on a search for our 8th colleague, someone with background and training in the area of personality psychology.

We wish you all the best finishing up the year, best of luck on your finals, and we’ll look forward to seeing most of you back next fall. Seniors, please remember to bring your families to the Psychology Department Open House on Graduation Day, this Sunday, May 17th from 12:00—1:45 pm outside the Psychology offices on the second floor of Smullin. And once again, please accept our sincere congratulations for all your good work!

- Mark Stewart

NEW FACULTY…

As a native Oregonian, I’m excited to be back in my home state and teaching at Willamette. My undergraduate years were spent at Reed College, where I studied Linguistics. But I was always interested in the practical application of this research, which brought me first to a computer science lab (to study speech recognition technology) and ultimately to graduate school in Cognitive Neuroscience (to study how the brain processes language).

I loved graduate school because it allowed me to combine my interests in linguistics, psychology, and neuroscience. I worked in a large lab and studied brain development in children with developmental disabilities and the changes that occurred in the brain following different types of training. My graduate advisor gave me the best piece of advice I’ve ever been given: Find what you love, and you’ll never have to work a day in your life.

I spent the next few years in New York City, trying to figure out how not to work. Although I never made it big on Broadway, I did continue my research at Cornell’s medical school and also taught at Sarah Lawrence College. I found I loved both teaching and research, so if I didn’t want to work, I had to find a way to do both at the same time. Fortunately, Willamette refuses to pay me a salary unless I both teach and produce some scholarly works. In all seriousness, it’s the perfect match for me. I’ve enjoyed my first year at Willamette and look forward to meeting and working with more students in the years to come.

May you never work a day in your life,

Courtney Stevens
Congratulations to those receiving department honors for their Senior Projects.

Hayley Freedman
Improving Outcomes for Adults with Asperger Syndrome: The Case for Strengths-Based Case Management

Stephanie Good
The Relationship Between Employment Interviews and Bias

Kalina Patience Gurnee
Bilingual Education Positively Affects the Social-Emotional Development of Young Children

Acacia McGuire
The Psychological Implications of Sexual Assault Accusations

Tara McLauchlan
Growing Up Delinquent: The Need for Familial Structure and Role Modeling for Black Urban Youth
Congratulations to our 2009 graduates...

Marley Abel  Stephanie Good  Rachel Mitchell
Cirbi Anthony  Kalia Gurnee  Mari Miyazaki
Christopher Beeger  Byron Hadley  Shannon Murray
Maria Burri  Autumn Helmick  John Nixon
Tara Campbell  Kelsey Herb  Sara Ridgeway
Clare Chedester  LaShawna Holcomb  Alexandra Riley
Andrew Clark  Jenna Krueger  Kelsey Rogel
Leah Congdon  Elizabeth Lopez  Simone Schnabler
Jessica Cortez  Julia Mazur  Alexander Sepenzis
Garrison Coy  Acacia McGuire  Kelsie Shaphren
Rebecca Demarest  Sarah McKean  Jennifer Snider
Molly Fillion  Tara McLauchlan  Patricia Wille
Hayley Freedman  Elizabeth Meek Jurich  Carrie Winkler
Stephanie Good  Rachel Mitchell
Kalia Gurnee  Mari Miyazaki
Byron Hadley  Shannon Murray
Autumn Helmick  John Nixon
Kelsey Herb  Sara Ridgeway
LaShawna Holcomb  Alexandra Riley
Jenna Krueger  Kelsey Rogel
Elizabeth Lopez  Simone Schnabler
Julia Mazur  Alexander Sepenzis
Acacia McGuire  Kelsie Shaphren
Sarah McKean  Jennifer Snider
Tara McLauchlan  Patricia Wille
Elizabeth Meek Jurich  Carrie Winkler
Bernadette Worden

You’re Invited!

What: Open house

Who: Graduating psych majors and their families

When: Sunday, May 17th 12:00pm—1:45pm

Where: Smullin Hall, 2nd Floor
**Psychology Department—Fall 2009 Courses**

**Mark Stewart**  
Professor & Chair  
208 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6661  
mstewart@willamette.edu  
Research Methods & Analysis I and labs, Fundamentals of Neuroscience

**Jim Friedrich**  
Professor  
259 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6435  
jfriedri@willamette.edu  
Research Methods & Analysis II and labs, Major Internship I

**Meredy Goldberg Edelson**  
Professor  
253 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6133  
medelson@willamette.edu  
Introduction to Psychology, Women & Gender, Major Internship I

**Sue Koger**  
Professor  
201 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6341  
skoger@willamette.edu  
Biopsychology, Seminar: Conservation Psychology, Major Internship I

**Jeremy Miller**  
Assistant Professor  
260 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6964  
millerj@willamette.edu  
College Colloquium, Special Topic: Cognition, Evolution & Society, Seminar: Psychology of Human Memory

**Courtney Stevens**  
Assistant Professor  
252 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6427  
cstevens@willamette.edu  
Introduction to Psychology, Cognitive Neuroscience

**Melissa Witkow**  
Assistant Professor  
254 Smullin Hall, 503/370.6425  
mwitkow@willamette.edu  
College Colloquium, Introduction to Psychology, Developmental: Adolescence

**Emily Hodell**  
Assistant Professor  
ehodell@willamette.edu  
Introduction to Psychology, Psych and Law, Social Cognition

Have a Great Summer!