



enPSYCHlopedia

A Standard Deviation Above the Mean

Vol. XVII No. 1 An Award-Winning Psychology Newsletter Fall 2006

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T-tests, ANOVAs and Multiple Regression, Oh My!

Eileen Marks, Senior, Psychology Major

A midnight curfew, analysis of covariance, six or seven ethnic minorities, Apples to Apples, and the Watergate Hotel—what do all of these things have in common? **APA's Advanced Statistical Training in Psychology**, better known as ASTP, and more fondly known by 2006 participants as “Stats Camp.” ASTP, in essence, is very much like a summer camp... aside from the mandatory six to nine hours of statistics and lectures every single day. In a program like this, accommodations amount to a dorm room that smells like your grandparent's house, with sticky carpet and suspicious-looking, multi-colored stains in the shower. In this dorm room there is a roommate who has been selected at random, someone with whom every waking moment will almost certainly be spent. And of course, there is a group of “adults” responsible for making sure everyone shows up on time for everything, whether it be sitting in front of a computer, a desk, or in a circle during scheduled (and also mandatory) “fun-time.”

Yeah... just like summer camp... or at least that's what we all kept telling ourselves. “We” are 16 undergraduate psychology majors from schools all across the nation. We hail from Nebraska Wesleyan, USF, Coastal Carolina, and everywhere in between. We have varying interests and varying strengths and weaknesses. We all have different intentions for our futures, but we have one thing in common. Okay, two things. We all

represent some kind of minority, and we all want to go to graduate school, and we want to go badly. Now, let's be honest, shall we? Voluntarily signing away eight days of your life in which you volunteer to be taught the fundamentals of statistics reflects a bit on your level of sanity. You may well ask why



L-R. Eileen Marks and Dr. Keith Maddox of Tufts University

someone would ever desire to do something like that, and I'm going to let you in on a few secrets as to why allowing APA to help you brush up on your statistics skills might be a good idea. This may or may not be news to you, but you should know that anyone going into a psychology graduate program, whatever the emphasis (clinical, developmental, cognitive, or otherwise), has to do a lot of statistics. A program like this is beneficial because the main statistical analyses used in psychology are presented in such a way that you understand how they are similar, and how they are different. After

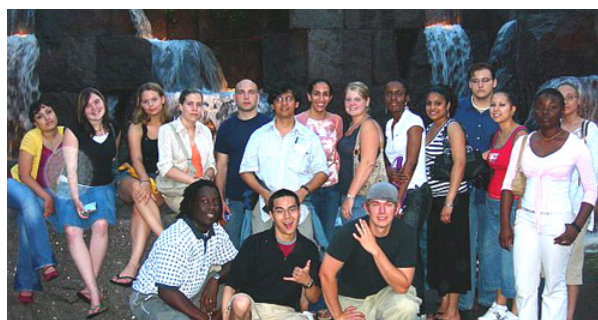
spending a week of your life devoted to such a cause, you develop a rudimentary but extremely helpful base of knowledge. This type of knowledge base can be useful when attempting to figure out which statistical analysis would be best for data collected from studies of various designs. What is the benefit of using paired t-tests vs. correlations? Often, you will learn, choosing statistical analyses can be based on a judgment call.

Yes, it is true, statistics are a fundamental piece of the psychological world... and yes, brushing up on your stats knowledge is extremely important if you are intending to attend graduate school... which leads me to another benefit of such a program. How do you get into grad school? What do you need to do? What are people looking for? At ASTP, I was given some answers. On three separate days, a few hours were set aside to discuss the elusive and perplexing world of graduate school. Our three "faculty members," Dr. Brett Pelham and Dr. Mauricio Carvallo of SUNY Buffalo and Dr. Keith Maddox of Tufts University told us their stories. We learned what they went through when choosing grad programs, what they looked for, and how they managed to gain acceptance. In the past, Brett Pelham specifically has been on the review board of graduate applications at a prestigious university. On top of that, a guest speaker from the University of Virginia who currently *is* part of a review board came in and spoke to us about what she looks for in graduate applications, and also what her colleagues look for. And as if that weren't enough, we were given a three hour open-panel discussion where we had the opportunity to ask any remaining questions that we may have had. If you have any questions about what you need to do to get yourself into a program that suits you, you can find your answers here.

