Congratulations to our majors!

While you are busy writing those final papers, studying for exams, trying to secure tickets for commencement, interviewing for jobs, and packing up your dorm rooms, do not forget to take a few minutes to look around, exhale, and acknowledge all of the experiences you have had this academic year. You have learned so much, inside and outside of the classroom, solidified friendships, survived the cafeteria, helped create the wonderful learning community here at Hood, and became part of our psychology department family. We are so proud of our “soon-to-be” graduates (may the odds be ever in your favor!), and we have high expectations for our rising seniors and juniors. We also want to warmly welcome our newly declared majors. This final 2012-2013 edition of our newsletter is dedicated to each of you, because we have been honored to guide your academic journey, and excited to watch you progress toward your personal and academic goals. For those of you returning in the fall, have a good break and we look forward to a great 2013-2014 school year. For those of you preparing to graduate, we salute you (and we will miss you), please keep in touch!

You Are Invited!

On Friday, May 3rd, there will be a poster session showcasing student research from Psychology 315 starting at 10:00 a.m. in the basement of Rosenstock. If you are just starting the Psychology 312-315 series this fall, you are highly encouraged to come see the type of projects you will be doing this time next year! At 12:00 p.m. we will host a picnic to honor graduating seniors. Induction into Psi Chi, the psychology honor society, is scheduled for 4:00 that day. You are invited to attend any or all of these events!

Conversations and Coffee

We had an amazing and provocative selection of clinical cases in our monthly In-Depth presentations. Dr. Diane Oliver began the series with the case of a severely depressed adolescent girl and her family, where issues of race/ethnicity complicated treatment, followed by Dr. Terry Martin who highlighted clinical issues following the unexpected death of a child. One of our graduates, Ms. Rebecca German, returned to campus and shared the cases of two very different teens with autism spectrum disorder. This spring, an inspiring resident from ClearView Communities came and shared her story of living with dissociative identity disorder and post-traumatic stress disorder, and creating a future for herself following multiple suicide attempts. Reverend Beth O’Malley concluded the series with her discussion of key turning points in her professional development and counseling work, and the intersection of religion and mental health care. We want to thank everyone who participated and attended the In-Depth series talks, and we look forward to continuing these presentations next year. If you have any particular clinical interests or professional development questions, please contact Dr. Diane Oliver.

We have also enjoyed our weekly Psychology Coffee Hour. This was a new activity for our department this year. Faculty and students shared laughs, advice, and discussed psychological science over many pots of strong, hot coffee and delicious Girl Scout cookies. These meetings are also a great way to get to know faculty and members of the Psychology Club and Psi Chi. Keep common hour open on Thursdays, we will definitely continue to host these meetings in the fall.
Psi Chi and Psychology Club News

Psi Chi is gearing up to assist with judging the student research posters from Psychology 315 on Friday, May 3rd. We will be identifying several outstanding students for recognition at the end of the year party, as well as tabulating votes for the “Psychology Professor of the Year.”

Congratulations to our new Psi Chi members: Mary Hickman, Donna Clarke, Lauren Engel, Catherine Dennen, Kelsey Koerner, Samantha Bennett, Danielle Derflinger, Abby Dyjack, Ashley Webley, and Christina Scheele. Officers for 2013-2014 have not been elected yet.

The Psychology Club recently completed our walk to support Autism Speaks, and we will be doing the same event next year due to the popularity and success we experienced. We are grateful for Lauren Engel’s vision, determination and perseverance as she organized the entire event. Our new officers are Lauren Engel as President, Mary Hickman as Vice President, Paige Devore as Secretary, Will Haller as Treasurer, and Molly Cluster as Historian.

Please contact Kimi Brunot for additional information about Psi Chi or the Psychology Club: kimsy29@verizon.net.
Awards and Research Activity

Dr. Ingrid Farreras was nominated for president of APA’s Division 26. She has co-authored 5 papers (on emotion identification and attribution and linguistic comparisons in electronic communication between humans and in human communication with artificial intelligence) with Drs. Ford and Dimitoglou and 3 graduate students of the Computer Science Department that were presented at the Eastern Psychological Association convention and at the AVIOS/Mobile Voice conference.


