Educating school psychologists at Illinois State University approaches half a century: Celebration planned for Homecoming 2007

Contributors: Audrey J. Grupe, James J. Johnson, and Mark E. Swerdlik

Illinois State has a long tradition of educating school psychologists. The greatest legacy of the program is its nearly 500 graduates. This article highlights that long and rich tradition. We end by inviting school psychology alumni to share your memories and join us for the planned celebration as part of Illinois State University’s sesquicentennial year.

The early years: 1960–1967

Illinois State first began to educate school psychologists in 1960 in a school psychologist–counselor program in the combined Department of Psychology and Education. Professor Stan Marzolf was director of this program and the Counseling Services, located on the second floor of Fairchild Hall. The earliest graduates of this program included Ken Cottet and John Canfield (1963), and Fred Dornback, Bob Stoner, and Jim Johnson (1964).

Core faculty members, with Marzolf, included Professors Elizabeth Brown, Sam Hutter, and Claude Dillinger. Other faculty members included Professors Ralph Meyering and Bill Lueck from the Education Department and Walt Friedhoff, Val Cashen (vocational counseling), and Frank Holmes from the Psychology Department. Today, the department of 39 faculty members is the second-largest psychology department in Illinois—after only the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

The middle years: 1968–1987

With the hiring of Professor Audrey J. Grupe as director in the fall of 1968, the program expanded as the 32-credit master’s program in school psychology. Professors Elizabeth Brown, Marjorie Lewis, and Robert Hogan joined Grupe as core faculty members. To provide school psychology training, the Psychological Services Center separated from Counseling Services and Grupe established a partnership with the Bloomington District 87 Public Schools. Most students have the fondest memories of practicum, which earned three semester hours. (It now earns six hours per semester.)

Under Grupe’s leadership, the school psychology program grew to accepting 20–25 students a year from 1967 until her retirement in 1987.

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Lewis retired the following year in 1988 and Hogan shortly thereafter. Brown and Lewis have since passed away (see article on Lewis on page 10). Hogan resides in the Bloomington-Normal area, and Grupe splits her time between Bloomington-Normal and Florida.

The master’s program in school psychology, under Grupe’s leadership, reached many “firsts.” The move to a full, three-year, 60 graduate hour program (with a nine-month internship) came as the directors of University School Psychology Programs, chaired by Grupe, worked to implement expanded training standards. In 1976, Illinois State became the first school psychology program in Illinois to be approved to grant certification by entitlement (rather than the previous mechanism of transcript review).

**The current years: 1987—present**

Mark Swerdlik joined the four-faculty program in 1977 and assumed the coordinator position in 1987 upon Grupe’s retirement. During the early years of Professor Swerdlik’s tenure, a consultation component was added to practicum (and is now a separate course) and the fieldwork program in Unit Five was developed. This fieldwork has now been expanded to include the first year of a student’s enrollment (four hours per week) and includes both a public school elementary and Head Start placement. Students also meet weekly with advanced doctoral students who supervise their first-year fieldwork experience. Steven Landau was hired in 1985 from the University of South Dakota, where he directed their doctoral program. He assisted in the development of the doctoral (Ph.D.) proposal in school psychology and brought a stronger research emphasis to the program.

A number of other program faculty have made major contributions to the training of our students over past 20 years, but have moved on to practitioner positions or other university school psychology programs. These program faculty include Professors Bonnie Nastasi (1987–1991), Marty Weise (1988–1989), Jeff Laurent (1989–2001), Denise DeZolt (1990–1992), Connie Horton (1991–2001), Steve Shaw (1991–1996), Gloria Maccow (1992–1996), Maura Roberts (1992–1994), and David Wodrich (1997–1999). More recent faculty additions to the school psychology program contribute their unique areas of expertise, research, and applied interests. They include Professors Adena Meyers (1998) Karla Doepke (2000), Kathy Hoff (2000), Renee Tobin (2002), and Gary Cates (2004). Each of the recent additions to the faculty has established or expanded services at the PSC: Meyers, For Children’s Sake; Doepke, Autism; Hoff, Child/Adolescent Interventions; and Cates, Academic Intervention. These services provide a wide range of practicum experiences. With seven full-time faculty members, the program has one of the largest school psychology faculties in the country.

