



Georgia Psychological Society© Newsletter

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WELCOME TO THE SOCIETY!

The Georgia Psychological Society[©] was organized to promote the science of psychology for south Georgia and adjacent regions. Following the philosophy of the American Psychological Society, GPS intends to freely share research findings and psychological expertise with the general public and our communities. Our professional publication, Southeastern Journal of Psychology will be published twice a year electronically for the widest circulation and impact. Members of the society will also receive the journal in hardcopy form. In addition, we will have a conference once at year where members will be invited to share their research, teaching and professional experiences. We hope that you are interested in joining our society and contribute to our learning and developing profession.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

As part of the scholarly community, the Georgia Psychological Society promotes sponsorship of special interest groups. Special interest group memberships are free to members of the society. At this time we have three proposed special interest groups:

- (1) Aging and Psychology, Chair Dr. Steven Kohn
- (2) Early Intervention, Chair Dr. Paula Wolfteich
- (3) Psychology of Teaching, Chair Dr. Debra Briihl.

Members who are interested in starting a new interest group must meet the following criteria:

- Five members in good standing who wish to organize a special interest group.
- Special interest group must address a specific topic area or specialty area in Psychology.
- Special interests groups meet and may sponsor symposia at the annual meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society.



FIRST ANNUAL MEETING

Our first annual meeting will be held on the campus of Valdosta State University on April 7-8th 2006. We hope that every member will have an opportunity to attend and present at our first annual gathering. Please enjoy our professional fellowship and consider submitting a paper to our first annual meeting!

College Teaching Tips

Dr. Steven Kohn has used his “child sponge” project for his undergraduate Human Growth and Development classes. The sponge “ages” with exposure to air. Students are tasked to keep the sponge and report on its “development” in a diary report linked to developments reported in the text book. Students are expected to take care of the sponge throughout the term. Students assign their virtual sponge baby a gender, and monitor its “aging” as the term progresses.



Positives: Students reported great interest in keeping a sponge, drawing analogies to actual human development, and relating sponge “aging” to textbook references.

Caveats: The sponge project requires purchase of the appropriate number of sponges, and review of each student’s diary at appropriate periods. Faculty teaching larger sections (50 or more students) may find this task difficult to monitor more than 2 or 3 times in a term.

GPS Member Research Interests

Dr. Blaine Brown, Valdosta State University. Internet addiction. Memory processing.

Dr. William Huitt, Valdosta State University. Actualization and education. Optimized education programs.

Dr. Steven Stout, Valdosta State University. Learning in human and nonhuman species.

Dr. Paula Wolfteich, Valdosta State University. Childhood abuse and neglect, and early intervention processes.

Dr. Larry Hilgert, Valdosta State University, Head Start programs.

Dr. Kevin Colwell, Valdosta State University, Forensic Psychology, witness deception and testimony.



SNAPSHOT: INTERVIEW ON MEMBER PROGRAMS

School Counseling at Valdosta State University

Overview

Program Coordinators: Dr. Teddi Cunningham and Dr. Karen Rowland. Dr. Cunningham received her doctorate from Purdue University, and Dr. Rowland from University of South Carolina.

Program requirements: Master of Education Degree (M.Ed.). This is a 48 hour program which can be completed in 2 years, and for half time it will take 3 years. Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) students are required to complete a total of 27 additional semester hours in the area of counseling, supervision, leadership, consultation, research, and mental health care systems.

Interview

What do graduates do after completing their programs? Graduates are trained to become practitioners, who think critically and apply their knowledge with skills and compassion. Master level graduates become school counselors in K-12. Graduates who become Education Specialists (Ed.S.) are further trained to become leaders and researchers in school counseling. For those already certified as school counselors, the program is designed to enhance and advance their knowledge and skills beyond the Master's level.

How is the job outlook: Right now there are many jobs available throughout the state of Georgia. However, if a student is place bound to a specific region with a very small school district an opening in that district may only come about when someone retires. If a student is not place bound there are many jobs in Georgia as well as the rest of the Southeast.

Can certification for Georgia be transferred to other states? Yes, Georgia has more rigorous standards for certification then other states so one may find it actually easier to become state certified in another state.

What are some highlights of School Counseling Program: School counselors are focused on the success of students with the three main areas being personal/social, career, and academic development. School counselors are trained to be data oriented which means that decisions are data driven by previous research. Account

Interview is continued on the next page



SNAPSHOT (continued from page 4)

ability of the school counselor is stressed throughout the program. The School counseling program is CACREP Certified.

The VSU school counseling program is set apart from other programs in the amount of actual field experience that students receive during training. Most students are assigned a field experience immediately when starting the program, usually in their first semester. Students usually obtain 800 hours of field experience.

