No. 5, 21 December 2017

Department of Psychology

Our final newsletter for 2017 and another busy year for everyone. On behalf of everyone in the Department of Psychology, we wish you and your family a very Merry Christmas and safe and happy new year.

Remember to send me your newsworthy items as they occur in readiness for the next one. The first newsletter for 2018 will be in February. Send to Robyn Daly, robyn.daly@canterbury.ac.nz by Friday 10 February 2018.

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Seasons Wishes

The Staff of the Department of Psychology wish all our students and supporters a very Merry Christmas and New Year. Enjoy the time with your family and friends, take time to recharge your batteries and we will see you in 2018 for another busy year.

Our Department Administration Christmas Hours are as follows:
- Thursday 21 December, 2.00pm—close for the year
- Monday 8 January, 9.00am—reopens for 2018

PhD Congratulations

We congratulate Dr Kyla Home, for ably defending her PhD thesis last week. The work, entitled “Cognition, psychiatric symptoms, and conversion to dementia in Parkinson’s Disease” was judged to be excellent quality by Professor Simon Lewis (University of Sydney), and Associate Professor Lynette Tippett (University of Auckland).

Kyla’s primary supervisor was Professor John Dalrymple-Alford, and her associate supervisor was Dr Tracy Melzer (University of Otago, Christchurch). Brian Haig was the Oral Chair.
**Staffing News**

**Promotions**

Congratulations to our Academic Staff members who were recently successful in the latest promotion round.

- **Katharina Naswall** to Professor
- **Randolph Grace** progression within the professorial scale.
- **Julia Rucklidge** progression within the professorial scale.
- **Eileen Britt** to Associate Professor
- **Kumar Yogeeswaran** to Senior Lecturer Above the Bar
- **Sarah Christofferson** to Senior Lecturer

**MSc APSY Director**

A changing of the guard is happening at the end of this year: **Associate Professor Chris Burt** is stepping down as Director of APSY. He has held the role for 17 years (commencing in 2000), and has been instrumental in creating a popular high-quality programme with a great reputation.

**Dr Joana Kuntz** will be taking over the directorship for the next two years, and we are looking forward to her leadership.

Thank you, Chris, for all you’ve done for the programme! And thanks to Joana for taking on the role as APSY director!
Staffing News (Continued)

Dr Kyle Nash—Personality Lecturer

As mentioned in a previous newsletter, Dr Kyle Nash has resigned from his role in the Department to take up a role in Alberta, Canada. He officially left UC last week and returned to Canada with his family. We wish them all the very best for the future and we are sure we will stay in touch.

The appointment process for Kyle’s replacement is underway and we hope to be able to in a position to announce something in early 2018.

Student Services STAR Award 2017

Lynn McClelland, Executive Director of Students Services and Communications recently called for nominations from her team for staff across the University who have helped them achieve their goals in 2017.

Robyn Daly was nominated and awarded a certificate for the Student Services STAR Award for 2017.

2018 Teaching Assistant Positions

Expressions of interest are now being invited for the roles of Teaching Assistant (TA) positions for Psychology courses in the 2018 academic year.

In selecting TA’s, the following factors will be taken into account:

- Academic expertise which should include a high standard of written English.
- Preference will be given to Post-graduate students.
- The appointment is usually dependent on the applicant being enrolled or showing clear intention to enrol in a recognized course of study in the Department of Psychology in 2018.
- Relevant experience (this may be an advantage, but applicants with no previous experience are encouraged to apply.

- The results of TA evaluations in conjunction with Course Convenor’s comments on these results (where available).
- Administrative efficiency
- Ability to get on with a variety of people.
- More information can be obtained from our news section on our website here where there is also information in the “TA Guide” of what each course involves.

Closing date for Stage 1 Teaching Assistant Coordinator is Friday, 19 January 2018, 5.00pm.

For all remaining TA roles is Thursday 25 January 2018, 5.00pm.
Psychology Prizes 2017

Congratulations to the following students who were the 2017 recipients of Psychology prizes.

Photo of our prize winners who were able to attend our recent “Celebrating Success” function are from Back Row, l-r; Christopher Wu, Tom Nolan, Usman Afzali, Joshua Leota, Brogan Barr, Anneke Hoogervorst, Estelle Miller, Eryn Turner. Those who couldn’t make it were: Rachel Bedggood, Ezra Prattley, Kate Byrne, Freya Searle, Oliver D’Souza, Gina Broom, Brendan Davies and Jemma Cowie.