There were other “firsts” for the program during this period. We were the first Illinois program to be approved by NASP and the first to be approved in 1990 under the new more rigorous folio review process. In 1991, our specialist program was the first approved in the state and replaced the master’s degree. The SSP degree better represented the extensive nature of the 60-credit program and was intended to place graduates more appropriately on their district’s salary schedule. Initially, the SSP degree required a thesis, but in 2003 this was changed to the “Applied Research Experience in School Psychology.”

Over the course of a decade, Grupe, Landau, and Swerdlik developed a proposal for a doctoral program in school psychology. Providing support for the proposal were department chairs Macon Williams and Larry Alferink; department faculty; college deans; and university administrators, including university presidents Lloyd Watkins and Tom Wallace. The Illinois Board of Higher Education eventually approved the Ph.D. program in 1989, and the first three students were admitted in fall 1990. The first recipient of a doctoral degree in the program was Lisa Schuck Dreyer in 1997. APA accreditation and NASP approval for the doctoral program followed in 1998. The doctoral program now has more than 20 graduates and was reapproved by NASP (in 2003) and reaccredited by APA (2005). Both organizations granted our program the maximum length of time permissible prior to having to reapply—seven years.

In over 40 years, the doctoral, master’s, and specialist programs have graduated close to 500 school psychologists. They work in states across in the country in schools, universities, hospitals, mental health centers, and independent practice. Of the 338 school psychology graduates whose occupation information was available to us, 202 are working or have worked as school psychologists in public/private schools, 39 work or have worked as school administrators or in higher education, and 97 others listed other occupations including attorneys, clinical psychologists, teachers, counselors, and school psychologists in private practice. Many master’s and specialist degree
students have gone on to earn doctorates and many have had distinguished careers meeting the mental health and educational needs of children and families. A number of our graduates have been recognized as ISPA Practitioners of the Year and received awards from professional and parent organizations.

Celebrating (almost) 50 years of school psychology and 150 years of Illinois State University

As you no doubt agree, the school psychology program has much to celebrate in terms of the accomplishments of its alumni and faculty. We invite each of you, our program alumni and your families, to join current and past faculty, fellow alumni, and students to celebrate these accomplishments. You can participate in a number of ways. Please mark on your calendar, Homecoming 2007, October 12–14, 2007, which will celebrate the University's 150th anniversary. There will be many university activities and our school psychology program will host a dinner for alumni, former faculty, and current students and faculty. We will be gathering an oral history of the program through the recollections of alumni attending. In addition, we will create a Web site with a list of those planning to attend.

In the meantime, the Web site will be the way for you to provide your entry to our Sesquicentennial Yearbook. These postings will be available only to us. You can also send your entry as an e-mail attachment or by regular mail. We will be compiling the entries and offering the yearbook for sale at Homecoming 2007. Please go to the Web site and enjoy reminiscing about your days as a graduate student and sharing these memories and your subsequent accomplishments with others. We will send an e-mail notification to alumni with the Web site address when the site becomes available. We look forward to your participation in the Web-based activity and to each of you joining us for the homecoming celebration.

New international psychology class begins spring 2006

By Michael Stevens

International psychology is a relatively new field that continues to evolve. International psychology seeks to improve communication and collaboration among psychologists worldwide through scholarship, advocacy, education, and networking. International psychology also pursues the discovery of genuine universals by studying psychological phenomena-in-context. Finally, international psychology encompasses the application of psychological science to a wide range of global concerns, such as overpopulation, HIV/AIDS, and human trafficking. These concerns, like others that confront the world, are multi-determined and embedded in culture, economics, history, politics, and religion. International psychologists recognize that alternative, multidisciplinary approaches are needed to understand more fully and respond more effectively to global concerns.

