Scott Center for Autism Treatment
Groundbreaking held on April 7
Mary Beth Kenkel, Ph.D., Dean and Professor

A long-held dream came closer to reality on April 7, 2008. For on that date, we held the groundbreaking for The Scott Center for Autism Treatment at Florida Institute of Technology. The center will be housed in a $5 million, 18,000-square-foot building, just east of the School of Psychology. It is expected to open in summer 2009.

The center is named for Ed and Cheryl Scott and their son, Reece. The Scotts, who have firsthand experience with autism spectrum disorders, were early supporters of the center and major donors in its establishment. Additional funding of $2.4 million for the building came from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) agency in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Scott Center for Autism Treatment will have a threefold mission: clinical services for those with autism spectrum disorders; training of parents and other caregivers, teachers and students; and applied research, specifically on the most effective types of treatment for autism spectrum disorders. The clinical services will include diagnosis and assessment, early intervention, interventions for feeding and behavior problems, skills training (social, academic, life and language), and individual, family and group counseling, and medical consultation.

Over 150 people attended the groundbreaking ceremony. Joining President Catanese, Mr. Scott and myself as speakers was U.S. Congressman Dave Weldon, M.D., whose efforts were crucial in acquiring the federal funding for the building. Both Congressman Weldon and Mr. Scott described the need for this center and its potential to do much through service, education and research to improve the quality of life for individuals with ASD in the region.

The Scott Center for Autism Treatment will have a threefold mission:

• Clinical services for those with ASD
• Training of parents and other caregivers, teachers and students;
• Applied research, specifically on the most effective types of treatment for ASD
The role of psychologists in interrogation is one of the most prominent topics among members and leaders of the American Psychological Association (APA). The topic has created rifts among professional psychologists and resulted in a significant amount of pressure on APA leaders. The shockwaves of this ongoing debate have also made an impact in our own local community. The topic has been so salient that many of the School of Psychology’s faculty members have discussed it during their recent faculty meetings. From there, the topic made its way into a number of Florida Tech academic circles, including the School of Psychology’s Diversity Committee. Not an organization to pass up a challenge, the Diversity Committee decided to focus its attention on the topic of interrogation at the February 8 Diversity-Out-Loud event.

The Diversity Committee’s decision to address the role of psychologists during interrogation of detainees was a complex process. The Diversity Committee approached the topic from a number of perspectives. Some of these perspectives included the importance and role of cultural practices of detainees, the rate of cultural insensitivity among interrogators, as well as the impact of interrogation on members of specific cultures. Over time, the committee decided to approach the topic openly, thus allowing the entire range of salient issues to be broached.

Whether the APA should take a stance regarding interrogation is still up for debate; and if the APA were to take a stance on the issue, what would be the best choice?

The American Psychological Association passed the 2006 Resolution Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, a comprehensive and foundational position applicable to all individuals, in all settings and in all contexts without exception; and,

"The American Psychological Association affirmed that there are no exceptional circumstances whatsoever, whether induced by a state of war or threat of war, internal political instability or any other public emergency, that may be invoked as a justification for torture or cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, including the invocation of laws, regulations, or orders."

While the APA has made known their strong opposition to physical torture, they have not made such a statement concerning interrogation. Some members of the APA feel that the APA should take a stance against any involvement in interrogation situations. Two days before our colloquium was held, Dr. Kenneth Pope, a 29-year-long member of APA, resigned from APA. Kenneth Pope chaired the Ethics Committee of the APA and received numerous awards over the years. In a letter sent to the current president of APA, Alan Kazdin, Kenneth Pope wrote:

"Steps that APA has taken or avoided since 9-11 mark a sharp shift in values and direction. I respectfully disagree with these changes; I am skeptical that they will work as intended; and I believe that they may lead to far-reaching unintended consequences."

On the flipside of that sentiment is the conclusion reached by the Psychological Ethics and National Security (PENS) task force. The PENS task force declared that "Psychologists have a valuable and ethical role to assist in protecting our nation, other nations and innocent civilians from harm, which will at times entail gathering information that can be used in our nation’s and other nations’ defense."

Returning to our Diversity-Out-Loud discussion from February 8, it’s not difficult to understand why this issue has garnered as much attention as it’s getting. During our intense colloquium, we were able to hear from individuals who believe that government-employed psychologists must answer to their employer, while others argued that they should answer to an ethical code. Still others do not believe the APA should take a stance on the issue at all, as it may be outside the realm of their scope.

