

S P R I N G 2 0 1 7

the

University of Alabama

Department of Psychology



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**Have a story or idea for
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Email us at
uapsnewsletter@gmail.com



Thoughts from our Department Chair

Congratulations to everyone for completing another academic year! Think of what we as a department have accomplished this year in the graduate program – the first-year students got their feet wet (soaked, actually), 10 students did psychotherapy for the first time (OMG!), 18 students earned their MA degree, 17 students taught their first PY101 class, 100% of clinical students placed for internships, and 18 students earned their PhD (Woo Hoo!). So many accomplishments in fellowships, awards, publications and.....job offers! It makes me verklempt to think of the number fine professionals going out to do good work in the world year after year, after doctoral training right here in our department. Here's to a productive yet relaxing summer to all! - Fran

Save the Date!

Talent Show

May 6, 2017

Join us for guaranteed fun as graduate students showcase their talents and we say farewell to graduating students.

May Graduation

May 5, 2017

Graduation will take place at Coleman Coliseum at 4:30 pm. Be sure to get there early for a good seat!

August Graduation

August 5, 2017

Graduation will take place at Coleman Coliseum at 9:00am. Be sure to get there early for a good seat!

Department Happenings

A lot happened this semester in the Department of Psychology. See below for details!

Department Sponsored Lectures

This semester, the department hosted the annual Basowitz Lecture featuring Dr. David Funder and the annual Dinoff Memorial Lecture featuring Dr. Leslie Morey. In conjunction with the Dinoff Memorial Lecture, PGSA hosted the GAPS poster session during which graduate students showcased their work to faculty and students throughout the department.

Honors Day

Students and their family members gathered on April 7th to celebrate the accomplishments of those in the Department of Psychology. Special congratulations to all those who received awards!

Faculty/Staff Appreciation Brunch

On April 13th, the PGSA sponsored a brunch to thank our wonderful faculty and staff for all they do for us. We truly believe we have one of the most supportive departments out there and are so appreciative of all that our faculty and staff do for us!

March for Science

Faculty and students joined forces these semester to participate in the international March for Science. The March for Science was a “non-partisan movement to celebrate science and the role it plays in everyday lives.” Activities took place both on campus and in Birmingham, AL. Carmen Brown, a 1st year graduate student in the department reflects on her experience: “...things like medicine, cars, and technology would not exist without science. I thought it was important to stand up and march in support of continuing funding of scientific research.”





Meet Your New PGSA Officers!

But first, a few thoughts from our current PGSA President, Hannah Price

Every year the PGSA hosts a number of events, including field days, welcome parties, tailgating events, and poster sessions to enrich the graduate students' experiences in our program both academically and socially. This year the officers of our Psychological Graduate Student Association have continued this tradition with each officer hosting one key PGSA event this year. Every PGSA officer held a fantastic event for students and worked to ensure that every student

felt welcome in our department. This year we were even able to start a new event - our Talent Expo, which I hope everyone is able to attend on May 6! In the upcoming year, I have no doubt that the new PGSA will continue to hold fun and enriching events for all our students and continue to work to ensure that all graduate students have advocates working to enrich their experience in grad school.

- Hannah



Current PGSA Officers

Thank you for making this academic year great!

President – Hannah Price
Clinical VP – Dane Hilton
Experimental VP – Nicole Ryerson
Health Representative – Calia Torres
Gero Representative – Jordan Williams
Clinical Child Representative – Lorien Baker
Psych Law Representative – Rheanna Rimmel
Cognitive Representative – Rachel Thibodeau
Developmental Representative – Callie Gibson
Social Representative – Lauren Neal

2017-2018 PGSA Officers

President – Lauren Neal

Lauren will be joining PGSA for the 2nd year in a row, this time as president! When asked why she is excited to be serving as president, Lauren said “I love our department and creating an atmosphere for graduate students to thrive! The PGSA not only advocates for the needs of students but also provides opportunities for us to socialize and get to know one another, and I’m excited to help plan for these fun events!” It’s important to note that if Lauren could only eat one food for the rest of her life, it would be tacos. Good choice, Lauren!



Clinical VP – Calia Torres

Calia is a world traveler and admittedly loves to collect postcards and write her favorite memory on the back. When she’s not traveling, she is thinking about ways to make life at UA better: “I’m looking forward to serving as the clinical VP and being the student’s voice to communicate with faculty members about our ideas and suggestions...I am also really excited to be working with other officers to brainstorm ideas for fun activities throughout the year. We have to work hard but remember to play harder...take a break, you deserve it!”

Experimental VP – Callie Gibson

“One of the things that really drew me to UA was how interactive the department is. The events where students get together, both formally and informally, play a huge role in attracting students. I’m excited to be a part of planning some of these events.” Fun fact: Callie loves to bake! She even made all of the desserts for her brother’s wedding rehearsal dinner!





