By now you are preparing for mid-terms, breaking out that new jacket and counting the days until Sunday, November 1st, when you will “fall backward” and get that extra hour of sleep! The psychology department has been teeming with activity already this semester, with more exciting opportunities yet to come. This particularly spooky newsletter issue highlights past and upcoming events, and details important departmental news. Read on…if you dare!

Autumn Excitement is in the Air...

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The psychology department is proud to share the great news that we are now +1! That beautiful baby hanging out with Dr. Shannon Kundey is her new son, Rojan. He has a fabulous smile and blows bubbles for anyone willing to come say “hello!” Rojan was born on June 25th, weighing 8 lbs. 2 oz. Congratulations to Dr. Kundey!

If you happen to see a beaming Dr. Terry Martin, that is because this summer the Martin family became +1GGC (that is, they added a new great grandchild)! Baby girl Zoe joined her 2-year-old brother Noah in Ft. Hood, Texas. Congratulations to the Martin family. Maybe we are looking at two new members of the Hood College class of 2037!
Going In-Depth...

We are excited to bring back our popular In-Depth series this semester. Psychology faculty and invited guests will be sharing their most compelling clinical cases this year. We developed this series to highlight the applied experiences of mental health professionals. All members of the Hood community are welcome, and we especially invite anyone interested in an applied career in health care. The series began last month, with Dr. Diane Oliver discussing a forensic psychology case. Her case involved a court-ordered psychological evaluation of a family embroiled in a bitter custody battle between a biological mother and an adoptive mother, over an 11-year-old girl. Dr. Oliver shared the details of alleged drug use, sexual abuse, and physical abuse, and how these issues played a role in determining what was in the child’s best interests.

On Thursday, Dr. Terry Martin continues the series with a clinical case presentation involving a father who accidentally caused the death of his infant son and the role of grief in his treatment.

On Thursday, November 19th, our guest, Dr. Laura Jones, a school psychologist, will present a case involving a 10-year-old boy whose mother requested a modified school schedule due to his multiple diagnoses of autism, anxiety and brain injury. She will discuss the family history, the school’s perspective and his educational plan.

In-Depth presentations are held in the Thanatology library (Rosenstock basement, room 1) from 1:00 – 1:40. Bring your lunch, and dessert is provided. We hope to see you there!

Psychology Club Corner

This year, Psychology Club aims to unite students interested in psychology, raise awareness of psychological health concerns, and participate in services aiding the Frederick and Hood communities. We have a lot of fun and exciting events coming up this semester, including awareness tabling and a campus-wide movie! We will be partnering with the Counseling Center to raise awareness for depression and suicide prevention, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and Alzheimer’s. In addition to these great events, we will discuss interesting psychology-related topics at our meetings. We meet every other Sunday at 8PM in Rosenstock Room 1. Bring your friends—psychology club is open to all majors! If you would like to join or just want to know more about what we do, please email psychologyclub@hood.edu. We hope everyone has a wonderful semester!

Psi Chi News

During the semester, Psi Chi will be working very closely with the Psychology Club and co-programming events with them. Also, we plan on hosting tables for Mental Health Wellness Week in November and coordinating a mock GRE exam for those thinking about applying to graduate school. We are looking forward to a great year, and we are open to suggestions for possible events! If you have any suggestions, questions, or concerns about Psi Chi, e-mail Ryan DiGirolamo at rjd6@hood.edu.

Save the Date!

Mark your calendar for the best party of the year. Come join the fun at the annual psychology department “End of the Semester” party.

The party will be on Thursday, December 3rd from 12:30 – 2:00. There will be food (some of your favorites supplied by the faculty), games, fabulous prizes and seasonal decorations.

Don’t miss the fun!

2015-2016 Psi Chi leaders: (from left to right) Ryan DiGirolamo - President, Bethel Nicholas - Treasurer, Roberto Millar - Vice President, Kimberly Gradoni, Jared Wildeberger - Secretary
Master’s Degree in Counseling Psychology
Applications Due November 15th
(for Spring Admission)

Our new Clinical Mental Health Counseling master’s degree program provides a clear path to the licensure required to practice counseling professionally in Maryland and neighboring states. Coursework can be planned to include specialty training in gerontology or thanatology. The program is intended to prepare individuals to work in community mental health programs, hospitals, substance abuse clinics, at-risk youth programs, social services agencies, private counseling practices and similar settings.