For much more information on the School Counseling program please go to their website at: <http://www.valdosta.edu/schc/>

Dr. Cunningham's email is: tjcunnin@valdosta.edu

Dr. Rowland's email is: karowlan@valdosta.edu



IN THE LABORATORY: MEMBER RESEARCH PROGRAMS

Dr. Blaine Browne, Cognitive Neuroscience Lab

Dr. Blaine Browne is director of the Cognitive Neuroscience lab group at Valdosta State University. He is currently working with undergraduate students Greg Pinaera, Sarah Steedman, Enoch Walls, and graduate student Ashlie Perry. Currently, ongoing research includes an aging study using the Deese-Roediger-McDermott Paradigm. A second study on exposure duration of stimulus (150 ms, 250 ms, 500 ms) and word-type (positive, negative, neutral) on memory is also underway. These studies examine the rate of critical lure production between college age students and older adults. Participants are given a series of words which reflect a semantic domain, then asked to recognize a post test series of words—some of which were given previously and some not. For example, the list bed, sheet, cover, blanket and comforter may be given, and in the recognition list, bed, sleep, sheet, etc. Sleep is a word within the semantic domain of the first list of words and many people will actually state that sleep was in the first list. The procedure allows estimation of one's semantic networks or knowledge, and the research explores changes in the semantic network with age. For children, this procedure can explore areas of learning disability and attention problems.

In the laboratory continues on page 6

Society Member News

Dr. David Monetti, Valdosta State University was awarded tenure Fall 2005. He is currently working on revising a textbook on Educational Psychology. The textbook which is being revised is Tuckman, B.W., and Monetti, D. (2001). *Theories and Applications in Educational Psychology*, fourth edition, New York: McGraw-Hill.

Dr. Deborah Briihl, Valdosta State University was promoted to full professor, Fall 2005. She has recently presented a paper on helping college students develop career goals. The reference for this paper is Briihl, D. S. & Stanny, C. (2005). *Critical thinking and career evaluation*. Symposium at the 4th annual Best Practices in Teaching conference.

Dr. Steven Kohn, Valdosta State University will be presenting his study on Aging and Lateral Social Comparisons, this November 23rd at the meeting of the Gerontological Society of America. The original meeting was set for New Orleans, LA, but this venue has now been changed to Orlando, Florida.

Dr. Susan Savage-Stevens, University of Maryland, is collaborating with Dr. Steven Kohn on gerontology research.

In the laboratory (continued from page 5)

In other research, we are also examining a cognitive study on imageability and hemisphericity which examine how imageability of words (concrete vs. abstract) and brain laterality influences recall and recognition.

A third set of studies examine non-associative learning in Planaria (*D. tigrina* and *D. dorotocephala*). These studies examine the effect of air puff or water drop as the stimulus on habituation. Species type is the other factor being examined.

Our final group of studies examines aging and computer use. This study uses the survey that Dr. Marc Pratarelli and Dr. Browne designed a number of years ago in Oklahoma. Young and older adults are being compared to assess their differences on the use of computers and the internet.

Author Guidelines for submitting articles to the Southeastern Journal of Psychology©:

The Southeastern Journal of Psychology© invites original manuscripts on topics in applied and basic psychology, and interdisciplinary work which intersects with psychology, such as education and learning, assessment and nursing, behavior within social groups. Articles representative of a variety of disciplinary bases are accepted. Content may address research, reviews, scholarly writings, field and clinical experiences, and the teaching of Psychology.

Brief manuscripts are 1,500 to 2,500 words (3 to 5 single spaced pages), manuscripts are 5,000 to 10,000 words (10 to 20 single spaced pages). Review of literature manuscripts will also be considered. All manuscripts must conform to the editorial style of the fifth edition of the APA style manual.

The Southeastern Journal of Psychology© is published in both electronic and hard-copy formats. For the electronic format, hypertext submissions are welcome.

- ◆ Articles may be submitted either electronically to the Editor or by ordinary mail on a floppy diskette, CD, or DVD disk in windows in MS Word or WordPerfect format. All articles will be peer reviewed in a blind process.
- ◆ Articles should be prepared according to the guidelines in the publication manual of the American Psychological Association (The Fifth Edition).
- ◆ Please include a 100-150 word abstract.
- ◆ Questions concerning possible contributions be directed to the Editor.

crtalor@valdosta.edu, or by

U.S. Postal Mail at
Dr. Charles R. Talor
Editor,
Southeastern Journal of Psychology
Department of Psychology and Counseling
Valdosta State University
Valdosta, Georgia 31698-0100

Submission deadline for the first edition issue is March 15, 2006

Schedule of meetings and conferences 2005-2006

Gerontological Society of America, Orlando, Florida, November 15-18, 2005.

Rehabilitation Psychology Conference, Reno, Nevada, March 3, 4, and 5th, 2006.

Southeastern Psychological Association, Atlanta, Georgia, March 16-19, 2006.

Georgia Psychological Society, Valdosta, Georgia April 7-8, 2006.

American Psychological Society, New York City, New York, May 18-21, 2006.

The Society for Prevention Research: "Applying Prevention Science to Reduce Health Disparities." San Antonio, Texas, May 31 — June 2nd, 2006.

CALL FOR PAPERS.

Meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society

April 7th and 8th, 2006

The Georgia Psychological Society invites paper presentations, poster presentations, and colloquia on topics in applied and basic psychology, and interdisciplinary work which intersects with psychology, such as education and learning, assessment and nursing, behavior and social groups. In addition, a special session will be held this year on the Psychology of Teaching.

Instructions for submissions can be found on page 10 of this newsletter or at <http://www.GeorgiaPsychologicalSociety.org>.

Deadline for submissions is February 25th, 2006. All faculty, professionals in the field, graduate and undergraduate students are encouraged to submit proposals. Proposals may be submitted electronically via email to blbrowne@valdosta.edu, crtalor@valdosta.edu, or through our website at GeorgiaPsychologicalSociety.org, or sent by U.S. mail.

Join the Georgia Psychological Society©!

Become a member of the only professional group of Psychologists for southern Georgia. The GPS was founded on the great need for professional communication and sharing for college faculty, professionals, and students of our region.

Regular and professional members receive our quarterly newsletter, electronic and hardcopy subscriptions to the Southeastern Journal of Psychology*, and 50% discount to the annual conference.

Yes, I would like to become a member:

Tell us about yourself:

Name: _____ Title: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Rates:

- Regular member (Ph.D., Psy.D., Ed.D.) \$25.00
- Professional member (M.A., M.S., Ed.S.) \$15.00
- Students* (graduate or undergraduate) \$ 5.00

*Student members who wish to receive hardcopies of the Southeastern Journal of Psychology© please add \$5.00 (total yearly cost: \$10.00).

I would like to join the following Special Interest Groups (free to members, no limit on SIG memberships)

- Aging and Psychology Teaching of psychology
- Early Intervention

Please complete this form and mail to:

Georgia Psychological Society
c/o Department of Psychology and Counseling
Valdosta State University
Valdosta, GA 31698-0100

Join now for the rest of 2005 and all of 2006!

Instructions for submitting papers to the first meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society©

Paper Presentations and symposia:

Paper presentations will be allotted 15 minutes. Submissions will be grouped together by topic when possible. Symposia are 3 to 5 papers submitted together covering a specific topic or theme. Symposia will be allotted 60 to 90 minutes.

Poster Presentations:

Poster sessions will be allotted 90 minutes. Submissions will be grouped together by topic when possible. Presenters discuss their poster presentation with attendees in extended discussions with material and illustrations on the poster board.

Workshops and continuing education

Workshops and continuing education presentations are encouraged. Email the conference coordinators for details: crtalor@valdosta.edu, bbrowne@valdosta.edu

General Instructions for All Proposals

- Submissions are classified as “paper presentations,” “symposium presentations,” “poster presentations,” “workshops,” and “continuing education.”
- Complete one cover sheet for each submission.
- Format for cover sheet: Title of presentation; Name(s) of author(s), highest educational degree(s), affiliation(s) (department, school, agency, or company, etc.), and complete contact information for presenter(s).
- Submit one abstract of your poster, presentation, or one abstract for each presentation in a symposium. Abstracts may be up to 500 words, double spaced, and printed on one side only. The abstracts should include a statement of the problem, participants assessed, procedure, results, and conclusions. Workshops and continuing education proposals should indicate number of contact hours, sponsorship by accreditation agency or body (contact crtalor@valdosta.edu for details).
- Submit one 50 word abstract of your poster, presentation, or each presentation in a symposium. The 50 word abstract should be suitable for publication in the conference proceedings and web-publication.
- Proposal abstracts must be received by February 25th, 2006.
- Submit the registration form and required abstract. If you select the "Either poster or presentation" option, then the program committee will make the final decision on the type of presentation.
- Please indicate any accommodations for a physical disability which would facilitate your participation, e.g., ramp to head table, handheld microphone, flexible microphone, table microphone, lavalier microphone.
- You will be notified of the program committee's decision by e-mail unless you request notification by U.S. Mail, in which case please enclose two self-addressed, stamped envelopes. One envelope is for notification of receipt of the proposal and the second envelope is for notification of the decision by the program committee.

Cover sheet for submitting proposals to the first annual meeting of the
Georgia Psychological Society©

Title of proposal: _____

Author (1): _____, _____, _____
Name Highest degree Affiliation

_____, _____
Address email contact

Author (2): _____, _____, _____
Name Highest degree Affiliation

_____, _____
Address email contact

Author (3): _____, _____, _____
Name Highest degree Affiliation

_____, _____
Address email contact

Author (4): _____, _____, _____
Name Highest degree Affiliation

_____, _____
Address email contact

Author (5): _____, _____, _____
Name Highest degree Affiliation

_____, _____
Address email contact

- Type of proposal Poster Presentation Either poster or presentation
 Symposium (please complete this cover sheet for each
symposium presentation, and a separate cover
sheet for the overall symposium)
 Workshop
 Continuing Education

Media requests: _____

Accommodation requests: _____

Please send proposals to: Georgia Psychological Society Proposals
c/o Department of Psychology and Counseling
Valdosta State University
Valdosta, GA 31698-0100

OR email word document to: blbrowne@valdosta.edu or crtalor@valdosta.edu