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project. What is particularly noteworthy is that
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shoulder the total cost of conducting their
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discipline. Research can be quite an expensive
much a science-oriented and science-driven

towards the perspective that psychology is very

has emerged as the number one undergraduate
campuses in the U.S. today because psychology

this question often arises in many college

Funding Sources
http://www.apa.org/students/funding.html

A vast majority of students (at the post-
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A vast majority of students take it upon themselves to
shoulder the total cost of conducting their
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undergraduate students have more limited
access and opportunities to fund their own
research and there is also the expectation that
their research is not at the same caliber as those
of graduate students. I argue that the
undergraduate experience may in fact be the

Funding Sources
How can college students fund their research
and other psychology projects? I presume that
this question often arises in many college

campuses in the U.S. today because psychology
has emerged as the number one undergraduate
major (Chamberlin, 2000) with thousands of
baccalaureates awarded yearly, that the
curriculum for this major increasingly requires
empirical research to the point where "every
psychology student should do research as part of
their undergraduate experience" (Nodine,
2001), that many undergraduates know the
importance of empirical research for acceptance
into competitive graduate schools in
psychology (Takooshian, 1993), and that
undergraduates are encouraged to do hands-on
research for increased career success (Landrum,
2002), self-confidence (Sadowski, Flagler,
Dowd, Ball & Collins, 2002), and personal
growth (Carmody, 1998). It is no surprise that
each year literally hundreds of Psi Chi and
other undergraduates go well beyond their
course work, to present their research at
conferences, or publish it in the Psi Chi Journal
of Undergraduate Research or other journals
(Thomas, Rewey, & Davis, 2002).

Takooshian, Velayo, and Prohaska (2002)
pointed out that direct funding of undergraduate
research is much needed, given the acceleration
of undergrad research today, but sadly enough,
funding that is scarce for faculty research, is
more scarce for graduate students, and most
scarce for undergraduates--based on the
mistaken assumption that undergraduates are
not involved in publishable research. On a
happier note, there are a number of useful
sources for direct funding for undergraduate
research, if students or their mentors know
where to look. Undergraduate students who
need financial support for their research, for
travel to professional meetings, or for other
academic activities should explore the
possibility of applying for external funding
sources. Below is a list of selected websites that
contain information for student funding of
student research in psychology. [Note: These
websites also contain lists that lead you to other
funding sources.]

APSA Student Funding Sources
http://www.apa.org/students/funding.html

External Undergraduate Research Opportunities and Internships: APA Science
Directorate

Comprehensive List of Funding Opportunities
for Psychology Graduate and Undergraduate
(List compiled by the Public Policy Office and
the Education Directorate)

Directory of Selected Scholarships, Fellowships
and Other Financial Aid Opportunities for
Women and Ethnic Minorities in Psychology and
Related Fields (PDF)
http://www.apa.org/pi/wpo/financialaid direc
tory.pdf
The purpose of the directory is to provide
detailed information on fellowships and other
funding sources for students and researchers at the
graduate, undergraduate, pre-doctoral,
doctoral, and post-doctoral levels. There is also
a section on grants and special awards for
institutions.

Psi Chi Awards & Grants
http://www.psichl.org/awards/

Sigma Xi: Grants-in-Aid for Research Program

Grants for Individuals: Psychology/
Psychiatry
http://www.lib.msu.edu/harris23/grants/3psy
ch.htm
Contains funding for individuals – precollege,
high school, undergraduate, graduate

Despite the availability of some funds for
undergraduate research, a vast majority of
students do not seem to take advantage of them.
I would like to think that a primary reason is a
lack of knowledge of where to possibly apply
for funding. Granted that many of these funding
opportunities are selective and funds are scarce
and limited, it is also the case that many
students are not informed of where to seek
these funds and do not have the knowledge and
experience in applying.

The Value of Research Experience in
Psychology
Psychology majors are encouraged (and
oftentimes required) to become involved in
research activities, particularly if they plan to
attend graduate school in psychology. Research
experience is an important criterion for


Dr. Richard Velayo
Editor

The school year is drawing to a close. It really feels like spring now. Were finals not just around the corner, it would be a good time for a few deep breaths. It is always a good time for a good wishes, it always is.