Not only are you prepped with all the information you need to help yourself succeed by people who teach graduate school and do all kinds of their own research, you get one amazing *amazing amazing* opportunity. You get to meet your competition! The people who are accepted to attend programs like ASTP are usually exemplary in some way. For some reason, they stand out from the crowd. At this type of

"summer camp," you are given the chance to meet exactly who you're going to be going up against when you apply to grad school. Therefore, you can learn ahead of time what the competition has to offer! Not only do you learn about the competition personally, you learn about what other psychology departments from other schools are like. Did you know that there are colleges that do not make their psychology students put the majority of their research through an official IRB? Did you know that several psychology departments use more advanced software than Minitab? I know this, and many other things, now that I've gone through ASTP.

These things themselves should be enough to convince you that ASTP or a similar program sponsored by APA is worth attending. But if not, consider a few more things. During ASTP, I was forced to focus on one thing for several hours a day, and I was forced to work with it hands-on. Every day I learned so much about statistics (and research designs) that by the end of the eight days I was practically eating, sleeping, and breathing statistics. It was an intense program... not altogether unlike the atmosphere of graduate school from what I've been told. This program taught me what it would be like for me to be an actual grad student. I know what it's like now, and I know how well I cope with a more intense learning environment.



L-R, Back row: Yazmin Heredia, Eileen Marks, Christine Yates, Rebecca Breckenridge, Aaron Bolton, Dr. Mauricio Carvallo, Goali Auzeen Saedi, Crystal McWhirter, Millicent Bynum, Shivani Patel, Adam Randell, Jessica Palacios, Sheri Nsamenang, Jennifer Masdea. Front row: Dr. Keith Maddox, Paul Schmidt, Alex Mizerski.

One more point, and then I'm done. Honestly, and this sounds remarkably cheesy, but I couldn't have met more interesting people than I did at ASTP. Not only was I meeting competition, I was meeting people with similar

goals, similar drives, and similar passions to mine. And not only did I develop a few great relationships with my peers, I developed friendships with two of my professors, Keith and Mauricio.

I have to admit, the first day or two as I was sitting through lectures about the history of statistics, performing pre-designed research studies with a group of strangers, and sitting in

front of SPSS staring at numbers until my eyes were rolling back in my head, I thought I might have made a mistake. But as soon as I connected with people, and started focusing on the task at hand, whether it was surviving, learning, competing, or something else, this program forced me outside of my "Belmont bubble" and opened the door for me to experience all kinds of things that I never would have been able to experience otherwise.

Psychology Club/Psi Chi Events in Fall 2006 –
by Sarah Lashley, Vice-President, Psychology Club

- Carwash: September 23 (Canceled due to weather)
- Depression Screening: October 5
- Internship Convocation: October 6
- GRE Convocation: TBD
- Neuroscience Convocation: TBD
- YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter Community Service Project: October 28 10-12
- Halloween Bake Sale: October 31
- Rescue Mission Community Service Project: November 12 at 11-1
- Science Undergraduate Research Practice (SURP): November 20 & 27
- Science Undergraduate Research Symposium (SURS): November 30
- National Cotton Candy Day: December 1
- Eastern Psychological Association Conference in Philadelphia: March 22-2

May 2006 Graduates:

Michelle All	Erin DeVaughn James	Sarah Miles
Melinda Baker*	Erin Fagot	Sarah Mudd
Laura Bear	Anna Garr*	Katherine West

August 2006 Graduates:

Brett Petersen	Beverly Purvis	Elise Tyler*
*Psi Chi Members		

Dean's List --

The following psychology majors and minors were on the Dean's List for Spring 2006.

