



enPSYCHlopedia

A Standard Deviation Above the Mean

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Editor: Mary W. Godwin, M.A.

Why Psychology?

By Brenda Lee-Peery, B.S., December 2002

A teacher: that is why I went to college. Four years of undergraduate work in psychology and a teaching certificate in early childhood education was my goal. Why Psychology? All I really wanted was to learn how to teach, so that I could empower my students through the joys of learning and enrich their lives by the education opportunities I could provide them—sounds good doesn't it? But when you think about it, psychology seems like an appropriate choice for a future educator. After all, you're working with people, right? Not only do you work with your colleagues, but with students (They're people too!) who come to you with a multitude of individual needs and quirks.

So how has my degree in psychology helped in my teaching certification? I chose psychology as my major because my Psychology 110 class really intrigued me. However, I did not expect the implications of my psychology degree to be that far reaching in my educational certification. Truthfully, I didn't care what my major was as long as in the end I was certified to teach. However, as I began to work through my courses I began to see the benefits that a psychology degree would provide me as a teacher.



Brenda (left) with Brooke Berrie. Both graduated in December, 2002 with a B.S. in Psychology and licensure in Education

Two significant parts of teaching are being able to understand the means by which people learn and to find new ways to teach so that you address their particular style. You must not only know how people learn, but how development influences a person's ability to learn. Yes, these are things they teach you in your education classes, but my psychology background has made it more understandable and easier to apply. I have not only learned these basic developmental concepts and theories, but I've put them into

(continued on p. 2)

Why Psychology? (continued from p. 1)

practice by using my true understanding of teaching strategies. When I have a student who is struggling with learning, I feel comfortable in adapting because I've learned how psychology influences a child's ability to learn.

To become a teacher I was required to take a series of several teaching exams. It was because of my psychology classes and understanding of

developmental theories and principles that I was able to pass those tests with relative ease. As a new teacher, I am thrilled with my decision to major in psychology, and I'm already seeing the benefits. I feel equipped to meet the needs of my students and to understand their individual learning styles. Considering being a teacher? It will be a worthwhile investment to major in psychology.

STUDENT RESEARCH

This fall the following students participated in the Psychology Undergraduate Research Symposium (PURS)

- Kate A. Ranganath, "Gender Stereotype Activation and Implicit Gender Attitudes"
- Logan Denson, "Collegians' Resistance to Report Deviant Behavior: Face to Face Interactions Versus Anonymous Surveys"



Isaac Harper practicing at a PURP night

- Sarah Hickson, "Participation in Organized Sport among College Females: Occupational Gender Stereotype"
- Isaac Harper, "Positive and Negative Flashbulb Memories: A Rating of Visual Stimuli"
- Anna Clare Turner "Internet Use and Depression among College Students"
- Radha Dunham, "The Relationship between Childhood Imaginary Companions and Comfort in Social Situations in Adulthood"
- Jennifer Jones and Ashley Robinson, "The Effects of Color on Spatial Memory"
- Jessie Angel, "Level of Optimism and Personality Impressions"
- Radha Dunham, "A Measure of Drawing Self-Efficacy: A Psychometric Evaluation"
- Mary Margaret Phillips, "Effects of Auditory Sensory Involvement in Picture Recognition"
- Christi Beth Johnston and Erin C. Reed, "Confidence in Partner Assessment and Romantic Relationship Satisfaction"

Dr. Giordano to be Keynote Speaker at Conference

Dr. Peter J. Giordano will present the Harold Moon Invited Address at the Fifteenth Southeastern Conference on the Teaching of Psychology sponsored by Kennesaw State University. The title of his presentation is "Critical Moments in Learning. Do We Know When We Are Teaching?" The event will be held in Atlanta, GA on February 21-22.