I truly hope this has been a good year for you. I have no doubt, at times, it has been trying. It has for me. Yet, for better or worse, I own this year whether I wish to or not, and you do too. Or, at least I hope you do. After all, it is you, isn’t it, sitting in the classroom, listening, or not; it is you studying, or not; it is you educating yourself, or not. Just as it is you being decent or not, living well or not, acting responsibly or not. In the long run going through the motions, living someone else’s life, being numb or, at best, half alive doesn’t cut it. Sure, you and I are not in this alone, we depend and need others. I trust that those you and I must count on were there for you, me, and ourselves. I hope this idiotic system that provides the landscape of our lives stays challenging and not frightful. I for one, need less, rather than more excitement. But even if Pace, or any other part of my world becomes even more problematical, it will still be I who has to deal with it; I and those like me, who, are responsible for who they are.

Until we talk again, best wishes.

Best Wishes!

Message from the Chair

PSYCH EYE (Volume 18, No. 2)
and steering committee, briefed the invited APA members prior to their meeting, helped with their travel arrangements, and escorted and staffed them at the event.

Barbara Mowder and Anastasia Yasik recently attended the annual meeting of the council of Directors of School Psychology Programs (CDSPP) in Durfield Beach, Florida, January 26-29, 2006.


Dr. Yvonne Rafferty is currently on sabbatical. She sends her greetings from Southeast Asia. She is visiting Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, Laos, and Myanmar. Dr. Rafferty is a newly appointed representative to the United Nations, representing the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSS). She is using the first part of her sabbatical to gain first hand knowledge of the issues confronting children and youth in Southeast Asia. She is visiting schools, orphanages, and programs for children, youth and adults. Her focus is on children's human rights, education and schooling, children with disabilities, child soldiers, and the sexual trafficking of children. She will devote the latter part of her sabbatical to her research on risk and protective factors associated with developmental outcomes at age 3.

Dr. K. Mark Sossin is continuing involvement in research projects on stress transmission in parent-child interaction, with special focus on nonverbal behavior patterns. With colleague Dr. Silvia Birklein, he has recently published a paper - Sossin, K.M. & Birklein, S. (2006). Nonverbal transmission of stress between parent and young child: Considerations and psychotherapeutic implications of a study of affective movement patterns. Journal of Infant, Child, & Adolescent Psychotherapy, 5, 46-69. Drs. Birklein and Sossin have also had another paper accepted for publication as a chapter titled "Nonverbal indices of stress in parent-child dyads: Implications for individual and interpersonal affect regulation and interpersonal transmission." Dr. Sossin will be joined by Dr. Birklein and recent Pace graduate Dr. Katrina Adams in New Orleans at the upcoming APA Convention in August, as he will chair a panel titled: Stress and Parent-Child Interaction: Highlighting Intricate Patterns of Communication, Parental Stress, and Clinical Implications. Dr. Sossin was also a co-author of a paper on "Continuing education interests of licensed New York State psychologists serving the zero to five-year-old population" to be published in the upcoming Journal of Early Childhood and Infant Psychology. The recent Pace graduate Dr. Scott Gallaher, along with Dr. Barbara Mowder, Dr. Sossin and Dr. Florence Rubinson. Also a paper on 9-11 effects was accepted for publication; the citation is: Mowder, B. A., Sossin, K. M., Rubinson, F. D., & Guttman, M. (in press) Trauma and parenting: Effects of 9-11 on parents and their children. Accepted: Journal of Child and Family Therapy. In addition, Dr. Sossin is preparing papers on later maltreatment after childhood trauma and on video-feedback in parent-consultation as an adjunct to parent-infant psychotherapy. Dr. Sossin will be presenting two papers at the three conferences held at Pace during the latter part of her sabbatical to her research on human trafficking of children. She will devote the latter part of her sabbatical to a chapter entitled "Trauma and Posttraumatic Stress". She will devote the latter part of her sabbatical to a chapter entitled "The intellectual performance of traumatized children and adolescents with or without posttraumatic stress disorder." The second manuscript entitled "Self-reported anger among traumatized children and adolescents" will be published in the Journal of Psychopathology and Behavioral Assessment. In addition, Dr. Yasik co-authored "Using information from an early intervention program to enhance literacy goals on the Individual Education Plan (IEP)" with Dr. Evelyn O’Connor (Queens College). This manuscript will be published in Reading Psychology. Dr. Yasik has also been involved in several service related activities. This January, Dr. Yasik attended the Council of Directors of School Psychology Programs (CDSPP) and the Consortium of Combined and Integrated Doctoral Programs in Psychology (CCIDPP) meetings. At CDSPP, Dr. Yasik completed the APA Site Visitor Training. Currently, Dr. Yasik is ending a two-year term as President of the Association of Early Childhood and Infant Psychology (AECIP). Dr. Madeline Fernandez will take over as President of AECIP in Fall 2006. In addition, to the three conferences held at Pace during the 2005-2006 academic year AECIP is co-sponsoring with Fordham University and Los Ninos Services the 4th Annual Early Childhood Conference (for more information on this conference visit “events” at www.aecip.org). Finally, AECIP is publishing the Journal of Early Childhood and Infant Psychology (JECIP) through Pace Press. Dr. Barbara Mowder is the Editor of JECIP with Dr. Flo Rubinson (Brooklyn College), Dr. Sossin, and Dr. Yasik as Associate Editors. Elyssa Sperber, 3rd year Psy.D. student, is the Editorial Assistant for JECIP. Dr. Yasik will be attending the APA Convention in New Orleans this August. She will be presenting two posters, one for Division 16 (“CBCL Competence Deficits Associated with PTSD”) and one for Division 53 (“Posttraumatic Symptoms Among NYC Preschool Children and Parents After 9/11/01”).
GRADUATE PROGRAM UPDATE