In 2002, the APA's Task Force on Undergraduate Psychology Major Competencies was formed to better prepare psychology students to understand behavior and experience across national boundaries and cultures. The task force identified the following goals for the 21st-century psychology student: the acquisition of open-mindedness coupled with critical thinking skills; the development of sociocultural and global awareness; and the fulfillment of one's civic, social, and global duties.

In keeping with the APA's efforts and the department's own commitment to diversify the psychology curriculum, a course on international psychology (PSY 326) was development by Michael Stevens, president-elect of the APA's Division of International Psychology. The course involves reading, discussing, and writing on a variety of contemporary topics in international psychology. Students examine mainstream as well as alternative theoretical, methodological, and applied approaches that are relevant to the study and practice of international psychology. The topics selected offer a broad and deep understanding of the field, specifically, an appreciation of psychology's relevance to global problems, as well as how psychology itself is affected by events and cultures around the world. Some topics are broad—the scope of international psychology, alternative and indigenous psychologies, psychology in other countries, and specialized training; others are narrow—inter-group conflict, societal transformation, the global environment, health, globalization, and terrorism; and still others focus on at-risk populations—women, children, and refugees.

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Questions for school psychology alumni for Sesquicentennial Yearbook entries:

1. Please tell us about your career path, including where you have worked, the location, and school district, if applicable.

2. How did training in school psychology at Illinois State contribute to your career?

3. What particular memory stands out or what do you remember most about graduate school at Illinois State?

4. What about your career/accomplishments in school psychology are you most proud of?

5. Please indicate any special honors, awards, and/or recognition you’ve received related to school psychology. Indicate involvement in organizations related to school psychology and list administrative/office positions held.

6. Would you be willing to share a picture from your graduate days at Illinois State? Are you willing to share a current picture? If so, e-mail us digital copies or mail us the photos, which we will return.

7. Would you be willing to serve on a planning committee for celebrating the almost-50th anniversary of school psychology programs and 150th anniversary of Illinois State University?

Please send in your responses for the commemorative yearbook by posting on the upcoming Web site, via e-mail (psyalumni@ilstu.edu), or by regular mail (Illinois State University, Department of Psychology, Campus Box 4620, Normal, IL 61790-4620).

Two alumni reflect on experience at Illinois State

Lisa Schuck Dreyer, Ph.D. ’97, is an intervention specialist/school psychologist for the early childhood program for the Northern Suburban Special Education District. She wrote, “I am most proud of the fact that I am respected by my colleagues and the families I serve.” Here is what she remembers most:

“When I began at Illinois State University, I was immediately impressed with how friendly and supportive the students and staff were, especially [Professor] Mark Swerdlik. It was truly a group of people who valued collaboration not just as a professional skill but also as a life skill. I have so many fond memories of my two years on campus that it is difficult to choose. However, here are a few of my favorite things about graduate school at Illinois State: the ‘original’ Steak ‘n Shake, double-coupon day at Kroger, Avanti’s bread, cheese balls at the Pub, photocopying articles at the library until the wee hours of the morning, ‘working meetings’ at the Coffeehouse, yearly kick-off parties hosted by the Swerdliks, and Professor Swerdlik’s incredible ability to find an obscure, yet highly valuable, research article in his unique ‘filing system.’”

Rivkah Olley, M.S. ’75, is a school psychologist for the Baltimore Maryland County Public Schools. She wrote, “Illinois State provided an excellent basis for everything I did once I graduated. In fact, much of what I have used in my career is a function of the learning and professionalism that I learned while at Illinois State. I learned how to be a learner. I learned about joining professional groups and reading to keep up to date in all areas of knowledge.” Here is what she remembers most:

“There are so many things I remember about being at Illinois State. I remember feeling excited every day with the things I needed to learn. I felt supported by the teaching staff and encouraged to try other things (I took courses in the counselor education program and did an independent study at Metcalf), and supported in my desire to do a research piece rather than take comprehensive exams. I remember the student lounge and how wonderful it felt to feel special—a place of our own to sit. I remember many of the students. I also remember a wonderful community.”