Michelle All	Margaret "Maggie" Cornwall	Emily Kane	Beverly Purvis*
Natalie Anderson	Megan Dockery*	Chegameh "Chey" Korvandi-Geledar	Dannelle Rohrbaugh
Stacy Anderson	Julie Dorian*	Matthew Kubicek	Clayton Rothwell
Melinda Baker	Tiffany Evans	Sarah Lashley	Taylor Shade
Laura Bear	Jared Ezell	Eileen Marks	Molly Smith
Cara Bingham*	James "Gunner" Goodlad	Elizabeth "Layne" Murphy*	Kevin Stone
Heather Buresh*	Hillary Goulart	Laura Musten*	Irena Tepavcevic
Kayla Buskirk	William Howard	Dan Oliver	Elise Tyler
Taylor Cawley	Barbara "Bobbi" Hutchinson	Cassie Perkins	Shandus Valentine
Jessica Chapman	Sarah Jaworski		Kelly Witherbee

***4.0 President's List**

Psychology Students Present at BURS in April 2006

"Resident Students vs. Commuter Students: Differences in Social Integration and Institutional Commitment"

Shandus B. Valentine
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie Yandell

"The Relationship between Self-esteem and Online Community Use"

Avril Copeland, Jared Ezell, Mary Fletcher, Rebecca Guinn, Sandra Indykiewicz, Valerie Loera, Randon Marks, Brittany Pardue, Joseph Swift
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie Yandell

“The Effects of Irrelevant Speech and Cell Phone Conversations on Sequential Short-Term Memory Tasks”

Beverly G. Purvis
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie Yandell

“Sleep and Dreams: A Summary of Research and Theories”

Maggie Cornwall & Beverly Purvis
Faculty Advisor: Dr. William Bailey

“A Historical Analysis of Asylums”

Eileen S. Marks, Elizabeth L. Murphy, & Kurt J. Niesner
Faculty Advisor: Dr. William N. Bailey

“EEG Measurement of Hemispheric Asymmetry during Working Memory”

Eileen Marks
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie R. Yandell

“The Effects of Initial Leadership Opinion on Small Group Decision-Making”

Elizabeth L. Murphy
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie Yandell

“Validity of Measuring Procrastination Using Self Assessment Scales”

Barbara A. Hutchinson
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie Yandell

“The Effect of Everyday Stress on Eating”

Chegameh Korvandi-Geledar (Chey)
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Michael P. Sullivan

“Relationship Between Life Experiences and Alcohol Attitudes: Finding Regional Differences”

Molly K. Smith
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie Yandell

“Inattentional Blindness or Inattentional Amnesia?”

Brett R. Petersen
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie R. Yandell

“The Effects of Speech Pitch, Volume, and Rhythm in Auditory Attention Capture”

Clayton D. Rothwell
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie Yandell

“Perceived Stress in Active, Passive and Non-Procrastinating College Students”

Dannelle Rohrbaugh
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie Yandell

“Extroversion-Optimism, Introversion-Pessimism and Coping Methods”

Carrie A. Brown
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Lonnie Yandell

“Psychosurgery: From Ice Pick to Radiation”

Melinda Baker, Laura Bear, & Kelly Witherbee
Faculty Advisor: Dr. William N. Bailey

“Long Term Effects of the Convocation Program on Belmont Alumni”

Sarah G. Mudd
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Michael P. Sullivan

“The Psychology of Images in the Music Industry”

Heather N. Burish
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Michael P. Sullivan

Psychology Student Presents at APS in Summer 2006

“The Use of Religion to Counter Mortality Salience Cues”

Melinda Baker
Faculty Advisor: Dr. Michael P. Sullivan

Psi Chi celebrates 15 years!

The Belmont University chapter of Psi Chi has reached its fifteenth anniversary this October. This chapter of Psi Chi was founded on October 14, 1991. To commemorate this occasion, the Psi Chi Induction ceremony will involve special guests and an extraordinary speaker. On February 23, 2007, the new members of Psi Chi will be inducted in the Belmont Mansion. Alumni of Psi Chi will be present along with the members who still attend Belmont University.

Our Alumni

Radha Dunham ('05) is a Ph.D. student in clinical psychology at the University of Miami. She wrote that she would be presenting a paper on “Client

Predictors of Therapist Competence/adherence in Regards to Hispanic Families” at the Ibero-American

Psychological Association of Clinical and Health Issues conference in Costa Rica this fall. She will

also have a poster presentation in San Diego at the Society for Research in Psychopathology Conference. She began seeing therapy and assessment clients in August and is working on her Master's thesis proposal.