The Spring Semester is in progress and there are significant events in all of our graduate programs. The MA continues to attract a diverse group of students. Primarily students in the MA program utilize their graduate program for either continuing professional development or as preparation to apply for doctoral studies in psychology. Indeed, a number of MA graduates have been admitted to APA accredited doctoral programs (e.g., Indiana University, Pace University, Penn. State University, University of Connecticut, University of Texas-Austin, Yeshiva University) as well as doctoral programs in areas of psychology not directed toward professional practice (e.g., cognitive psychology) (e.g., Syracuse University, University of Texas-El Paso).

The MSEd in School Psychology and MSEd in Bilingual School Psychology are stand-alone programs, although the doctoral students (with the exception of the Advanced Standing students) complete this program as part of their graduate studies. Students admitted into these master’s programs complete the entire program prior to being admitted to the doctoral program. In prior years, MSEd students often applied to the doctoral program prior to their third year of study and did not complete a one year, full-time final school psychology internship (i.e., 1200 clock hours). However, master’s students in these two programs will now complete a 1200 clock hour full-time psychology internship. The need for master’s level school psychologists continues to be strong nation-wide, with a projected demand exceeding supply by about 15,000 school psychologists by 2020.

The PsyD program continues to attract a large, strong applicant pool, from a wide geographic region. Currently, there are over 330 applicants to the doctoral program; one of the features attracting such a large pool of candidates is the APA accredited Combined School-Clinical status of the program. This program was originally accredited as a School Psychology Program in 1989 and was also re-accredited as a School Psychology Program. When the program was considered for re-accreditation in 1999, however, the APA designated the program as a Combined School-Clinical program. The Pace University-New York City doctoral program is one of only 10 combined programs nation-wide.

The doctoral program will be reviewed again for re-accreditation in the Fall, 2006. Program documents (e.g., faculty CVs, Self Study Report, syllabi) are being assembled. On February 24, 2006, we had a Pre-Accreditation Site Visit. The site visitor was Dr. Steven Pfeiffer who is the Director of Training-elect of the Combined School-Counseling program at Florida State University. Dr. Pfeiffer is a well-regarded professional psychologist who is a Fellow of the APA. He spent his visit meeting with the Department Chair, Herb Krauss, the Psychology Department’s Graduate Program Committee, staff, and doctoral students. Further, he met with the Dean Nira Herrmann, and Associate Dean Joseph Franco as well as representatives from the Provost’s Office, Drs. John Sharkey and Geoffrey Brackett. Finally, his visit included a review of all doctoral program materials (e.g., faculty CVs, program manuals).