From the chairperson

Thanks to your generous support of the program and the improved economic situation, color has returned this year! I’d like to welcome our new editor, Raz Steward, who has taken over enthusiastically from Vance Laine. This year is the lead-in to Illinois State University’s sesquicentennial. (I have a soft spot for such celebrations, having played an Indian youth in the State of Ohio’s 150th anniversary pageant in 1951.) Our lead story is the history of our oldest program, school psychology, and its plans for celebrating the sesquicentennial. I want to report to you that the state-mandated seven-year reviews of our programs went without any problems; you can read the summaries in Illinois State’s Academic Plan 2005–2010 on the provost’s Web page. The doctoral program in school psychology was reaccredited, and the school psychology postdoctoral internship consortium received its initial accreditation. We began our redecoration of the fourth floor of DeGarmo Hall last summer and plan to complete it this summer. Stop by to see the changes and say hello!

David Patton Barone

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In memoriam: Amanda Reese ’02

We have sad news to share of the passing of Amanda Reese. She was an alumna who used her psychology background every day in her work. During her time at Illinois State, Amanda worked for a year as an undergraduate intern at the DeWitt County Human Resources Center, in their developmental training program. In 2004, she became an Americorps volunteer, working with several charities, including Habitat for Humanity and Toys for Tots. According to the November 24, 2005, news article appearing in the Chicago Tribune, “Amanda Reese’s first assignment as an Americorps team leader was to direct volunteers helping Hurricane Katrina victims in Mississippi in September. Two months later, while on another volunteer mission to clean up a Florida nature preserve, Miss Reese, 25, became ill. She passed away Sunday, Nov. 20, of unknown causes in Kissimmee, Fla.” We offer our condolences to the Reese family, and to all those who knew her.

New faces

Brenda Huber, director of the Psychological Services Center

Beginning fall of 2005, Brenda became the new director of the PSC. This new half-time position was created in order to manage the existing and expanding services available at the PSC. Brenda remains half-time director of the Illinois School Psychology Internship Consortium, a position she has held since 2002. Formerly, Mark Swerdlik served as the director of the PSC while also coordinating the school psychology program and serving as a faculty member. Brenda now manages resources and oversees the day-to-day administrative and clinical operations of the six services under the PSC umbrella.

Carol Genung, computer support specialist for College of Arts and Sciences

Carol joined the CAS staff in the summer of 2005. She splits her time between several departments in CAS including psychology. She provides computer support and servicing needs for all faculty and staff, classrooms, and computer labs.

Raz Steward, academic advisor

Beginning fall of 2005, the department welcomed a new full-time academic advisor and editor of the newsletter. Formerly, the position was a half-time position held by Vance Laine, who said goodbye to the department in the summer of 2005. Raz is the primary undergraduate advisor for the department, serving the needs of approximately 500 majors and 500 minors in the department. She also serves as the alumni liaison for the department and assembles the Psychogram.

Department committed to diversity

During the 2004–2005 academic year, a new departmental committee was formed to focus on diversity and social climate issues. The committee focuses its activities on a wide range of issues related to the diversity of department faculty, staff, and students. In the first year, the committee discussed periodically monitoring faculty’s and students’ perceptions of the climate in the department. The committee has also focused on an assessment of diversity content in the curriculum, recruitment and retention of diverse students, and the development of a diversity resource guide for faculty to use to find materials for classroom use. With the input of the entire faculty, the committee also developed the department’s “Civility Guidelines for Classroom Behavior” as a guide for students and faculty to reference when dealing with issues related to diversity in the classroom, forms of address between students and professors, and positive classroom behavior. This year, the committee is developing a departmental diversity statement to be included on its Web page, where a diverse set of student success stories will also be highlighted.
Profile of an alumnus living abroad

Frank Becvar ’94 is a middle school counselor/school psychologist at the American International School of Budapest. Previously, Frank worked at international schools in Caracas, Venezuela, and Jakarta, Indonesia.

Frank had some thoughts about working in the field of psychology abroad: “Learning about other people and experiencing other places has always sparked my curiosity and the international life has been a great fit for me.”

