

Psycho-Babble

MACALESTER



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November 2012

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Chair Talk from Brooke

Data Fund Drive: Consider Donating the Life Blood of Research

November is always a big research month in the Psychology Department. Directed Research students are madly running participants. Honors students are also collecting data, and, of course, faculty research move apace. This semester, however, we have a serious participant shortage—the need for participant hours far exceeds what the Intro-Psych pool can supply. Both student and faculty projects are in jeopardy.

Will you help out by donating the life blood of research – your time as a participant? You may not get participant points or extra credit in a class, but you will earn valuable Karma tokens with the big Participant Pool Coordinator in the sky! Please consider helping out your fellow students and your department by volunteering in one experiment over the next two weeks.

It's easy to sign up for a study! The department uses the Sona system for easy, on-line scheduling. To create an account, simply go to www.macalester.sona-systems.com, click on “New Participant?” in the lower left-hand corner of the page, fill in your First Name, Last Name, Macalester email (without the @mac.edu). For Course select: LOTTO-NonPsyc100L Students, and you're all set to sign up! If you already have a Sona Account from when you were a student in Intro, then you're ready play right now! (Please email the pool coordinator, Jamie Atkins [atkins@mac] with any questions.)

So please volunteer early and often. As we know from our psychology classes, this sort of pro-social behavior can be contagious. After all, the study you save may be your own.

Important Dates to Save:

Andrew Solomon - Tuesday, December 4th reception at 5:00/ talk at 7:00 (Art Commons & Hill BR)

Senior Social - Tuesday, November 27th, 7:00 - 8:00 (Jack & Marty's House - 99 Cambridge)

Kids Judge! - Sunday, Dec. 9th 1:00 - 4:30 (Smail Gallery)

DR Poster Session - Tuesday, Dec. 11th 4:45 (Smail Gallery)

Honor's Poster Session - Wednesday, Dec. 12th 4:30 (Olri 352)

Spring 2013 Courses

		Group A	Group B	UP3	Student-led
240	Learning & Behavior	X			
248	Behavioral NS	X			
252	3D		X		
254	Social Psych		X		
264	Psych of Gender			X	
378	Psych of Language				X
380	Community Psych & Public Health			X	X
385	Mind Reading				X
394	Psych of Jap-Am Internment			X	X
394	Inside the Animal Mind				X

Spring Course Descriptions

PSYC 394-01 Psychology of the Japanese-American Internment

In 1942, following the attack on Pearl Harbor, over 100,000 Japanese and Japanese-Americans were relocated from their homes to government-run internment camps. We will use this event as a historical case study to apply social psychological theory and research. Our analysis will include the perspectives of policy makers, internees, and non-Japanese American citizens. Although we will focus on the internment, we will also discuss other WWII topics, such as the perspective of Japanese-American soldiers and the decision to use nuclear weapons against Japan. Finally, we will draw parallels between the events of 1942 and current social and political situations.

PSYC 394-02 Inside the Animal Mind

Ever wondered what your dog is thinking or why your cat behaves a certain way? In this course students will be introduced to the questions and concepts in the study of animal cognition. We will take a peek into the animal mind and show that many topics in animal cognition can be studied in an objective and scientific manner. The format of the seminar will include student led discussion of recent topics in the study of animal cognition. Topics may include: animal sensory abilities, abstract representations (e.g., numbers and time) cause and effect detection, memory systems, insight and reasoning, theory of mind, and communication. Book chapters and journal articles will be employed to illustrate these concepts.

Careers in Mental Health Lunch

Tuesday, November 6th at 11:30 in Olri 352, Jaine Strauss will talk over lunch about Mental Health careers. She will speak about a wide range of mental health professions (e.g., social work, counseling psych, clinical psych, psychiatry, psychiatric nursing, and school psych) and will explore the ins and outs of graduate training in each discipline. Please RSVP to Lee for the lunch.

Volunteer Experience - one time commitment

Come join us Thursday, November 8th from 3:30-6:30 and volunteer at the West 7th Community Center's Book Fair! The book fair is open and free to the community and each child who attends will receive five free books. Volunteers will help with set-up and clean up, keep books organized and available, help with crafts and games as well as help hand out snacks. The Center is a short bus ride from campus (265 Onieda - about 2 miles east on St. Clair). If you're interested or have any questions you can contact Ellen Nikodym (enikodym@macalester.edu).

Psychology Participants Needed!