One topic in particular that was especially relevant not only to the colloquium, but to psychologists everywhere, was that of potential harm. There appears to be no way for mental health professionals to know what types of psychological damage can be dealt via interrogation practices. There is a lack of research on what types of psychological harm may be produced through interrogation, and consequently, there is no way to know which detainees are more susceptible to this potential harm.

Also of interest was a comment from an audience member concerning what we can do as psychologists, if we are to remain active in the handling of detainees, to change the rules. This includes developing bodies of research aimed at taking the best possible mental care of detainees while still performing our functions as government employees.

The Diversity Committee was pleased to present a forum in which many different (and often opposing) viewpoints could be expressed. We hope that everyone who attended will allow their experience to add to or help build their personal beliefs in regard to the issue of interrogation. Although there was no consensus at the end of the forum, there was a significant amount of information offered by everyone who participated. There is no doubt this is a complex and emotionally charged topic, and it will be interesting to see new developments in the roles psychologists play as well as the APA’s evolving stance.

Finally, the Diversity Committee would like to thank a number of people—first and foremost, our very courageous moderator, Dr. William Gabrenya. Dr. Gabrenya accepted the difficult task of moderating a very emotional and poignant topic. We would also like to thank the panel members who accepted the challenge to present their point of view to Florida Tech faculty as well as their peers: Don Respess (fourth-year), Ashley Franklin (third-year), Jamie Kennedy (undergrad), Robin Dann (second-year), Kyle Goodwin (fourth-year) and Alma Robles (third-year).
Florida Tech in the Army

Lacey Sharkey Commissioned into the United States Army

Lacey Sharkey, B.A., Second-year Psy.D. student, 2nd Lieutenant, United States Army

On February 11, 2008, I put my life as a civilian aside and was commissioned into the United States Army at the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. The opportunity to benefit from the caliber of clinical and leadership training that the U.S. Army has to offer for clinical psychologists along with the opportunity to work with an exceptionally deserving population are the factors that most greatly influenced my decision to apply for the Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (AFHPSP) scholarship and ultimately join the Army. Having personally experienced what it was like to have a loved one complete two tours in the ongoing Iraq war, it is now impossible for me to overlook the devastation that is occurring in hundreds of thousands of lives across the country daily. Many people gauge the devastation of war simply by the number of deaths or amount of national debt incurred; ignorant or in denial of the psychological effects it has on those who serve our country as well as the effects on their family and friends.

My career as a psychologist in the Army will begin during internship year, which will be completed at one of five Army medical centers throughout the United States. From there, my future is largely uncertain as I will be stationed where needed. My current clinical interest lies in the specialty of neuropsychology, which I plan on continuing my pursuance of within the Army. I am also interested in providing pre- and post-deployment services to soldiers and their families, such as teaching practical and effective ways for families to manage their finances, parenting, household, personal relationships and so on in regards to pre-deployment readiness all the way through the reintegration period after returning home. I have the utmost respect for those who serve in the military and I am honored to have the opportunity to provide them mental health treatment as well as to join in their ranks. Pursuing a career in the Army as a clinical psychologist is my way of giving back to my country.

Raymond Beckman Commissioned into the United States Army

Raymond Beckman, B.S., Second-year Psy.D. student, 2nd Lieutenant, AMEDD, U.S. Army Reserve

This February, Raymond Beckman, a second-year Psy.D. student, was officially commissioned into the U.S. Army Reserves as a 2nd Lieutenant. Raymond was sworn in verbally by ranking officer Kristen Young, Captain, United States Air Force, who is also a second-year Psy.D. student. As a recipient of the Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship Program (AFHPSP), Raymond will complete his on-campus work at Florida Tech before spending no less than three years on active duty as a Captain and clinical psychologist serving in the Army Medical Department (AMEDD). Raymond says he is “excited and proud to have this opportunity.”

“My desire to serve in the Army was first fueled by the knowledge that we have an increasing number of servicemen and women who are coming back from foreign conflict in need of psychological services. I hope to work with families who have suffered from the difficulties of having husbands and wives away on active duty. Divorce is rampant in the military, and I hope to help soldiers maintain positive relationships with their families. I also hope to work with the soldiers themselves as they come back from conflict with traumatic stress. They are a unique population in need of unique care. I know that my time spent in the Army will give me valuable experience I will use the rest of my professional life as a psychologist.”