In recalling his days at Illinois State, Frank stated, “The B.S. degree helped lay the groundwork for my graduate studies, and I particularly recall the helpful guidance of Professor Jeff Laurent, who introduced me to the field of school psychology.”

Frank also had some thoughts about the opportunities graduates from Illinois State University’s psychology programs have. He said, “Most school psychologists have no idea that there are excellent opportunities to work abroad in international schools and in Department of Defense overseas schools. If you are adventurous, independent, and an active person who enjoys new cultures and experiences, working abroad should be considered.”

Distinguished Alumni Awards for 2005

Fred Dornback ’61, M.S. ’64, whose career in school psychology spanned over 40 years (both as a practitioner and administrator), has been distinguished by the innovativeness of his work and his consistent mentoring of young professionals.

Fred was selected as one of six school psychologists to participate in the first National Department Education Act (NDEA) Institute. Two years later, Fred was selected as one of 30 nationwide to attend the first NDEA Institute for school psychologists only.

On a national level, Fred was one of the original founders of the National Association of School Psychologists (NASP). He created the organization’s logo, which is still used today. Fred served as the organization’s first regional director for our area and served as the fourth president of NASP during 1973–1974. He was also an Illinois State Board of Education due process hearing officer and assumed a leadership position. In addition, Fred’s long career also included supervising and mentoring school psychology interns from Illinois State.

Since his retirement from public schools, Fred has become a Red Cross disaster mental health worker, has run workshops for seniors in his community, and has served as a founding member of the board of directors and board secretary for the Living Well Cancer Resource Center. A constant supporter of Illinois State, he and his wife Mary ’62 reside in the Chicago area.

James LeBreton ’95, M.S. ’97, has been an assistant professor at Wayne State University since completing his Ph.D. in industrial/organizational psychology from the University of Tennessee in 2002. In August 2006, he will join the psychology faculty as an associate professor at Purdue University.

In his relatively short academic career, LeBreton has generated an impressive research vita. He has published many journal articles and book chapters, presented and chaired conference symposia, and consulted on a variety of federal grant projects. His interests in research methodology and personality psychology combine to fuel cutting-edge research on conditional reasoning methods for assessing aggressive and antisocial counterproductive work styles.

A Normal native, James credits the Honors section of “Introductory Psychology” taught by Macon Williams as a profound influence on the course of his education and career. James met his wife, Beth (Gerace) LeBreton, M.S. ’97, while they were in graduate school at Illinois State. James and Beth are the proud parents of a one-year-old daughter, Maggie.

Psychology alumni activities and recognition

Judge Scott Drazewski ’79
Illinois State University E. Burton Mercier Alumni Service Award

Vincent Trosino, M.S. ’73
CAS Alumni Hall of Fame

Russell Hagen, M.A. ’80
CAS Community Advisory Board

Robert Lemke ’82, M.S. ’84
CAS Chicago Advisory Board

From left: Claire Delahunt, Audre Grupe, and Jennifer Wierzbicki.
Profile of an alumnus donor

James Antos ’73, M.S. ’76, is principal at Brother Rice High School in Chicago. James’s wife, Mary, is also a graduate of the University (1974). James has been teaching in Catholic schools since 1974. At Brother Rice, James previously served as a baseball coach, dean of students, assistant principal, and, since 1998, principal. He is a member of several professional organizations, but is most active in the National Catholic Educational Association. James also serves as a member of the Legislative Commission for the Illinois High School Association.

Recalling his days as a psychology major, James said, “My time at Illinois State University certainly ranks as one of the most blessed and enjoyable times of my life. There are a number of professors who I credit in guiding me towards a career in education, including Jerry Williams, Jim Johnson, Bob Crist, Macon Williams, and Ben Moore, who were outstanding in their teaching and guidance. I am honored to have been taught by them.”

In recalling his graduate experience in psychology, James said, “In my master’s work in particular, I concentrated in the area of learning practice and theory. In working with teenagers’ psychology, theory and practice has been invaluable because, as you know, kids can do and say the damndest things.”