Health Rep. – Andrea Newman

Did you know that Andrea has a special skill in predicting which Hogwarts house someone would be in?! But in all seriousness, Andrea is “excited to encourage cross-concentration participation in department activities, and facilitate communication between Health and Psych students and faculty.”

Gero Rep. – Keisha Ivey

Keisha was a Painting and Photography major before she switched to Psychology. She even met Annie Leibovitz during her time as an art major in undergrad! Keisha says she is “looking forward to representing gero students as we plan departmental events and encourage more student involvement.”



Law Rep. – Adam Coffey

“I’m excited to be part of the PGSA for 2017-2018. I’m really looking forward to working with the other officers and faculty members to provide new opportunities for us to get involved on campus and in the community. I also view this opportunity as critical to the success of my impending 2036 Presidential campaign.” Many people think Adam does a good impersonation of Dr. Will Hart. Will Hart is (probably) not one of those people.

Child Rep. – Sophie Eldred

Fun fact about Sophie – she had to memorize all of the U.S. Presidents in 4th grade and can (usually) still name all of them in under 15 seconds! Perhaps you will see her skills in the PGSA Talent Show! Sophie is “excited to have the opportunity to work with other PGSA members, as well as the Psych Department, to plan events and provide support for fellow graduate students.”





Cognitive Rep. – Kyle Kraemer

For all of you fellow podcast lovers out there, Kyle says that he “LOVES” podcasts! Kyle says, “if you haven’t tried podcasts before while you work out or commute or do errands, I highly recommend them. #tryPod” Kyle is excited to join PGSA because he feels that “by doing a good job, the PGSA can help make/keep the department fun and accommodating for grad students.”

Social Rep. – Alex McDiarmid

Alex is excited to be the Social Representative for PGSA because he “looks forward to the opportunity to solicit my peers opinions and to vocalize and promote their interests.” I bet you didn’t know that his favorite song happens to be from a genre that he typically has snooty, pseudo-purist opinions about. Can you guess what it is? “Shut Up and Dance” by Walk the Moon!



Developmental Rep. – Allie Nancarrow

When asked about joining PGSA, Allie said she is “excited to learn more about the department via PGSA.” She is “especially looking forward to interacting with more people who make living and working in Tuscaloosa so enjoyable.” If you like books, talk to Allie! Allie loves to read. One of her favorite quotes is “A half-read book is a half-finished love affair.” – David Mitchell, Cloud Atlas

**“You’re off to great places! Today is your day!
Your mountain is waiting, so ...get on your way!”**

-Dr. Seuss

Join us in sending warm wishing to the following students who are leaving this year! You all will truly be missed and we wish you the best in your next adventure.

Clinical Students

Rachel DeLacy
Natalie Harrison
Dane Hilton
Al Johnson
Lisa Mieskowski
Cameron Powe
Hannah Price
Ben Van Dyke
Jordan Williams

Experimental Students

John Adams
Dean Elmore
Gayle Graham Faight
En Fu
Zach Himmelberger
Jerome Lewis
Nicole Mechin Ryerson
Rachel Thibodeau



We encourage you to check in with each of these students individually to see where they are headed next year

Hello Summer!

Summer in Tuscaloosa is a special time of year. Classes are out, the sun is shining, and the pools are open. Best of all, it's a great time to get caught up on all of your research! But did you know Tuscaloosa and its surrounding cities offer more than just a place to cool off in the summers. Take a break from your research every once and a while and make the most of this summer by trying out some of the activities listed below.



Listen to Some Music

Live at the Plaza

<http://visittuscaloosa.com/one-only-live-at-the-plaza/>

Tuscaloosa Amphitheater

<http://tuscaloosaamphitheater.com>

Bama Theater Acoustic Nights

<http://bamatheatre.org>

Take a Road Trip

Pie Lab – Greensboro, AL

Dauphin Island, AL

Florence/Muscle Shoals, AL

Squeelers BBQ – Meridian, MS

Cool Off

Rent Paddle Boards

<http://tuscaloosapaddleboard.com>

Alabama Splash Adventure

Lazy River at UA Outdoor Pool

Go for a Hike

Lake Lurleen

Red Mountain (Birmingham)

Oak Mountain State Park (Birmingham)

Try a New Restaurant

301 Bistro

The Lookout (at Hotel Indigo)

Animal Butter

Monarch Espresso Bar

Heritage House

Hattie B's (Birmingham)

Melt (Birmingham)

Chez Lulu (Birmingham)

Pizitz Food Hall (Birmingham)

Enjoy an Afternoon/Evening of Fun

Rent a Puppy

<http://www.metroanimalshelter.org>

Art Night – Northport

Uptown Art/All Fired Up

Moundville Archeological Site

Birmingham Zoo

McWane After Dark (Birmingham)

<http://www.mcwane.org/learn/after-hours-activities/mcwane-after-dark/>

Botanical Gardens (Birmingham)

Vulcan on the Mountain (Birmingham)

Birmingham Barons Baseball