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Editor: Mary W. Godwin, M.A.

Students Develop a Statistics Manual

By Rose Brummett, Senior, Psychology Major

If you have been in the psychology department at all this semester you have likely heard rumors of a new attempt to more effectively emphasize statistics within our psychology curriculum. The rumors that you may have heard are indeed true, and as of this semester, a new component has been added to our previously existing Research Methods I course. In addition to the traditional Research Methods I lecture material, we now have a Research Methods I Psychology Statistics Lab Manual, currently being used by both Dr. Yandell and Dr. Bailey's Research Methods I classes. Not only is this lab a wonderful opportunity for our department to work on connecting statistics to psychology while emphasizing the importance of statistics in research, but the process of developing the lab manual holds a story within itself. The manual will help students master material that they learned in Math 115 (statistics).

The interesting thing about this new Psychology Statistics Lab Manual is that it was developed and created from cover to cover within Belmont University. While enrolled in an advanced statistics course here at Belmont with Dr. Rowell, Jackie Pennings, Joshua Petersen and myself became very interested in statistics and its relevance to psychology. Part of our curriculum for Statistical Modeling and Simulation was to do a research project on an area relating to statistics. Josh and I were assigned to work together on researching the effectiveness of a new Biology Statistics Lab required by Biology majors at Belmont.

Josh and I spent most of a semester working with data from the Biology Statistics Lab, and worked at trying to answer questions pertaining to this lab. I think however, our greatest discovery or finding was a question of our own that we took to both Dr. Rowell and then to our psychology faculty. That question was: why don't we (psychology majors) have a psychology statistics lab. The answer was quite simple, we didn't have a lab manual to use with the course, and we didn't have anyone pushing for the course to be developed. I guess you can imagine what our next steps were, first convincing the faculty that the lab should be offered, and second the task of writing a lab manual.

When we went to the faculty about our ideas, they more than listened to our ideas, they encouraged us, agreed with our ideas and then worked extremely hard to help make our idea a reality. After deciding that we wanted to pursue the idea of developing a psychology statistics lab, we went to work on developing a lab manual for our department. Dr. Ginger Rowell, formerly a professor of statistics in the Belmont math department, worked very hard and managed to get a grant so that we could spend a semester working on the development of the lab manual. Josh, Jackie and myself spent last semester working with Dr. Rowell, Dr. Yandell, Dr. Giordano and Dr. Bailey on creating the lab manual.

We researched statistics in psychology, evaluated other statistics resources as well as other schools' curriculums, and spent much time researching and practicing statistical techniques so that we could create successful and accurate lab exercises. Once again, Dr. Rowell initiated evaluation and implementation of the manual by using some of the exercises in her Elementary Statistics course. The information gained from the pilot in the Elementary Statistics Course allowed our team to make improvements and changes to the individual

exercises as we saw fit. Dr. Rowell even worked with us during the summer to make sure that we had the manual finished by the beginning of fall semester.

The psychology faculty embraced our finished product and agreed to use it beginning Fall Semester 2000. We had hoped that our efforts would be utilized eventually but we had no idea that we would see the lab implemented so quickly. We were also offered the opportunity to remain involved in the project by becoming research mentors for the Research Methods I courses using the lab manual. Josh and I currently serve as research mentors for Dr. Yandell and Dr. Bailey's classes. We are also working with Dr. Yandell, Dr. Bailey and Jackie Pennings on conducting an exploratory study of the effectiveness of the lab manual in an independent study.

We are very excited about this new resource in the psychology department and the opportunities it can provide. Most of all we are thankful to everyone who helped us and encouraged us throughout the process of developing and implementing the lab. I think the most important concept to take from this experience is that students do make a difference. I think the other issue of importance is the quality of the faculty here at Belmont and certainly within our department. I cannot express enough the importance however of communicating your ideas to the faculty. If you do venture to share your ideas with the faculty, you are likely to find academic leadership and direction, encouragement, and as we are living proof - great things can happen!

Student Research

This past spring our psychology majors presented their research at a number of conferences including the Middle Tennessee Psychological Association (Rose Brummett and Joshua Petersen). The Southeastern Psychological Association (Kristina Anders, Rose Brummett, Skyla Carnahan Jacquelyn Pennings, Joshua Peterson, Chaeli Thomas, and Jacqueline Wilson) See *"Psychology Students Chat with the Pros"*, The American Psychological Association (Jacqueline Wilson), and the National Conference on Undergraduate Research (Jacquelyn Pennings & Jacqueline Wilson).