Jason Metz Commissioned into the United States Army


I’ve always had a great admiration for those who have served in the military. My dad and grandfather both served in the military. I admire the values of the Army; the honor and loyalty toward one’s country as well as the sacrifice. This scholarship presents me with the opportunity to serve those who have already bravely fought and served our country. My specific interests are in working with those coming back from war who need help integrating back into their daily life.
Annual ABA Conference a Big Success

Nikki Postma, B.S., Second-year ABA student

Every year the students of the Society for Performance Management and Behavior Analysis Student Association put together a conference for practitioners in the Space Coast area to further their knowledge in the field of applied behavior analysis. This year’s conference, however, was significantly larger than expected with roughly 120 people in attendance. The number of attendees was up from 50 last year, and some traveled from as far away as Key West to be there! This year’s speakers included Dr. Jon Bailey from Florida State University, who spoke on the topic of professional consulting and reviewed various skills pertinent to creating a successful career. Following Dr. Bailey was Dr. Jesse Dallery from University of Florida, whose specializes in using behavioral principles to facilitate smoking cessation in people of all ages. Lastly, Dr. Mark Alavosius from University of Nevada–Reno, gave a theoretical talk on how behavior analysis can be used to improve national preparedness during a potential terrorist attack or natural disaster.

In addition to the conference, Dr. Jon Bailey and his partner Dr. Mary Burch were gracious enough to facilitate a one-hour presentation on dog training as an outside workshop free of charge. Students and professors were invited to attend the training along with their dog on the lawn in front of the psychology building. Participants learned the requirements of becoming certified in dog obedience, and it was a great way of applying the basic behavior analytic principles in useful ways. More than 25 people and their canines attended. Participants felt that it was a wonderful hands-on experience and a great opportunity to hear a leading expert on the topic. Bailey and Burch together have written eight books on behavior analysis and conduct dog training workshops all over the state. For information on Bailey and Burch’s work, visit the Web site www.baileyburch.com.

Janine McCray Awarded Most Valuable Panther

The Florida Tech School of Psychology community would like to congratulate our beloved Jani McCray who was awarded the Most Valuable Panther award this winter. Jani was selected for this award by a panel of university staff and faculty due to her outstanding job performance and achievement. Jani has been with the school of psychology for 33 years and has been administrative assistant to the dean of the College of Psychology and Liberal Arts for 31 of those years. In addition to receiving a plaque (and a celebratory cake from her colleagues), the university also assigned Jani a parking spot right next to the dean’s in front of the School of Psychology for the month of her reign as Florida Tech’s MVP. Congratulations Jani and keep up the good work!
Elmore Awarded Life Achievement Award, Florida Society of Clinical Hypnosis

Sarah Weinstein Arnett, Third-year clinical student

Dr. Richard T. Elmore Jr. was honored this past October by the Florida Society of Clinical Hypnosis (FSCH) when he was presented with the Life Achievement Award. Dr. Elmore, who is a Fellow of both the Florida Society of Clinical Hypnosis and the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis, is one of only three people in the history of the organization to have ever received a Life Achievement Award from FSCH. He was selected for this award based on his dedication to FSCH and its members as well as for his countless contributions to the field of hypnosis. The Florida Society of Clinical Hypnosis is an awarded component chapter of the American Society for Clinical Hypnosis (ASCH). They offer training workshops twice a year in both basic hypnosis and advanced hypnosis, designed to fulfill licensing requirements and to provide professional growth and knowledge for workshop participants. They are fortunate to have master clinicians in the organization to provide much of this training, and often have nationally recognized practitioners as well.

Dr. Elmore has been instrumental in the success of the society, both through his creative thinking and innovative marketing ideas. He coordinated the society’s first hypnosis cruise workshop this past May, which was a major success. Diane Lindner, president of FSCH, said, “We cannot imagine having run FSCH all this time without your help, Richard! We have been able to hold many of our wonderful workshops, at very low cost to the society, at Florida Institute of Technology only because of Richard’s active involvement and investment in FSCH’s ability to stay productive, vital and financially solvent. Many members have no idea how much it costs to produce most of our workshops elsewhere and how grateful we are to have this wonderful facility simply given to us to use when we need it. This generosity from the school, facilitated by Richard, makes it possible for us to afford all the other locations we also use. In addition, Richard was the inspiration for our traveling Basic Workshops, what we have called ‘Workshops to Go,’ in which our own members are able to bring our Basic Training to schools and facilities around the state. We hope you will be with us for many more inspiring years.”