Subsequent to Dr. Pfeiffer’s visit, the Psychology Department’s Graduate Program Committee reviewed Dr. Pfeiffer’s suggestions and made recommendations to the Psychology Department faculty for relevant program modifications. Ultimately, our accreditation materials will be sent to the APA by May 1, 2006 in anticipation of our formal site visit this Fall.

The graduate program activities notwithstanding, I want to especially note the many accomplishments of our students. This year, approximately 12 students will be graduating from the MA program, 25 from the MSEd programs, and 20 from the doctoral program. Our graduates continue to experience success in their various professional pursuits. Particularly of note is the recent article in gradPSYCH (January, 2006, Volume 4(1)), “Putting ACT to the test,” which featured the work of two students examining the effectiveness of the APA and National Association of Education of Young Children (NAEYC) violence prevention program, the ACT (Adults and Children Together) Against Violence. One of the students featured is Michelle Guttman, currently a full-time intern at St. Lukes-Roosevelt. Michelle examined whether the ACT training program increased participants’ knowledge and perceptions of violence prevention.

We are fortunate to have such fine graduate programs and students. My best wishes to everyone associated with our graduate offerings.

Barbara A. Mowder
Director, Graduate Psychology Programs
Associate Chair
Pace University-New York City

Congratulations to our graduate student award winners who will be recognized at commencement.

Outstanding Psy.D. Graduate
Michelle Guttman

Outstanding M.A. Graduate
Claudia Goicochea

Ivan Wentworth-Rohr Award for Clinical Practice
Michelle Marques/Cecilia Rembert

UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM UPDATE

The 2005-2006 academic year has been a banner one for the Department of Psychology’s undergraduate students and faculty. We will recognize these activities at our Undergraduate Psychology Conference, our 14th annual event, which will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2006. This all-day hallmark occasion is part of the Psychology Department’s participation in the Centennial Celebration of Pace University and will be held in the Multipurpose Room and seminar classrooms. The Psychology majors in our undergraduate Experimental Psychology courses will present their year-long research projects conducted under the supervision of their professors, Dr. Richard Velayo, Dr. Weihua Niu and Prof. Edward Swierczewski.

Ted Bernstein Award for School Psychology
Melissa Laracuenta

Outstanding Contributions to the Psychology Department
Eliana Bojkova

Dr. Florence Denmark has invited Dr. Charles Spielberger, internationally-renowned researcher on anxiety, as the conference’s keynote speaker. Both Dr. Denmark and Dr. Spielberger are eminent Past Presidents of the American Psychological Association. The Pace University Chapter of Psi Chi, The National Honor Society in Psychology will hold its Annual Induction Ceremony that evening.

The Dyson Awards Ceremony will also be an occasion to recognize the outstanding scholarly work and contributions of our undergraduate Psychology majors, Applied Psychology majors, and Psi Chi Chapter members who have excelled in their studies and activities at Pace.

Ivan Wentworth-Rohr Award for Clinical Practice
Michelle Marques/Cecilia Rembert

Pace University
UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY CONFERENCE
May 6, 2006
http://webpage.pace.edu/rvelayo/paceconference2006

Janice Jackson, Ph.D.
Director, Undergraduate Psychology Programs
Associate Chair
Psi Chi Faculty Advisor
Pace University-New York City
thrilled to report that PSI CHI members have been successful in becoming a team, always willing to lend a hand. New members are always welcome to join our team!

Maria Antonia Rodriguez  
President, PSI CHI Pace Chapter

Faculty Profile...  
Dr. Michele Zaccario

Michele Zaccario, Ph.D.

David: How did you get into the field of psychology?

Dr. Zaccario: I had personal family reasons for becoming interested in a health related profession. Then, as an undergraduate student at Georgetown, I transferred from a biology major to a psychology major because I was inspired by an amazing Psychology 101 professor.

David: What is your specific area of expertise?

Dr. Zaccario: I am a pediatric psychologist specializing in the neuropsychological assessment and treatment of developmental disabilities, traumatic brain injury, and neonatal anomalies.

David: What inspired you to pursue a career in that particular field?

Dr. Zaccario: I have always been interested intellectually in the interface between psychology and medicine, and volunteer work at a pediatric hospital inspired me to work further with children who have sustained life altering illnesses and/or disabilities.

David: What are your specific research interests?