Best wishes to Vance Laine

Vance, former editor of the Psychogram and academic advisor, left the department this past summer in order to provide applied behavioral analysis (ABA) therapy to his four-year-old twin sons, both of whom have autistic spectrum disorders. Kim Williamson ’05 and two undergraduate psychology interns in the ABA program are assisting him.

New assignments

- Karen Mark, coordinator of clinical-counseling and career programs
- Dawn McBride, undergraduate coordinator
- Jeff Wagman, Honors advisor

Developmental psychology news

By Marla Reese-Weber

We have had an exciting year within our sequence: curriculum changes, creation of the Child Research Lab Database, two social events, three new developmental alumni, and continued faculty productivity.

Curriculum changes include adding a professional seminar in developmental psychology as a requirement for all first- and second-year students. PSY 432, “Psychodiagnostics I,” is no longer a required course, and the comprehensive exam is no longer an option. A thesis is now required of all students in the developmental sequence.

The Child Research Lab Database, created by Professor Alycia Hund, provides a great resource for developmental research. Parents are invited to read about the importance of research and how their children can become participants in our research studies by including their children in our secure database. When we conduct studies, we use the database to identify potential participants and contact them about participation in a specific study. For more information, see www.psychology.ilstu.edu/CRL/.

We held two social events this year. Our first annual alumni dinner was held this past April at SRCD in Atlanta. In attendance were six of our developmental faculty, three current developmental students, four alumni, and several guests. Our annual fall social, a wonderful brunch for current developmental students, was held at the home of Professors Rocio Rivadenyra and Gregory Braswell.

We welcome three new alumni in the developmental sequence, all of whom successfully defended their theses last spring: Melissa (Ator) Murphy, Melanie Lebo, and Melody Joy Dransfield. This fall, five new students joined our six continuing students in the developmental sequence.

Our faculty members continue to be very productive. In 2005 alone, we have had six publications, six grants funded, and 23 presentations.

Finally, we would like to wish Professor Douglas Hardwick the best of luck on his retirement.
Alumni updates

Clinical counseling


• Pamela Sue (Roberts) Hillyard, M.S. ’97, with husband Jeffrey Hillyard, gave birth to twin boys Connor Aidan and Jackson Noah on December 16, 2004. Pamela is the coordinator of resource development for the Illinois Institute for Addiction Recovery at Proctor Hospital in Peoria.

• Danesh Karunanayake, M.S. ’00, received his Ph.D. in counseling psychology at Purdue University in May 2005. He and his wife, Shamala Kumar, M.S. ’00, and their son, Malin, returned to their native Sri Lanka in the summer of 2005 to live and seek employment.

• Tangala (Duncan) Kraus, M.S. ’04, with Professor Margaret Nauta, published an article: Kraus, T. M. D., & Nauta, M. M. (in press). Values, motivations, and learning experiences of future professionals: Who wants to serve underserved populations? *Professional Psychology: Research & Practice*. Tangala is a program coordinator for Healthy Families Arizona.

• Kara Lidy, M.S. ’04, won first prize entering her thesis project for a research contest sponsored by the Institute for Personality and Ability Testing.

• Timothy Mitchell ’97, M.S. ’99, is the Illinois manager for Cascade Disability Management, providing vocational rehabilitation services to clients.

• Lauren Sax, M.S. ’05, took a position as a family clinical counselor with the DuPage County Mental Health Department. She is working in an outpatient setting with children and families referred through schools and hospitals.


Cognitive and Behavioral sciences

• Heather Bouchey, M.S. ’95, with husband Tom Delaney, gave birth to a daughter, Bryn Deborah Bouchey-Delaney, in November 2004.

• Melody Joy Dransfield, M.S. ’05, is a research analyst at Social Science Automation in Columbus, Ohio.

• Christy England-Siegerdt ’94, M.S. ’00, is an assistant director of aca-

• Dawn Sharp ’03, M.S. ’05, works for Epic Systems Corporation in Madison, Wisconsin.