Juanita "Nita" Gamache ('95) Completed her Master's in Counseling from Trevecca Nazarene University in 2003. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor-Mental Health Services Provider. She treats court ordered sexual offenders through her business Associates for Sexual Assault Prevention and also works with high risk children through the Tennessee Department of Children's Services.

Laura Guthrey ('??) is working at Vanderbilt in the area of Gastrointestinal research.

Kathleen Joslin ('85) is married to John, a pastor at Valley View Baptist Church in Sevierville, Tn. They are building a new home near Dollywood. She was formerly a missionary in Japan.

Rob McFaden ('93) is the Headmaster at Benton Hall in Williamson County.

Nickie Phillips ('93) recently graduated from The Graduate Center, City University of New York, with a Ph.D. in criminal justice. She began teaching at St. Francis College in Brooklyn in the Sociology & Criminal Justice department. Following her Belmont graduation she worked for the Nashville Airport in policing/aircraft rescue/firefighting. She moved to New York in 1995 where she also completed a Master's degree in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College. Between graduate degrees, Nickie worked at Bellevue hospital in research for clinical drug trials.

Staci Danielle Roberts ('02) is a graduate student in the Department of Sociology at the University of

A View from the Chair:

Pete Giordano, Ph.D., Professor and Chair of Psychology

If you are an alum of this department, please, please read carefully! Our department is in the midst of a very exciting time. Along with the university as a whole, the number of psychology majors continues to grow. With this growth, we continue to give our majors the best possible experiences in the classroom as well as outside of the classroom in research and internship opportunities. As is our tradition, we continue to have lots of student research going on, with presentations at local, regional, and national meetings. You can read about some of these accomplishments in this newsletter. Eileen Marks' article on the front page reflects quite an accomplishment in this domain: Eileen was part of an elite group of students selected from applicants from across the country for an APA program with intensive statistical training. Way to go Eileen!

I am very proud of what our current and past students

Kentucky. She plans to graduate with a Ph.D. in December of 2006. She is also working as a study director for a project called TEENS that is interested in how peer networks influence or are influenced by substance use, victimization, offending behaviors, etc.

Rhonda Sue Salamon ('78) is working in the area of foster care. She specializes in the needs of teenagers. She hopes to move to Montana in 2010 to begin working with the Native American tribes there to develop a community plan to address domestic violence and child abuse on both individual and community levels.

Susan A. VanDyke ('95) [listed in Spring newsletter] announces the arrival of Anna "Claire" VanDyke on April 12, 2006.



Susan & Claire VanDyke

Anna Gross Vogel ('02) was married November 12, 2005 to Ken Vogel. She is attending nursing school at the University of Portland.

accomplish. I am also proud of the psychology faculty and how they help develop the skills and confidence of psychology majors. When I talk with prospective students who are considering attending Belmont University, I have ample evidence that this is a great place to study psychology!

If you are an alum reader, I hope you will take a moment to let us know where you are and what you are doing. We really would like to keep in touch with you and publish your news in this newsletter. Also, if you decide to give financially to the university, please consider designating your gift to the Psychology Research Fund (fund # 25838). This fund helps us in every aspect of student research including taking students to conferences to present research, printing their research posters, and purchasing equipment for research projects. Thank you and we look forward to hearing some of your "Alumni News!"

Let Us Hear From You!

If you are an alum reader, please take a moment to fill out the form below and drop us a line. Just mail to the address on the back of the newsletter, or contact us by e-mail at godwinm@mail.belmont.edu. We would love to hear from you and to include your update in the next edition of *enPSYCHlopedia*. If you are ever in the Nashville area, please stop by our office to meet the new faculty and see the exciting things going on here in the Psychology Department. Check out our web pages at <http://www.belmont.edu/psychology>.

<i>Alumni Update</i>		Date _____
Name _____	Graduation Year _____	
Address _____		
City _____	State _____	ZIP _____ Phone _____
Spouse's name _____	Belmont grad? _____	Year _____
Employment _____	Title _____	
Recent promotion, honor, award, etc.? _____		
What else is going on with you (that you'd like to share): _____		

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