Dr. Zaccario: Developmental outcomes of the high risk infant; recovery from traumatic brain injury; and more generally topics related to the neuropsychological assessment of children and adolescents

Dr. Zaccario: To date, Advanced Physiological Psychology, Projective Assessment, Integrative Assessment, and Infant Assessment within the doctoral program. However, I have only been full-time faculty here for a few months, so my course load will definitely increase, and perhaps include some undergraduate courses as well.

David: What do you find to be your greatest work related motivation to be?

Dr. Zaccario: I am inspired by sick or injured children who can still face life with enthusiasm and joy. If I can assist their qualities of life in even a small manner by my work, I am fulfilled. I am also motivated by the opportunity to teach students of psychology to appreciate such resilience, and to practice applied psychology with integrity and competence.

David: What do you like to do in your spare time? Interests? Hobbies?

Dr. Zaccario: I am the mother of two small children - the youngest of whom is only four months old - so I would not say I have a lot of spare time these days. However, as a family we enjoy exploring cultural activities in Manhattan, and taking the occasional weekend getaway in the country. I also enjoy - with my grown up friends - going out for dinner, the movies, to museums, and sporting events.

Interviewed by:  
David Blank  
Associate Editor, Psych Eye  
Psy.D. student

Psi Chi, Pace Chapter  
New York Campus

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Since the beginning of the Spring Semester the executive board members of PSI CHI have been preparing lectures, workshops, and social activities for members. Thus far Rachel Josephson of Career Services presented a graduate school timeline at a meeting dedicated to answering student’s questions about graduate school. On a different occasion co-sponsored with PUMA, one of our own professors, Dr. McCormick, discussed the psychology of consumer behavior for an audience of psychology and business students. She skillfully brought Lubin and Dyson students together in order to share a common interest. Last, Dr. Engler, one of the creators of Transpersonal Theory, graced us with his presence in order to discuss Eastern and Western ideologies. Our future events include: University Games, Psychology Awareness Week, De-stress with a Massage Week, and Homophobia: How it Affects Us All.

PSYCH EYE (Volume 18, No. 2)  
page 5
Junior year I worked at a mental health facility and my course work, which sparked my interest learned spread into my daily life experiences babies for emotional availability. What I the infants and learning how to assess the subtle with infants, toddlers, and their mothers. As a free-play segment for Emotional Availability number of us were trained to code a ten minute Finance courses from my schedule.

Psychology classes and took out all of the to Psychology when I registered for all finally decide which path I wanted to follow. of having to choose my major, I was forced to mini internship at Merrill Lynch under a of what I would do with the major. After doing a mini internship at Merrill Lynch under a Financial advisor and coming to the crossroad of having to choose my major, I was forced to finally decide which path I wanted to follow. In one night I changed my major from Finance to Psychology when I registered for all Psychology classes and took out all of the Finance courses from my schedule.

In one of my first Psychology classes, a person came in to talk about a research study on Attachment that was currently in progress and the researchers were looking for more assistants to help with the study. I applied for the research assistant position and got it. A number of us were trained to code a ten minute free-play segment for Emotional Availability with infants, toddlers, and their mothers. As a research assistant I really enjoyed working with the infants and learning how to assess the subtle interactions between the mothers and their babies for emotional availability. What I learned spread into my daily life experiences and my course work, which sparked my interest in Psychology further. Then my summer of Junior year I worked at a mental health facility.

David: Why did you decide to apply to the school-clinical child psychology program?

Ashmi: When I decided to do Psychology, I had also made the decision that I wanted to go all the way with my training. Accordingly, I wanted to apply to a program that would not limit me in my ability to help others. The School-Clinical Child Psychology program provides all inclusive training that will enable me to reach out to a more diverse population.

David: How are you enjoying the program here at Pace?

Ashmi: Pace provides incredible school and clinical experience. I have been here for less than a year and I already feel like I have grown so much in relation to where I was when I first started the program. The organization of the program allows students to develop close and supportive relationships with one another - each class is like a small family. The upperclassmen are also available to the newer students in the program and are very willing to help. Likewise, the faculty's doors are always open to any student for a good conversation or advice on something. Being a first year in the program, I have not personally experienced the regard that internship and externship sites have for students trained at Pace, but I hear numerous comments about how many site directors are impressed by the knowledge and experience the Pace students have. It is comforting to see how successful the graduates from our program are.