Dr. Elmore has blessed all those who have had the honor of knowing him. He has introduced multitudes of students over the years to the field of hypnosis and taught them to use hypnosis to potentiate any theoretical orientation. Along with his lifetime achievement award, Dr. Elmore was also presented with a montage of special messages from past and current students expressing their gratitude and endearment for the time he spent with them. Dr. Elmore has the amazing ability to make every student he works with feel special—whether through a caring look or a wink that conveys a secret message meant just for them. He always makes time for a student in need and his door is always open. Whether he is offering a kind ear to listen to the troubles of a student or gifting an individual with a life-changing marble or trinket from his drawer filled with answers to the person’s troubles, he is always there. Over the years, Dr. Elmore has been a great mentor, a great friend and a hero to those who have had the honor to work with him.

Sarah Weinstein Arnett presents Dr. Elmore with messages from past and current students.

LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Richard Elmore, Ph.D.

Distinguished in his service to society
Inspiration to a generation of students
Outstanding Psychologist of the Year for his service to veterans
Contributor to the clinical knowledge base
Compassionate healer

Dedicated to the advancement of Clinical Hypnosis
Fellow, long-time Board member, and incredible supporter of FSCH.

Invaluable to all who have been fortunate enough to be his students, clients, colleagues and friends.

For all the years you have sustained us, for your commitment to the education of new generations of clinicians, and for your countless contributions as teacher, mentor and resource, we can never thank you enough.

Congratulations!
You have made a difference.
We celebrate you.

October 2007
Florida Tech’s Industrial/Organizational Program Seeking Funds for Student Travel

Richard Griffith, Ph.D., Chair, Industrial/Organizational Psychology Program

In recent years, the industrial/organizational program at Florida Tech has dramatically increased the volume and quality of research being presented at national conferences, particularly the Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP) conference. In fact, in the past two years, 56 projects and posters have been presented at the conference! This increase in research activity has put Florida Tech in the top five schools in terms of overall research productivity at this prestigious conference and is starting to turn heads.

In order to continue our improvement of the program and provide career-enhancing opportunities to our students and graduates, we are striving to increase our visibility and recognition in the human resource and academic communities. When the faculty and students make an impact at SIOP, it adds value to the degrees our current students are working hard to obtain, as well as to the degrees our alumni worked so hard to earn. The enhanced status of the program opens career doors and ensures that Florida Tech is mentioned when professionals talk about top industrial/organizational programs.

That is why Florida Tech’s industrial/organizational program is starting the Student Travel Fund Initiative. Our goal is to raise $80,000 to place in an endowment to fund student travel to SIOP. If we are successful in achieving this goal, this endowed fund will provide $350 in travel funding to 12 students a year FOREVER. When needed, the amount of money per year will increase to keep track with inflation so students in the future will always receive comparable funding. This endowed fund will enable students to travel to the annual SIOP conference to present their work, as well as continue their education through workshops, symposia and networking opportunities with professionals in the field.

Annual funds from the endowment will be distributed to the students who have papers accepted to defray the expenses involved in attending the conference such as flights, rental cars and hotel costs.

With over 150 alumni of the personnel psychology and I/O psychology programs and the help of our current corporate partners, we think the goal of $80,000 is achievable. To get the fund started, I have donated $1,000. Your contribution to this fund raising effort can make a meaningful and permanent impact on the lives of our current students and the success of the program. Send your tax-deductible donation to the I/O Student Travel Fund, c/o School of Psychology, 150 W. University Blvd., Melbourne, FL, 32901. Checks may be made out to the School of Psychology, Florida Institute of Technology.

Congratulations to the clinical students who were matched to internship sites!

- Davina Bedsole—Clemson University, Clemson, S.C.
- Claire Blankemeier—Texas State University, San Marcos, Texas
- Donna Burrowes—Wright-Patterson USAF Medical Center, Wright-Patterson, Ohio
- Deborah Gambles—St. Elizabeth’s Hospital, Washington, D.C.
- Kyle Goodwin—Atascadero State Hospital, Atascadero, Calif.
- Jill Nicolino—Broughton Hospital, Morganton, N.C.
- Donald Respess—St. Louis Psychological Internship Consortium, St. Louis, Mo.

Seven Psychology Students Honored at Florida Tech Honors Convocation

On April 10, 2008, Florida Tech held an Honors Convocation at the Gleason Performing Arts Center to recognize the accomplishments of outstanding students and faculty at the university. Seven students from the School of Psychology received honors. Undergraduate honorees included Stephanie A. Link from the general psychology program and Amanda Anderson from the forensic psychology program. Graduate honorees included Gracie Allen Beavers from the applied behavior analysis program, Katherine Gifford and Randi C. Johnson from the clinical program, and Matthew Merbedone and Qing Zhang from the industrial/organizational program. Attendees to the ceremony are pictured below.