December 2002 Graduates:

Brooke E. Berrie
Christi Beth Johnston

Jennifer Jones
Brenda Lee-Peery

Ashley Lovell
Catherine Ryon

Brittany Shupe



Christi Beth Johnston at Graduation, December, 2002

Kathleen B. Horrell Award

Christi Beth Johnston was the recipient of the Kathleen B. Horrell Award at December graduation. This award goes to the student with the highest GPA of the whole class that graduates in December (3.96 this semester). Christi Beth accomplished this while completing both a BBA in Business Administration with an emphasis in Marketing and a BS in Psychology in 9 semesters. While in school Christi Beth also lettered for 4 years with both the track and cross-country teams where she was named to both the Atlantic Sun Conference All-Academic Team and the Academic All-American Team. She participated in Belmont's Studies Abroad program through their International Marketing in England program. An active member of her sorority, Phi Mu, she served as both the Alumni Liaison and the Greek Council President. She also served as Chaplain of SGA, President of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Captain of both the Cross-country and Track teams, and as a Tower Team Student Orientation Leader. Congratulations Christi Beth!

Psi Chi Induction

Fall 2002

Fall induction for Psi Chi was on October 22 at the home of Dr. Giordano. The following students were inducted:

Anne Cook
Celeste VanNoy Copeland
Isaac Harper

Mary Margaret Phillips
Marilyn McAllister
April Ring

Spring 2003

Spring induction for Psi Chi will be in March. The following students are scheduled to be inducted:

Radha Dunham
Emily Sheffer

Amy VanHooydonk

Psychology Club Events in Spring 2003

- January 31 -- "Meet the Profs.", Belmont Faculty discuss their specialties, Convocation Credit
- February 14 -- "What's Love Got to Do With It", Dr. Sullivan, Convocation Credit
- February 28 -- "Working as a Marriage & Family Counselor:", Tony Rankin, Convocation Credit
- March 14 -- "Dismas House", Susan Cunningham, Convocation Credit
- April 24 -- Belmont Undergraduate Research Symposium (BURS). 5:45 PM (reception 5:15), Board Room, Massey Business Center, Convocation Credit; Psychology Presentations begin at 7:00 PM
- April 25 -- Post BURS Party/Office Elections
- May 3 -- Middle Tennessee Psychological Association (MTPA) -- 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM, 4th Floor, Massey Business Center

Our Alumni –

Kendra Boyd, '00, is a child and youth case worker in Clarksville.

Christia Spears Brown, '96, is in the final stages of completing her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin in developmental psychology with a minor in statistics. She was the keynote speaker for PURS here at Belmont on Nov. 21.

Ryan Leigh Chambers Hahn, '98, became an Ordained Minister at First Baptist Church in Nashville in July, 2000. She was married to Christopher Hahn October, 2001 and is currently living in Rhode Island and working as a Chaplain at Evergreen House Nursing Home in East Providence.

Shofner Hoffman, '63, is a Neuropsychologist with the Pellegrino Center for Neuroscience in Hot Springs, AR.



Jenn Jones, Ashley Lovell, Brenda Lee-Peery, and Catherine Ryon at December Graduation

Christi Beth Johnston, '02, is taking some time off before graduate school. She is currently working at Belmont as the Women's Assistant Track and Field Coach where she is also working on a strength and conditioning certification which will allow her to teach group classes and act as a personal trainer. (see December graduates section to find out more about Christi Beth).

Jennifer Jones, '02, is taking some time off from school and studying for the LSAT. She plans to spend the next year as a campaign worker with the Democratic Presidential campaign.



Jenn Jones and Brittany Shupe at December Graduation

Brenda Lee-Peery, '02, began teaching 4th grade at Harpeth Valley (Nashville-Metro Schools) in December a week before graduation.

Ashley Lovell, '02, is employed by the Learning Technology Center at Peabody College (Vanderbilt University). She is working for a research project called the Young Children's Literacy Project.

Danisha Robbins, '90, is a clinical therapist at Naval Hospital and Addictions Rehabilitation Department in Jacksonville, FL. She has been in the navy for 6 years. She and her husband Ron ('91) have two children Kendall, age 4, and Sydney, age 2.