David: What are some future goals for you in the field of psychology?

Ashmi: Part of the reason I chose to do psychology is because culturally, I felt that it was important for me to contribute to those who are from different backgrounds as I have been raised as both an Indian and an American. I feel like my upbringing has truly given me a perspective into culture and how each individual, regardless of ethnicity is different. It is important to me to help people who are from cultures where psychological services are a new concept. It is very difficult to find somebody who can understand the acculturation process they are going through and I hope that I can be the person they feel comfortable coming to for help.

David: What do you like to do in your spare time? What are your interests and hobbies outside of school?

Ashmi: I absolutely love to dance - I have danced on stage and choreographed Indian dances since I was about 5 or 6 years old. I used to dance alone and choreograph dances for hours in my living room when I was younger. I also enjoy singing, playing tennis, swimming, spending time with my family and friends, and talking on the phone! I love watching scary movies, action movies, love movies, basically all movies except for movies like dumb and dumber. I have always been fascinated by the starts and astronomy - I could star gaze for hours if I could. When I am free, I watch the shows that I have "tivo'd", such as Medium, Charmed, ER, OC, and if I have time I Love Lucy, Bewitched, and The Cosby Show.

David: How is your experience in Pace University's MA program so far?

Urmii: I can strongly say that I am overall satisfied with my experience in Pace's MA program. It was exactly what I needed it to be: a stepping stone. Coming out of undergrad at the University at Buffalo, I knew very much that I wanted to be immersed in the field of psychology, but I didn't know what exactly I wanted to focus in on, and this program and its generalized nature was the best option for me to figure that out. In addition to that, I have met some wonderful faculty who have truly inspired me(whether they know it or not) to put forth into motion what have always been ideas in the back of my head with regards to research endeavors and future directives.

David: How did you get into and what do you enjoy about the field of Psychology?

Urmii: I was asked this question at a recent doctoral interview, and it always makes me laugh a little because I like to think that psychology found me and not the other way around. I guess it was the culmination of a lot of troubling life events that truly brought me into the field and made me take a closer look at what I wanted to do with my life. I really enjoy the dynamic nature of the field: the fact that there's always so much change and progress to be made in both research as well as clinical aspects of it. I also really appreciate the
human condition and am fascinated by for example how dementia affects the elderly in more ways than just organic, as well as how to integrate psychology within minorities and cultures who do not believe in taking family problems outside of the family. Very divergent areas, I realize, but I'm interested in it all!

David: Tell us some of the things that you are currently involved in?

Urmii: A very busy bee! I currently work full time at a social services agency for the elderly on the Upper East Side. I am a Case Manager for Meals on Heels at the Burden Center for the Aging, Inc. I have a caseload of about 120 elderly clients and do home assessments to determine their eligibility of meals on wheels amongst a wide array of other social services. This has been an incredible learning experience for me and I think it does a great job of complementing my academic training. I am also getting prepared to head to Detroit at the end of the month with some other MA students and Dr. Hallak to the national conference for the Association of Women in Psychology. I am both excited and nervous about this endeavor as it will be my first time presenting original work in front of such an accomplished audience.

David: What are your future plans or goals?

Urmii: I have been granted admission to a few different Clinical PsyD programs across the nation, so it seems as though my next 5 years are sealed. I have yet to decide which one I will be attending. That's as much of a future as I can predict for you now!

David: What are some things you like to do in your spare time?

Urmii: Haha, spare time, what a concept! I suppose those rare occasions when I do get a breather, I enjoy spending time with my friends just eating out or wandering around the city or going dancing. Oh, and I love watching movies and television when I'm feeling especially lazy!

David: How was your experience in Pace University's undergraduate psychology program?

Shawn: It was a good experience for the most part. The psychology program at Pace has a lot of great qualities to it. I like that there is a small student-to-faculty ratio, enabling students to get to know their professors better. Most of the faculty members are very engaging and have stimulating lectures. They're also very approachable and are willing to help with projects or independent studies, provided you put the effort into getting things rolling.