Larry Kokkinidis 400-level Psychology Prize

The Larry Kokkinidis 400-level Psychology Prize for 2017 for our top achieving 400-level Psychology student has been awarded to Gina Broom. There were also four very highly commended students in this category, Tom Nolan, Brogan Barr, Jemma Cowie and Christopher Wu.

Professor Larry Kokkinidis was a member of the Department of Psychology staff from 1998 through until his death in 2006. During his time at Canterbury, Professor Kokkinidis welcomed the opportunity to work with postgraduate students and in particular was the Postgraduate Courses Coordinator for a number of years.

MSc in Applied Psychology Part I Prize

The MSc in Applied Psychology (APSY) Part I Department Prize for 2017 has been awarded to Brendan Davies.

This is awarded to the top achieving student) in Part 1 APSY Papers and awarded by the Director of MSc in Applied Psychology.
Psychology Prizes 2017 (Continued)

Undergraduate Prizes

Top Stage One Student (PSYC105/106)
- Rachel Bedggood

Outstanding Achievement Stage 1 Prize (PSYC105/106)
- Kate Byrne
- Ezra Prattley
- Eryn Turner

Stage 2 Prize:
- Anneke Hoogervorst (top Stage 2 Student)
- Estelle Miller
- Freya Searle

Stage 3 Prize:
- Oliver D'Souza
- Joshua Leota
- Usman Afzali

Clinical News

Congratulations to the following students who were selected and have accepted their places in the PGDipClinPsyc programme commencing 2017:
- Taylor-Jane Cox
- Rupert Crispin-Morrall
- Matthew Dua
- Amy Nesbit
- Tania Phillips
- Jay Shen
- Rebecca Then
- Maryna Verhyska
- Michelle Williams
- Christopher Wu

Welcome to the five new students who are new to UC, we look forward to meeting you.

College of Science Social Media

Keep up with the news and information from the College of Science by following them on Twitter and Facebook.
Thesis Congratulations

Congratulations to Peati Mene-Vaele who recently successfully completed her thesis entitled “Stress and mental illness amongst Samoan adults (16+) living in New Zealand: Measuring levels of psychological distress and mental illnesses and exploring medical and non-medical treatment preferences”.

Congratulations to Andre Johansson who was recently awarded her MSc thesis with Distinction for her thesis entitled “The ‘me’ in meaning: People high in narcissism find comfort and meaning in selfie likes”.

Te Reo

Whakataukī (proverbs) play a large role within Maori culture. They are very important with Maori society, with a meaning often based on Tikanga or history; and can help understand and explore te reo.

During the Te Reo in the workplace course, it was suggested that a whakataukī can be included with your mihi.

Whakataukī for this month:

“He taonga rongonui te aroha ki te tangata”

Goodwill towards others is a precious treasure.

Other useful Te Reo to practice is our Department name:

Department of Psychology: Te Tari Mātai Hinengaro
University of Canterbury: Te Whare Wānanga o Waitaha.

Remember that the ‘ng’ in ‘nga’ is a nasal sound and said without the hard ‘g’ - as in singer not finger.

Office Space for 2018

Each year we endeavor to accommodate our PhD, Thesis and Dissertation students with some desk space to undertake their research. Due to the large number of students enrolled in these programmes it can prove to be a juggling act.

If you wish to apply, or reapply, for space in the Department to undertake your research you will need to complete an application form and return it to Robyn Daly no later than 12 February 2018. The form is available on our website here. (Click on “Forms and Guidelines” section.)
Health, Safety & Wellbeing

Health and Safety information is below:

- Visitors and Contractors must be inducted to the Department at all times. The paperwork is located at the Main Office.
- If you are involved in a Health or Safety incident at work all reports are filed and sent to H&S Central, but they are also the basis of discussion for the Department and sometime higher Health and Safety Committees. These reports are not confidential but they are no-fault documents, and the idea is to use them to make work-life healthier and safer. Event reports must be signed off by the H&S Chair—Katharina Naswall and/or must be reported to the Department Safety Officer. Link to RMSS Event Report.
- Check out the Health and Safety Reform Bill.
- NZ Emergency Service 1-111
- UC Security = Emergency on Campus 6111 or 0800 823 637
- UC Non-emergency = 6888
- The Health & Safety Toolkit on the intranet is Health and Safety Intranet site and H&S Toolkit.
- The Department H&S Action Plan is available for staff on Y drive and also available on the Department Health and Safety website.

Please also note the evacuation assembly area for the Psychology Building below. Re-entry to the building is NOT when the alarms stop sounding, but when the all clear is given by the Building Warden.

See information on advice help and support on campus below.
Recent Publications


Photos to share...
Some photos from our Celebrating Success Event in December.