University names John Pryor as Distinguished Professor

Illinois State University President Al Bowman has appointed John Pryor, Department of Psychology, as Distinguished Professor at Illinois State. Pryor, who came to Illinois State in 1985, earned his bachelor’s degree in psychology at the University of Texas at Austin and his master’s degree and doctorate in psychology from Princeton University. He is an internationally recognized scholar in the areas of social psychology of stigma and the nature of sexual harassment. He has been at the forefront of social psychological research on HIV-related stigma and society’s perceptions and attitudes toward people with HIV.

Pryor has published 81 journal articles and chapters in edited volumes and made more than 180 presentations at conferences and colloquia.

Pryor served as the College of Arts and Sciences research coordinator for three years and as an interim chair for the Department of Psychology. He has supervised more than 50 graduate students in their thesis or dissertation research and more than 120 undergraduate students in either honors program or independent studies projects. Pryor is a fellow of the American Psychological Association, the Association for Psychological Science, the Midwestern Psychological Association, and the Society for Experimental Social Psychology. He is an editorial board member for Basic and Applied Social Psychology, Psychological Inquiry, and Sex Roles. Pryor has received the Outstanding College Researcher Award and Outstanding University Researcher Award, and he was also a College of Arts and Sciences Lecturer.

The Distinguished Professor designation honors faculty members of distinction who have demonstrated to the broader community that excellence is the foundation of the University. Among the criteria for appointment are achieving national recognition for scholarly research, creative production, or leadership in creative or scholarly activities. In addition, candidates must have been clearly identified by students, colleagues, or external agencies as an outstanding teacher or must have contributed significant public service in accord with his or her academic discipline. Distinguished Professors are invited to deliver one public lecture or presentation on a topic of their choosing, receive a $1,000 budget per annum in support of activities as a Distinguished Professor, and continue to hold the title throughout their service to Illinois State.

A letter from the interim chair

On behalf of faculty and staff, let me say it is our distinct pleasure to keep in touch with you via the latest edition of Psy News.

As interim chair, I have obtained a more-informed view of the day-to-day milieu of the department. And as I have had the opportunity to learn more about other departments, I can say with confidence, the department is doing quite well. In 2008–2009, we published more papers and book chapters than any other department in the college. In addition, faculty continue to garner university acclaim: Thomas Critchfield received the Outstanding College Researcher Award; Margie Nauta, the Outstanding University Teacher Award; and John Pryor was selected to be a Distinguished Professor. In addition to publications and awards, faculty continue to move forward in their careers. Alycia Hund, Rocio Rivadeneyra, and Jeffrey Wagman were all promoted to associate professor, with tenure.

As you can see, the department is on the move. We continue to push forward in our commitment to providing a high-quality undergraduate experience in practice, theory, and research, as well as intense, individualized graduate-student training. In addition, we continue to sustain an open-minded scholarly environment that promotes excellence and a commitment to diversity. If you happen to be in town at some point, feel free to stop by, walk around the fourth floor of DeGarmo, and soak up the ambience of a dedicated faculty and staff. And if you see someone you remember, feel free to say ‘hello’. I’m sure it will make their day.

Best,
J. Scott Jordan, Ph.D.
Professor and Interim Chair
Department of Psychology
Developing creative solutions to funding and training needs  
By Brenda Huber

The Illinois School Psychology Internship Consortium (ISPIC) continues to flourish despite the economic difficulties associated with relying on soft money to sustain it. For the third year in a row, the cohort has consisted of 20 interns, and three new opportunities have been added for next year: Niles Central, Crossroads Counseling & Grundy County Special Education Cooperative, and Livingston County Special Services Unit. The combined creative energy of faculty from the four Illinois doctoral programs and the tenacity of the practitioners in the clinical trenches across central and northern Illinois have resulted in more efficient and productive uses of technology. For example, all ISPIC paperwork—applications, training manuals, readings, evaluations, etc.—is done electronically. Although we make use of videoconferencing several times a year, we still meet monthly for training seminars, as nothing can replace face-to-face interaction. In order to fund interns’ mileage reimbursement to these seminars, ISPIC has begun to conduct low-cost professional development opportunities for practitioners in central and southern Illinois where these events are sometimes scarce.

