New PGSA Representatives

The PGSA would like to thank all students, faculty and staff for their help in making the 2012 – 2013 year a successful and productive year. Over the past year, the current PGSA has worked diligently with faculty, students and staff to advocate for students. We wish the incoming representative the best of luck.

President: Blake Nielson
Clinical VP: Meghann Sallee
Psych. Law Rep: Becca Kastner
Child Rep: Emily Macdougall
Health Rep: Julie Woosley
Gero Rep: Morgan Eichorst
Experimental VP: Eric Greenlee
Cognitive Rep: Sara Steele
Developmental Rep: Melissa McInnis
Social Rep: Gabrielle Smith

Life Outside of UA

Lucas Azuero is here! Casey and Andres are pleased to announce the arrival of Lucas Azuero at 1:17 PM on April 10th. He was 7 pounds, 14.6 ounces and 21 inches long.

Nicole Muscanell & Bryan Murch were married on Feb. 14th, 2013 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel in Orlando, FL.

Rachel Baden & Johnny Sherrill were married at her home church in Raleigh, NC with a reception afterwards at the Doris Duke Center in the Duke Gardens. Erica Jordan was her Maid of Honor. After their getaway, Rachel and Johnny snuck over to Duke’s campus for some quiet photos with the photographer as newlyweds.
**Giyeon Kim**

**Favorite summer vacation memory:** I went to Europe last summer and visited Italy, Switzerland, France, and England.

**On a scale of 1-10 (1 being not at all), how competitive are you?:** 10

**What book would you take to a deserted island?:** The Little Prince (it is my all time favorite book)

**Describe your research in 10 words or less:** “Examining racial/ethnic disparities in mental health and mental health care in older adults.”

**If you weren’t doing this, what might you be doing?:** “I would love to be a food stylist!”

**If you could give your grad-school-self one piece of advice, what would it be?:** “Since things have worked out well—be persistent!”

**What excites you about your job?:** “Mentoring students, first. Also, when I find interesting findings in my research, that is exciting!”

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**Kristina McDonald**

**Favorite summer vacation memory:** In graduate school, we rented a beach house in North Carolina. Just sitting on the beach and reading.

**On a scale of 1-10 (1 being not at all), how competitive are you?:** 3

**Who would play you in a movie?:** Anne Hathaway

**What book would you take to a deserted island?:** Harry Potter (the third book)

**Describe your research in 10 words or less:** “Children’s peer relationships, social cognitions that children have that lead to bad behavior.”

**If you weren’t doing this, what might you be doing?:** “Unrealistically—being a backup dancer for Janet Jackson. More realistically—teaching elementary school, maybe history.”

**What is your most memorable graduate school experience?:** “Friendships. It’s important to pursue that network of friends and those people are still some of my best friends now. Of course, the big milestones—thesis and dissertation defenses—are memorable as well. You don’t get a lot of those rewarding moments throughout graduate school.”

**If you could give your grad-school-self one piece of advice, what would it be?:** “At the beginning, I would tell myself to be more confident. By the end, I would tell myself, ‘you don’t know what you’re in for,’ both for good and bad! It’s hard to imagine what an academic career will be like.”

**What excites you about your job?:** “Thinking and talking about ideas. Having conversations with collaborators and students.”
**Ansley Gilpin**

**Favorite summer vacation memory:** In 2002, I went to Brazil for 3 weeks and hung with locals in several small towns. That was memorable!

**On a scale of 1-10 (1 being not at all), how competitive are you?:** “Let's say a 6!”

**What book would you take to a deserted island?:** “Obviously the APA Manual.”

**Describe your research in 10 words or less:** “Children’s cognitive skills (concepts, executive functioning) and school readiness.”

**If you weren’t doing this, what might you be doing?:** “I was a computer consultant before this career—but I might also be doing work as a clinician, a diagnostician for children.”

**If you could give your grad-school-self one piece of advice, what would it be?:** “Get as many skills as you can while they are offered. Things like statistics skills, for example. Gather as many as you can while you still can—after graduate school, time is more limited!”

**What excites you about your job?:** “The variety, as well as the mental challenge of research. Also, teaching and working closely with people. The flexibility is nice, too!”

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**Philip Gable**

**Favorite summer vacation memory:** One summer, my parents, sister, grandparents, and I went on a 5,500 mi camping trip throughout the western US.