Dr. Elizabeth MacDougall is the first author of article in press on the Judgment Test of the Neuropsychological Assessment Battery (NAB): Psychometric considerations in an assisted-living sample. This article will appear in the journal, The Clinical Neuropsychologist.

Dr. Terry Martin (see faculty spotlight)

Dr. Diane Oliver was the keynote speaker at the AHANA-I Leadership Awards Program on April 25th. She is also working closely with three undergraduate students on an upcoming presentation involving statistics mnemonics for the national convention of the Association for Psychological Science.

Dr. Wanda Ruffin received an award for "Contributing to the Implementation of the Harmony at Hood Diversity Initiative" at the AHANA-I Leadership Awards Ceremony on April 25th. She was also selected to grade AP Psychology Exams June 2 – 8 in Kansas City. We are pleased Dr. Ruffin will be back in the department full-time this fall.

Introducing: Dr. Jason Trent

(Coming this fall to a Hood psych class near you!)

Originally from New Jersey, Dr. Trent received his PhD from the University of Missouri-Columbia in Social/Personality Psychology. Teaching has always been his main priority.

Research Interests: Dr. Trent focuses on first impressions we have in terms of trustworthiness judgments, with a particular focus on how individual differences in intuitive processing and current mood play a role. Dr. Trent also looks at factors that affect one’s meaning in life and how facial expressions can influence how we perceive and evaluate the world around us. He looks forward to collaborating with students at Hood.

Hobbies: basketball, hiking, movies, tennis, biking, running, travelling, attending odd festivals, reading books that offer vacations from reality, cooking breakfast, and dogs. He spent six months in Australia studying abroad.

Good luck Dr. Kecmanovic!

Dr. Jelena Kecmanovic will be leaving Hood at the end of this semester to pursue a career in private clinical practice.

Closure of Rosenstock

Reminder: To complete a series of repairs and updates, Rosenstock Hall will be closed for the summer. Faculty offices will be relocated to the fourth floor of the library.
"The living that throng Broadway care little perhaps for the Dead at Antietam, but we fancy they would jostle less carelessly down the great thoroughfare, saunter less at their ease, were a few dripping bodies, fresh from the field, laid along the pavement. Mr. BRADY has done something to bring home to us the terrible reality and earnestness of war. If he has not brought bodies and laid them in our dooryards and along the streets, he has done something very like it."

(New York Times, October 20, 1862)

In the days immediately after the Battle of Antietam (September 17, 1862) photographer Alexander Gardner and his assistants roamed the blasted fields around Sharpsburg, Maryland documenting the human cost of the battle. The Battle of Antietam is, even to this day, the single worst day in American history. Over 24,000 soldiers were killed or wounded out of a population of about 30 million, one-tenth of the US's population today. Of the over one-hundred photos taken by Mr. Gardner, a group of about twenty broke with the pastoral, melancholic standards for 19th Century Victorian images. These photos were of dead soldiers not yet buried. They were, and remain, direct, brutal, but also human.

Recognizing the power, and the commercial potential, of these photos, Gardner's boss Mathew Brady quickly had copies made and exhibited at his New York studio within a month of the battle. As the New York Times reported on October 20, 1862:

"At the door of his gallery hangs a little placard, "The Dead of Antietam." Crowds of people are constantly going up the stairs; follow them, and you find them bending over photographic views of that fearful battle-field, taken immediately after the action."

The power of these photos on the people of 1892 was overwhelming. In the word of Oliver Wendell Holmes who was on the battlefield at the same time looking for his son (later Supreme Court Justice Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr.):

"Many people would not look at this series. Many, having seen it and dreamed of its horrors, would lock it up in some secret drawer, that it might not thrill or revolt those whose soul sickens at such sights. It was so nearly like visiting the battle-field to look over these views, that all the emotions excited by the actual sight of the stained and sordid scene, strewed with rags and wrecks, came back to us, and we buried them in the recesses of our cabinets as we would have buried the mutilated remains of the dead they too vividly represented." It was in those secret drawers and cabinets that photos of our war dead were consigned. Through Presidential orders and other governmental ruling, the US Dead of World War I and II, Korea, Viet Nam, Iraq, and Afghanistan remain hidden. Recent news stories on the ban on photos of coffins returning from Iraq and Afghanistan bring this story right up to date.