Catherine Ryon, '02, is working at Vanderbilt in the Fast Track program, a research program that is now in its twelfth year of tracking "at risk" children and youth.

Brittany Shupe, '02, is working as a children, adolescent and family case manager in Sumner County (TN) with the Mental Health Co-op.

Please return the form in this newsletter if you have any alumni news to share

Dean's List – Psychology Majors/Minors – Fall 2002

Kari Basden
Tisha Bean
Anne Cook
Rebecca Cook
Radha Dunham
Bethany Flowers
Laura Forster
Isaac Harper
Amy Irwin
Christi Beth Johnston

Jenn Jones
Kate Kelsey
Ashley Lovell
Marilyn McAllister
Heena Patel
Mary Margaret Phillips
Kate Ranganath
Erin Reed
April Ring

Emily Sheffer
Brittany Shupe
Celia Stacey
Trisha Stephens
Emily Tanner-Smith
Stephanie Teager
Nicole Todd
Amy VanHooydonk
Brad Walker

New Web Site

Have you seen the new Belmont University Web Site? Be sure to visit this site to see what is happening in the Psychology Department. You will find current information about our faculty, programs, conferences, and activities of Psi Chi and the Psychology Club.

[Http://www.belmont.edu/psychology](http://www.belmont.edu/psychology)

Students to Attend Conferences

American Psychological Association (APA)

Erin Reed will be attending APA in Toronto, Ontario in August. Her research entitled "Do I Think You See What I See? A Study of Maternal Relationships and Body Images of Females" has been accepted for presentation there. Congratulations Erin.

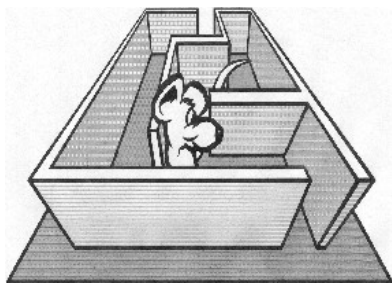
American Psychological Society (APS)

Kate Ranganath is participating on a Psi Chi panel discussion entitled "Gaining Research Experience: Presenting, Publishing, and Prospering." Dr. Lonnie Yandell will also participate in this panel discussion.

National Conference for Undergraduate Research (NCUR)

Two psychology majors and one psychology minor have had their research accepted for presentation at NCUR. Kate Ranganath's presentation is entitled "Implicit and Explicit Prejudice Toward African-Americans and Attitudes Toward Capital Punishment". Erin Reed will present research entitled "Body and Object Perceptions". Emily Tanner-Smith, a psychology minor who is majoring in sociology will present "The Health Belief Model and Predictors of Breast Self-Examination".

PSYCHOLOGY Ψ DEPARTMENT



BELMONT UNIVERSITY

Psychology Student Think Center

By: Isaac Harper, Vice President, Psychology Club

Psychology Club students have recently been given the observation room off the computer lab for a student study center. We are bringing in comfortable furniture and a bookcase to store journals and reference material. Here psychology majors and minors will have a place to study and converse with one another. We hope that the efforts of the psychology club will benefit the students who will use it. This center will provide students with the opportunity to

This is the design on the new Psychology T-shirts. Cost is \$6. Get one while they are still available. Shirts are navy and design is white.

grow together and have a common meeting place to share the scholastic experience.

Middle Tennessee Psychological Association (MTPA)

The Belmont University Psychology Department will once again host the Middle Tennessee Psychological Association (MTPA) meeting. Keynote speaker will be Dr. Barbara Nodine from Arcadia University who will speak on the topic of student research. The meeting will be held Saturday, May 3 from 8:00-1:00. All events will be on the 4th floor of the Massey Business Center. (See web site for more information.)

Psychology Club Officers:

The new officers for the Psychology Club for Spring 2003 are:

President: Kate Ranganath

Treasurer: Natalie Simpson

Historians: Jessie Angel

Vice-President: Isaac Harper

Reporter: Sarah Hickson

Celeste VanNoy Copeland

Secretary: Sarah Osborne

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 new 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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