The new master’s degree program in School Counseling offers a clear path to certification as a pre-K through 12th grade school counselor. Courses can be planned to fulfill requirements for professional counseling licensure. The curriculum is designed to conform to the standards set by the Council for the Accreditation of Counseling and Related Education Programs (CACREP) and prepares individuals to provide meaningful student counseling services and contribute significantly to education teams in elementary, middle, and secondary schools. CACREP accreditation will be sought as soon as the program is eligible to apply.

Applications received after Nov. 15th will be reviewed on a space-available level.

Faculty Spotlight:
Dr. Andrew Campbell

The psychology department is pleased to welcome Dr. Andrew Campbell to Hood this year as a visiting assistant professor. Dr. Campbell has taken on the challenge of developing our new Master’s degree in Counseling program, so most undergraduates may not recognize him yet. In addition to teaching multiple graduate counseling courses, Dr. Campbell is actively pursuing an exciting research agenda. This work focuses on the use of mindfulness meditation and mindfulness-based therapies with young adults and adolescents, as well as how mindfulness factors into the training of new counselors. Dr. Campbell’s counseling experience includes work in hospital in-patient and out-patient centers, college counseling centers, and in high schools.

Dr. Campbell received his undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and his Master’s in Education degree from the University of Pennsylvania. He earned his doctorate from the George Washington University. Dr. Campbell is a licensed professional counselor in Washington, D.C.
The First Robert Boyle Memorial Lecture Series: A Preeminent Oxford Professor Honors Dr. Boyle

Dr. Daniel N. Robinson, Fellow of the Philosophy Dept. at Oxford University and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Georgetown University, offered six engaging and provocative lectures in memory of his friend and colleague Psychology Professor Dr. Robert Boyle, who passed away May 1st this year.

Robinson (PhD in Neuropsychology, CUNY) has held appointments at Amherst College, Princeton University, and Columbia University, has consulted for NSF, NIH, the MacArthur Foundation, and PBS, has authored/editied over 40 books in psychology, philosophy, history, and law, and is well known for his half dozen Great Courses lecture series (e.g., Great Ideas of Philosophy, American Ideals, and Brain and Consciousness).

Dr. Robinson delivered lectures on higher education, science, law, and ethics to the Hood and wider Frederick community for six consecutive Tuesdays in the Whitaker Campus Center. Faculty, staff, and students attended these unique talks and had the chance to ask Dr. Robinson questions and provide comments on the lecture topic.

We can think of no better way to honor our beloved friend and colleague, Dr. Boyle, than with such thought-provoking, compelling discourse. Dr. Robinson has established a very high bar for these lectures, and we are grateful for his efforts, time, and support.

Did You Know Hood’s New President, Dr. Andrea Chapdelaine, is a Psychologist? Dr. Laura King Invited Inaugural Address in Personality Psychology

In celebration of the academic pedigree of our new president, Dr. Andrea Chapdelaine, the psychology department was invited to select several guest speakers to come address the Hood community and share exciting innovations in personality psychology research. The first guest speaker, Dr. Laura King, came to campus last week.

Dr. King is the Curator’s Professor of Psychological Sciences at the University of Missouri, Columbia. A personality psychologist, her research has focused on well-being, especially meaning in life, motivation, narrative approaches, folk theories of The Good Life and individual differences in intuitive information processing.

Dr. King’s presentation was entitled “What Can Science Tell Us About What Makes Life Meaningful?” This talk was in association with the Inauguration of the 11th President of Hood College, Dr. Andrea Chapdelaine. Dr. King examined the idea of The Good Life and shared how psychological perspectives on the Good Life often wrestle with the question of what it is that makes life worth living and what makes life meaningful to the person living it. She presented research addressing these issues and suggested that although The Good Life may be an ideal best left to philosophers and theologians, the pretty good lives we see all around us reveal a great deal about meaning in life. Bringing the lens of science to bear on this important experience reveals some simple and surprising truths. Dr. King proposed that meaning in life may come from unexpected places and be a more common experience than previously thought. Although we often think of meaning as something we struggle over, search for, or create, King’s research suggests a new set of verbs for the experience of meaning. Meaning can be created, but it can also be noticed effortlessly. Dr. King concluded that meaning can happen to us when we least expect it. Dr. King is a fun, humorous presenter, and students, faculty, and community members left her presentation with new information and perspectives to consider, as well as an innovative way to conceptualize The Good Life.