I enjoyed a lot of my courses—the learning community "Children in Urban Society", Psychological Testing, Counseling, Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, and Abnormal Psychology, to name a few. However, I wish there were opportunities for psychology lab-based courses, similar to programs at larger universities, where students participate in experimental research overseen by faculty.

David: What do you enjoy and how did you get interested in the field of Psychology?

Shawn: I came to Pace originally with the intention of majoring in marketing or advertising with a minor in computer graphics and design. Then I had this thought that I didn't want to contribute to consumerism and spend my life in a career making advertisements all day. Not that anything is wrong with that—I wanted to do something a little more pro-social, as well as enter the brave world of academia (rather than corporate America). I wanted a profession that would be more satisfying where my work would benefit people on a more personal level. I guess you could say I'm a humanist, in a way.

My freshman year, I had an introductory psychology course with Professor Kay Green, who no longer teaches at Pace. She was filled with interesting stories about her experiences as a psychologist, from being a consultant abroad, to working with the FBI, to dealing with members of a non-profit later discovered to be a cult!

All that aside, human behavior is just interesting overall. I've always enjoyed observing people's little "quirks" and learning about the inner workings behind people's thoughts, feelings, and behaviors.

David: Tell us some of the things that you are currently involved in?

Shawn: Well, I'm trying to wrap up my four years here at Pace and make sure all is set for graduation, so things have been busy. I am currently completing a group research project on reaction time to different stimuli, as part of my experimental psychology class with Dr. Velayo. I've been busy testing participants, poring over the data, writing our research report, and preparing for the upcoming undergraduate research conference.

I currently intern at the Hunter College Center for Community and Urban Health, where I am working on a longitudinal study investigating parent and pre-adolescent communication on touchy subjects like HIV/AIDS, safe sex, and drug use. The study (called PATH) is investigating the effects of a training/intervention program that educates and provides parents with the tools needed to speak to their children about HIV, sex, and drug use in the community. It's a great project, and I'm thankful to be a part of it.

Being a photography minor, I have worked as a teaching assistant and darkroom attendant for the past three years at Pace. This year, I was offered a position to be the Photography Editor for Legend Yearbook. Considering that I had some hang time (yeah right!), I took it. My job was to photograph events and students at Pace University, as well as to edit photographs and get them ready for print. Easier said then done! I enjoy photography, though, and I actually had fun shooting and being stressed out with deadlines all the time.

Outside of school, I am a teaching assistant for a 4th grade after school program in Inwood. I've been a tutor for the past four years, beginning with working for the America Reads Work Study during my freshman year. Tutoring is fun, and comes easily to me. I enjoy teaching math, mostly.

David: What are your future plans or goals?

Shawn: I'd like to continue working for the PATH project at Hunter, and have since started looking into community health / non-profit work. I also am interested in photography, and would like to teach black and white photography to children. For now, I am retraining from graduate school in order to obtain work and research experience first. As for possible graduate programs, I am interested in clinical psychology, particularly mood disorders and substance abuse.
David: What are some things you like to do in your spare time?

Shawn: During my spare time, I like walking around the city doing pretty random things. I might find myself playing chess in the park, going to a djembe drum circle, or talking to a homeless person about politics or whatever. I also enjoy concerts and festivals during the summer, an occasional art museum visit, and visiting my parent’s house in southern New Jersey to see my dogs, two awesome (and completely harmless) pit bulls.

Interviewed by:
David Blank
Associate Editor, Psych Eye
Psy.D. student

Below is a list of upcoming conferences of interest...

All are invited to the...

14th Annual PACE UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE PSYCHOLOGY CONFERENCE
http://webpage.pace.edu/rvelayo/paceconference2006

Saturday, May 6, 20066
Multipurpose Room, Level B
(Entrance on Spruce Street, near Gold Street)
One Pace Plaza
Pace University
New York, NY 10038
9:15am - 5:30pm

Program Outline
9:15am  Registration and Opening Remarks
10:00am  Paper Presentations
12:00pm  Poster Session and Lunch
1:30pm  Keynote Address: Dr. Charles Spielberger
         APA Past President
2:30pm  Awards Presentation
3:00pm  Concurrent Symposia
4:00 – 5:30 Reception

