



Sept 2022

IN THIS ISSUE [Department Events](#) | [Department Information](#) | [Alumni News](#)

Chair Talk - Darcy Burgund

Hello and welcome back!! I am Darcy Burgund (she/her), the new chair of the Psychology Department. I look forward to interacting with you in my new role! This Fall is filled with many exciting department happenings described in this Psycho-babble issue. Coming-up soon is the Annual Psychology Department Picnic on Thursday, 9/22. This is a great chance to catch up with old and new Psychology friends. Later in the semester, Dr. Gail Ferguson, a pioneer in research on the psychological impacts of globalization, will give our Distinguished Scholar Lecture. Perhaps most exciting, in November, we will invite candidates to campus to interview for our new Psychology/Neuroscience faculty position. We will welcome you to meet with our candidates, attend their research talks, and give us your feedback. One of them could be your future professor! Stay tuned for details about their visits when we get closer to November. In the meantime, I hope to see you around the Department!



Minnesota Psychological Association Distinguished Scholar Lecture - Gail Ferguson

Dr. Ferguson will be on campus for a lecture on Wednesday, October 12, time and location coming soon.

An Associate Professor in the Institute of Child Development at the University of Minnesota, Dr. Gail Ferguson is a 2016 Outstanding Early Career Psychologist of the American Psychological Association. Her research has greatly enhanced the understanding of the psychological impact of modern globalization on the identity and health of international and immigrant youth and families. Born and raised in Jamaica, Dr. Ferguson has conducted most of her research on the island and in the diaspora. She is best known for her pioneering theory, research, and intervention on the internalization of identities and lifestyles from other cultures via globalization – called "remote acculturation". Notably, her research has identified Americanization and U.S. cable TV as risk-factors for unhealthy eating and family conflict in the Caribbean and other developing regions. Building on those findings, she has led the design and implementation of an innovative global health intervention to improve the nutrition of Americanized families in Jamaica. The JUS Media? Programme teaches students and mothers to question the health messages embedded in food advertising, especially on US cable, in order to be smarter and healthier consumers.

Introducing Visiting Faculty - Fall 2022



Becky Bigler

Rebecca was born in Minneapolis and attended high school in St. Cloud, MN before receiving a B.A. from Oberlin College in 1986 and a Ph.D. from The Pennsylvania State University in 1991. Ze taught in the Department of Psychology at the University of Texas at Austin for 28 years before moving back to the Twin Cities. Bigler studies the causes and consequences of social stereotyping and prejudice among children, with a particular focus on gender and racial attitudes. Ze has also worked to develop and test intervention strategies aimed at reducing children's social stereotyping and intergroup bias. Hir most recent work concerns the sexualization of girls and women and the development of political attitudes during childhood. Bigler is the proud parent of three children, two of whom graduated from Macalester! Ze enjoys reading and hiking, and is an advocate of gender-neutral language.

Cory Fleck

I completed my PhD in social psychology from the University of Minnesota this summer and am very excited to get to be teaching at Macalester this year. I will be teaching Introduction to Psychology in the fall and spring Semester. I have taught classes across a variety of domains of psychology and Intro might be my favorite so I'm happy to be there. My areas of research tend to focus on important relationships throughout the lifespan, especially romantic relationships. My dissertation was focused on the impact and influence of differences in political attitudes in the early stages of romantic relationships.



Karen Grabow

Karen M. Grabow, Ph.D., LP Karen Grabow is a consulting organizational psychologist with over thirty years of experience in strategic organizational effectiveness consulting, leadership development and executive coaching. She is the retired Senior Vice President of Business Development Services at Land O'Lakes, Inc. Her prior roles included Chief Human Resources Officer at Land O'Lakes, Inc., Vice President, Human Resources at Target Corporation and Vice President and Director of Organizational Effectiveness at Personnel Decisions, International.

Karen has a Ph.D. in Industrial/Organizational and Counseling Psychology from the University of Minnesota and is a licensed psychologist in the State of Minnesota.

Karen and her husband, Keith Halperin, live near the lakes in Minneapolis and have two grown daughters. The two are co-teaching Industrial/Organizational Psychology and both of them are delighted to be a part of Macalester's vibrant community as Visiting Assistant Professors.



Keith Halparin

Keith is a Senior Client Partner for Korn Ferry Hay Group, based in the firm's Minneapolis office. He founded and architected the worldwide training practice area at PDI Ninth House. He has been designing and conducting programs to enhance the leadership skills of managers and executives worldwide. In addition to his experience at Korn Ferry via PDI Ninth House, Mr. Halperin served as the human resource planning and development manager for Honeywell's corporate office. He earned a doctoral degree in clinical psychology from the U of Kansas. He has been a member of the APA, the MN Professionals for Psychology Applied at Work and Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology.



Anne Pezalla

I'm excited to be visiting Macalester this year in a full-time position, teaching Research in Psychology II and Directed Research this fall and Research in Psychology I and Developmental Psychology in the spring. I'm a developmental psychologist with interests in the tender years of adolescence and young adulthood, although a lot of my energy these days is directed to the childhood years, as my husband and I try to keep up with our twin 8-year-old boys. When I'm not running after the kids, I'm doing research on a couple grants with the National Institute of Health, studying ways in which young people's social identities impact their health-seeking behavior.