Help with our Data Fund Drive:

- 1) Go to the website macalester.sona-systems.com
- 2) Click on **New Participant?** in the lower left hand corner of the page
- 3) Fill in your First Name, Last Name, Macalester email (without the @mac.edu)
- 4) For **Course** select: LOTTO-NonPsyc100L Students
- 5) Begin signing up for study timeslots
- 6) Email atkins@macalester.edu with any questions

Ideas from the Grad School Panel Lunch

One of the most important things in choosing a grad school is finding a place that is a good fit, where you can be happy in the lab as well as with the people and the place.

A way to approach a faculty member at your university of choice is to read their papers and to contact them to tell them that you like and are interested in their research. Faculty appreciate that people are reading their work. This may make the connection you need when you apply. The panelists strongly recommended getting any kind of research experience you can find. Work in a lab during your undergrad, volunteer over the summer, find an NSF REU for over the summer. You need to show that you have done research. NSF REUs pay about \$5,000 for the summer of work so they are really good.

You can also apply for a Psi Chi scholarship and that way you can probably work wherever you want because you come with the money, the school doesn't have to find it. You can always volunteer in a lab if you don't get the jobs or scholarships.

Thank you Anna, Jason, Julia and Mike for sharing your experiences!

Postcards from Study Away

Hi Psych Department!



I'm currently writing from Hoi An, a quaint city in central Vietnam that I just arrived to a few days ago. I have been studying in Vietnam for the last two months through an SIT program focused on culture, social change, and development. I have had the opportunity to travel around the country, but have spent most of my time in the busy and fast-paced Ho Chi Minh City, which is filled with fragrant street food, aggressive motorbikes and friendly local people. Although the program is not psychology related, I just got approval to do my independent study project about living with Autism in Vietnam and will be working in a school for children with developmental disorders along-side some of the country's top psychologists.

Still can't wait to be back in Saint Paul! Libie Motchan '14

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Dear Macalester Psychology Department,



I'm writing from sunny Mendoza, Argentina where it's almost summer! I've been studying here since the end of July and have had a great overall experience. I'm living with a host family in the city and have greatly enjoyed living in and learning about Argentina. And you can probably tell from the picture that I've enjoyed the food too.

Mendoza province is in the main wine region of Argentina and only an hour long bus-ride from the Andes. In my time here I've been able to take an Argentine cooking class, tour a vineyard, which included a picnic lunch and wine-tasting, hike in the Andes, and last weekend I took a trip to Chile and spent a day at the beach.

I also happen to be taking classes here. It's noteworthy that I'm not taking a single class for either my major or minor (Psychology and Philosophy). I think that the break has been good for me and allowed me to step outside Macalester and reflect on my major, what I want to be doing in the future, etc. So don't feel like you must find a psychology-related study abroad program, though I'm sure those are excellent too. I encourage all freshmen and sophomores to at least seriously consider going abroad.

I'll see you all in 2013!

Evan Myers '14

St. Olaf Psychology Dept's 2012 Millert Memorial Lecture

We are excited to let you know that the St. Olaf Psychology Dept's 2012 Millert Memorial Lecture will take place on **Monday, November 19th, at 4:00 in Tomson Hall 280**. This year they have two distinguished speakers: **Charlie Super and Sara Harkness**, Professors at the University of Connecticut and Co-Directors of the **Center for the Study of Culture, Health and Human Development** (<http://www.chhd.uconn.edu/>).

Here are links to bios about Super and Harkness:

http://www.familystudies.uconn.edu/contact/faculty/storrs_faculty_super.html

http://www.familystudies.uconn.edu/contact/faculty/storrs_faculty_harkness.html



(First photo - Sara Harkness, second - Charlie Super)

Let Lee know if you are interested in attending as we will get a van if enough want to go.

Mental Health Awareness Project Photo Event!

October 31st-November 2nd

11:00-2:00

Lower Level Campus Center

Come participate in a Mental Health Awareness photo project! We will be tabling downstairs in the Campus Center about mental health and asking people "What does mental health mean to you?" Student responses will be displayed in the Campus Center as part of a Mental Health Awareness Initiative.

Macalester Review Opportunity

The Macalester Review, a student-run academic journal at Macalester, is currently accepting submissions for publication in our Fall 2012 issue. Having an article published is a great addition to your CV or resume, and can make you a significantly more competitive candidate on your graduate school or job applications.

They are seeking papers in economics or the social sciences between 8 and 20 pages in length. Drafts are due by December 1st, and authors will be notified that their paper has been accepted by winter break. Authors will have the opportunity to edit their papers over winter break, and papers will be published by the beginning of next semester.

To submit a paper, please visit <http://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/cgi/submit.cgi?context=macreview>

and create an account. Submitting your paper should take only a few minutes.

Many papers are downloaded more than 100 times per month, and the Review has had more than 6,000 article downloads since its creation two years ago.

