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Chair Talk from Brooke

Welcome back! We hope you had a wonderful summer with a good mix of relaxation, adventure, wonder, productivity, and sleep. We are thrilled to welcome 3 new visiting faculty members to our department this fall. Anna Johnson is a developmental psychologist teaching our intermediate course in developmental psych. Social psychologist Jason Weaver is back teaching "Personality Psychology", in addition to "RIP II", "Social Psychology", and in the spring a new advanced course called "Psychology of the Japanese-American Internment." Julia Manor ('04) is one of our own psych majors back teaching "RIP I", "Learning & Behavior", and "Animal Cognition".

Overall, it's an exciting time to be in the Psychology Department. We look forward to a stimulating year with many great speakers, panels, and social events. We hope that you will participate fully in department activities. Speaking of which, don't forget about our Department Picnic this Thursday at Jack Rossmann's house!

Best wishes for a terrific semester!

Ben Hampstead , Ph.D., ABPP/CN Talk, Monday, Sept. 10th, 4:45 in Olin Rice #350 - pizza after

Professor Hampstead '99 is an Assistant Professor at Emory University and works at the Research Clinical Neuropsychologist at Atlanta VAMC. He will speak on *Neural correlates of memory impairment and rehabilitation-mediated improvement in early Alzheimer's disease*.

Functional neuroimaging has provided clear evidence that the ability to successfully learn and remember information requires the synergistic interaction of multiple brain regions. Patients with Alzheimer's disease demonstrate learning and memory deficits that reflect the gradual degeneration of these brain regions. Using an ecologically relevant memory paradigm as a model, Dr. Hampstead will first examine the ecologically relevant memory paradigm as a model, he will first examine the maladaptive changes in brain activation associated with memory impairment in early Alzheimer's disease. He will present evidence that memory can re-engage the dysfunctional brain regions and improve memory as a result. He will end with a discussion of additional methods that may further help improve functioning and ultimately lead to improved quality of life in this growing population.

Fall Picnic: Thursday, Sept. 13th 11:30

The Fall Picnic is for anyone interested in psychology. It is a great time to chat informally with other students and to get to know the psychology faculty and staff members and to enjoy some delicious picnic fare (hamburgers, hot dogs, veggie burgers, fruit, beggies, chips, brownies & drinks). We'll gather at Jack Rossmann's home, 99 Cambridge (across the street from the Fine Arts parking lot) from 11:30 - 1:00 on Thursday, September 13th. Hope to see you there.

Welcome Visiting Faculty

[Anna Johnson](#) is a Ph.D. candidate in child psychology at the University of Minnesota's Institute of Child Development. Her research

addresses the development of self-regulation across cognitive, emotional, and biological domains. She is currently conducting studies to examine how early life adversity and cognitive-affective strategies influence children's stress reactivity to social and cognitive challenges. She is also leading a set of training studies to test the impact of mindfulness meditation and yoga practice

on young children's self-regulatory abilities. She is looking forward to working with the Macalester community and teaching Developmental Psychology this year.

Julia Manor is a Mac Alum who is happy to be returning to campus. She did her graduate work on episodic memory in animals at the University of Minnesota. Her research interests lie in the area of animal behavior and cognition. More specifically she is interested in the aspects of human cognition and behavior that can be found in the animal world. Additionally, she is interested in the interactions between humans and animals.

Jason Weaver is a social and personality psychologist who is particularly interested in the complex interplay between people and situations. Most of his current research examines the effects of motivations for positivity and consistency, but he has also studied self-fulfilling prophecies, voting behavior, sport performance, inter-cultural interactions, and romantic relationships. A guiding theme in his research is to employ creative, high-impact paradigms to longstanding issues in social and personality psychology.

Congratulations Eric! Wiertelak named Editor-in-Chief of Journal

The *Journal of Undergraduate Neuroscience Education* has announced the Eric Wiertelak, DeWitt Wallace Professor of Psychology and Director of Neuroscience Studies, has been appointed Editor-in-Chief as of July 1. Wiertelak will head the editorial board and direct all activities of the journal, which publishes peer-reviewed articles focusing on innovations in neuroscience education.

Computer Lab Usage

All psychology students are welcome to use the psychology computer lab located in Olin Rice 354 when it is NOT being used by classes. The lab will be open Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 - 4:30 p.m. We ask that you keep in mind three things when using the lab.

1. Remember to log off a computer when you are done. If you do not log off, anyone using the computer after you will have access to all of your network files and other information.
2. All unnecessary or personal files will be deleted on Fridays. Please use your own discs or network file space to save your work. Otherwise, you will lose your work when it's deleted on Fridays.
3. If a computer is not working, notify Eric Wiertelak via email wiertelak@macalester.edu.



Mesmerizing Major - Marijo Botten

Favorite Movie: RENT

Favorite Book: Oh gosh... Right now it's Pride and Prejudice.

Favorite place to eat in the Twin Cities: Coffee News :) but it shut down so I'd have to say Cafe Latte!

What do you do when you are not studying? I like to play volleyball with Mac's co-ed club team, watch weird stuff on Netflix with my friends, and eat or make food to snack on (I just got a milkshake maker from Aldi really cheap that I plan to use a LOT this year).

Where did you grow up? Mahtomedi, MN

Interesting fact about your hometown: Mahtomedi means Bear Lake in the Dakota language and one of our neighboring towns is called White Bear Lake. Also, the city of Willernie is completely enclosed by Mahtomedi.

Tell us something about your family: We've lived in our garage for 12 years (and counting) while my dad has been building a house in our backyard.

Tell us something that you are pleased with or proud of about yourself: I'm pleased that I've been able to see so much of the world because of Girl Scouts and my high school band! I've been to Costa Rica, France, Switzerland, England, Quebec, and hopefully Macalester will allow me to see even more of the world!

Study Abroad Lunch

Each semester we look forward to this event. Students who studied abroad last semester tell us about their study abroad experiences and offer tips for those thinking of studying abroad. Students who were abroad last semester and will be invited to speak at the luncheon are: Kelly Cargos, Hannah Carretero, Micah Mumper, Karen Ramos, Hannah Strauss-Albee and Hannan Van Den Brandt. The lunch will be in Olri 352 and will be subs, chips, fruit and drinks. Rachel from the study abroad office has confirmed that she can attend to answer your questions.

Psycho-babble

Alvaro Ballarin is a Research Assistant at the American Institute for Research in Washington, DC.

Friday Socials are every Friday in the psych hallway at 3:20. Come by for treats and a fun time with psych students and faculty. Sept. 14th is nachos!

www.macalester.edu
651-696-6223

Editor: Lee Olson, lolson4@macalester.edu

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

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