The Illinois School Psychology Association recently did a statewide survey of school psychologists, which identified the top training needs of the profession. In response, ISPIC presented an Academic Intervention Showcase in November 2009. The current intern cohort described 12 different curricula and played video clips of them being used with children, outlining the “active ingredients” of the interventions as well as the research to support them. In June 2010 they will be hosting the Social-Emotional Intervention Showcase using a similar format. Our hope is that these opportunities will both meet the professional development needs of practitioners in the field while providing the funds to support intern training.

Department welcomes new faculty member

Steve Croker is a new assistant professor of psychology. He earned his Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Nottingham. As a senior lecturer and assistant head of psychology at the University of Derby he taught courses in developmental psychology and cognitive science. He is teaching courses in introductory psychology and educational psychology at Illinois State. Croker’s research interests include the development of scientific reasoning, children’s knowledge and understanding of health and illness, the development of temporal visual attention, and magical thinking in adults. He is affiliated with many professional organizations, including the British Psychological Society, the Cognitive Science Society, and the Society for Research in Child Development. He enjoys reading novels, listening to music, and playing the guitar.

By Marla Reese-Weber

Alycia Hund and Rocio Rivadeneyra were granted tenure and promoted to associate professors. In addition, Corinne Zimmerman was awarded a yearlong sabbatical for the 2009–2010 academic year. Renee Tobin was appointed as the acting director of the University Assessment Office at Illinois State and continues to serve as an associate editor for the *Journal of Psychoeducational Assessment*.

We are also pleased to introduce our newest faculty member, Steve Croker. Croker earned his Ph.D. at the University of Nottingham (see new faculty profile below).

An alumnus of our developmental master’s program, Michael Criss, was honored with the Early Career Alumni Award in fall 2009 (see article on page 7).

In the past year, our sequence faculty members have published numerous articles and book chapters and have made presentations at local, national, or international conferences. Especially noteworthy was Gary Creasey’s invitation to write a theoretical commentary on adult attachment that appeared in *Psychological Inquiry* (2009, Vol., 19, 161-166).

In addition, several faculty members have been awarded grants. Steve Croker received a grant for “Exploring the role of compensatory health beliefs in obesity” from the University of Derby’s Quality Research Fund. Gary Creasey is the principal investigator on an Illinois State SoTL Program grant award titled, “Becoming an Urban Educator: Intellectual Growth and Development of Social Justice in Re-Designed Courses Serving the Urban Teacher Preparation Program.” Creasey is also a program director on the recently awarded United States Department of Education Grant titled, “TEACHER + PLUS”. Patricia Jarvis received an external grant from the Society for the Psychological Study of Scientific Issues as well as an internal University Research Grant on adolescent part time work and sexual harassment. She also received a Teaching Quality Enhancement Course Development Grant from the College of Education to redesign her Psychology 302 Adolescent Development course to better prepare students to work in under-serviced, poor urban neighborhoods.

In addition to our hard work, we have also found time to enjoy ourselves. At the biennial conference of the Society for Research on Child Development in Denver (April 2009), several alumni, students, and faculty gathered for dinner at Rock Bottom Brewery. We also held a social event for our current graduate students at Patricia Jarvis and Gary Creasey’s home in May 2009 to enjoy Mexican cuisine prepared by the faculty members. Finally, the social event in the fall was planned by our second year graduate students. We had a wonderful lunch together at Destihl in Normal.