More Psycho-Babble.....

Seth Kreielsheimer '11 In April, Seth moved to Buenos Aires, Argentina. He will be a Freelance English teacher and beginning in 2013, will be the Trainer for the EBC International TEFL course in Buenos Aires.

Elizabeth Niemer '09 is now Freelance Copyeditor at Self-Employed.

Danai Gurira '07 was written up in the Star Tribune for her directing and acting.

<http://www.startribune.com/entertainment/tv/175882761.html>

Russell '07 & Rebecca Swinburne Romine '07 are changing careers and moving from St. Paul to Lawrence, Kansas. **Rebecca** has accepted a position as a Research Assistant Professor at the Life Span Institute (LSI) at the University of Kansas (KU)*. She will be working as a part of the research design and analysis unit doing methodological design and statistical analyses using lots of super-fancy math. She will also be working on her own research which focuses on adolescent risk behaviors and juvenile delinquency and fraud detection in online data collection. **Russel** is going to the University of Kansas for a post-doc at the Center for Educational Testing and Evaluation.

Victoria Ranson '99 sold her company to Google. <http://www.ft.com/cms/s/2/1364d1d4-0d5a-11e2-97a1-00144feabdc0.html#axzz28oVdRnND>

Alumni Job Lead

From Devin Carter '11

Hello!

I just wanted to see if any Macalester students would be interested in a GREAT job opportunity!

I've been working with Minneapolis Kids for the past year as a Site Coordinator at Windom Spanish Immersion School and we are hiring Child Care Assistants. It is part-time work (15-20 hours per week) and pays \$12.42/hr. Right now my site is in need of a staff (preferably Spanish speaking or with Spanish knowledge) from 2:00-6:00pm Mondays-Fridays.

Hours are flexible and you can direct any interested students to me ([414-469-2883](tel:414-469-2883) or my district email) or to the MPS District Webpage to apply. The pre-requisites are a bit more flexible than they seem on the job description—we've had Child Care Assistants who were still finishing their degrees and that had not yet graduated. It's great experience for future jobs and I love working here!

Here is our website if Mac students want to learn more about us:

<http://mplskids.mpls.k12.mn.us/>

Thank you so much and I hope that everything's going well!

Best,

Devin Carter

Paid Sunday Morning Positions

Unity Unitarian Church in St. Paul is looking to build in better support for special needs kids in their religious education program. Ideally, they would have a predictable and responsible set of

people to count on each Sunday. So far, this has been very difficult to grow. Religious Education is looking for psych students who would like experience with kids who need extra supports. They believe that it will be a great learning opportunity with a minimal time commitment. There is no programming in the summer so that works well for students. Services are at 9, 11 and 4:30. Contact Angi Falks in the library, or Kerri at Unity Unitarian Church for more info.

Rakhma House Interested in a cool volunteer experience close to campus? Rakhma Joy is a memory care facility on Wheeler Avenue -- a very easy walk from campus. One of our alumni, formerly a volunteer at Rakhma Joy, is now a house manager, and she's eager to recruit current Mac students to spend some time with the residents -- senior citizens dealing with dementia. Volunteers can engage with the residents in a variety of ways -- just sitting and talking, going for walks, playing music, doing puzzles -- whatever you like. It's a chance to get outside the Macalester Bubble and to brighten the lives of others. If you'd like more information about Rakhma Joy, you can check out this link: www.rakhma.org. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Lindsey Fossum at LFossum@Rakhma.org.

GoEco experiences

GoEco is providing global volunteering opportunities for university **students, faculty, and staff of Psychology**. Volunteers can choose from a variety of placements focusing on education and community development, using their knowledge and skills to provide a personal contribution. The [Sri Lanka – Community and Orphanage Work](#) program will see volunteers contribute directly to numerous social and educational projects, having an immediate impact while discovering the essence of local communities. On the other side of the world, join the [South Africa – Teaching Children](#) program: more than just a teaching program, volunteers will become a part of a vibrant culture; learning a new way of living, while gaining a better understanding of the hardships these children endure.

Welcome New Majors

Kathryn Hehre '15 Minneapolis, MN Psych
Simon Sanggaard '15 Holbek, Denmark NS
Brooke LaFloe '15 St. Paul, MN NS
Marijo Botten '15 Mahtomedi, MN NS
Taylor Denney '15 Fairfax Station, VA Psych
John Katuska '15 Uxbridge, MA Psych
Saraswati Wilson '15 Olathe, KS Psych
Harrisonford Fauni '16 Lakewood, CA NS
Stephanie Goei '15 Shoreline, WA NS
Colleen Semla '15 Evanston, IL

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