11 Students Inducted into Psi Chi

This February, Florida Tech’s Chapter of Psi Chi initiated 11 new members to the society. Both Dr. Kenkel and Dr. Catanese were in attendance and the keynote speaker was Dr. Gordon Patterson. Scholars invited into membership include Amanda Anderson, Janet Becker, Rebecca Cavazos, Thaddeus Clancy (in absentia), Albert B. Eres, Wilma Fernandez, Roger Hafford (in absentia), Michaela Horvathova, Roman Petries (in absentia), Bonnie Phillips and Susie Switzer.

Psy.D. Program Offers Three Concentrations

Philip Farber, Ph.D., Chair, Clinical Psy.D. Program

The curriculum of the Psy.D. clinical psychology program is designed to provide doctoral students with broad and general training in scientific psychology and in the foundations of clinical practice. The goal is to prepare students for the more intensive clinical experience of the 2,000 hour required internship and then for either entry-level professional practice or continued postdoctoral training in selective specialty practice areas.

The program’s required courses provide students with broad and general training. In addition, elective areas of concentration are now offered to assist those who may wish to begin their preparation for the postdoctoral specialty practice areas. Currently, the Psy.D. clinical program offers three areas of concentration. Each area contains nine credits of scientific-based course work, and three credits of specialized practicum experience in the specialty area. The three concentrations offered include:

1. Family/Child Psychology—offers an introduction to family and marital models of intervention and specific childhood disorders.
2. Neuropsychology/Clinical Health Psychology—offers an introduction to two related specialty areas: clinical neuropsychology and health psychology.
3. Forensic Psychology—introduces the specialty area of forensic psychology. Forensic psychology is the application of psychological principles and methods within the legal system.

Standing, from left: Janet Becker, Bonnie Phillips, Susie Switzer, Dr. Gisela Susanne Bahr (PsiChi faculty adviser), Stephanie Link (president), Michael Lucido (treasurer), Rachel Horvath (secretary), Lindsay Foster (vice president), Rebecca Cavazos, Wilma Fernandez, Albert Eres. Front row, from left: Amanda Borelli (president emerita), Ashley Franklin (graduate student), Jason Metz (graduate student), Amanda Anderson.
Alumni Updates

1981

Burton Seitler, Ph.D., Clinical
Dear Florida Tech people,

I'm married to a wonderful woman, Jeanne, also a psychologist. I have two terrific daughters, Kim and Dana, and am blessed with three adorable, warm, loving and bright grandchildren, Gabrielle, Cassidy and Beckett.

Professionally, things are going well. I went on for training as a psychoanalyst at the New Jersey Institute for Psychoanalysis, in Teaneck, N.J., where I now serve as the director of the institute’s Child and Adolescence Psychotherapy Studies Program. We have put on conferences on successfully treating ADHD without medication; and trauma and adolescence. Our recent conference was titled, “The Autistic Child: Meanings, Myths, Mental Life, and Methods of Treatment.” I am especially proud that our keynote speakers were Anni Bergman, a close collaborator of Margaret Mahler, and William Singletary, president of the Mahler Foundation. The conference was held March 2, 2008.

In the midst of all that, I have managed to present/publish a few scientific papers at conferences in Germany, Portugal and various U.S. states on matters of interest to me, such as mind-body phenomena, ADHD, agitated depression, involuntary hospitalization and forced medication.

It’s been a busy time, but now that I’m in my sixties, it feels like all the things I ever wanted to say in my youth, I am so much better able to articulate (or is it that I am so much less inhibited about stating) than when I was a youth.

I still am in full-time private practice, and I hope to continue seeing patients, for as long as my health remains good. I can still roam the outfield pretty well in my old man’s softball league (where, by the way, we won the championship not too long ago). Well, that should fill in some of the gaps about what’s been happening. I always look forward to receiving Journey, so I can find out what some of my cohorts are up to. Be well.

1982

Bernice G. Poll, Ph.D., Clinical
I received my Ph.D. in clinical psychology in June 1982 and became a grandmother for the first time the same weekend. Two happy occasions. I spent the next 10 years writing grants for programs for emotionally disturbed and autistic children and supervising the programs and the personnel who serviced them.