In addition the following students participated in our own Belmont Undergraduate Research Symposium (BURS):

- Brent Brinkmeier Rose Brummett, Nancy S. Conway. Jacquelyn Pennings, Joshua Petersen, Jacqueline L. Wilson & Matt Workman, "A Psychometric Evaluation of a Measure of Perfectionism" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Giordano)
- Kelly Voss, "The Stereotype Threat: Implications of Positive Stereotype Activaton for Test Performance, Attributional Style and Expectations" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Hammer)
- Abby Kinslow, "How Parenting Styles Relate to Social and Separation Anxiety" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Yandell)
- Brent Brinkmeier, "Expectations and Self-efficacy in a Test of Manual Dexterity"
- Joshua Peterson, "The Effects of a Need for Approval and Socially Desirable Instructions on a Visual Search Task" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Yandell)
- Courtney E. Clarke, "The Relationship Between Religiosity and Adjustment Following a Negative Life Event" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Hammer)
- Terri Patterson, "Interpreting Justified and Unjustified Violence in Realistic and Unrealistic Situations: The Effect on Mood" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Yandell)
- Dana M. Carter, "The Effects of Parental Conflict on Adolescents" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Hammer)
- Beth Griffin, "When Parents Divorce: The Effects of Divorce on Attachment Style and Loneliness in Young Adults" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Yandell)
- Melissa Alexander, "Task Type and Test Anxiety on Specific Ego Orientations" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Hammer)
- Kendra E. Boyd, "The Relationship between Spirituality and Emotional and Physical Anxiety" (Faculty advisor, Dr. Hammer)

- Melissa Alexander, Kendra Boyd & Angela Green, “The Effects of Verbally Abundant Music and Non-Verbal Music on Memory” (Faculty advisor: Dr. Yandell)
- Stefanie A. Kibler, “The Effect of Negative, Positive, and Neutral Moods on Dating Relationship Satisfaction” (Faculty advisor, Dr. Hammer)
- Anastasia E. Bailey, “Extroverted Women’s Perceptions of Their Love Relationships” (Faculty advisor, Dr. Bailey)
- Rose M. Brummett, “Positive and Negative Perfectionism: Relationships to Anxiety and Obsessive Compulsive Behavior” (Faculty advisor, Dr. Yandell)

Psychology Students Make Dean’s List

Dean's List - Psychology Majors - Spring 2000

Alexander, Melissa
 Bailey, Anastasia
 Berrie, Brooke
 Blasingame, Katy
 Brinkmeier, Brent
 Brummett, Rose
 Castleberry, Vara
 Catt, Farrah
 Faccia, Jill
 Flowers, Bethany
 Giorgi, Melissa
 Gross, Anna
 Haj-Hassan, Shereen
 Hill, Stacy
 Kibler, Stefanie
 Krantz, Amanda
 MacMillan, Robert
 Matson, Jessica
 Paterson, Terri
 Pennings, Jacquelyn
 Reed, Erin
 Renteria, Chandra
 Tanner-Smith, Emily
 Thomas, Chaeli
 Voss, Kelly
 Wilson, Jacquie
 Zurawicki, Marsha

Dean's List - Psychology Majors - Summer 2000

Faccia, Jill

Psi Chi and the Psychology Club

This group got off to a great start for the year.

The officers for the year are:

- Co-Presidents: Rose Brummett & Joshua Peterson
- Vice-President: Jackie Pennings
- Secretary-Treasurer: Kelly Voss

For the first time this year students who are majors or minors in psychology are receiving announcements about all events by e-mail. This seems to have greatly increased attendance.



Psi Chi is the National Honor Society in Psychology. They will hold the fall induction on October 23. New inductees will include: Bethany Flowers, Taryn Fowler, Anna Gross, and Erin Reed. All psychology students are encouraged to attend all events. Membership in Psi Chi is not necessary to participate.

Events this year have included presentations about the different disciplines in psychology, how to apply to graduate school, and how to prepare a vita. Students are encouraged to watch for postings for more interesting and informative programs.

Our Alumni –

Futoshi Kobayashi '94 received his Ph.D. degree in Educational Psychology in August, 2000 from the University of Texas at Austin. He is now at Napa Valley College in Napa, California working as an Instructor in their Social Sciences division – congratulations Futoshi

Leann (Rhodes) Phillips '99 and her husband Brad (Music Business '99) have moved to Woodruff, SC. Brad is managing his family's recording studio and Leann is busy looking for work.

Natasha Lindley Varnick '99 is living in Jackson, TN with her husband Jason and works as a Behavior Specialist with Youth Villages' foster care program.

Elizabeth Roby '99 is living in London and teaching school. She will be there until December of this year.

Kathryn Burks '98 obtained her Real Estate License in November 1999 and is working for the ERA Woodmont Realty Group in Brentwood.

Ryan Chambers '98 has completed her Master's of Theological Studies from Harvard Divinity School. Last we heard, she was going to be returning to Nashville to be ordained in her church and to take a Residency Chaplain position at the VA Hospital here.

Carla Strassle '96 is in the final stages of her doctoral work in clinical psychology at UT-Knoxville. She is doing her clinical internship at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Lisa Gardner '96 has completed her MSSW degree at UT-Knoxville.

Sarah Bedenbaugh Jenkins '95 was married to Richard Jenkins on June 5, 1999. Sarah has finished her last year at Erskine Theological Seminary and obtained her Master of Divinity degree.

Bill Robinson '92 has completed his master's degree in Physical Therapy at Belmont.