We moved to the Mac-Groveland neighborhood of St. Paul last year and love exploring new parks, restaurants, coffee corners, and antique shops. Any ideas on places we should go? I'm all ears!

Looking forward to a great year at Macalester. Thanks to many of you who have made me feel so welcome!

Tracey Wilkins

I am excited to be able to come back to my alma mater to teach. I graduated from Macalester College with a major in psychology in 1991. I spent so much time in the department, they decided to immortalize me on the department wall. After graduation, like many of my peers, I opted to go to graduate school. However, I went rogue and much to the chagrin of some of my professors, I chose a social work program. It seemed to fit me better than the clinical psych programs I was originally looking at. After two decades working in community mental health both in South Florida and Ramsey County, I realized the root of much of what I was seeing in my work was trauma, specifically childhood trauma. So, I pivoted to engrossing myself in trauma training and opened a therapy practice here in St. Paul specializing in trauma, Willow Tree Healing Center.

I love Minnesota sports year-round and am the Commissioner of my Fantasy Football League. I mostly love to hang out with my rescue dog, Roscoe, who also often goes to work with me...often enough that my clients are disappointed when they walk in and he isn't there.





Annual Psych Department Picnic

The psych fall picnic is Thursday, September 22, from 11:45 - 12:45 at the Rock Garden on the north side of Olin Rice and inside if it rains. Anyone taking a psych class is welcome.

You can count on delicious picnic fare. It is always a great time to chat with faculty and fellow students. We will take class photos too.

Please sign up in your psych class or through Lee to get a ticket. If you forget or lose your ticket, still come, we will have some at the picnic. We look forward to seeing you. Photos from 2019 (pre covid). We will wear masks. Please let Lee know of dietary restrictions.



Friday Socials

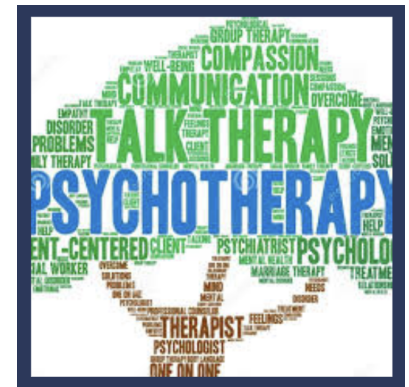
Friday Socials are **every Friday** that classes are in session at 3:20 in the hallway by the blue house). It's a time to socialize with fellow students, faculty and staff. We have a treat each week and all are invited. Please join us! This week we will be having pie. Jaine Strauss and Steve Guglielmo host.

Careers in Mental Health Lunch with Jaine Strauss

Frida, Sept. 30 12:00 - 1:00 OLRI 352

Interested in a career in mental health?

Please join Jaine Strauss for an informal discussion over lunch where she will talk about a wide range of mental health professions (e.g. social work, counseling psychology, clinical psychology, psychiatry, psychiatric nursing, school psychology), and will explore the ins and outs of graduate training in each discipline.



Please RSVP to Lee (lolson4@macalester.edu) by 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 28.

Become a Psych Leader or Nominate a Classmate

We are eager for nominations for next year's psych club leaders. Leaders play an incredibly important role in the department. They build community in the department by helping out with a variety of events, including lunches, panels, volunteer experiences, guest lecturers, game nights, and Friday Socials. Ideally, leaders generate ideas for new activities that other students would find engaging and informative, and they inspire other students to get involved in the life of the department. We expect that serving as a Psych Club leader will typically take about 1 - 2 hours a week, although your time commitment will vary from week to week.

Please consider nominating yourself or someone else to this important role. Please send names to Lee Olson by Monday, September 12. We will contact all students who are nominated to make sure they are interested in the commitment. The decision about next year's psych leaders is made by faculty and staff.

Looking for students who did a study away program last year

Did you study away last fall or spring? Would you be willing to be on a panel to tell other students about your experiences, good and bad? Please contact Lee as we are setting up a lunch event this fall and would like to have your thoughts and input.

Opportunities

National Alliance on Mental Illness - Minnesota is recruiting volunteers to support their suicide prevention education program. NAMI-MN holds QPR classes via Zoom at least twice a month and up to several times a week. QPR - Question, Persuade, Refer - is an evidence-based approach that empowers people to engage in behaviors demonstrated to reduce the risk of death by suicide. Volunteers would be responsible for Zoom assistance (e.g., admitting people into the Zoom room) as well as alerting the presenter to questions and comments that appear in the chat and to participants' departure from the class (NAMI tries to follow up with people who leave the class early to make sure they are ok). QPR assistants would commit to participating in ~two hours of training in QPR and Zoom Background skills and as well as staffing a minimum of 1-2 classes a month (1.5-2 hours each shift) depending on how many classes are scheduled. For more information and details about scheduling, please contact David Goehl-Manolis, NAMI-MN's suicide prevention coordinator, at suicidepreventioncoordinator@namimn.org. You can also contact Jaine Strauss (strauss@macalester.edu).

www.macalester.edu

651-696-6223

Editor: Lee Olson, lolson4@macalester.edu

Psychology Department | www.macalester.edu | 651-696-6223

Copyright © 2022 Macalester College, All rights reserved.