



IN THIS ISSUE

Department Events | Department Information | Alumni News



Chair Talk from Brooke

It's hard to believe that Spring Break is only about a week away! The feet of remaining snow make it almost impossible to imagine that spring will arrive anytime soon. Yet somehow it will. This is an exciting time around the department as we make course schedule plans for next year. We're delighted to announce that Julia Manor will be coming back full time next year. We also expect to announce soon some new topics courses that we hope to offer next year. Keep your eyes open for such announcements in a future Psycho Babble.

Speaking of announcements in Psycho Babble, it would be helpful for us to know how many of you actually read this newsletter, and whether it's an effective vehicle for communicating with our majors. So, if you're reading this, please click on this link (lolson4@macalester.edu) put "Psycho-Babble" in the subject line and let our department coordinator Lee Olson know that you've seen this message. If you also want to include something about how often you read Psycho Babble, that's great but not necessary. Thanks for helping us figure out the best way to reach out to you with news about the department and major. Best Wishes for March, and Happy Spring Break!

From the Psych Leaders

Hey Psych Majors and Minors! Join the Macalester Psychology Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/237220923050614/>) and check out the social events organized by Psych Club, the latest round of Directed Research surveys(!), and anything else that you all want to post or discuss. The page is run by Psych Club and is not officially affiliated with the department.

MPA Distinguished Scholar Lecture April 16th, 7:30, Weyerhaeuser Boardroom

Motivated Perception of Race: Evidence from the Brain and Behavior

Social factors have a profound effect on behavior: mere membership in a social category can cause a person to favor ingroup members while disadvantaging outgroup members. In an effort to understand this effect, Dr. Amodio's research investigates how social categories, based on either arbitrary or real (i.e., racial) distinctions, can change the way we "see" others, and how these early perceptual biases perpetuate into forms of discrimination. Dr. Amodio will present a series of studies that examined the effect of group membership on visual processing, as indexed by neural activity and perceptual judgments, and its implications for social impressions, attitudes, and behavior.

Macalester College for his undergrad in Psychology. Dr. Amadio has been recognized for his research contributions with awards such as the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE) from The White House, the Janet T. Spence Award for Transformative Early Career Contributions from the *Association for Psychological Science*, the F. J. McGuigan Early Career Investigator Prize from the *American Psychological Foundation*, the Early Career Award for Contribution to Social Cognition from the *International Social Cognition Network*, and the SAGE Young Scholars Award from the *Foundation for Personality and Social Psychology*.



Psych Club Valentines party.

Mesmerizing Major - Alexander Ropes '16

Favorite Movie: The Skin I Live In (La Piel Que Habito),
Director: Pedro Almodóvar

Favorite Book: The Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Favorite place to eat in the Twin Cities: Masu, in
Minneapolis

What do you do when you are not studying? I like to
hunt for music and new places to eat in the Twin Cities.

Where did you grow up? I grew up most recently in
Pella, Iowa, which has the second largest Dutch population in the United States.

Tell us something about your family: I am one of six, and there is a 14 year age gap between myself and
my youngest brother

Tell us something that you are pleased with or proud of about yourself: I'm happy to have learned to
live in to stop fretting about the future and enjoy the present





Study Abroad Luncheon

Students heard from Jennie Kim, Lizzy Arsenault, Hannah Brown, Jocy Bonilla, and Joey Portanova about their study abroads last fall. Bree Burazin moderated with some good questions for the panelists. Some thoughts from the students include: Think of your proximity to other countries. It's very inexpensive and easy to travel in Europe. Some of the programs give you lots of breaks so you have time to take short trips. Think of the language issue, will you be able to talk to people? Think about who your fellow students will be. Will they be all Americans? And finally, look for classes and interests that you may have that aren't offered at Mac. Some advice was to start the visa process as early as possible and to check it very carefully to make sure everything is filled in correctly on the visa once they return it to you. A city spelled wrong could cause big trouble for you when traveling.

All students were glad they went and would go again if given the chance. They encourage others to cautiously take risks and to explore this opportunity.



Psycho-babble

Laurny Gutierrez '11 is now Project Coordinator at Healthy Eating Healthy Minds Initiative. **Anna Jacob '13** is now Research Analyst at Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development. **Matthew Mitchell '11** is now Graduate Assistant at University of Wisconsin Eau Claire. **Suzanne Oh '13** is a High School Coach at College Possible, YWCA of Mpls.

Majors who are Seniors: Major Plan!

Planning to graduate in May? If so, then now is the time to check your major plan to make sure you've taken care of all of your requirements. Please meet with your advisor and/or Brooke Lea to get this important paperwork taken care of.

Minnesota Undergraduate Psychological Conference (MUPC)

The MUPC website (gomupc.org) is up and students can begin registering for the conference and submitting poster or paper proposals. The deadline for proposals is Monday, April 7th, 2014. The conference will be on Saturday, April 26th, at Bethel University in St. Paul. Angus MacDonald III from the U of M Twin Cities will be our keynote speaker.

Welcome New Majors



Jon Mathison '16 Edina, MN NS **Mike Cavallaro '16** North Attleboro, MA **Hannah Harder '17** Jacksonville, IL NS

Opportunities

Kenwood Therapy Center is an innovative, 12-therapist clinic and training center in Minneapolis, MN. We currently have an opening in our volunteer program to assist in the front office as administrative support. Duties include scheduling clients, insurance benefit checks, and confidential phone intakes and referrals. Parts of this opportunity include the chance to speak to real people about real problems, and will provide context to further positions and graduate work. Experience, compassion, maturity, good judgment, and interest in working with clients with emotional, relational, sexual, and other serious life issues are important. This position is ideal for upperclassmen or individuals contemplating going on to graduate school in Psychology or Sociology, or other mental health fields; or someone interested in general work in a mental health clinic. We are looking for applicants that are able to commit for at least one year for approximately two four-hour shifts per week. We currently need volunteers during weekday evenings and Saturday mornings. *Administrative experience preferred.* We are looking for someone to start ASAP. If you are interested, please email a resume and cover letter with a bit of your experience and interest to Becca Shaheen, Volunteer Coordinator, at b.shaheen@kenwoodcenter.org. You can find out more about the Kenwood Therapy Center by going to our website at www.kenwoodcenter.org.

* * * * *

Are you considering a study abroad or off-campus program before you graduate from Macalester? There are lots of great options available through the [Associated Colleges of the Midwest \(ACM\)](#). Most ACM programs feature independent study, research, or internship opportunities. And all ACM programs are designed for students at liberal arts colleges, making them perfect for Mac students.

If you're interested in Psychology, be sure to check out www.acm.edu/programs.

www.macalester.edu

651-696-6223

Editor: Lee Olson, lolson4@macalester.edu

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

Copyright © 2014 Macalester College, All rights reserved.