**On a scale of 1-10 (1 being not at all), how competitive are you?:** “About an 8; I like to excel, but I don’t like defeating other people.”

**Who would play you in a movie?** I just found out that one of our social students, Dean Elmore, has acted in several movies (see IMDB). So, maybe Dean Elmore.

**What book would you take to a deserted island?:** The Dangerous Book for Boys. It’s full of useful and interesting stuff.

**Describe your research in 10 words or less:** The Influence of Emotion on Cognitive and Neural processes.

**If you weren’t doing this, what might you be doing?:** Realistically, I’d be a high school psychology teacher and cross-country coach.

**If you could give your grad-school-self one piece of advice, what would it be?:** I’d try to help him see what’s truly important during graduate school, something like, “Don’t sweat the small stuff”.

**What excites you about your job?:** Everyday I get to research something new, teach something important, or overcome a new challenge. If I don’t like what I’m doing, it’s my fault.
Internship Placements 2013-2014

Debra Chen: U.S. Medical Center for Federal Prisoners - Springfield, MO
Megan Crisler: Mailman Center Child Development/ University of Miami - Miami, FL
Beth DiNapoli: Baylor College of Medicine, Geriatric Mental Health Care/Research - Houston, TX
Brandee Goodwin: Florida State Hospital - Chattahoochee, FL

Grant Harris: Memphis VA Medical Center - Memphis, TN
Lindsey Jacobs: Memphis VA Medical Center - Memphis, TN
Alberto Jimenez-Camargo: Westcoast Children’s Clinic - Oakland, CA
Mel Machac: Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center - Tuscaloosa, AL
Anna Smitherman: Cincinnati VA Medical Center - Cincinnati, OH
Sara Stromeyer: Children’s National Medical Center - Washington, DC

Justin Thomas: University of Florida Health Science Center - Gainesville, FL
Caroline Titcomb: Central Regional Hospital - Butner, NC
Latrice Vinson: North Florida/ South Georgia VA Health System - Gainesville, FL
Ernest Wayde: Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center - Milwaukee, WI

Job Announcement
Bryan Poole: Tenure track position at Lee University starting in July

Student Awards
Morgan K. Eichorst: License Tag Fellowship for 2013-2014
Gayle Graham: License Tag Fellowship for 2013-2014
Jennifer Yang: Graduate Council Fellowship for 2013-2014
Jennifer Wilson: Graduate Council Fellowship for 2013-2014
Meghan Crisler, Casey Dillon, Meghann Sallee, & Sara Stromeyer: Group travel award from the GSA to attend and present at the Society for Research in Child Development’s Biennial Meeting in Seattle, WA.
Shweta Kapoor: Awarded the American Pain Society Young Investigator Travel Award for attending the 32nd Annual Scientific Meeting of the American Pain Society, May 8-11, 2013 in New Orleans, LA. She received $500 with this award.
Ernest Wayde: University of Alabama Outstanding PhD Graduate Student Award
Michelle Hilegman
is working at the Tuscaloosa VA Medical Center in the Research & Development Service, where she has worked since completing her internship at the Boston Consortium in Clinical Psychology in 2010. Michelle recently received a VA Career Development Award (CDA-1) and funding from the VA Office of Rural Health to support her work with rural Veterans with dementia and their family caregivers. In collaboration with leaders from the Social Work Service and her mentoring team, Michelle has started a new clinical service at the VA focused on providing phone-based psychosocial support to Veterans with dementia and their families. She is currently living in Birmingham, Alabama with her husband Shane Pitts and enjoying life as a new mother to their 5 month old son Desmond, who was born November 3, 2012.

Misti Norton
is working at the Birmingham VAMC on the PTSD Clinical Team. She recently became a nationally certified provider of Prolonged Exposure Therapy.

Sarah Miller
is currently working as a forensic evaluator at Bridgewater State Hospital, the maximum security forensic hospital for Massachusetts. In addition to evaluations, she teaches a seminar for new psychologists on skills for expert witness testimony. She also leads a professional development seminar for practicum students. Sarah is currently preparing to open her own private practice for criminal forensic work in Maine and is studying for the ABPP (forensic) written exam.