By Brenda Huber

Steve Croker is a new assistant professor of psychology. He earned his Ph.D. in psychology from the University of Nottingham. As a senior lecturer and assistant head of psychology at the University of Derby he taught courses in developmental psychology and cognitive science. He is teaching courses in introductory psychology and educational psychology at Illinois State. Croker’s research interests include the development of scientific reasoning, children’s knowledge and understanding of health and illness, the development of temporal visual attention, and magical thinking in adults. He is affiliated with many professional organizations, including the British Psychological Society, the Cognitive Science Society, and the Society for Research in Child Development. He enjoys reading novels, listening to music, and playing the guitar.
**Clinical-Counseling Psychology**

*By Karen I. Mark*

We have 33 students in the program, and we continue to receive applications from strong individuals with a variety of experiences and backgrounds. Among the 13 students admitted for fall 2009 is Nicole Vega, who joins us from Costa Rica as a recipient of the prestigious Fulbright Scholarship. Also in this year’s entering class is Natalie Chase, who received one of the very competitive ISU Foundation Fellowship awards offered each year to top first-year graduate students.

**Practicum Supervisor Award**

Congratulations to the most recent graduates of the clinical-counseling program. Arusha Sethi and Ruth Stanton graduated in December 2008; Kelsey Dennis, Angela (Marotta) Garrison, Allison Gorczowski, and Daniel Santangelo earned their degrees in May 2009; and Amanda Burress and Sadie Nazarczuk completed their degrees in August 2009. We welcome them to our growing list of program alumni, and we wish them continued success in the next chapter of their professional lives.

This year’s Practicum Supervisor Award in clinical-counseling psychology was given to Amy Duffy, M.S. ‘92, for her years of providing outstanding supervision for students completing their practicum placements at Institute for Human Resources in Pontiac.

In September 2009, Glenn Covert, who received the 2008 Clinical-Counseling Practicum Supervisor Award, retired after working at Chestnut Health Systems for 35 years. We are grateful to Covert for his years of dedication in providing practicum and prepracticum placements for clinical-counseling students.

**New practicum opportunities**

We continue to be grateful for partnerships with community agencies that provide valuable training practica for students in the second year of the clinical-counseling program. In 2009–2010 we are pleased to have established a new practicum site at Children’s Home Association of Illinois in Peoria, where one of our students is completing her placement in the behavioral health services program. We greatly appreciate Patrick Phelan, M.S. ‘98, clinical psychology, for his efforts in developing this new practicum site for our students. The agencies where other students are completing their practica are Chestnut Health Systems (intensive outpatient substance abuse and counseling and family services), Institute for Human Resources, DeWitt County Human Resource Center, Heritage Behavioral Health Center, and McLean County Center for Human Services.

In addition to the second year practicum placements, we are grateful for partnerships with community agencies that provide prepracticum placements for clinical-counseling students in their first year. These placements provide valuable clinical experience and graduate assistantships for our students, while students contribute meaningful services to community agencies and the clients they serve. In 2009–2010, seven of the thirteen first-year students are completing prepracticum internships at Catholic Charities, Chestnut Global Partners, and Chestnut Health Systems (adult residential treatment program).

**Supervision incorporated into practicum**

As many of our recent graduates assume supervisory responsibilities, a supervision module is being incorporated into the practicum course for second-year students. In a pilot venture in spring 2009, second-year students in Al House’s practicum course provided time-limited supervision sessions for first year students in Joel Schneider’s course in Theories and Techniques of Counseling: Adults. We are looking forward to expanding this professional development opportunity for students in spring 2010.
Current program

There are currently fifteen students in the program. We welcomed five new students this year. Amanda Padgitt joins us from Eastern Illinois University, while Andrew Kenning, Erik Nelson, Jonathan David, and Kelly Wystarczak are all Illinois State alumni.

Graduate student updates

The CBS sequence of the psychology master's program has five active second-year and five active first-year students working on research projects such as displacement in spatial cognition, factors affecting way finding, and temporal discounting effects on biofeedback. We welcome our new first-year students Jim Clinton, Justin Durtschi, Ankit Patel, Matt Richardson, and Lynn Spotts. Matt Richardson is also an Illinois State alumnus with an undergraduate degree in psychology.