The department will invite an additional guest speaker in celebration of Dr. Andrea Chapdelaine’s inaugural year this spring.
Dr. Ingrid Farreras was awarded a Board of Associates (BOA) summer grant to research the tension, disputes, and politics involved among the American Psychological Association (APA), the Veterans Administration, the Public Health Service, and specific universities during the mid to late 1940s, that shaped the establishment of the APA accreditation process of doctoral programs in clinical psychology in place today. This marked the formal professionalization of the field of clinical psychology, as it benefitted by way of governmental financial support and backing as a profession, and also served the governmental agencies by training personnel to address the pressing mental health needs of the post-World War II country.

The Summer Research Institute provides Hood students the opportunity to work with faculty advisers on a research project. These summer projects involve laboratory or field work for eight weeks. The SRI provides students with a $2,500 stipend and free campus housing.

As detailed in the Hood Blog on October 7th, 2015, psychology major Nicole Wilson ’16 was selected to receive an SRI award this summer and worked with Jason Trent, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychology, to conduct psychological research into trust judgments of women and which personal traits play into those judgments. In this research, the first study had 100 participants rate female target photos on how mature, intelligent, feminine and attractive they were perceived to be, as well as what kind of emotion they appeared to be feeling. The second study had of 105 participants rate the photos on whether they appeared to be criminals, as well as what emotions they appeared to be feeling. The third study, yet to be completed, will have a different sample of people rate the targets on whether they appear to be trustworthy. When Wilson and Trent collect the data for the third study, they will combine the results to see how the trait and emotion judgments relate to judgments of trust. They will then compare the results of this study with the results of their previous research using male target photos to come to a better understanding of how people determine whom to trust.

A separate SRI project this summer (also highlighted on the October 7th Hood Blog, along with a video project overview) involved building a program from the bottom up to help high school students prepare for the college admission process and find a college that is the right fit for them. Students Logan Samuels ’17 and Ryan DiGirolamo ’16 collaborated with Dr. Diane Oliver and Dr. Kathleen Bands to build ECAP—Excellence in College Admission Preparation. ECAP held two intensive summer bootcamps that included sessions on personality evaluation and structured introspection, group and individualized consultation on essay writing, demystifying the college admissions process, an introduction to the Common Application, and mock interviews, along with attending informational sessions with members of Hood’s admissions office, athletics, financial aid, CAAR, a campus tour, and the study abroad office. The main message of the camp is that applying to colleges is all about fit. Different students fit better in different places, and the college application process should be completed with that in mind.
New Research Participation Credit Requirement for Psychology 101 (and for Extra Credit*)

Starting this fall, all Psychology 101 (Introduction to Psychology) students will be required to earn 3 credits of research participation. Students can earn these credits by participating in research studies or completing research journal article summaries. To facilitate this new requirement, the department is now utilizing an online registration system called the Hood Research Participation System. Once a student enrolls in the system he/she will immediately have access to all the ongoing research studies and can sign up to participate. The system will send a reminder email to the student, as well as communicate effectively with the student if there has been a change in the study participation date or time. “A number of professors will accept research participation for extra credit in their courses; be sure to ask your professor if this is an option for you. If a student prefers to summarize a research journal article to meet this course requirement, he/she should communicate that immediately to the professor and make those arrangements.

Once in a Lifetime Study Abroad Opportunity!

‘Evolution of Cognition’ Course in the Galapagos Islands

Join Dr. Shannon Kundey for a 9-day trip to Quito, Ecuador and the Galapagos Islands to explore themes of evolutionary analysis in psychology. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the Galapagos Islands and different research methods, and it is open to all Hood students. The trip, “Evolution of Cognition”, will take place approximately May 16th – May 24th, 2016, and will not overlap with graduation. For more information, contact Dr. Kundey (kundey@hood.edu) or Kate Emory at the Study Abroad office in Alumnae Hall or at studyabroad@hood.edu ASAP.

Looking for Research Opportunities to Build that Résumé?

Dr. Shannon Kundey (human cognitive research and salamanders; kundey@hood.edu), Dr. Jason Trent (person perception relating to evaluations of trust; trent@hood.edu), and Dr. Diane Oliver (Excellence in College Admissions Preparation; oliver@hood.edu) are all currently interviewing candidates to join their research teams in the spring. Contact the professor directly for more information.