This program was originally on view at the Pry House, Antietam Battlefield from Oct. 5 through Dec. 1, 2012. It then became a temporary exhibit at the National Museum of Civil War Medicine in downtown Frederick. It finally came to Hood college, where it was exhibited in the library until April 15, 2013.
Hood Gerontology Certificate Approved

The Maryland Higher Education Commission (MHEC) has approved the gerontology certificate program at Hood College. The Certificate in Gerontology, a 12-credit program, is intended for post-baccalaureate students interested in developing a special expertise in aging. The goals of the certificate are: (1) to acquaint students with the fundamental issues and problems confronting older adults in our society; (2) to immerse students in the vast body of scholarship related to the biological, psychological, and social aspects of aging; (3) to expose students to the various career paths available to individuals with expertise in gerontology; and (4) to assist students in developing professional competencies in working with older adults. This certificate program is offered by the Department of Psychology, which currently offers two Master of Arts degree programs, one in Human Sciences and one in Thanatology, as well as a graduate Certificate in Thanatology. Students will be able to enroll in the gerontology certificate program as a stand-alone program, or, they may elect to earn a gerontology certificate while completing their Master of Arts degrees in Human Sciences or in Thanatology. The Certificate in Gerontology will start in Fall 2013. If you need more information about this program, please contact Dr. Elizabeth MacDougall, or the Graduate School Office at 301-696-3600, or email gofurther@hood.edu.

Psychology Student Research Recognition

We want to extend our thanks for a job well done in our research labs:

Dr. Kundey’s spring research assistants: Weston Dennen (lab coordinator), Blair Starne, Andrew Meulenberg, Sarah George, Shaina Alvarez, Catherine Dennen, William Haller, Raymond Rivera, Mandy White, Olivia Wolz, Leah Groner, Blair Starne, Dawn Fahy, Ashley Rauwolf, Amanda White, Melissa Johnson, Meghan Mannas, Maja Tavra, Paige DeVore

Dr. Kundey’s fall research assistants: Sabrina Molina, Weston Dennen (lab coordinator), Meghan Tomlin, Stephanie Shapiro, Andrew Meulenberg, Sarah George, Shaina Alvarez, Melissa Caples, Catherine Dennen, Amy Hagerdon, William Haller, Annie Mercer, Raymond Rivera, Mandy White, Olivia Wolz, Ashley Rauwolf

Dr. MacDougall’s research assistants: Carleigh Buchholz (graduated December 2012 but still serving in the lab), Jordan Beard, Chris Catalfamo, Steven Powell, Megan Harmon, Brittany Pierceall, Blair Starne

Dr. Oliver’s research assistants: Donna Clarke, Ashley Himes, Ian Ivory, Jordan Beard, and Crystal Wine

Thank you to Donna Clarke and Weston Dennen for serving as exemplary teaching assistants this year.

Departmental Honors: Blair Starne

Graduate School Bound: Blair Starne - Kings College London; Kimberly Brunot - Chestnut Hill; Deryka Nairne - University of Vermont; Breanne Carbaugh - Hood College; Donna Clarke - McDaniel College; Monique Sledd - University of Denver

Careers in Aging Event

Approaching and successfully managing aging was the topic of a lecture April 10 at 7 p.m. in the Whitaker Campus Center at Hood College. Flavius Lilly, an adjunct instructor of gerontology at Hood, is the assistant vice president for academic and student affairs at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. In addition, he is a current doctoral student there, focusing on social, cultural and behavioral gerontology.

The talk, “Do Not Go Gentle: The Science of Successful Aging,” marked Careers in Aging Week. Careers in Aging Week is an annual event intended to bring greater awareness and visibility to the wide-ranging career opportunities in aging and aging research. Universities and colleges across the world participate by sponsoring events at their schools or in their communities. Before the invited lecture, students had the opportunity to attend an information fair in which local aging professionals were available to speak with students about various careers in aging. The event was sponsored by the Psychology and Social Work departments, along with the Career Center, the Graduate School, and the Frederick County Department of Aging.

Psychology Awards

The Francis G. Hugo Prize in Psychology: Kimberly Brunot

The Faculty Book Award for Exceptional Achievement in Psychology: Weston Dennen

SGA Student Leader of the Year: Chris Catalfamo

Questions about the newsletter? Contact Dr. Diane Oliver at oliver@hood.edu