Alumni progress

Kate Hudson successfully defended her master's thesis this year on prospective memory. She is working at Chestnut Health Systems in Bloomington.

Charles Coey successfully defended his master's thesis this year on spatial perception in stimulus control. He is in the University of Cincinnati's Experimental Psychology and Human Factors Ph.D. program.

Elizabeth Dalianis defended her master's thesis this year on factors that influence detection of melanoma. She is at the University of Maryland completing a second master's degree in public health.

Faculty notes

Scott Jordan is serving as interim chair of the psychology department. Dawn McBride is filling in as CBS coordinator while Jordan serves as chair. Two faculty members, Alycia Hund and Jeffrey Wagman, were also promoted and granted tenure this year. In addition Corrine Zimmerman and Jeff Wagman were guests on an episode of the WGLT radio program "Uncommon Knowledge." They discussed their research of the age-old riddle, "Which weighs more, a pound of feathers or a pound of bricks?"
By Kim Schneider

I/O-Social alum and faculty

Glenn Reeder was named Distinguished Professor by the University. Congratulations, Glenn! John Binning was awarded the Distinguished Teaching Contribution Award from SIOP at the 2009 conference in New Orleans.

James LeBreton received the Outstanding Early Career Achievement award from the Research Methods Division of the Academy of Management.

Anthony Adorno was awarded a 2009 Practicum Supervision Award from the Department of Psychology at Illinois State for his work supervising undergraduate and graduate interns at The DeGarmo Group.

Congratulations to our newest IOS master’s degree alumni


Welcome to the new I/O-S master’s candidates

This year we welcomed an incoming class with our largest number of social psychology students in recent history, as well as two I/O students. Our first-year class includes Adam Bradshaw (Illinois State), Akiko Matsuo (Adrian College), Stacey McClellan (Western Carolina University), Lindsay Pater (Illinois State), Stan Treger (Northern Illinois University), and Josh Wondra (Illinois State). Four second-year I/O students are also continuing in the program.

Recent publications and grants by IOS faculty

Binning, J.F., & LeBreton, J.M. (2009). Coherent conceptualization is useful for many things, and understanding validity is one of them. Industrial and Organizational Psychology, 2, 486-492.


Kim Schneider received a grant from the Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues for a study focused on the harassment experiences of working adolescents in the program.

Psychology donor roll 2009

We have tried to ensure accuracy. If your name has been omitted, misspelled, or incorrectly listed, please accept our apologies and contact the editor, Raz Steward at rlstew2@ilstu.edu.

$1,000+

Autism Society of McLean County
Cathy Baechle and D. Charles Van Hecke
Frederick and Mary Dornback
Audrey J. Grupe
James and Patricia Johnson
Mary Jane McCarthy
Dennis Petrowsky
Crystal Wano
Thomas Wicke

$500-$999

Cynthia and Ryan Abbott
Illinois Urological Society
Michela Laible
State Farm Companies Foundation

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Virginia Asper
Scott and Sonya Atkins
Paul Blackwell and Mary Dellorto
Bernard and Vicki Dechman
Cheryl and Michael Elenz
James and Beth LeBreton
Nancy and Stephen Siwiec
Sharon Swanson
Connie Wilson

$100-$249

Anonymous
Larry A. and Laura R. Alferink
Thomas and Anne Berghausen
Vincent Brolley
Pamela Clancy
Jeffrey and Sharon Crowhurst
Luann and Ken Douglas
Debra Eisenberg
Tisha and David Glad
Carl and Lisa Hinshaw
Michael and Becky Hoag
Lisa and Michael Hoane
Shirley and R. Houx
Jeffrey A. Crowhurst
Jerome Jordan
Donald and Marilyn Kammler
Bradley Krause
Mary Lee and John Lockwood
Barbara Marsh
Christopher and Susan Martin
Jessica Mitchell
David and Marian Morgenstern
John Nobis and Susan Moore-Nobis

Continued on page 6
This fall the program welcomed six incoming specialist and seven doctoral students. They represent a number of universities from across the nation including Rockhurst University (Missouri), Knox College, Illinois Wesleyan, University of Illinois at Champaign–Urbana, University of Illinois–Chicago, Western Michigan University, University of Michigan, St. Mary’s University (Texas), Purdue University, St. Louis University, and Benedictine University.