Kristen Payne
is currently an Assistant Professor at Alverno College, a liberal arts college in Milwaukee, WI. She also developed and coordinates the internship program for the Master’s in Community Psychology. She will be transitioning out of this position in May to pursue clinical geropsychology work. She and her partner, Beth, live in Milwaukee with a dog (part Boxer, part Great Dane) and 3 cats.

Emily Wakeman
After completing her internship at the Federal Medical Center (FMC) in Rochester, Minnesota, Emily completed a forensic postdoctoral residency at Florida State Hospital from October 2010 to October 2011. She returned to Minnesota and was employed as a Forensic Psychologist at the Minnesota State Operated Forensic Services from November 2011 to February 2013, conducting a variety of forensic assessments. In May 2012, Emily became licensed in Minnesota and married her partner, Gary. Most recently, in February 2013, she became a staff psychologist at FMC Rochester. Emily currently lives in Rochester with Gary and their dog, Grover.

Robert Cramer
is an Assistant Professor of Psychology at Sam Houston State University in Houston, TX where he is currently living with his girlfriend. He is also working in private practice as a trial consultant with a firm based in Austin, TX. Robert travels back to Australia for conferences and research collaboration (this relationship began on a NSF fellowship while at UA). See more information at Http://www.shsu.edu/~clinpsy/robcramerResearch.html
Natalie Regier will be finishing her internship at the Clement J. Zablocki VA Medical Center in Milwaukee, WI in August. Her internship has been a wonderful learning experience, as she has participated in work in the Domiciliary, Polytrauma Clinic, Geriatric Evaluation and Management Unit, Palliative Care Unit, Home-Based Primary Care, carries an outpatient case load, and runs several outpatient groups. She looks forward to continuing her clinical work and returning to her geriatric research interests through a geropsychology postdoctoral fellowship at the Boston VA Medical Center in September.

Haley Dillon will be finishing up her internship at the Tuskegee VA in mid-July and she plans to graduate Aug. 3rd. She is still interviewing and checking things out.

Andrew Presnell will finish his internship in August at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, OH. He has completed rotations on outpatient mental health and neuropsychology and will be starting his final rotation in clinical health psychology. Andrew found out recently that he will be headed to Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, AL in late August for his first duty station.

Jill Rosenbaum is loving her internship at UMass Medical School/ Worcester State Hospital. She has completed an inpatient adolescent unit rotation for treatment refractory kids from all over Massachusetts. Jill is also half-way through her full-year intensive neuropsych assessment rotation where she has been working with child - geriatric populations with a variety of neurocognitive and psychiatric conditions such as seizures, MS, TBI, late effects of chemotherapy, Alzheimer’s and other dementias. She is currently in the process of setting up postdoctoral work with a local neuropsychologist in the Boston area. Jill plans to apply for a formal neuropsych. postdoc next year!

Amy Rodriguez is currently at the Federal Bureau of Prisons (BOP) Metropolitan Detention Center in Los Angeles, CA. She has completed a General Population rotation and is currently wrapping up her Mental Health rotation. Thus far, she has conducted several assessments including intakes, protective custody evaluations, psychiatric referrals, and weekly reviews of inmates in segregation. She is eagerly awaiting her next rotation, Forensic Evaluation, during which she will be conducting forensic assessments and writing reports for federal court. Amy will be married on May 25, 2013 and will be moving to Seattle, Washington area following internship! She plans to continue her career with the federal government via the BOP, Department of Defense, or the U.S. Department of Veterans’s Affairs.

Mel Day has completed the following rotations at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, WA: rehabilitation psychology consultation liaison (inpatient), burn unit (inpatient; both adult and pediatrics), outpatient burn clinic, comprehensive outpatient rehabilitation program. She is currently on her last rotation at UW Medical Center which is inpatient and outpatient rehabilitation. She is also doing some inpatient and outpatient neuropsychological evaluations. Mel has accepted a research post-doc position at UW in the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine. This position is mostly funded by a research grant from the National Multiple Sclerosis Society she submitted earlier this year with Drs. Dawn Ehde and Mark Jensen.

Good News!

Dissertation Defense

April Kendrick  Jillian Pierrucci
Natalie Regier  Haley Dillon
Justin Thomas  Nicole Muscanell

Thesis Defense

Jennifer Wilson
Lindsey Greenlee
Alex Burton
John Adams
Xinying Ang
Ian Sherwood
**Student Publications**

**Articles:**


**Books:**


**Presentations:**