Since retirement, and moving to Arizona from New Jersey, I spent years hiking the beautiful mountains that surround us and writing poetry—an early love that I returned to. We continued to spend our summers in New Jersey at the shore and many of my poems (some prize winners) can be found in the publications and anthologies of the New Jersey Poetry Society. A few years ago, I published a book of poetry titled DUNE GRASS and presently have two more books ready for publication.

Over the years, we have traveled the country and Europe, most recently to Italy, which we love, as well as a return to Alaska. This photo is of me receiving my Ph.D. degree; the only one I have from Florida Tech. My time at Florida Tech was at the inception of the School of Psychology. It was an innovative and exciting time and helped me to realize my dream of receiving my Ph.D.

1984

Herbert Nieburg, Ph.D., Psychology
I am an associate professor of law and justice policy studies (forensic psychology) at Mitchell College in New London, Conn. (full-time faculty). I am also an emergency department psychiatric/crisis services clinician at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital in New London. I am in private practice specializing in cognitive behavioral therapy and forensic psychology in Stonington, Conn., and am a diplomat for the American board of forensic counseling. I am also a consultant with the Rhode Island department of probation regarding treatment of adolescent sex offenders. I would enjoy hearing from classmates. My office number is (860) 599-2125 and my e-mail is nieburg_h@mitchell.edu. Thank you.

1989

Lisa Slapa, Psy.D., Clinical
I graduated in 1989. I am a clinical psychologist in New Jersey with focus on psychotherapy. I am also an adjunct at the local community college. I live in Hunterdon County with my husband Frederick and two daughters, Samantha and Emma, ages 9 and 7.

1993

Kelly Blair, Psy.D., Clinical
I hope everyone there is doing well! I want to pass along to you that I have recently been named a Fellow of the National Academy of Neuropsychology. I greatly appreciate the help of my former professors Dr. Tom Peake and Dr. Frank Webbe as well as my Florida Tech classmates Dr. Pat Gorman and Dr. Robert Ruchinskas in writing letters supporting me in this process.

1995

Shelley M. Plaut, Psy.D., Clinical
My husband Jim Prisco and I are now parents of Anthony James Prisco. Anthony was born October 16, 2007, weighing 8 pounds, 9 ounces. He continues to grow like a weed, and mom and dad are really looking forward to sleeping through the night again.
2000

Mike Kohn, Psy.D., Clinical
Let's see, I will do my duty and respond, because I so much love reading the updates from others. However, nothing is new or different. Same hospital, same two kids, same two dogs. In fact, the only thing that's not the same is a recent change in medications, and this seems to be helping. And so otherwise, I have nothing good to report. My only recent observation is concern that I seem to be getting dumber as time marches on. Of relevance, I actually believe that my last intelligent thought occurred while a student at Florida Tech. And as everyone from the class of 2000 knows, even that wasn't particularly special (and as proof of my dumbness, I am honestly uncertain whether I was the class of 2000 or 1999. Oy yeyl!). Anyway, Go Kempsville Chiefs!! There's a chance that could be a reference for the high school alumni newsletter. Sorry.

2002

Keely (Rosedale) Deker, M.S., ABA
I graduated from Florida Tech in 2002 with my M.S. in ABA. I work at the Miami Children's Hospital, Dan Marino Center as the behavior analyst supervisor in west Fort Lauderdale. I was hired to start a behavioral program for the hospital in February 2006 because the Dan Marino Center identified a great need for services. We offer center and community-based applied behavior analysis services. The program includes myself and another BCBA and is thriving and growing.

Stacy Larson Baron, Psy.D., Clinical
No one from my year ever seems to write anything so I will share ... I am still primarily a mother of three children ages 5, 3 and 1. It was not my intent to earn my doctorate and then become a stay-at-home mom, but alas, this is what has mostly transpired. I do work in a small private practice that does not take insurance, so unless you are working full time it is hard to build up a reputation and get client referrals (I average about three hours of work a week). Lucky for me, my boss gives me his overflow, and I have basically taken on all of the testing, which is mostly for ADHD and LD assessments and IQ tests for admission to private schools in the greater D.C. area. Now that my children are getting older, I did as Dr. Elmore told me and used my CEUs toward certification and I am awaiting my certification in hypnobirthing and hope to build a practice around that. My next step will be a general hypnosis certification and then hypnofertility training. My boss' wife is an LCSW, and she does work with infant massage and helping parents with the transition into parenthood. Needless to say, I am a great feed-in for her line of work, so we have begun to work together and we are hosting our first networking brunch next month for like-minded folks. As for my other classmates from the class 2002 (best known for the original Dream Team, I presume!), many of us still keep in touch via a listserve that Brian has set up and it has been a great resource and a great way to hear about all the babies that have been born ... I highly recommend it for future graduating classes. Best to everyone out there.