Current doctoral interns are completing their internships with the ISPIC-Northern Suburban Special Education District (Kate Gioia), Cypress-Fairbanks School District (Houston, Jennifer Wallace), and University of Tennessee Consortium (Cherokee Health Systems, Tara Dickey). Specialist student internship placements include Arizona School District (Margie Heitz), Wheaton-Warrenville School District (Lindsey Vacco), Peoria, School District 150 (Jennifer MacPherson), Naperville School District 203 (Kate Canty), Northbrook School District 28 (Kristin Miller), Palatine School District (Molly Ulferts-Battaglini), and Boone County Special Education District (Holly Vogel).

Seventh Audrey J. Grupe Fellow in School Psychology selected

Alison Tomchik was named the seventh recipient of the Audrey J. Grupe Fellowship in School Psychology. Alison is currently a first-year student in the specialist program. She received her undergraduate degree from Knox College in Galesburg. Past Grupe Fellows have included Amir Jacob, Brian Spicer, Jennifer Wierzbicki, Claire Delahunt, Rebecca Skupien, and Kristin Miller. The fellowship includes a full tuition waiver and a monthly stipend equivalent to a graduate assistantship. The Department of Psychology, and more specifically the school psychology faculty, thank Audrey Grupe and cofounder Mary Jane McCarthy for funding the fellowship and contributing to future generations of school psychology students.

Student accomplishments

Congratulations to our new doctoral graduates Erin Curry, Karen Erkfrize-Gay, Anne Howard, Aimee Ladd, and Sarah Reck. Congratulations also to our recent specialist degree graduates Brenda Downey, Brittini Lauinger, Megan Lyons, Laura Reber, Lauren Saternus, Becky Skupien, and Allison Whitney. A number of our current students have presented papers/posters at professional conferences and/or published papers in professional journals. Congratulations to Dan Gadke (APA and Journal of College Student Development), Jake Linnell (APA and Inter-University Seminar on Armed Forces and Society (IUS)), Silas Dick (APA, NASP, and IUS), Kate Canty (NASP, ISPA), Julie Herbst (Encyclopedia of Human Relationships), Anna Hickey (ISPA), and Kate Gioia (NASP and a chapter in Play therapy for preschool children).

Congratulations to Molly Ulferts-Battaglini on her recent marriage.
Distinguished Alumni Award

By James Johnson

J. Daniel House received his bachelor’s degree in psychology in 1978 and a master’s degree in experimental psychology in 1980 from Illinois State University. He completed a Ph.D. at the University of Iowa in 1985 in educational psychology with a focus on instructional technology and measurement-statistics. Since 1987 House has been on staff at Northern Illinois University in the Office of Institutional Research. In 1994 House was promoted to director of institutional research. Concurrent to his work, he has been an adjunct professor in the Department of Educational Technology, and for several summers he taught workshops in advanced statistical methods for higher education at UCLA.

House’s vita lists more than 75 papers and presentations to state, regional, national, and international associations. More than 125 of his publications have appeared in journals such as Education, Journal of School Psychology, Psychological Reports, Journal of Genetic Psychology, Educational and Psychological Measurement, and Journal of College Student Development.

House is accomplished in Taekwondo and holds a black belt. In summer 2009 he won the lightweight division at a national tournament in Texas. He also participated in the National Senior Olympics in California and finished in the top ten in his age group in the high jump and javelin.