John Craig '90 received his master's degree in Public Administration from Columbia University in 1998. He is employed by Moody's Investors Service, where he does public finance work and helps cities and communities borrow money to finance projects for their community.

Stephen Bruehl '85 is an Assistant Professor at Northwestern University Medical School where he trains clinical psychology graduate students at the Pain Center at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. In January of 1999, he received a \$500,000 NIH grant.

Denny Vincent '69 is the Principal of Muhlenberg North High School in Bremen, KY. He is a member of the Board of Directors of the National Association of Secondary School Principals representing five southeastern states plus Washington, DC.

Jacque Wilson '00 is currently working as a Research Assistant for Drs. Wendy Stone and James Walker at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. She was the recipient of the Spring 2000 Means Award.

Jessica Matson '00 is working for the Shop at Home Network. She plans to continue her education in the area of Sports Psychology

Leslie Volpert '00 is the Residence Director in Heron Hall here at Belmont and hopes to begin graduate school soon.

Psychology Students Chat With the Pros



Pictured from left to right: Joshua Peterson, Rose Brummett, Skyla Carnahan, Phil Zimbardo, Jacquie Wilson, and Jacquelyn Pennings (Not pictured: Chaeli Thomas and Kristina Anders)

Spring of 2000 seven of Belmont's psychology majors were selected to present research at poster sessions at the South Eastern Psychological Association in New Orleans, LA. This was a wonderful opportunity for them to meet with and listen to professionals in the field. It also is an excellent forum for them to present and share research with other psychology students and professionals.

Dr. Giordano Becomes Head of Teaching Center

Dr. Peter J. Giordano has been named as the new Director of the Teaching Center here at Belmont. This is a three year position, so he has moved out of our offices and teaches only one class a year. We miss having him here in the departmental office, but he visits frequently so our students are still able to keep in touch with him.

Meet your new editor –

Since Dr. Giordano has moved out of the Psychology Department office, the job of serving as editor for enPSYCHlopedia is now the responsibility of Mary Godwin, the Office Manager. Mary has a B.S. in Psychology from Oklahoma State University, and an M.A. in Education (school counseling) from The Ohio State University. She is in her fourth year at Belmont. Prior to coming to Belmont she taught on the middle school level in the Metropolitan Nashville Schools. Her husband Paul is in his 28th year on the faculty at Belmont. They have three children, Kathy an engineer, Kim a student affairs professional, and Jeremy a Belmont student.

PURS 2000

The Psychology Department will be hosting the annual Psychology Undergraduate Research Symposium (PURS) in the afternoon of December 1, 2000. The symposium will be held in the Multimedia Hall of the Bunch Library. More details concerning starting time and number of research presentations will be forthcoming.

This years keynote speaker will be Carla Strassle, a graduate of Belmont University. Carla graduated with honors in psychology from Belmont in 1996. She earned her M.A. in Clinical Psychology and is in the final stages of completing her Ph.D. at the University of Tennessee. She earned many honors and awards while at UT as well as authoring numerous publications and conference presentations. Currently Carla is a Clinical Psychology Intern in Adult Psychiatry at the Vanderbilt School of Medicine. Carla will be speaking on the importance of undergraduate research in preparing for her post graduate educational experiences.

Belmont Psychology Welcomes Two New Faculty Members

Mary Early-Zald

Dr. Early-Zald received her Bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Nebraska, and her PhD in Clinical Psychology from the University of Minnesota in 1993. It was in graduate school where she gained most of her teaching experience, particularly in clinically focused courses. Her areas of interest include women's issues, depression, eating disorders, and multicultural issues. After completing her doctoral degree, she worked for three years in a community mental health center and then for four years at the Counseling and Consulting Services at the University of Minnesota. Her husband, David Zald, was recently offered an appointment in the Clinical Psychology department at Vanderbilt University, which brought her to Nashville and Belmont. They moved from Minneapolis to Nashville with their three year old daughter, Khalila, at the end of July, 2000. They are very happy to have found an interesting old house in the Belmont neighborhood, and Dr. Early-Zald looks forward to walking to and from work. She has lived in many parts of the country, including Los Angeles, Kansas City, Lincoln, Minneapolis, and Pittsburgh

Linda D. Jones

Dr. Linda Jones is an alumnus of Wake Forest University (BA 1983) and Kent State University (MA 1987, Ph.D. 1989). After receiving her Ph.D. in experimental psychology (behavioral medicine emphasis), she accepted a 2-year post-doctoral position in the field of mental retardation at the Kennedy Center of Vanderbilt University. It was during this training that Dr. Jones became interested in sickle cell disease and its effect on young children. The next 7 years were spent conducting research on cognitive and family functioning in the sickle cell population. Dr. Jones calls herself a lifelong Southerner. With the exception of her temporary tenure in Ohio, the South has always been home. She was born in Atlanta, Georgia (LA-Lovely Atlanta!) to educator parents and is honored to continue the Jones family tradition of teaching. Dr. Jones and her husband Chris are the proud parents of EmmaJulia (age 7) and Christopher, Jr. (age 3).