• In February 2005, I/O held the second biennial Alumni Practitioner Panel Discussion. The following alums returned to campus to partici-

• Angela Adorno, M.S. ’99; Caroline Bellizzi ’96, M.S. ’00; Dorene Burkhalter ’89, M.S. ’96; John DeVille, M.S. ’04; James LeBreton ’95, M.S. ’97; Rich Manzella, M.A. ’90; Jen Stauffer, M.S. ’02; and Mark Steward ’90, M.S. ’00. A dinner reception followed, with Mark buying everyone a cool beverage.
In the last two years, the cognitive and behavioral sciences master’s program has had unparalleled success in preparing its students for doctoral programs. Here is who they are and what they had to say in reflecting on their experience in Illinois State University’s Psychology Department.

**Jennifer Coane, M.S. ’04**, began her doctoral work in fall 2004 in experimental psychology at Washington University in St. Louis. She wrote, “I believe my experiences at Illinois State provided me with a solid academic background and training. Attending Illinois State gave me a distinct advantage in that I was able to work closely with several faculty members. I also greatly value the emphasis on teaching. However, the best part of my experiences was the stimulating intellectual environment I found there. The exposure to different philosophies and ways of thinking about science has made me a better researcher. The master’s program expanded my horizons in a way that can make me a better scholar and teacher.”

**Jorie Colbert, M.S. ’05**, began her doctoral work in fall 2005 in educational psychology at the University of Utah.

**Matthew Hunsinger, M.S. ’05**, began his doctoral work in fall 2005 in social psychology at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. He wrote, “I found the faculty to be very knowledgeable, accessible, friendly, and open to my ideas. The cognitive [and behavioral sciences] program provided a wonderful environment to cultivate my skills as a researcher and a consumer of scientific findings, as well as create a space to explore and contemplate important theoretical and conceptual issues in the field.”

**Bascom Raulerson III, M.S. ’05**, began his doctoral work in fall 2005 in experimental psychology at Saint Louis University. He wrote, “My experience at Illinois State was instrumental in my being accepted into the Ph.D. program at [Saint Louis University]. In particular, the program gave me the experience in conducting research and participating in conferences, which made me marketable for Ph.D. programs. In addition, the emphasis on the cross-disciplinary cognitive science program gave me breadth desirable for the program I entered.”

**Kona Taylor, M.S. ’05**, began her doctoral work in fall 2005 in the math, science, and technology division of the Curriculum and Instruction Department at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She wrote, “One of the biggest advantages was the individualized attention offered by the faculty. My thesis advisor was especially helpful in giving me the opportunity to experience professional publication. Another important advantage for me was the freedom to pursue my own interests while gaining knowledge in the fundamentals of cognitive and behavioral science. This freedom allowed me many advantages when applying to Ph.D. programs.”

CBS graduates enter doctoral programs
### Faculty updates and awards


- Tom Critchfield is the 2005 president of the Association for Behavior Analysis (ABA), an international professional organization devoted to the scientific analysis of behavior.

- Alycia Hund is the 2006 recipient of Illinois State University’s Research Initiative Award. Her research is based on spatial memory in children.

- J. Scott Jordan is spending spring 2006 as a Research Fellow of the Center for Interdisciplinary Studies at the University of Bielefeld in Germany. He is a yearlong member of its research group, Embodied Communication in Humans and Machines. See www.uni-bielefeld.de/ZIF/FG/2005 Communication/index2.html.

- Rocio Rivadeneyra received a $25,000 training grant from NIH at the Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, University of California, San Francisco, for Collaborative HIV-Prevention Research in Minority Communities Program.

- Michael Stevens is the 2006 president-elect for the Division of International Psychology for the American Psychological Association.

- Corinne Zimmerman was commissioned by the National Research Council’s Committee on Science Learning Kindergarten through Eighth Grade to review the literature on the development of scientific reasoning. She presented a draft of this paper at the National Academies of Science on March 14. See www7.nationalacademies.org/bose/Science_Learning_Kindergarten_thru_Eighth_Grade.html.