For more information, go to:
http://webpage.pace.edu/rvelayo/paceconference2006

MAJOR PSYCHOLOGY CONFERENCES


PSYCHOLOGY TEACHING CONFERENCES


JUN 27-29, 2006: Psychology Learning and Teaching Conference, York St. John College, York, United Kingdom, http://www.psychology.heacademy.ac.uk/plat2006/conference.html

OCT 6-7, 2006: Annual Conference on Case Study Teaching in Science


Dr. Richard Velayo
Editor
As I find myself here at Pace almost every day of the week, I come to the daily conclusion that a man has got to eat. Where to go? So many places, so little time and MONEY. Well, the following is a brief rundown of some local eats:

1) Oliva – I think I like this place because it almost looks like my daughter’s name, Olivia. As I digress, I will also mention that they have quite a selection of tantalizing eats. The selection ranges from pizza to Mexican taco bowls (bring your appetite…Mucho Grande) to Middle Eastern (falafels and shawarma) to Salads and hot food galore. As an added amenity, there is live music some days. Lastly, one of the best aspects about this spot is that there are always free samples available and you get a free bottle of water with lunch…that’s what I’m talking about!

2) Dante’s – Some might ask, how far can five-six bucks stretch you in the she-sha area surrounding Pace for a lunch time feast? Well at Dante’s you can get massive wraps or salads or a personal pizza and a soda (free with every food purchase) for a reasonable fee of five-six bucks. You definitely won’t walk away feeling hungry.

Downside - This place gets packed and you can get that sophomore year in high school annoying cafeteria feel.

3) Au Bon Pan – I know this isn’t really a Thai restaurant down Fulton Street toward seaport – Sorry about the lack of research on the address but if you walk down Fulton on the right side of the street you will find it. This is a great spot if you like Thai food. The Chicken Pad Thai or Curry Vegetables are quite tasty. This place offers a nice lunchtime environment with extremely quick and polite service. As far as price is concerned, this is more of a high end spot, it may run you around 8-10 bucks especially if you indulge in an appetizer.

Downside- The price takes a hit on the wallet. Nice spot if someone owes you a lunch due to a lost bet or something.

4) Thai restaurant down Fulton Street toward seaport – Sorry about the lack of research on the address but if you walk down Fulton on the right side of the street you will find it. This is a great spot if you like Thai food. The Chicken Pad Thai or Curry Vegetables are quite tasty. This place offers a nice lunchtime environment with extremely quick and polite service. As far as price is concerned, this is more of a high end spot, it may run you around 8-10 bucks especially if you indulge in an appetizer.

5) Middle Eastern Restaurant on Maiden Place- This place is a SPOT. The falafels are great and very reasonably priced (they rival Sammy’s Falafel near Washington Square Park). In addition, if you like Baba Ghanoush, theirs is delicious. They also have a ton of tables to sit and you can have a nice relaxing, yet quick lunch.

Downside- Everyone around the area knows this place is good so expect a line.

Till next time, keep eating!

David Blank
Associate Editor, Psych Eye
Psy.D. student

Jannette’s Book Reviews

I am not a die-hard fan of Ann Rice, but I have read Interview With The Vampire, The Mummy, The Witching Hour, Lasher and recently, Christ The Lord: Out of Egypt. It was long and slow but more like Golden Rule Book that you snuggle in bed with. It also makes one cry, but I cry at the drop of a hat. Throughout Anne Rice’s books there is usually a religious theme, but I was not aware of her personal religious change. I also was not aware of her website until I was about to read Christ The Lord: out of Egypt. I agree, her newest read is a lovingly told family journey with Jesus, the child at the core. To me, it is a tale of Christ the human being, the child, who at an early age, not yet with full knowledge, knew he had a sacred contract to fulfill. Here is an exceptional child, wondering about normal things. Throughout his early years we see tradition in prayers, living together as a unit, learning a craft, being educated in Latin and Philosophy. It all sounds normal. Even the family taking a boat ride to see the big city. But then there is the side that touches the divine. How do you raise a divine son normally? What explanation can you give a child when he is told to call his Dad only by his first name? Why can his brothers call him father? What do you tell him when he is told his explanation can you give a child when he is told to call his Dad only by his first name? Why can his brothers call him father? What do you tell him when he is told
The next issue of the PSYCH EYE newsletter will be in October 2006.