2003

Yvonne Lenzen-Roth, M.S., Clinical
I wanted to take the time to touch base with the Florida Tech community and tell everyone what I have been up to since my graduation in the winter of 2003. I had already moved back to Syracuse, N.Y., while I was finishing my master's thesis in the summer of 2003, which is also when I got married to my husband of almost five years now.

Since May of 2005, I have been working for the N.Y. State Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities and currently hold the title of psychologist II. My worksite, Valley Ridge Center for Intensive Treatment, is one of the only two secure facilities within N.Y. State that serves dually diagnosed and multiply impaired individuals with criminal backgrounds. There is never a dull moment from the time you go through the Sallie Port until you finish your workday and I love it.

Although I have a fulfilling career, I make sure I take the time to decompress playing in several tennis leagues. My women's team actually qualified to go to nationals last weekend, and I am excited to travel to Palm Springs, Calif., over Easter to play some great tennis.

Besides work and tennis, my husband, Brandon, and our cat, Ashley, keep me pretty busy. Brandon is currently deployed with the Army Reserves, which has been difficult. However, as soon as he gets back we are looking to settle down in the Syracuse area and buy a home.

I have very fond memories of my time at Florida Tech and always look forward to reading how life is treating my former classmates. This alumni update is a great forum to keep in touch with everyone. Hope to hear from people!

Anne-Sophie Rubini, B.S., Psychology
I have been a Florida Tech alumna since December 2003. Since then, I received a master's in I/O psychology from East Carolina University (2006) and was hired by a major consulting firm shortly afterward. I was working out of the D.C. office until last September when I was transferred to Brussels. I guess what I like most about the job is that there is no routine. Every day is different. I also get to travel, which is definitely a plus for me. The work is very challenging, which keeps things interesting. Most people had told me to wait and gain some work experience before going into consulting. I happen to disagree. I think it is better to go into consulting first, so you can gain experience in various domains and travel. This way you get a better idea of what you want to focus on.

Kristi Wortham, B.S., Psychology
Whereabouts: Tampa, FL
Family: Husband and miniature black lab
Career: Clinical research site manager for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals, home based and loving every minute.

2005

Kate E. Glywasky, Psy.D., Clinical, Captain, MSC, United States Army
Hello! I wanted to share the news with everyone. Last week I accepted a two-year residency position at San Antonio Military Medical Center (SAMMC) in San Antonio, Texas. I will be the first neuropsychology fellow at SAMMC (Brooke Army Medical Center and Wilford Hall Airforce Hospital) and will be working primarily in the areas of traumatic brain injury, stroke and burn recovery. For those of you who have held the unfortunate position of hearing me panic about postdocs for the last six months, rest assured the insanity has stopped. After interviewing with several places (Memphis Veterans Hospital, Rehab Institute of Michigan, Johns Hopkins and University of Virginia), San Antonio seemed like the best fit for me both personally and professionally. I'd love to hear how everyone is doing. Please come visit, I move in July!

Anita Sahgal, Psy.D., Clinical
I'm an alumna from the class of 2005. I believe last year when I submitted info, I had mentioned completing a postdoc at University of Georgia and getting engaged. Well, I've been married since March 2007, and my husband and I were living and working in Miami. However, we recently moved to the Tampa Bay area. I'm currently working as a psychologist at the counseling center at University of South Florida, St. Pete campus.
Sherry Acanfora-Ruohomaki, M.S., I/O
I am the president/owner of Facets Consulting Group and recently welcomed my first baby Bella Donna on April 9, 2007.

Emily Marovich and Greg Tupper, M.S., I/O
Greg Tupper and I (Emily Marovich) graduated in 2005 with our master’s in I/O. Our biggest update is that we will be married on May 17, 2008, in Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.
We recently moved to Los Angeles (Redondo Beach to be exact), and we absolutely love it! Greg works for Tesoro Refining and Marketing in the HR department as an HR consultant. His work is what brought us to the West Coast because his company purchased a refinery in L.A. After serving on the acquisition team his company asked him to take one of the positions in the HR department at the refinery. It was a great opportunity for us both so we made the move!
I work for a large consulting company, Accenture, in the Talent and Organization Performance area doing talent management and org design work. I work with top tier clients on interesting projects and travel a ton ... all of which I love!
Greg and I would be more than happy to answer questions to students or help fellow alumni with networking or job searching so please feel free to pass on our contact information.
Emily e-mail: emily.a.marovich@accenture.com
Greg e-mail: gtupper@tsocorp.com.