### Remembering school psychology: Professor Marge Lewis (1924–2005)

*By Mark Swerdluk*

Professor Lewis was a member of the Psychology Department for over 20 years and of the Illinois State University community for over 35 years. She taught “Psychology of the Exceptional Child,” “School Psychology Practicum,” and, for the last 10 years of her career, “Psychodiagnosics I (PDI).” School psychology graduate students attending Illinois State from the late 1960s until her retirement in 1987 had Lewis as an instructor. Students in the clinical or counseling psychology graduate programs during this time period likely had Lewis for PDI.

Lewis passed away on May 11, 2005, in Normal. Marge, as she was known to her friends and colleagues, was born May 21, 1924, in St. Louis. Her first teaching position was at the University of Iowa Hospital School for Severely Handicapped Children. In 1951, she arrived at Illinois State Normal University as a teacher of students with physical disabilities. She was a “master teacher” working in the laboratory school and conducting teaching methods workshops nationwide for other special education teachers. In 1966, she joined the Psychology Department as part of the school psychology graduate program where she remained until her retirement. Lewis was a respected and beloved professor to over 400 graduate students in the school and clinical and counseling psychology graduate programs, as well as the hundreds of undergraduates in her “Psychology of the Exceptional Child” classes. She was a strong and independent woman but warm and supportive to students and colleagues alike.

All who knew her and were touched by her life will miss Marge Lewis. Memorials may be made in her honor to the Psychology Department/School psychology program c/o Illinois State University Foundation.
Psychological Services Center (PSC)

By Brenda Huber

The PSC, located on the fourth floor of Fairchild Hall, is expanding. This fall we invested in wireless Internet access so that students can utilize their own laptops. We also purchased Palm Pilots so that behavioral observations can be done and the data downloaded with ease.

The quantity of services continues to increase. We provided services to over 200 individuals in 2004–2005. In addition to providing services within the clinic, graduate clinicians meet with educators and families. For Children’s Sake, which celebrated its 10th anniversary, served approximately 20 families, primarily on-site at the Neville House. The new Academic Intervention and Consultation Service served 10 additional students. It targets reading, math, spelling, and written-language skill deficits with empirically supported interventions; monitors the success of different methods; and provides consultation to parents and teachers.

New faces from outside the school psychology program bring cross-fertilization with other programs and new opportunities. We are training our first pre-doctoral intern through the Illinois School Psychology Internship Consortium. Amy Luckner from the University of Minnesota is gaining experience in each of the PSC services. During 2005–2006, we are piloting the integration of some second-year clinical-counseling students with the intent to involve more in the future.

The development of additional services is being discussed to accommodate the increased number of graduate clinicians. One service would provide counseling to adoptive and long-term foster parents and be built upon research in parent-child attachment. Another would engage pediatricians in collaborative mental health service delivery.

Neva Waller, clinic secretary, left the PSC on February 28, 2006, after nine years of service. Her kindness to staff, students, and clients is greatly missed. In her spare time, Neva hopes to travel and spend time with her grandchildren.

The PSC constantly changes, but the strong sense of collegiality remains. Alumni are encouraged to call or stop by for a tour.

Illinois School Psychology Internship Consortium (ISPIC) receives APA Accreditation

ISPIC is in the process of recruiting its fifth class of pre-doctoral interns to the 12 Partnering Sites in Central and Northern Illinois. Last year, ISPIC received 24 applications. We were pleased to orient nine new interns representing University of South Florida, University of Iowa, University of Minnesota, Loyola University Chicago, and University of Wisconsin–Madison.

The program has sought accreditation by the American Psychological Association (APA) in order to ensure an ongoing commitment to the highest-quality training and to vastly increase the number, diversity, and caliber of applicants coming into school psychology in Illinois. On October 25, 2005, we received word that the program has been accredited for five years. Alumni who are interested in learning more about or becoming involved with the program can visit our Web site (www.psychology.ilstu.edu/ispic) and contact us at ispic@ilstu.edu.
Keep in touch!

Please help update our database by sending information to the editor, R. Steward, by mail, Illinois State University, Department of Psychology, Campus Box 4620, Normal, IL 61790-4620; e-mail, psyalumni@ilstu.edu; or fax, (309) 438-5789. Thank you.

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An equal opportunity/affirmative action university encouraging diversity

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