House is originally from Normal and is a graduate of Metcalf and Normal Community High School. During his time at Illinois State, he was a high jumper and a member of the men’s track team. He resides in DeKalb with his wife Cathy. They have two children, Lindsay and Joe.

Early Career Achievement Award

Michael Criss earned his bachelor’s degree in psychology in 1994 and a master’s degree in developmental psychology in 1996 from Illinois State University. He then went on to earn a Ph.D. in human development and family studies from Auburn University. Criss is an assistant professor in the Department of Human Development and Family Science at Oklahoma State University in Stillwater, Oklahoma. Teaching assignments have included lifespan human development, parenting and adolescent development in family contexts, developmental contexts of normative behavior problems, and advanced research methods in HDFS. His research interests include parenting; children’s relationships with parents, siblings, and peers; antecedents of antisocial behavior; and child resilience. He has also served as an ad hoc reviewer for Educational Measurement: Issues and Practices and APA conferences.

History of psychology colloquium

Alumni Day events in October 2009 featured a colloquium on the history of psychology. Excerpts from The History of Psychology at Illinois State University: Expanding Opportunities 1857–2009 were presented by coauthors Mark Swerdlik, David Barone, Jim Johnson, and John Freed.

Dedication of the Walter H. Friedhoff Conference Room

During Alumni Day ceremonies in October 2009, Walter H. Friedhoff was recognized for his many contributions to the Department of Psychology by naming the department’s conference room in his honor. Friedhoff’s career with Illinois State spanned 37 years from 1958–1995. He was named the first department chair in 1966. During his tenure he contributed to psychology and the University through his teaching and leadership. His tenure as chair was marked with tremendous growth. The number of faculty positions doubled, increased admissions standards for psychology graduate programs were put in place, and research productivity and course offerings reached all time highs.

Monograph and DVD of history colloquium available

Alumni can learn how university presidents taught the first psychology courses and about Illinois State University’s role at the center of a national movement in psychology at the turn of the century. Read about the history of our undergraduate and graduate programs in clinical-counseling, industrial-organizational/social psychology, developmental psychology, general experimental/cognitive behavioral science, and school psychology. The monograph, The History of Psychology at Illinois State University: Expanding Opportunities 1857–2009, includes chapters such as “Psychology: The early years, ISNU;” “Psychology at mid-century: The Gestation Period, 1943–1960;” “The psychology undergraduate major at Illinois State University;” “Educating school psychologists for more than half a century: A history of the school psychology program;” “Evolution of the clinical-counseling psychology program at Illinois State University;” and a postscript looking toward the future.

The DVD is of the Alumni Day 2009 colloquium, The History of Psychology at ISNU/ISU, including a discussion of historical highlights by former department chair David Barone (covering 1857–1943) and Professor Emeritus Jim Johnson (covering 1943–2009); a presentation, “DeGarmo, Herbartianism, and the Liberal Arts University of 1966,” by Distinguished Professor of History Emeritus John Freed.

Receive free copies of this 118 page monograph and of the accompanying DVD with a donation of any amount to our department. Mail your donation to Department of Psychology, Campus Box 4620, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61790 with a check made payable to the ISU Foundation (designate Department of Psychology on the memo line).
Keep in touch!

Don’t miss Alumni Day 2010

October 15, 2010

• Conversations with School Psychology alumni
• Who will be named the 2010 Distinguished Alumni?

For information regarding Alumni Day events, visit Psychology.ilstu.edu/alumni. We hope to see you there!

Please help update our database by sending information to the editor, R. Steward, Illinois State University, Department of Psychology, Campus Box 4620, Normal, IL 61790-4620; e-mail, psyalumni@IllinoisState.edu; or fax (309) 438-5789. We appreciate your continued giving to the department. For information on giving to the Department of Psychology visit www.Psychology.ilstu.edu/alumni/giving.

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An equal opportunity/affirmative action university encouraging diversity