2006
Jonathan Logan, B.S., Forensic Psychology,
2nd Lieutenant, United States Armed Forces
I am currently overseas in Baghdad, Iraq. I am the Platoon leader for an Infantry Scout Platoon. My men have been doing a great job out here, and we have been recognized for our success. We are part of the front line of fighting global terrorism here in Iraq. We were just in the paper for pulling off a raid and catching four bad guys so that has been our braging point around here lately.
I’m pictured here with General David Petraeus, the commanding general in Iraq.

Megan Scherrer, M.S., ABA
I am currently working for a small consulting company out of Troy, Mich. My company is contracted with a large company that owns and manages 16 nursing homes in the state of Michigan. I work with the facilities around recruitment and retention; employee satisfaction; employee appreciation; introducing new, time saving training programs; teaching leadership skills to employees and other ideas as they come up! Also look for my thesis in the upcoming Journal of Applied Behavior Analysis!

2007
Marshall Feaman, M.S., ABA
In October 2007, I accepted a job in Bakersfield, Calif., working for Chevron and I love it! I am the new organizational capability consultant. I am responsible for coaching 30–35 managers, supervisor and team leaders in Performance Based Leadership (PBL). PBL is Chevron’s process for enabling leaders to maximize the potential of their direct reports. This style of leadership incorporates a wide variety of behavioral analytic techniques and principles. It demonstrates the importance of immediate, specific, positive feedback, direct observation and manager accountability (practice what you preach). Leaders use ABC analysis to determine critical behaviors for business success. I am also responsible for developing tracking metrics of my coaching clients’ fluency in PBL and relating how this correlates with business success. I am proud to be a Florida Tech graduate, and the knowledge and skills I gained from Dave, Jose and Matt have provided me with a solid foundation for corporate success with the number four Fortune 500 Company. Thank you very much! I wish the entire Florida Tech community health, happiness and success!!

J. Peter Leeds, Ph.D., I/O
I am still working for the Army Civilian Personnel Evaluation Agency here in Alexandria, Va. I am involved with some fascinating survey research on retention incentive motives at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and satisfaction with post-combat injury medical care in Iraq. I am also working on research predicting success of Army civilian managers and supervisors using bio data. Independently, I am developing an online social skills training and feedback system as well as an academic publishing concern.
Personally, trips to Phuket, Thailand, and Cartagena, Colombia, were amazing. I just got back from Arizona and am leaving for the Smoky Mountains this week.
Advice to students, get a job in the U.S. Federal Government! For clinical students, I have never looked at USAJOBS.com without seeing dozens of jobs all over the county and sometimes the world. For I/O folks, every agency has job series 0180 psychologists but these are typically local to D.C. metro. The hardest part of going from school to practice was dubbing everything down for the consumer and not letting political decision making get you down. All the best to my current and future colleagues.

Lucky Nichols and Terri Koch, B.S., Psychology
Lucky and I graduated in May of 2007. Soon after, on July 7, 2007, we got hitched in San Antonio, Texas. Now we are living in Midland, Texas, working. Lucky works for Vestas, a wind turbine company, as a wind technician. I work at Medical Veterinary Services as a veterinarian technician. I am also going back to school to get my veterinarian technician license. Everything is going great, and we both miss Florida very much. When wind turbines come to Florida, so will we, unless we can make it there sooner.
Where are they now?

Do you know a former alum who has said to you “I don’t ever get a copy of Journey.” Or “I wonder why so-and-so doesn’t write to me from Florida Tech anymore.” Well—maybe they are among the missing. Each semester when we send out Journey, we receive a multitude of address updates and a goodly number of “return to sender—address unknown.” If you know someone who may not have let us know of their recent move, or recent change in e-mail—call them, e-mail them, contact them in some way and ask them to get in touch with us. We are always interested in hearing what our alumni are up to, where they are headed and what wonderful accomplishments they are making. Let us hear from you. We want to expand our alumni update section. Send your information any time throughout the year, not just when you hear from us about the next issue of Journey.

Take care, be well and keep in touch. Send your updates to jmccray@fit.edu.

P.S. Your pictures are a welcome addition, please include yourself in the pictures of your children and pets…after all…we went to school with you!

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Dr. Mary Beth Kenkel, Editor
Sarah Schewitz, Associate Editor
Janine McCray, Associate Editor